

Making The News This Week

After Venezuela President **Hugo Chávez** refuses to apologize to Mexico President **Vicente Fox** for calling him "Bush's puppy," the two countries withdraw their ambassadors. The leaders sparred over free trade and Latin America's relationship to the United States at the Summit of the Americas... Mexican American wrestler **Eddie Guerrero**, 38, is found dead in a hotel in Minneapolis due to heart failure. The World Wrestling Entertainment superstar had a history of drug and alcohol abuse, but had remained sober in the past four years... Rep. **Tom Tancredo** (R-Colo.) introduces legislation to repeal a recently approved law proposed by Sen. **Bob Bennett** (R-Utah) that allows religious groups to harbor and shield undocumented immigrants from

Rodríguez, Pujols Win MVP Awards

(See story, page 2)

law enforcement...The San Francisco Board of Supervisors approves an ordinance introduced by **Ross Mirkarimi** that will require Proposition 65 label warnings about toxins, such as mercury in seafood, in Spanish and Chinese...California Assembly member **Pedro Nava** receives the "Environmental Leadership Award" from the National Hispanic Environmental Council for his commitment to pursue issues such as coastal protection...The Baltimore Orioles announce all-stars **Sammy Sosa** and **Rafael Palmeiro** will not return to the team next year. Sosa missed a major portion of last season due to injuries, and Palmeiro, despite reaching the 3,000-hit milestone, faced suspension after failing a steroids test.

Vol. 23 No. 46

HISPANIC LINK WEEKLY REPORT

Nov. 21, 2005

Hispanic Consumer Advocate Group Charges That Catholic Hospitals Overprice Uninsured

By Ambar Espinoza

A nonprofit consumer advocacy organization assisting Latinos nationwide released a report Nov. 15 during the annual meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops held in Washington, D.C., charging large financial profits that a major group of Catholic hospitals have made

SAMPLE OF CATHOLIC HOSPITAL CHARGES TO UNINSURED PATIENTS

Victims Name	Hospital Name	Billed Charges	Medicare
Myrna E.	Catholic Healthcare West	\$20,296.50	\$3,994
Sergio P.	Catholic Healthcare West	\$15,897.00	\$3,839
Rigoberto G.	Holy Cross Hospital	\$25,115.00	\$6,032
Carlos C.	Our Lady of Resurrection	\$74,395.63	\$6,121

Source: *Unholy Alliance: An Investigative Report*
Consejo de Latinos Unidos

by allegedly overpricing uninsured patients for health care services.

The report released by the Los Angeles-based *Consejo de Latinos Unidos*, which has been fighting price gouging among hospitals for the past five years, argues that many Catholic hospitals are charging uninsured patients more than they charge Medicare or private health insurance companies. K.B. Forbes, executive director of the nonprofit, called on bishops to use their "moral authority" to persuade Catholic hospitals to use fair billing and collection prac-

tices in line with their Catholic missions.

Landscape artist Silvino Arciga, from South Central Los Angeles, went to California Hospital Medical Center when he fell off

a six-foot ladder while fixing his home. He said the hospital would not treat him unless he paid a \$300 deposit. The hospital did not tell him in advance how much the costs of the services would be. After X-rays confirmed he had two broken ribs and a wrist, the hospital referred him to the county hospital. Arciga said he later received an invoice with a remaining balance of \$2,842.

"We cannot respond to individual cases," Fred Caesar, senior director of public affairs for the Catholic Health Association of

(continued on page 3)

MARYLANDBLOCKS IMMIGRANTS FROM DRIVING, SUIT CLAIMS

By Sarah Horne

A lawsuit claiming that the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration routinely denies driver's licenses to immigrants was filed Nov. 15 by the advocacy group CASA de Maryland and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. The suit was filed in Baltimore City Circuit Court on behalf of 13 immigrants and the Association for the Advancement and Equality of Women.

Maryland is one of 10 states that grants undocumented immigrants a license so long as they provide proof of identity, age and residency. The CASA lawsuit charges that the MVA burdens foreign-born license applicants, requiring them to schedule special appointments to apply for a license, limiting the offices they can go to — which often makes them travel long distances — and wait for months.

The MVA is reserving comment on the suit

(continued on page 3)

Immigrants Provide Nearly Half of Nation's Work Force Growth

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

Immigrants have fueled more than half the growth of the U.S. workforce over the past decade and will continue to play a central role in the nation's economy, according to a federal report presented Nov. 16 to a committee in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The report, issued by the Congressional Budget Office, estimated the immigrant work force has jumped from 13 million in 1994 to 21 million in 2004. It estimated that last year, 40% of that work force hailed from Mexico and Central America alone.

But while immigrant workers coming from non-Latino countries average 14 years of completed education, those from Mexico and Central America average only 9.4 and

work mostly in low-skilled jobs, the report showed. The national average is 13.7.

"Education is the dominant characteristic for success in the labor market," said CBO Douglas Holtz-Eakin before the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The report estimated some 6 to 7 million of all immigrant workers are undocumented. Holtz-Eakin called them an important resource to the economy. He added, "Diminishing your resource diminishes your capacity to produce."

During testimony, Immigration Policy Center research fellow Dan Siciliano summarized findings of a report prepared by IPC for the committee. He said, "Immigrant labor, documented and undocumented... will continue to play a very

critical role" to meet projections set by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of adding some 21 million workers to the current 144 million by 2012.

"The positive impact of immigration results in part from the fact that immigrants help to fill growing gaps in our labor force," Siciliano said in written testimony. He explained these gaps are created as native-born workers who have attained higher educational levels grows older.

Steven Camarota, director of research for the Center for Immigration Studies, countered that the impact of immigration to the overall economy in the United States is relatively small, contributing only "two-tenths of one percent of our economy."

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Political Poop

By Patricia Guadalupe

Ex-Employee Sues Carrión

A former employee of Bronx (N.Y.) Borough president Adolfo Carrión is suing Carrión for discrimination, alleging that his accent and advanced age were "constantly ridiculed" in the office.

Rafael Martínez Alequín, 73, a former journalist who was born and raised in Puerto Rico and worked in Carrión's press office, alleges that Carrión and his staff made fun of his English, and asked him on several occasions not to speak to the media "because of your accent."

Martínez Alequín also alleges that when he was dismissed in 2003, he was told it was for "budgetary reasons." He contends

that Carrión later hired a younger person for the job at the same salary.

The Bronx Borough president's office denies the charges.

Ex-Treasurer Pleads Innocent

Former New Mexico state treasurer Robert Vigil Nov. 15 pled innocent to five federal charges of money laundering and conspiracy.

Vigil, who resigned last month, faces an additional 21 federal corruption charges to which he has also pled innocent.

He is accused of participating in a kick-back scheme where he and another former state treasurer, Michael Montoya, accepted money from businesses seeking contracts with the state.

Earlier this month, Montoya pled guilty to one charge of corruption in exchange for

cooperating with federal prosecutors. He is expected to testify against Vigil, his former deputy.

Help Immigrants, Corzine Told

Immigrant-rights groups Nov. 14 urged New Jersey's Democratic governor-elect, Sen. John Corzine, to ensure that the rights of immigrants in the state are not violated when he assumes office.

"Immigrants have brought an enormous amount of resources and have contributed to making this state and the country economically and culturally rich," the Immigration Policy Network of New Jersey said in a letter to Corzine. IPNNJ is based in Newark, home to the highest number of immigrants in the state.

Corzine is considered holding views "friendly" to the immigrant community.

He will be sworn in Jan. 16.

Hispanic Scholarship Fund Vows to Double Rate of Latinos Graduating College by 2010

By Enrique Quevedo

As the Hispanic Scholarship Fund celebrated its 30th anniversary in the nation's capital Nov. 15, its president, Sara Martínez Tucker, reaffirmed its commitment to double the rate by 2010 to 18% of Latinos earning college degrees.

Joined by U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings and other higher education leaders, Martínez Tucker said the

Immigrant Workers Feed Economy, Raise Labor Demand, IPC Reports

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"It is probably best to focus on the winners and losers" in the U.S. work force due to continued large immigration flows, he said, adding that it is native-born low-skilled workers who are most affected.

"Those who support the current high level of unskilled legal and illegal immigration should at least do so with an understanding that those American workers harmed by the policies they favor are already the poorest and most vulnerable," he said.

The IPC report, however, claimed that the immigrant work force complements, not disrupts, the U.S. economy. It countered claims by advocates of stricter immigration control that low-skilled undocumented workers depress wages and take jobs away from native-born residents.

"More workers to fill jobs translates into lower wages, but economic reality is not that simple," IPC director Benjamin Johnson said in a statement. "For the most part, immigrants and native workers aren't competing for the same jobs, and the presence of immigrants does more than increase the supply of labor; it increases the demand for labor as well."

fund is striving to reach the \$250 million mark in grants awarded by then.

During its 30-year history, HSF has given more than 73,000 scholarships valued at \$170 million to college-bound students.

"By increasing the scale of our grant foundations and working harder to attract community college students to four-year programs we hope to bring the Hispanic community up to the national average in college attendance," Martínez Tucker told Weekly Report.

The HSF announced more than \$22 million in new grants.

One of them, for \$12.3 million by the Lilly Endowment Inc., will be used to launch a pilot program at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Georgia at Athens to try new methods to recruit and retain Hispanic students.

Concern About Andean FTA Erupts in Capital

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

As the Bush Administration moves forward to finalize negotiations for a free trade agreement with Ecuador, Peru and Colombia, some trade and labor groups have started to raise their concerns.

California Democratic Reps. Linda Sánchez, Hilda Solís and Xavier Becerra joined some of these groups Nov. 16.

"We need a trade agreement that will lift Andean countries out of poverty, include labor provisions, and provide access to medicines, not a trade agreement that will exploit workers," Solís said.



MARTINEZ-TUCKER

Latino Sluggers Capture MVPs in Both National And American Leagues

By Charlie Ericksen

Continuing the ascendance of Latinos as major league baseball's recognized superstars, a pair of Dominicans, one born in New York City, the other in Santo Domingo, D.R., have been chosen by the Baseball Writers Association of America to receive 2005's Most Valuable Player awards in their respective leagues.

New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodríguez, at age 30 generally considered baseball's greatest star, was announced as the American League MVP Nov. 14. He received 16 first-place votes and 11 second-place votes out of a possible 28.

St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols, 25, who came to the states at age 16, was anointed a day later by the National League writers. He received 18 first-place votes and 14 for second place out of a possible 32.

Rodríguez had won the national League honor as shortstop with the Texas Rangers in 2003. This season he led the AL in home runs (48) and runs batted in (130) while batting .321.

Running two-three-four right behind him were the Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz, Los Angeles Angels' Vladimir Guerrero (the 2004 winner) and Boston's Manny Ramírez.

Pujols was second in the NL in batting average (.330) and RBI (117) and third in homers (41).

Among winners of the prestigious awards announced earlier this month were Ozzie Guillén (AL manager), and Bartolo Colón (AL pitcher).



RODRIGUEZ

Hurricane Katrina Still Pounding Hispanic Small Businesses, Reports Nydia Velázquez

By Victoria A. Mattiuzzo

Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-NY) released the Small Business Index Nov. 16 which shows that the devastation Hurricane Katrina caused in the Gulf Coast is taking its toll on the nation's small businesses. Hispanic small business owners are not receiving the essential aid, she told Weekly Report.

Velázquez urged the government to grant immediate assistance to the small businesses, particularly in the Gulf Coast region, that lost everything for "they are the ones who create the jobs that this country needs to get back on track."

Damages to major ports located along the Gulf Coast have already resulted in a lowering of exports, according to the report. In addition, the Department of Agriculture reported a \$1.1 billion loss in the agricultural industry.

"Small businesses in general have been



VELAZQUEZ

impacted by the lack of response from the SBA," Velázquez told Weekly Report. "For the Hispanic businesses in the region basically they have not been able to get any kind of assistance...they are struggling, they need help today and they are not getting it."

In addition, small businesses are suffering due to increasing costs in healthcare and energy, and higher interest rates, according to Velázquez. The current Small Business Index shows an increase in trade deficit, making the SBI reach an eight-year low. The lower the index is, the more indicative it is that small businesses are struggling.

"With the convergence of all these negative conditions today, entrepreneurs simply don't have the confidence they need to take the risks that will provide them with the rewards of business ownership," said Velázquez.

The Small Business Index is released semi-annually. The initial SBI was released in 2003 and measures the characteristics essential to a strong small business sector within the United States.

Catholic Hospital Groups Profited \$2 Billion in '04

(continued from page 1)

the United States, told Weekly Report.

The report focused on seven Catholic hospital systems that operate more than 150 hospitals altogether in approximately 20 states: Ascension Health, Catholic Health Initiatives, the second largest system in the U.S., Catholic Healthcare Partners, Catholic Healthcare West, Providence Health System, SSM Healthcare, and Trinity Health. The report charged that it made more than \$2 billion in tax-free profits in 2004.

Sister Carol Keehan, president and chief executive officer of CHA, responded to those allegations through a press release stating: "The nation's turbulent health care system forces us to maintain large financial reserves in order to ensure that we can operate in the future."

Most people who file complaints on price gouging are middle-class people who own homes and have decent-paying jobs, but cannot afford private insurance, said Forbes, adding "We are sick and tired of hospitals lying to the general public, telling them they have discounted plans for the uninsured."

According to Keehan, the Catholic health care system offers various programs that ensure the Latino community has affordable access to quality health care, such as Catholic HealthCare West's *Para Tu Salud*, in Los Angeles and St. Joseph Medical Center's CareVan, in Stockton, California.

"Recent attention has generated an unfortunate perception that all uninsured pa-

tients have not received discounts," said Keehan. "The fact is that in most cases, payments have been negotiated with patients to establish reasonable billing terms. There may have been isolated cases. Anecdotes are interesting, but not the norm in Catholic health care."

Forbes acknowledged that other non-Catholic hospitals are also guilty of price-gouging the uninsured and Latinos are not the only victims.

He told Weekly Report, however, that his nonprofit is particularly focused on Catholic hospitals because their billing practices impact Latinos the most. Nine out of 10 Latinos are Catholic, and one in three Latinos are uninsured, Forbes said.

"The Catholic health ministry is proud of its record in the Latino community and will not shy away from defending itself against baseless attacks," Keehan said.

In June 2004, the subcommittees on oversight of both the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce held the first series of hearings looking at how hospitals bill the uninsured. Last May, the Senate Finance Committee held a hearing to examine activities related to nonprofit hospitals' tax exempt status.



KEEHAN

Denial of Driver's Licenses Has Profound Effect on Maryland Immigrants, CASA Charges

(continued from page 1)

because they have not yet seen it, spokesman Buel Young told Weekly Report.

The suit also claims that the MVA is violating state regulations by not providing required Spanish language materials and not providing hearings to those who are refused licenses.

"Every week we hear from more people. These 13 are only a representative sample of the cases," Eliza Leighton, a spokesman for CASA, told Weekly Report. "It has profound effects on immigrants' lives."

She cited the case of Margaret Mengly Peredo Echelar, a 23-year-old Bolivian immigrant who moved to the United States more than three years ago to attend college. She was denied a license four times despite showing a passport, bank account records, a telephone bill, canceled checks and a rental contract.

Peredo Echelar told reporters she has been unable to attend the night classes she needs because she doesn't have a license and fears traveling alone by bus at night.

Georgia Latinos Hold Lots Of Jobs, But Remain Poor

By Victoria A. Mattiuzzo

Nearly 80% of Hispanics in Georgia are employed, compared to 67% of all state residents, but a higher percentage of Latinos live below poverty levels, according to a recent report by the National Council of *La Raza*.

Whereas the 2003 below-poverty rate in the state was 13.4%, the level for Hispanics was 18.8%, according to the report. The below-poverty rate for children was 18.7%, but for Hispanic children it was 23.6%.

NCLR president Janet Murguía stated that although Latinos in Georgia represent an "important share of the taxpayers and workers...they are also a vulnerable population, often lacking health insurance and more likely to be in the lowest paying and most dangerous jobs."

NCLR found that 43% of employed non-elderly Hispanics lacked health insurance in 2003. The rate for blacks was 24%, for whites 15%. In addition, traffic, workplace and other accidental injuries were reported as the main cause of death for Latinos in the state. Nationwide, these accidents are the third main cause of death for Hispanics.

Georgia's Hispanic population of 8,851,489 is the 11th largest Latino population in the United States, as well as one of the fastest growing.

The 16-page report, "Latinos in Georgia: A Closer Look" can be found at www.nclr.org,

The Judge Alito I Know

The Hispanic National Bar Association greeted Judge Samuel Alito's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court by expressing its "profound disappointment" that Alito is not Hispanic. Minority Leader Harry Reid echoed that concern when he came out swinging against the judge.

While I share the disappointment of my fellow Hispanic lawyers that a Hispanic wasn't nominated, as a Supreme Court justice, Alito would be good for all Americans, including Hispanics.



RIVAS

It seems odd to have to restate this, but the law doesn't have any color. A white judge should be perfectly capable of deciding a case in which the plaintiff, the defendant and all of the jurors are black and the opposite is true as well.

Certainly the profession of law benefits from having practitioners from many different backgrounds, but when it comes down to it, they are all engaged in the same task, and the pigment of their skin matters very little.

A good judge of any color or background simply interprets the law and tries to guarantee a fair process to plaintiff and defendant alike.

There are, however, a few details about Judge Alito's record to lead me to believe that many Hispanics would be happy to have his voice on the court. Alito's father was a first generation immigrant and the judge seems to be sensitive to the concerns of immigrants.

As the U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, he increased the number of Hispanic assistant U.S. attorneys in the office. As a group, Hispanic attorneys had been underrepresented in that office. He rectified what had been a glaring omission.

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS HAVE FRIEND IN ALITO

One of his rulings from the Third Circuit court of appeals helped an Iranian woman who was trying to file for asylum. She was unable to use some of the repressive laws of her country to make a case for staying in this country, but Judge Alito clarified that the government could take those laws into account.

Many Hispanics in this country are religious, and people of all faiths have a friend in Judge Alito, who also happens to be a practicing Catholic. He has consistently ruled in favor of religious expression. He ruled against a school district that wanted to limit what Christians could say, and he denied the ACLU's attempt to

remove an ecumenical Christmas/Hanukah/Kwanza display from city property in Newark, New Jersey.

While many have debated and sought to predict Judge Alito's position on the abortion question, I take great comfort in the fact that as a judge he has limited his legal rulings and decisions to the facts of the case in front of him. He has not, when the opportunity has presented itself, gone beyond the scope of the cases to render opinions that were not germane to the issues before him. He respects the role of the court within our system of governance.

FORCED SCHOOL TO TRANSFER GAY STUDENT

His rulings reflect a healthy respect for legislatures to make certain policy choices as in the Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey v. Farmer case, but where appropriate, he will limit the scope of their actions when they go beyond constitutional boundaries as in Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey v. Farmer.

Finally, though great strides have been made, some prejudice still unfortunately rears its ugly head at the worst times. This can lead to unfair trials and unjust sentences. Judge Alito has proven very sympathetic in helping people to be treated more fairly. He once forced a school district to grant the transfer of a gay student who was being picked on. He also allowed an African American who was serving time to make the case that he had been railroaded by jurors who frequently made racist remarks.

HE DOESN'T LEGISLATE FROM BENCH

"The law is not a respecter of persons." That old phrase was used to talk about the ideal of impartiality of our justice system. The law should not favor some great "persons" over others. But if there's any theme that runs through Alito's rulings, it's that the law should be a respecter of all persons.

Alito is certainly not an activist judge. He believes in interpreting the law rather than legislating from the bench. But within those guide rails, he has a remarkable record of decisions that treat people like they aren't just being ground through a legal machine. By supporting him, we are supporting this nation's highest ideals: liberty and justice for all.

(Rivas is a partner in the law firm of Lite DePalma Greenberg & Rivas in Newark, N.J. He has known Judge Alito since they served together in the U.S. Attorney's Office in New Jersey more than 20 years ago. He may be reached by e-mail at arivas@ldgrlaw.com.)

Sin pelos en la lengua

REQUEST REJECTED: The Washington Post carried a pair of stories in recent days that give extra credence to concerns about the Department of Justice's civil rights division. They were expressed in Weekly Report last week by EEO director **Alan Clayton** of the Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association.

DOJ's civil rights unit kissed off a 1,500-page complaint by LACCEA and other groups to investigate potential Voting Rights Act violations by the county, affecting 4.5 million Latinos who are denied sufficient representation on the five-member County Board of Supervisors. While Latinos make up about half of the county's population, gerrymandered division lines allow them a reasonable chance to elect someone of their own choosing in only one of its five districts (now held by **Gloria Molina**).

A Post page-one investigative piece on Nov.13 noted that the division's prosecutions of discrimination cases plunged by 40% since **President Bush** took office. It noted:

"Long-time litigators complain that political appointees have cut them out of hiring and major policy decisions, including approvals

of controversial GOP redistricting plans in Mississippi and Texas.

"The division has also come under criticism from the courts...for its decision in August to approve a Georgia program requiring voters to present government-issued ID cards at the polls. The program was halted by an appellate court panel and district court judge who likened it to a poll tax from the **Jim Crow** era."

Asked by Weekly Report to comment on what's going on, MALDEF senior vice president **John Trasviña**, the top Hispanic in the Justice Department under President **Clinton**, responded, "The recent reports of politicized decision-making and the exodus of career attorneys in the civil rights division is disturbing. It is also unnecessary and avoidable...The new assistant attorney general for civil rights **Wan Kim** now has the task of stabilizing the division and restoring it to a place where dedicated career attorneys can enforce civil rights laws unfettered by political considerations."

Even under **Nixon** and the current president's father, says Clayton, DOJ pursued key Voting Rights Act cases, including the one that created the district that Gloria Molina was elected to in 1991 as the Board's first Hispanic member. — *Kay Bárbaro*

COLLECTING

BROADBAND HISPANICS: Young Hispanics are switching to broadband Internet and other new technologies at faster rates than other groups of color, according to a report by the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute.

More than 50% of Hispanic Internet users have broadband, the report claims. It also points out Hispanic internet users are more likely to chat online, download music files, do product research and engage in other Internet-related activities than other Internet users. However, non-English speaking Hispanics "represent an untapped market for broadband services," the report states. Of the \$24 billion that Hispanics spent in telecommunications in 2004, more than 50% of English-speaking households had Internet, compared to only 20% of Spanish-speaking households. The report, "Trend and Impact of Broadband in the Latino Community," is at www.trpi.org. 650 Childs Way, Lewis Hall, Suite 102, Los Angeles, CA 90089. (213) 813-5615.

MEXICAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP: The self-employment rate of Mexican Americans is only six percent, about half of the national rate, according to a report by the Kauffman Foundation. In contrast, nearly 25% of workers in Mexico are self-employed. The low rates of self employment can be due to lack of English language ability and legal status, according to the study. The 55-page report, "Mexican Entrepreneurship: A Comparison of Self-Employment in Mexico and the United States," can be found at www.kauffman.org.

HOSPITALIZED HEARTS: Hispanics and blacks in Medicare between 1990 and 2000 were more likely to be hospitalized because of heart failure than other groups enrolled in the program, according to a study published in the American Heart Journal. In 2000, Hispanics aged 65 or more were 1.2 times more likely than their white counterparts to be hospitalized because of heart failure.

The study notes that since Hispanics are the fastest growing population in the United States, the need to focus on "culturally competent prevention and treatment strategies" in the future will be of paramount importance. The seven-page article, "Racial or Ethnic Differences in Hospitalization for Heart Failure Among Elderly Adults: Medicare, 1990 to 2000," can be obtained at <http://www.ahjonline.com>.

CONNECTING

LAEF Scholarships

The Latin American Educational Foundation offers college scholarships for students with demonstrated commitment to the Hispanic community. Applicants must be residents of Colorado, be of Hispanic descent and/or involved with the Hispanic community. Students must also have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and have been accepted to an accredited college, university or vocational school. Selection will be based on financial need, academic achievement, community involvement, recommendation letters, personal essay and interview. The deadline is Feb. 15. To apply, visit www.laef.org. For more information, contact (303) 446-0541. 924 West Colfax Avenue Ste. 103, Denver, Colorado 80204.

Chicana/Latina Foundation Scholarships

The Chicana/Latina Foundation is offering \$1,500 merit-based scholarships to Chicana/Latina students of the Northern California Counties. Applicants must have at least 15 college units and be enrolled in a four-year institution, community college or graduate school. The minimum undergraduate GPA is 2.5. Additional requirements include community participation and demonstrated leadership. Chicana/Latina Foundation scholarship recipients within the past four years are not eligible to apply. The deadline is March 12. For an application form, visit www.chicanalatina.org. For more information, contact info@chicanalatina.org. (650) 373-1083. Scholarship Committee, Chicana/Latina Foundation, 1419 Burlingame Avenue, Suite N, Burlingame, Calif. 94010.

¡Adelante! Scholarships

The ¡Adelante! U.S. Education Leadership Fund is offering \$1,500 to \$3,000 scholarships to full-time Hispanic juniors and seniors in college majoring in business-related fields. Applicants must be eligible for federal or state funded financial aid. The minimum required GPA is 3.0. The deadline is March 30. The fund also provides leadership training each year through its Leadership Institute program. The registration deadline is Feb. 1. For more information on the scholarships and the 2006 Leadership Institute, visit www.adelantefund.org. (210) 692-1971. 8415 Datapoint, Suite 400, San Antonio, Texas, 78229.

Calendar

There is no charge for listings. Address items to Calendar Editor, Hispanic Link Weekly Report, 1420 N St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. (202) 234-0280. Fax: (202) 234-4090. E-mail: carlosoe@hispaniclink.org

THIS WEEK

LACMA HOSTS U.S. ART PREMIER

Los Angeles Sept. 10 - Jan. 2
The Los Angeles County Museum of Art premieres "Lords of Creation: The Origins of Maya Kingships," which highlights new discoveries in Maya archeology, art history and hieroglyphic writing.

Information (323) 857-6000

PANEL LATINO POLITICS

Washington, D.C. Nov. 22
The Inter-American Dialogue hosts a panel on national politics.

Information: (202) 822-9002

ARTEXHIBIT

Los Angeles Nov. 26-27
La Mano Press hosts an art exhibit.

Information: (323) 227-0650

BOOK FORUM

Washington, D.C. Nov. 28
The Cato Institute hosts a book forum with

Ambassador of Bolivia Jaime Aparicio Otero.

Information: (202) 789-5229

CINEMA SHOWING

Washington, D.C. Nov. 29
The Cultural Institute of Mexico hosts a showing of "In The Country Where Nothing Goes On".

Information: (202) 783-5000

ARTEXHIBIT

Washington, D.C. Nov. 30
The Cultural Institute of Mexico hosts an art exhibit for contemporary Mexican artists in the United States.

Information: (202) 728-1628

COMING SOON

BUSINESS LUNCHEON

Washington, D.C. Dec. 1
The Minority Business Round Table stages a luncheon on Partners for America.

Information: (202) 312-1529

HISPANIC ADVERTISING SUMMIT

Dallas Dec. 1-2
The National Association of Hispanic Publications hosts its advertising summit.

Information: (202) 662-7430

EXPO VENEZUELA

Miami, Fl. Dec. 1-4
The Venezuela-American Chamber of Commerce

hosts its annual ExpoVenezuela .

Information: (789) 437-7937

WINE TASTING

Washington, D.C. Dec. 7
The Farmworker Justice Fund hosts its fourth annual Socially Responsible Wine Tasting.

Information: (202) 783-2628

HOLIDAY FAIR

Washington, D.C. Dec. 10
Dialogue on Diversity holds its annual holiday gift fair.

Information. (703) 631-0650

THIS WEEK IN LATINO HISTORY...

Oscar De La Hoya made his professional boxing debut at The Forum in Inglewood, Calif., **Nov. 23, 1992.**

Poet **José Angel Figueroa** was born **Nov. 24, 1946.**

Puerto Rico was granted autonomy from Spain **Nov. 25, 1897.**

Legendary actor and activist **Ricardo Montelalbán** was born **Nov. 25, 1920.**

Miguel Angel Asturias received the Nobel Peace Prize **Nov. 25, 1987.**

Porfirio Díaz wins the presidency in Mexico on **Nov. 27, 1876.**

CORPORATE CLASSIFIEDS



LÍNEA ABIERTA

El único programa en español en Estados Unidos dentro de la radio pública nacional Llega a Texas.

Para transmitir en vivo vía satélite la opinión que tienen los fronterizos sobre el debate nacional de la frontera.

Martes, 29 de Noviembre, 1 PM a 3 PM Hora Montaña. CAMINO AL VOTO. Por primera vez en la historia, los emigrados mexicanos podrán votar en las elecciones de México. ¿Podrán las autoridades registrar a tiempo a los millones sin registro? Esta transmisión desde un módulo especial en Ciudad Juárez se transmite en Ciudad Juárez a través de Radio Órbita 106.7 FM.

Miércoles, 30 de Noviembre, 1 PM a 3 PM Hora Montaña. LA FRONTERA: MUROS Y PUENTES. El Consulado de Estados Unidos en Ciudad Juárez, el mayor del mundo, rechaza al por mayor a usuarios de tarjetas de cruce fronterizo llamadas "visas laser" y los frustrados fronterizos protestan y preguntan qué pasó con el compromiso de Estados Unidos de tender puentes y mantener a las comunidades fronterizas unidas. Este foro sobre los cierres de la frontera saldrá al aire desde KTEP-FM en El Paso, TX y se oirá en Ciudad Juárez - Radio Órbita 106.7 FM.

En el sur de Texas, sintonice XERF 1570 AM para escuchar estos especiales y la edición regular de Línea Abierta, de lunes a viernes de 1 PM a 2 PM (Hora Montaña).

Escuche en vivo por medio del Internet en www.radiobilingue.org.

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Please contact: Ed O'Keefe at edward.okeefe@gmail.com.

CORPORATE CLASSIFIEDS

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The Public Welfare Foundation is seeking an enthusiastic and energetic candidate for the position of Management Assistant to provide support to the Executive Director, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, and Board of Directors.

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Deadline for applications is November 28, 2005.

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New Reads

Edited by Sarah Horne

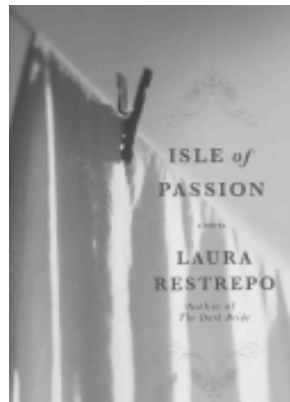
Explore the latest writings
by Latino authors

Isle of Passion, by Laura Restrepo: This is the story of Ramón Arnaud, a Mexican military officer born of French parents, which takes place on the island of Clipperton, 511 miles from Acapulco, Mexico. Clipperton was originally named *Isla de la Pasión* by Ferdinand Magellan but was renamed Clipperton by the pirate who hid his treasure there.

Arnaud, member of a distinguished family, is convicted for desertion and exiled to the island, but is granted its governorship. With the company of his young wife Alicia, Arnaud restarts his life and becomes a respected and apt leader.

Ultimately, however, the island's separation from the civilized world widens and leads to tragedy. As supply ships gradually stop arriving to the island due to times of rebellion in Mexico and the advent of the First World War, the islanders succumb to hunger and illness. Arnaud and the rest of the islanders slip into an anarchic state as they battle to survive.

This fictional narrative, based on a little known event in Mexican history, is the latest novel of the Colombian award-winning journalist. Restrepo received Mexico's *Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz* prize and the Prix France Culture award. She is the best-selling author of six novels including *The Dark Bride* and *Delirio*, which won



Spain's Alfaguara prize. (Ecco, hardcover, \$24.95, 294 pp.)

Memories of My Melancholy Whores, by Gabriel García Márquez: García Márquez returns to the world of fiction after a ten year hiatus in this short yet eloquently written new novel. It tells the story of an unnamed character, a journalist without glory and a single man all his life, who decides to celebrate his 90th birthday by sleeping with an adolescent virgin.

A silent relationship ensues, one in which neither the man nor the adolescent girl speak to each other or learn anything from one

another, but which ultimately stirs a torrent of memories and emotions in the old man. His bold plan for a wild night leads him to a year of introspection, fueled by the realization that in his long life and multiple sexual encounters with whores by profession, he has never truly loved. The Colombian-born Márquez, novelist and journalist, and winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize for Literature, is the bestselling author of long-time classics such as "One Hundred Years of Solitude," "Love in the Time of Cholera," and more recently, "Living to Tell the Tale." "Memories of My Melancholy Whores" was translated by Edith Grossman. (Random House, hardcover, \$20, 115 pp.)

If you have a recently released book or CD you would like to be included in New Reads or New Sounds, send a copy to Alex Meneses Miyashita, Editor, Hispanic Link, 1420 N St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. (202) 234-0280. E-mail: alex@hispaniclink.org

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ON LOCATION: A film biography of Argentine revolutionary icon Ernesto "Che" Guevara starring Oscar winner Benicio del Toro will be shot next year in the Mexican state of Veracruz, local authorities confirm.

According to Ricardo Rodríguez, head of cinematography for the state's tourism board, the film will be titled *Guerrilla* and will shoot for 90 days beginning March 2006. The official said producers chose the colonial city of Córdoba and the mountainous region of Zongolica because of their similarity to regions in Cuba and Bolivia, where the film will be set.

The film has the working title *Che*. It is likely to be one scheduled to be directed by Steven Soderbergh, the director of *Traffic*—for which Del Toro won his supporting actor Oscar. He has been working on the film for several years. Soderbergh and the Puerto Rican actor are listed among the film's several producers in an industry Web site.

Earlier this month, Del Toro traveled to Argentina to learn more about Guevara and visit the province of Córdoba, where he grew up. He met with Carlos Ferrer, a childhood friend of the revolutionary leader.

Besides Del Toro, the Soderbergh film is expected to star Javier Bardem and Benjamin Bratt.

Guevara, a key figure of the Cuban Revolution of the 1950s, was killed by the Bolivian military in 1967, some believe with the aid of the CIA.

Last year, Mexican actor Gael García Bernal starred in *Diarios de motocicleta*, a Spanish-language film directed by Brazilian Walter Salles based on Guevara's youthful journey through South America prior to the Cuban Revolution. The film won a Best Song Oscar this year for Uruguayan Jorge Drexler.

Locations in the Mexican Gulf coast state of Veracruz have been chosen by several filmmakers recently. Last month, shooting wrapped near the state capital of Jalapa on *The Fifth Patient*, starring Russell Crowe. In coming days, Mel Gibson will begin shooting his film *Apocalypto* in southern jungle regions of the state. The film will star mostly Mexican actors of Mayan origin and feature dialogue in the Mayan tongue of Yucateco.

In other location news, actor turned director Robert De Niro is expected to arrive to the Dominican Republic on Jan. 7 to shoot scenes for *The Good Shepherd*, in which he stars with Angelina Jolie and Matt Damon. Locations, which will stand in for Cuba and some Central American nations, will include the colonial section of the capital Santo Domingo. The film, about the 1947 creation of the CIA, has already begun filming in Washington, D.C.

In July, director De Niro visited the Dominican Republic to select locations and meet local authorities. A meeting with president Leonel Fernández was mobbed by female government employees, who posed for photographs with the Oscar-winning actor.

'JUANGA'RECOVERS: Mexican idol Juan Gabriel was operated on in a Houston hospital last week after falling at the beginning of a concert in the city and reportedly injuring his wrist.

Video of the Nov. 13 concert at the city's Toyota Center shows *Juanga* — as he is known to fans — falling on stage during his first musical number, apparently tripping on a microphone cord. The Houston Chronicle reported that the famous singer-songwriter broke his wrist and suffered a concussion; witnesses said he appeared to pass out.

(Antonio Mejías-Rentas is entertainment editor with the Los Angeles Spanish-language daily *La Opinión*.)

Media Report

MEASURING LATINO TV AUDIENCE: AIM Tell-A-Vision-Group (AIM TV) calls on Nielsen Media Research to change its current methodology of measuring U.S. Hispanic television audiences. AIM TV, which produces programs geared to U.S.-born Hispanics, claims that Nielsen's method of language stratification, which relies on viewer language preferences, is unreliable and hard to measure.

It proposes that Nielsen focus on nativity, or location of birth, to determine Spanish-language and English-language television viewing trends, claiming that research supports

the trend that Hispanics born in the United States mostly watch English-language television and those born abroad mostly watch Spanish-language television.

Nielsen counters there is no credible evidence to support the effectiveness of AIM TV's proposed methodology.

SUPREMECOURTONTHE SMALLSCREEN: **The National Association of Hispanic Journalists** announces its support for a measure that would allow federal court and U.S. Supreme Court proceedings to be televised.

Rep. Steve Chabot (R-Ohio) attached the proposal to a courthouse security bill that passed the House 375-45 last week.

The Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing Nov. 9 on similar legislation by Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa).

AL DIA AWARDED: Dallas daily *Al Día* receives the Katie award for best Spanish-language newspaper in its region. It also won accolades for general news and feature story categories. The awards are given annually by the Dallas Press Club.

UNIVISION NAMES LONE CHIEF: **Univisión Communications** named Michael Wortsman as its new president Nov. 14, following the resignation of co-president Tom Arnost Nov. 10.

-- Alex Meneses Miyashita

HISPANIC LINK WEEKLY REPORT

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Forbes (center) and Arciga protest Catholic hospital practices (p.1).