

Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Inc.

Newsletter

Headquarter: 1960 National Avenue
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CASTILLO VISITS FEDERATION



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The Chicano Federation and Committee in Chicano Rights hosted a reception for Lionel Castillo, commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service on May 19, at the Chicano Federation.

Castillo, along with the INS Advisory Committee was in San Diego to meet with local Chicano organizations, concerning immigration problems and the recent flow of undocumented workers.

Last month a delegation from San Diego's Chicano community met with Castillo in Houston, Tex., to discuss the direction he will take regarding undocumented workers.

Among those making the trip were Jessie Ramirez, Chicano Federation director; Herman Baca, Committee on Chicano Rights chairperson; Albert Garcia, United California Mexican-American Assoc.; and Mike Castro, SDSU MEChA.

The reception was co-hosted by Casa Justicia, Chicano Democratic Assoc., San Diego MEChA, Chicano Park Steering Comm., G.I. Fourm, United California Mexican-American Assoc., and the Spanish-Speaking Political Assoc.

Next month's newsletter will include a full coverage on Castillo's visit.

CARLIN CASE.....

Chicano students were well represented by parents at a school integration meeting held at San Diego High School last week, reported Leonard Fierro, chairperson of the Chicano Federation Education Committee.

Eleven meetings were held last week with the Commission on School Integration, said Fierro.

Chicano parents gave a lot of input in the meeting and criticized Judge Walsh's ruling on the Carlin Case which declared 23 black and brown schools racially isolated.

The parents questioned the fact that Judge Walsh did not say anything about "all white schools" which parents claim are racially segregated too. They also complained about the lack of communication in Spanish within the district.

According to Fierro, the Chicano parents are against any force bussing of their children. If in any case there must be bussing, the parents said it must work both ways with the other children.

The parents also supported the Chicano Federation's position on school integration.



County Lawsuit:

A federal judge has entered a consent decree on behalf of the Chicano Federation involving an employment discrimination lawsuit against the County of San Diego.

Judge Edward J. Schwartz signed the consent decree May 6, 1977.

"The consent decree entered in this case settles serious long ignored problems of discrimination against Chicanos and other minorities in the employment of county government," said Frank Cronin, attorney for the Chicano Federation.

"Since the Chicano Federation was the first organization to take action against the County, by filing charges with the federal government in 1973, we were allowed to intervene in the suit so that our views on the long-range solution could be heard," he said. "The Federation will continue to monitor the County's progress towards creating a discrimination-free environment for all it's workers."

The major thrust of the decree is to provide prospective relief for minorities by establishing hiring and promotional goals in all job categories which Chicanos have been underutilized in the past.

The final measure of success will be when Chicanos reach the point where they hold jobs in county government in the ratio that they represent in the civilian labor force of San Diego County.

Two important qualifications concerning the issue must be emphasized. First, it does not require the County to lower any employment standards to allow minorities and women to be hired or promoted. Everyone must compete on the same basis, accordance with fair and job-related standards.

Judge Signs Consent Decree

Second, the goals for hiring and promotion will continue to be in effect until the County reaches parity with the civilian labor-force for each job category.

The Federation recognizes that while future improvement of opportunities for minorities and women is the primary objective, it is also important to provide some relief for those persons who also applied for jobs but were rejected for discriminatory reasons.

The decree provides two distinct mechanisms.

1-) The county will pay-back those minorities who came close to being selected but were rejected in favor of white males; the time limitation for those certified is Jan. 1, 1975.

This group will be offered one-time payments of \$350, plus priority job offers. If no jobs are available within two years, they will get an additional \$100.

2-) The second group of persons eligible for relief are those whom the County found eligible for jobs since Jan. 1, 1975, but did not score high enough to be certified for jobs. This group will also be offered priority placement in jobs.

All other minorities and women who were rejected in the past will be allowed to re-apply for jobs.

The last vital feature of this decree is that it provides a method by which the Federation can monitor. The Federation is guaranteed full participation in the periodic re-participation in the periodic review. It will receive detailed progress reports and analysis of

the County's activities. It has the right to confer deficiencies with the County and try to resolve the issue. If no agreement is possible, the Federation has the right to apply to the federal district court for an immediate ruling on the issue.

The Federation believes that it has played an important role in improving the quality of the decree through active participation in negotiations. Most important, the Federation has established that it has a continuing and direct interest in representing the Chicanos in San Diego County.

Following the signing of the consent decree by Judge Schwartz, Jessie Ramirez, executive director of the Federation spoke to the news media during a press conference at the County Building.

"We look forward working with this document. The consent decree isn't perfect and doesn't solve all the problems," said Ramirez. "But Federation recognizes that it is a changing organization. The decree provides the Federation to be part of the solution."

"We will work with the county to improve affirmative action programs and will be involved into finding discrimination practices in local, state and federal levels," he said.

Ramirez thanked the Mexican-American Legal Foundation for their support.



REVERSE THE BAKKE DECISION

It is imperative that the Chicano Community realize the effects the BAKKE DECISION will have on our people's education.

Who is Bakke? Allan Bakke is a 36 year-old white civil engineer, who filed a complaint and claimed he was denied admission to the medical school at U.C. Davis for two consecutive years, because special admission programs gave preferential treatment to ethnic minorities.

On Sept. 16, 1976, the California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Bakke claiming he was a victim of reverse discrimination.

The case is being reviewed by the United States Supreme Court. If the Bakke Decision is upheld, it could mean an end to affirmative action programs and even the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), which minorities use to enter and finance their college education.

Many Chicanos have profit from the so-called special admission programs and services of EOP. These programs have helped Chicanos obtain college degrees. But this will be destroyed if we do not act now. The greatest implications will fall on the high students because they may not attend college if the Bakke Decision isn't reversed.

These programs were not a gift handed down to us. They were the result of struggles and demonstrations by many Chicanos. These opportunities were made so that a decent education could be given to those who have been deprived of one.

MECHA Central of San Diego County is asking the community to join the fight against this racist decision that must be reversed.

We move to insure that our brothers and sisters receive the same opportunities we had. We show the U.S. Supreme Court that there is an organized resistance against the Bakke Decision and what Bakke represents.

AT SDSU

Ethnic Studies Rejected

Students at San Diego State University are attempting to reverse a Faculty Senate decision which eliminates Ethnic Studies courses from the 1977-78 Foundations of Learning section of the General Education requirements.

The change in G.E. requirements will eventually affect community colleges in the county because students will stop taking Chicano, Black Studies, etc., since they will not meet SDSU's requirements. A drop in enrollment will mean the firing of many ethnic studies instructors and the elimination of ethnic studies departments.

The issue of the exclusion of many G.E. requirements came to light early in the fall of 1976 when the University College, an administrative arm of the Vice president's office, asked departments to submit courses that could be considered for inclusion in the new G.E. requirements.



EDUCATION IS A RIGHT

cont.....

By December 1976, Ethnic Studies and other departments were notified by the University College that most of their courses had been rejected. When the Faculty Senate met in February, they agreed with the University College decision.

As the controversy continues, the decision has been made. Still, no one knows what the repercussions of the University College and Faculty Senate may be, but the effects may be widely felt. This decision could affect the future of Ethnic Studies (such as Chicano, Black, Indian and Asian courses) at SDSU, the community colleges and transfer student requirements, student registration, and even faculty allocations.

The hardest hit may be the students themselves, whose options will be limited in fulfilling required courses and whose concept of general education is given a narrower view.



Federation's Position On Integration

The Chicano Federation Board of Directors met in a joint session with the Federation's Education Committee on May 9, to formalize and adopt the C/F's position on Integration of San Diego Unified School District.



Rafael Fernandez, Chairperson of the Board issued the following statements:

1. We are for quality education for our Children.
2. We are in favor of voluntary bussing efforts.
3. We are opposed to bussing that involves only minority children.
4. We are for maintaining and expanding bilingual/bicultural programs that meet the specific needs of our children.
5. We are for keeping the student needing bilingual programs in their neighborhood school environment.
6. We are in accordance with the intent of laws that affect education in as much as they give priority to the protection of our children's programs.
7. We are in favor of an effective district-wide mandatory cultural awareness in-service training program to accompany any bussing effort.
8. We are opposed to the transfer of any teacher, for integration purposes, that is engaged in programs that meet the needs of minority youngsters.
9. In order to comply with the districts' Affirmative Action plan, we are in favor of increased hiring and promotion of Chicanos.
10. All of the educational reforms proposed above must be implemented and are not to be construed as being contingent of the establishment of an intergration plan.



NOT A PRIVILEGE



THOUSANDS CELEBRATE CHICANO PARK'S 7th ANNIVERSARY

The brown Mestizo flag de Aztlan was raised with pride during the 7th Anniversary of Chicano Park Day.

It was seven years ago, April 22, 1970, when the community marched onto that small piece of land under the Coronado Bay Bridge and began to build their own Chicano Park.



Barrio residents were angered over the City Council's decision to use the land for a Highway Patrol sub-station.

But now, the take-over of the park is written in Chicano history as one of the major political events of the decade and victory for La Raza. Chicanos had mobilized themselves in a united effort for community control and self determination.

This year a new chapter was created in Chicano Park history when "Chunky" Sanchez officiated an afternoon wedding ceremony. But in this wedding, one didn't see any fancy dresses, tuxedos or hear any church bells. This was a Chicano boda. Three Chicano couples married by a Chicano, and while a large throng of brown faces looked on, history was recording itself in Chicano Park. A wedding ceremony that perhaps, will never be performed by any minister, judge or priest. Chicano Park Day, 1977, will be remembered by Eri Oriol and Lupe Parong and four senior citizens who decided to make this day their anniversary too.

San Diego's finest bands kept the spirit and mood alive and the Chicano community welcomed special guest speaker Dorinda Moreno from San Francisco.

The cultural aspects of the day were hi-lighted by Los Concheros, (Aztec dancers) and Ballet Folklorico en Aztlan. There was plenty of food for those that had a hungry appetite and carnival games for the kids.

And while all of this was going on, the brown Mestizo flag waved proudly in the sky.



AUMENTO A LOS BENEFICIOS DEL SEGURO SOCIAL ESTAN INDICADOS PARA EL MES DE JULIO

HEW (Health Education & Welfare) anuncio el dia 21 de Abril pasado, que un aumento de 5.9 por ciento sera adjudicado a los recipientes de cheques de Seguro Social (Social Security) y SSI (Supplemental Security Income).



CALIFORNIA ESTABLECE UN CONGRESO QUE ENCOMPASA EL ESTADO

Un movimiento para establecer una organizacion que encompase el Estado se ha iniciado en California con la creacion de un Comite titulado "Congreso de Señores Mayores de California". El Comite se organizo en una junta de 50 organizaciones representantes de mayores de edad, que se llevo a cabo en Enero de 1977 en Sacramento. Aprobo tambien los objetivos y principios similares a los de la "National Council of Senior Citizens" Concilio Nacional de Ciudadanos Mayores.

Al presente los planes tienen por objeto mantener una oficina Intercesora como una base focal para los esfuerzos legislativos del Congreso en conjuncion con participantes grupos y Concilios del Area.

Cuatro semejantes Concilios se han establecido en Los Angeles, Fresno, Modesto y Monterey y otros estan pendientes.

El Congreso de acuerdo con el Primer Vice-Presidente James Carbray del National Council of Senior Citizens, "tiene el intento de proveer el sistema para coordinar esfuerzos de miles de Club de Senores Mayores en California y asi dar fin a la fragmentacion que ha conducido al vencimiento de muchos esfuerzos legislativos en favor del mayor de edad y el pobre.

Este aumento a los cheques de Seguro Social seran pagados aproximadamente 150,600 beneficiarios de 60 anos de edad o mayores, del condado de San Diego. Las nuevas cantidades tomara efecto el mes de Junio, y estaran incluidas en los cheques del mes de Julio, que se recibiran el dia primero de dicho mes; (debido a que el dia 1 de Julio caera en Domingo, los cheques seran recibidos el dia 1 de Julio).

El 5.9% significara un aumento total de \$2,269,584 para los beneficiarios del Seguro Social (Social Security) del Condado de San Diego, elevando esto a un gran total de \$43,184,070. El setenta y seis por ciento (76%) o \$33 millones seran para los de mayor edad (Seniors) cada mes.

El promedio de beneficios para un trabajador jubilado sera aumentado de \$221.00 a \$234.00 por mes. Los beneficios para un matrimonio aumentaran de \$337 a \$400 por mes, mientras que los beneficios para las viudas y viudos subiran de \$210 a \$223 por mes.

Los beneficios maximos para un trabajador jubilado en 1977 a la edad de 65 anos ascendera de \$412 a \$437.10. Beneficios minimos a los 65 anos subiran de \$107.90 a \$114.30.

Aproximadamente 36,000 beneficiarios de SSI del condado de San Diego, recibiran tambien el aumento de 5.9% en sus cheques el dia 1 de Julio. Las cantidades oficiales todavia no se han publicado pero el aumento para una persona que vive independiente sola, debera ser \$286 por mes, del nivel actual de \$276.00. Para una pareja, subira de \$552 a \$536.00.





CHAMBA:

Helping the Unemployed

The Chicano Federation employment services program has taken a step in the right direction. In addition to the intake counseling and referral services, we are developing a much needed program that will benefit and reach all specturm in the employment arena; the unemployed, the employment assistance systems and the employers of San Diego County.

The Chicano Federation recently contracted with the State of California to implement CHAMBA, (Community Helping All Members to Better Achieve).

The objectives of CHAMBA is to assist all ethnic minorities and women, who are unemployed, via the development of a computerized minority skills bank that will assist them obtaining employment.

Establishing a data resource center with information on skills of minority individuals seeking employment, makes this information to employers within the private and public sector and assists employment programs/systems in their efforts to place ethnic minorities on available jobs.

CHAMBA continues to work closely with the Employment Development Department (EDD) in referral process utilizing the State Job Bank Book through the efforts of Lupe Ramirez, outstationed EDD representative.

CHAMBA welcomes your assistance and support. If you are interested in receiving employment information through our skills bank system, please contact CHAMBA staff:

Diana Fierro, Director
 Roberto Tato, Placement Interviewer
 Rosemary Lograsso, Intake worker
 Rudy Calles, Placement Interviewer
 Andrea Medina, Minority Recruitment
 Lupe Gonzales, Administrative Asst.
 Norberto Salazar, Placement Interviewer of North County
 Don Brady, Business Liason

C.H.A.M.B.A.
 Open House and Appreciation
 Ceremony
 May 27, 1977 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
 at the Chicano Federation

CHICANO FEDERATION

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