



## Press Release

Event: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration Luncheon

Date: October 8, 2004

Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Location:

Kankakee Civic Auditorium

801 South 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Kankakee, IL

Contact:

Linda Hubert

Kankakee Community Development Agency

275 East Court Street

Kankakee, IL 60901

Phone – 815-933-0506

Admission: 5.00 per person

Hispanic Heritage Month: September 15 -- October 15

Each September 15 through October 15, Hispanics around the country have cause to celebrate: Hispanic Heritage Month unfolds nationwide with a host of festivities and commemorations to recognize the significant contributions of Hispanics. But this is not only a time for Hispanics; it is a time for all Americans to observe and explore how Hispanics have put their own special imprint on the fabric of American culture and society. This year, Kankakee, IL will celebrate with a luncheon of authentic Hispanic Food on October 8, 2004, at the Kankakee

Civic Auditorium, 12:00pm – 2:30pm, admission is 5.00 per person.

Originally set-aside during the second week in September as Hispanic Heritage Week, Congress created this time for cultural and historical awareness of Hispanics more than twenty years ago. 15 years ago, however, a group of influential Hispanics banded to extend the national commemoration to a full month like that of Black History Month in February, which highlights the significance and breadth of achievements that blacks have made in this country. After nearly two years of lobbying by retired Colonel Gil Coronado, Hispanic congressmen, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, a bill to change Hispanic Heritage Week to a month became effective January 1, 1989.

This year's celebration luncheon will offer a host of cultural events to fete Hispanic Heritage Month. The event planning committee is calling all cooks willing to donate a covered dish that could serve at least 50 people, and is an authentic Hispanic Dish to be served during the luncheon, and if anyone would like to donate to the committee please call Linda Hubert of the Kankakee Community Development Agency (815-933-0506). As this is the first year for the luncheon the event planning committee is hoping area restaurants and residents will be willing to donate for the luncheon.