



# NOTABLE MINORITIES WHO CHANGED HISTORY

## March 26, 2009

"Then, without realizing it, you try to improve yourself at the start of each new day; of course, you achieve quite a lot in the course of time. Anyone can do this, it costs nothing and is certainly very helpful. Whoever doesn't know it must learn and find by experience that a quiet conscience makes one strong." -Anne Frank

### DID YOU KNOW?

On Saturday, March 28, at 8:30pm, some Nashville businesses will be participating in Earth Hour. For one hour they will turn off their light signs. It is encouraged that you take part too. So build a fire in the fireplace, light the candles, blow the dust off the board game you got three years ago and save some energy.

#### Dates to Remember: Women's History Month

#### March

- 2- Dr. Seuss' Birthday
- 8- Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 9-14- CoSCC Spring Break
- 9- Purim (Jewish Holiday)
- 15- Ides of March
- 17- St. Patrick's Day
- 20- First Day of Spring
- 21- Children's Poetry Day
- 25- Greek Independence Day

Office of  
Access & Diversity  
Christa Martin  
Assistant to the President

TDD Relay Number

(for the hearing impaired): 1-800-848-0298

Columbia State is an AA/EOE Educational Institution.



Dolores Huerta

### Dolores Huerta

Labor Activist

Dolores Huerta was born on April 10, 1930 in Dawson, New Mexico to Juan Fernandez and his wife Alicia Fernandez. After Juan and Alicia divorced, Alicia moved her and her three children to Stockton, California where Alicia established a successful hotel. Dolores Huerta grew up helping out at her mother's hotel and learned her work ethic from this experience.

After high school Dolores went on to obtain an associate's degree with a certificate in teaching at the Delta Community College division of the University of the Pacific in early 1959.

In 1963 Huerta joined forces with the well liked labor leader Cesar Chavez and founded the National Farm Workers Association that organized agricultural laborers into labor unions and allowed them to enter into collective bargaining with the commercial growers. Huerta was a tough negotiator and used her lobbying skills to make great gains for agricultural workers when she worked for NFWA. In 1963 the California State Legislature allowed farm workers to participate in the state's disability insurance program and to claim benefits under the Aid for Dependent Families program. As the years went on Huerta became one of the most influential labor leaders of the twentieth century. Her most important achievement is the establishment of the United Farm Worker (UFW) union which was established in 1966.

Along with her work with the NFWA and UFW she has also served as a teacher for the Stockton Public Schools in the 1950's. She also founded the Community Service Organization, which set out to organize Mexican-Americans on the grassroots level to implement social, economic and political change. Under her leadership CSO began a voter registration program and put pressure on politicians to provide equal services to poorer, predominantly ethnic neighborhoods in Stockton. The program also worked to publicize cases of discrimination and police brutality against Mexican-Americans.