Mrs. Rose O. Castanon, an Oxnard resident and Civil Service employee at the Port Hueneme Naval Construction Battalion Center, was in 1979 the first woman selected for a top management position as staff office head. She was also nationally recognized as the first Hispanic woman selected as Deputy Equal Employment Opportunity Officer by the Department of the Navy. Mrs. Castanon reflects that her major challenges were: working in a man's world which was not accustomed to having a woman as part of its peer group, and the continuous need to maintain her individuality while at the same time acquiring knowledge or learning from her peers. The transition from Hispanic Employment Program Manager to management was the pinnacle of her 20 years of civil service. At that time Mrs. Castanon's conviction that equal employment opportunity is a reality was reinforced, along with her dedication towards fulfilling that goal for others.

As Hispanic Employment Program Manager, Rose was consistently in the public eye, reaching out to applicants and Federal employees seeking equal employment opportunities. She has received significant numerous awards for her excellence in Equal Employment Opportunity. As the Deputy EEO Officer, she communicates to her staff "to continue this function." She remarks that her former colleagues have criticized her for not continuing that same strong role in the community. The truth being that she is very active in the community but has a different role which is not as visible. Her continuous commitment to the Equal Employment Opportunity Program has increased with her new position and broadened her responsibilities which include all ethnic groups. Mrs. Castanon states that "My position as Deputy Equal Employment Opportunity Officer for the Center empowers me to open additional doors than when I was the Hispanic Employment Program Manager. This becomes a reality due to my involvement in assisting in the identification of barriers and direct influence on the varied aspects affecting equal employment and personnel management. My role is to ease the flow of EEO work for my staff, and exercise proper influence on my Commanding Officer, Executive Officer and peers to determine proper types of EEO decisions in regard to equal employment opportunity. As a staff manager working closely with top management, it is necessary that I be within reach for those day-to-day Center-wide decisions which impact on EEO." She states, "if I were to continue the same role I held previously, which was limited to a point, then I would be negligent in fulfilling the responsibilities and commitment I assumed as DEEOO for the Center's EEO Program."

Rose, along with her husband Joseph, have found time in their busy schedule to involve themselves with their church, Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Oxnard. They assist in teaching Basic Christian Maturity classes, in Spanish, throughout the year. "My success at work, the peace and happiness I have at home as a wife (continued on back cover)
National Youth Project Using Mini Bikes
Oxnard Area

Officer Juanito Garcia, Oxnard Police
Officer John Ramirez, Oxnard Police
Ruben Ramirez, Resident Relations Specialist, Oxnard Housing Authority
Oxnard Police Department
Robert P. Owens, Chief of Police
Oxnard Housing Authority
Robert Prescott, Housing and Redevelopment Director

CALIFORNIAN’S FOR MARIO OBLEDO
VENTURA COUNTY COMMITTEE

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Lina McDill, Co-Coordinator
Alicia Sanches, Chair Voter Registration
Baltazar Martinez, Public Relations
Tom “Gator” Swann, Public Relations
Simon Martinez, Co-Chair, Fundraising
Simon Alvarado, Co-Chair, Fundraising

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Mail to:
THE VENTURA COUNTY HISPANIC FORUM
P.O. Box 1665, Oxnard, California 93032
On November 1981, the Ventura County Hispanic Forum was born with the publication of its first issue. In the following six issues we have emphasized the Forum's objective is to be used by all ethnic and non-ethnic groups in Ventura County. In short, by everyone.

To reiterate the point, the Ventura County Hispanic Forum is again directing its attention to specific groups of all ethnicities. We want you to join us. Afro Americans, Anglo Americans, American Indians, Asian citizens, Pacific Islander branches of people, and the many others who make up the population of Ventura County. We invite you to look us over.

Are our services beneficial to your organization or to you as an individual? Do you prefer to have your view heard in a public forum? Do you prefer to have that view expressed in your own words? Would you like to have direct line to the offices of your elected officials? If your answer is yes to any of the above, then you may want to use the Hispanic Forum.

Please review this issue (our 7th) and let us hear from you. We're confident you will appreciate our magazine once you have spoken with us. Drop us a line. Let's talk... after all, communication is what we are all about.

Sincerely,
Gonzalo R. Casillas
Publisher/Editor
In March of this year a political function supporting the efforts of Mario Obledo for Governor of the State of California was hosted by the Ventura County Young Democrats in the City of Oxnard. While the event met with a note of success for Obledo, it did so despite the absence of the so-called Hispanic-interest groups in and for the County of Ventura.

The apparent indifference of the Ventura County Hispanic community groups to the Obledo state-wide campaign is just short of shameful given the positive ripple effects coming out of the Obledo campaign for Hispanics directly and for the Democratic Party in the near future, regardless of the outcome of the primary elections on June 8th, 1982.

It is already clear that the Obledo campaign to register the more than one million eligible Hispanic citizens in California and the state-wide network established up and down California to accomplish this tremendous registration task is, in and by itself, a major victory for the Obledo forces.

While Hispanic community groups should encourage voter registration among eligible Hispanics and more active participation in political and community activities, the Ventura County Hispanic-interest groups that fail to enlist themselves in support of Obledo’s campaign efforts, I believe, opens to question their political agenda for Hispanics in California and fails to recognize that sense of urgency most Hispanics have for political power and the critical matters at issue in this election.

Take reapportionment as an important example. Sometime last year, two of our most prominent legislators, Assemblymen Richard Alatorre and Art Torres of Los Angeles made possible the election of Willie Brown as Democratic Speaker of the Assembly. For the first time Hispanics witnessed a split between Cesar Chavez, Alatorre and Torres. Of more significance was Art Torres, since he was at one time a United Farm Worker volunteer and closely allied with Cesar Chavez.

Both, however, had strong emotional and philosophical differences with Cesar’s choice for Speaker, Howard Berman, and following Willie Brown’s victory Alatorre was named committee Chairman over ‘reapportionment’ or new representation district lines reflecting population and ethnic groupings.

The resulting product of Alatorre’s committee was to reapportionment assembly districts that give minorities, Hispanics and Blacks, the very real opportunity of electing minorities to the State Legislature. One such district brought together the Mexican-American majority cities of Guadalupe and Santa Paula into one representation district thus giving this ethnic majority of Hispanics a strong edge and voice in deciding who will be speaking for them in Sacramento. In Los Angeles County also, the Hispanic community will benefit by reapportionment.

Currently, there is a state-wide petition by conservative groups to put this issue of reapportionment on the ballot for the November general elections. If passed, future reapportionment would be taken out of the hands of our State legislature and placed in the hands of power brokers.

Another example of critical issue in this election and the need to register eligible voters surrounds State Supreme Court Judge Cruz Reynoso. He was the first Hispanic State Supreme Court nominee, appointed to the State’s highest court but opposed vigorously by the same conservative groups trying to do away with Reapportionment. In November he is up for election and once again we can expect the conservative forces to lobby in opposition.

What can happen to State Supreme Court Judge Reynoso can also happen to State Supreme Court Justice Rose Bird if these conservative concerned individuals can either recall Chief Justice Bird or defeat her in the general election in November. Why has she been targeted? She is seen by some conservative elements as one of the architects in the creation of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board. The State Agency responsible for giving farmworkers the right to organize as a means of bettering their livelihood.

There then, are some of the most important concerns for the Hispanic community to consider in the task to register one million eligible Democratic voters and supporting the state-wide efforts of Mario Obledo for Governor who is qualified, capable and symbolizes the kind of leadership and ideals of a Kennedy and a Lincoln and who openly opposes vested-interest big money in favor of $1.00 contributions from individuals and active supporters that still believe, “Si se puede”!
Richard Duarte Appointed Principal of Elm Elementary School

By: Rafael Perez

The Association of Mexican American Educators, Oxnard Chapter, was pleased with the recent selection of new administrative staff for the Oxnard Elementary School District. Richard Duarte was appointed principal to Elm Street School. Other principals appointed were Timothy Dunn to Lemonwood School and Mexie Duff to McKinna School.

Richard Duarte has been a member of AMAE, Oxnard Chapter since 1971. He served as president in 1975. He has been an advocate for quality education for all children at all levels.

Mr. Duarte comes to Oxnard from East Los Angeles and is more than qualified for the task that is before him. Richard attended Cathedral High School in Los Angeles, East Los Angeles Community College, California State University, Los Angeles, University of Southern California and California State University, Northridge. His credentials include: A Bachelor of Arts in History, a Master’s in Elementary Education and a Master’s in Administration and Supervision.

Richard has been in education since 1971 where he began teaching in Saticoy, Ventura Unified School District. He then transferred to Oxnard and was assigned to Curren School, first as a classroom teacher and then as a Resource Teacher. His first administrative assignment was a Learning Director at Haydock Intermediate School in 1979.

AMAE sincerely wishes Richard the best throughout his years as an administrator.

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TIJUANA

...And what about Ensenada. Sure, you've probably been there before and know just about every bazaar, shop, restaurant, and club in the tourist area. But there is much more to this harbor city. Its surroundings are not to be excluded. True, a good many of us have visited Estero Beach and even La Bufadora (the blow-hole) at Punta Banda. The old saying about being unable to see the trees for the forest carry significant meaning for those of us who are used to travelling the well trodden path to Punta Banda. Why? Because there is much more to enjoy. For example, a short five or six miles outside the downtown area of Ensenada, driving south on Mexican Highway One, you arrive at a weatherbeaten sign on the right hand side of the highway advertising “La Cueva De Los Tigres.” Unless you are the adventurous type, you are not likely to get off the paved road onto a dirt, bumpy, and in places, torturous road to find out what that weathered old sign was advertising.

Let’s say that you have read this article and on your next trip into the Ensenada area you decide to check it out. That’s great! So here you are, having travelled approximately one mile or so of dirt road you’ll be looking for a restaurant appearing affair. Ask questions of the locals if in doubt. Believe me, you won’t be the first “turista” asking questions with a quizical look. After about 20 minutes, you will arrive at La Cueva De Los Tigres Restaurant. It sits immediately on the beach. Its design is Spanish motif and the inside is spacious. One of the main dining areas is in what I call the Patio Dining Area, it faces the beach and is surrounded by glass. The food is excellent as are the prices. The seafood dishes are especially well prepared. You may wish to try “Pescado a La Veracruzana” or “Pescado al Mojo de Ajo” (Garlic Fish). You might also ask for Camaron (Shrimp) al Mojo de Ajo.

If you choose to forego La Cueva De Los Tigres, there are other choices. For the person travelling on a fixed budget, I recommend you try some of the local street vendors (puestos). You should also try almejas (Clams) cooked in lemon juice and served in a dixie cup.

After being handed your cup, you then have your choice of “fixings.” You can add diced onions, cilantro, (Mexican parsley) diced radishes, diced hot peppers, or tabasco sauce or its equivalent.

For those of you who have travelled to La Bufadora, no doubt you have seen the many vendors that line either side of the road. Stop and look them over. I’ll wager that if you are hungry, you’ll be eating Burrito after Burrito of this, that, and the other. Come on, hadn’t you heard, Mexican cooking is delicious. In fact, the very act of stopping is in itself an expression of saying “Howdy.” The Mexican person is friendly and extends a hearty “Bienvenido” to you. The next time you are in Ensenada, try something different.
On Tuesday May 4, 1982, the Oxnard College Women's Program will celebrate El Dia de la Mujer. The day's activities will center on specific needs and interests of Latina Women by creating involvement through education. The day will provide supportive guidance via speakers, panel discussions, and entertainment. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Consuelo Rodriguez and Gloria de la Cruz, L.C.S.W. Dr. Rodriguez received her doctorate in administrative and policy studies in education from UCLA. She has done research and investigated Mexican American students graduating from UCLA. Currently Dr. Rodriguez is a self-employed consultant who develops studies and models for cultural awareness in the field of education. Her topic for El Dia de la Mujer will be "The Impact of Higher Education and the Leadership Role of the Latina."

Gloria de la Cruz, L.C.S.W., a psychiatric social worker with Compton Mental Health and coordinator of the La Raza Family Center Clinical Services in East Los Angeles, will be addressing "The Latina: Myths, Stereotypes, and Conflicts she Encounters in Everyday Life." Other panel discussion topics will focus on the new Chicana and her personal development. The program will be held in Room LA-6, Oxnard College 4000 Rose Avenue, Oxnard, California from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The Oxnard College Women's Program is designed to help women ease the transition into general campus life. To reduce the initial anxiety of entering college, to help them gain confidence and to get meaningful and attainable career goals. It provides support and guidance through involvement and programs, through financial aid information, counseling, workshops and career planning. The women's program looks forward to attracting participation from the diverse segments of the community and recognizes the contributions to be made by all.

El Dia de la Mujer will provide counseling services in both Spanish and English. For more information, please call Margarita Corral, Women's Program Coordinator at 488-0811, Ext. 270 or visit the Women's Program in the Learning Resources Building, LRC-4, Oxnard College.

We invite you to develop new perspectives in living and working to explore possible changes for the future. Discover what Oxnard Community College can do for you.
CANDIDATE MARIO OBLEDO GREETED TOM “GATOR” SWANN, CHAIRMAN VENTURA COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS.

VENTURA COUNTY

The Ventura County Young Democrats are a county-wide organization of young people between the ages of 14-39. The club was founded in February, 1981, and has a membership in excess of 125.

The Young Democrats co-hosted with a committee known as “Friends of Mario Obledo,” a public rally and fund-raising reception for gubernatorial candidate Mario Obledo, on Saturday March 27th. These events were held at the Oxnard Community Center Park and the Rosenmund Ranch. At the rally, speakers commented on the importance of a voter registration drive.

Both events were highly successful. Over 1500 was contributed to the Obledo campaign. Mario spent the entire day in Ventura County, speaking before several groups.

Several Young Democrat have organized a county campaign committee for Mario Obledo, since the fund-raiser. Club Director Vince Ordonez and club member Linda McDill, are the co-chairs of the steering committee.

This event was one of several projects that the Young Democrats have sponsored during the past few months. The club is the most active Democratic organization in Ventura County. The Young Democrats publish a monthly newsletter and hold regular monthly meetings.

The Young Democrats believe in the future of Ventura County and California. The club has a large Hispanic membership and recognizes the importance of reaching-out to solve community problems. This year the club passed two resolutions. One supported the placement on the ballot of the Oxnard initiative for councilmanic districts. The other supported the United Farm Workers in their labor dispute.

The Young Democrats would like to encourage all readers of the The Hispanic Forum to become members of the club. There are no dues for members between the ages of 14-39. Honorary membership status can be obtained by those over 39 years of age. Membership applications may be obtained by writing the club at Post Office Box 1281, Ventura, California, 93002. You may also call 659-5060 if you would like additional information.
The story of the National Project Using Mini-bikes (NYPUM).

The idea started late in 1969 at the Northeast Branch of the Los Angeles YMCA. The idea was to use the mini-bikes as an attractive tool in the development of a small group club program with so-called hard to reach youths. Six months experience showed a phenomenal drop in delinquent behavior, such as drug experimentation, truancy and petty crimes.

Following the success pilot program at the Northeast YMCA of Los Angeles, American Honda Motor Co., Inc. agrees to donate 10,000 mini bikes to the National Board of YMCAs for development of additional NYPUM programs across the United States.

The Need

Nearly half of the nation’s serious crimes are being committed by juveniles. The old ways of combatting delinquency are simply not working. Across the nation the crying need is for alternatives... new and innovative ways of working with youth.

NYPUM is a delinquency prevention and diversion program using group work and outreach methodology. It works with junior high age youth, 11-15 years of which 75% must be referrals, especially from the Juvenile Justice System. Mini-bikes are used as an effective “NOW” tool to quickly establish trusting rapport between the alienated youth and the outreach worker. NYPUM as a project can become a viable tool to develop a community based youth development services system.

NYPUM Goals

...to strengthen the ego structure in each youth participant through development of competence in safety and riding skills, sense of belongingness, feeling of self-worth and decision-making power, and knowledge that someone cares.

...to increase diversion from the Juvenile Justice System.

...to serve as a catalyst to develop a genuine community collaboration partnership with the Police, Juvenile Authorities, Schools, Businesses, Community Citizens, etc., in every NYPUM community.

...to reduce dehumanization in all programs related to NYPUM.

...to develop and strengthen family communication and relationships between the youths in the program and their families.

...to increase the commitment of YMCAs and other youth serving organizations in behalf of troubled youth.

INSURANCE

One of the pre-requisites for starting and continuing a NYPUM program is that the YMCA/Agency have adequate insurance coverage. The policy must be
effective the day the bikes are delivered to the program. A special NYPUM insurance is available to all NYPUM programs and provides $500,000 combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage. This liability covers YMCA/Agency, Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, designated "additional insured" companies, public or private agencies, or individuals who provide riding site(s) for the program or storage facilities and volunteers. The medical coverage provides $2,000 each person and covers the youth participant and volunteers.

Ownership of the Mini-Bikes

American Honda Motor Co., Inc. donates the mini-bikes to the National Board of YMCAs, and the National Board retains ownership of them. When an application to start the program is submitted the YMCA/Agency applying accepts responsibility and accountability for them. In cases where the mini-bikes have to be registered as off road vehicles the YMCA/Agency will be listed as the registered owner and the National Board of YMCAs as the legal owner.

The Oxnard Police Department and the Oxnard Housing Authority are co-sponsoring a NYPUM program which will be implemented city-wide. As co-sponsors, two Oxnard Police Officers and a Resident Relations Specialist have been authorized to spend a percentage of working time directing the program. The Oxnard City Council has also expressed its support of the NYPUM program.

Because NYPUM is in the developmental stages, we are presently in need of funding and in kind contributions such as storage facilities, riding sites, (insurance coverage provided) bike maintenance supplies, i.e., gas, tools, etc...

Since NYPUM will be a city-wide program we are seeking broad community support from all sectors of the community. If you wish to contribute to this new innovative delinquency prevention and diversion program, contact any of the following persons for a presentation or further details.

Juanito Garcia
Anti-Crime Officte, Colonia Village, 1263 Felicia Court, Oxnard CA 483-8031, Oxnard Police Department, 251 South "C" Street, Oxnard, CA 486-4311 Ext. 689.

Johnny Gómez
Oxnard Police Department, 251 South "C" Street, Oxnard, Cà 486-4311.

Ruben Ramirez
Oxnard Housing Authority, Resident Relations Specialist 486-4311 Ext 677, 1263 Felicia Court, Oxnard, CA 93030.

**Feedback**

"MENDING FENCES"

Only last year, the Citizens for Oxnard, a group of downtown residents and landowners was suiting the city over its handling of a proposed downtown redevelopment project with the Bondy Corporation. Now, however, the group is looking forward to working with the City in creating a new and more beautiful downtown area. Although I find it ironic that the two entities may soon be partners in the project, I am anxious to start "mending fences" and forget the past. We applaud the City for bringing in C.D. Enterprises to build the downtown area. I think that it can now take place with the building of the tower followed by a renewal of the site "C" area. We think it will be successful since the city is now working with its citizens to redevelop their area.

One group of citizens which hopes to work with the City in the redevelopment area has formed its own corporation, Owners Development Corporation. Obviously the landowners want to be the developers. "Owners" hopes to submit a definite proposal to the City for its revitalization of Site "C". If you have any questions or need more information, please write to: "Owners" P.O. Box 1546, Oxnard, California 93032. /s/Ray Rios
Chairman, "Owners"

Oxnard, CA

**PROGRESSIVE STEPS**

In the 80's we are experiencing a proliferation of articles and discussion on the direction and movement of Hispanics. The mood is positive and exciting with a quick tempo.

While the message to the masses can serve to inform, motivate, and direct, it is important now more than ever that as individuals we evaluate where we are, where we have been and where we are going relative to the Hispanic movement. It is especially important to maintain positive attitudes, philosophies and perspective that will enable us to be a contributing factor and not just a statistic.

One perspective which has contributed to Hispanic progress in the area of Housing was shared by Richard Martinez, Executive Board member of the National Hispanic Housing Coalition: "As Hispanics, understanding our past and being proud of our heritage is important, but it is not enough. The challenge of reshaping the realities we are currently facing housing, education and employment requires more than just pride. Technology, training and career opportunities must be combined with pride to create a new breed of Hispanic professionals capable of improving the quality of life for themselves, their families and their people." /s/ Simon Martinez

Oxnard, CA

**Impact on Hispanics**

**HISPANIC EQUITY ON THE LINE**

Once again Oxnard College (O.C.) and the Ventura Community College Governing Board have used capricious allegations and trivia to demote and oust a Hispanic from significant decision-making position. Mr. Robert Camarillo, Associate Dean of Instruction has been demoted to a classroom instructor. He will join three other Hispanic managerial casualties now cadavers because they stood up for Hispanic needs; and were pushed out and in every case, conveniently replaced with Anglos.

Mr. Camarillo will join Mr. Carlos Ramirez, Dean of Instruction/Vocational Education, an O.C. casualty in 1980; Dr. Jesus Gonzales, Dean of Student Personnel, O.C. casualty in 1978; and Mr. Jose Fernandez, Dean of Counseling O.C. casualty in 1977. This O.C. graveyard is now exclusively reserved for Hispanic managers. However, if this trend is allowed to continue, it will soon include Hispanic counselors, teachers, and classified employees, no matter how secure those employees may now feel with their tenure or with their relationships with Anglo managers.

Now is the time for all Hispanic educators and the community to put aside trivia and micro idiosyncrasies and support Robert Camarillo to insure that his due process, civil rights and professional dignity get equitable treatment. We should not allow vindictive personalities to fire, demote, or push out Hispanics on whimsical drummed up charges. The real issue is one of equity and justice for Hispanic employees and a struggle for a belief. To do nothing is to abdicate those very principles that sustain the Hispanic plight locally. /s/ Manuel R. Vega, Camarillo, CA
and mother, is due to Jesus within my personal life. Without the Lord in my life, work and all the accolades I’ve received during my career would have no meaning,” says Mrs. Castanon. Joseph and Rose are also the proud parents of 6-year old Denise Marie who provides both of her parents stimulating thoughts as seen through her day-to-day activities.

Mrs. Castanon’s achievements, as mentioned, are numerous; those of which she is extremely proud are: Recognition Award for Meritorious Service - 1975 by IMAGE, Ventura County Chapter; Outstanding Spanish Speaking Coordinator - 1975 and 1977 by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters, Washington, D.C.; Woman of Achievement - 1977 by Business and Professional Women’s Mediodia Club of Oxnard; Outstanding Hispanic Employment Program Manager - 1978 by the Federal Executive Board/Hispanic Employment Program Managers Committee of Greater Los Angeles and most recently was recognized by her peers during Women’s History Weeks. She was presented a plaque for her progression in EEO and as a positive Hispanic role model for women - 1982 by the Officers of the Federal Executive Board/Hispanic Employment Program Managers Committee of the Greater Los Angeles Area.

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