

Hispanic Link weekly report

Vol. 24 No. 2 Jan. 9, 2006
Your News Source for 24 Years

MAKING THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Julie Myers assumes charge of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Myers skips Senate confirmation as the president appoints her during congressional recess...President Bush signs the reauthorization of the bipartisan Violence Against Women Act, co-sponsored by California Democrats **Hilda Solís** and **Linda Sánchez**, among others...Cuban American **Emilio González** becomes the new director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services...The Greater Washington Ibero-American Chamber of Commerce names

Daniel Flores its new president. Flores is former senior advisor of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce...Miami lawyer **Armando J. Bucelo, Jr.** is named board chairman of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, chartered by Congress to help bankrupt brokerage firms...Homeland Security Secretary **Michael Chertoff** defends the San Diego Border Patrol agent who shot unarmed Mexican national **Guillermo Martínez**, 18, in the back at the Tijuana border. Area youth groups, including MECHA, stage a candlelight vigil in protest.

LATINO STUDENTS BOOST SCORES, BUT GAPS PERSIST

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

Hispanic children have improved their math and reading scores somewhat since 1992, but the achievement gaps between them and white students still persist, according to Education Week's annual Quality Counts report released Jan. 4.

Using the National Assessment of Education Progress scale, it looked at state by state performance in narrowing or increasing the gaps between students of color and whites.

Fourth and eighth grade reading and math scores were analyzed. Greatest progress

scores rose to 225, while scores for whites grew to 246, closing the gap by 5.2 points. Christopher Swanson, director of the Edi-

improved over that time, Hispanics would have virtually closed the gap that there was in 1992.

ACHIEVEMENT GAPS BETWEEN HISPANICS & WHITES Decreases, Increases Between 1992 & 2005

	Fourth Grade Hispanic Pop.	Fourth Grade		Eighth Grade	
		Math	Reading	Math	Reading
New Mexico	43%*	-1.7	+2.3	+0.2	-0.3
California	35	-5.2	-4.0	-6.7	-4.5
Texas	35	-3.4	-0.9	-5.1	+0.7
Arizona	28	+2.5	+8.4	+0.1	-0.1
Florida	19	-2.0	-1.7	-4.6	-3.8
Colorado	19	+1.8	+6.7	+5.7	+0.5
New York	16	-10.6	-18.3	-10.6	-2.2
New Jersey	15	-11.1	-11.5	-7.2	—

- Decrease in gap + Increase in gap * U.S. Census Bureau
— Did not participate in earlier assessment
Source: Quality Counts 2006, Education Week

The report focused on four state policy indicators: academic content standards, assessments, accountability measures, and efforts to improve teacher quality.

It emphasized that gains in the achievement of students of color are related to a state's efforts to carry out standards-based reforms. It also mentioned that stronger accountability systems influenced such gains.

However, the report did not find any relationship between a state's efforts to improve the quality of its teachers with gains in achievement.

for Hispanic students, 24.2 NAEP points, occurred in fourth grade math. In that 14-year period, on a scale of 0 to 500, Hispanics

torial Projects in Education Research Center, which conducted the report's analysis, told Weekly Report that if whites had not

The best and worst states in narrowing Hispanic-white gaps in fourth-grade math: (continued on page 2)

Supreme Court Nominee Alito's Hearings Begin Amid Persisting Latino Opposition

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

Congressional hearings on U.S. Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito to replace outgoing Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will begin Jan. 9, after weeks of intense public debate between those favoring and opposing his nomination.

National Hispanic advocacy organizations and civil rights groups have actively lobbied the nomination. The all-Democrat Congressional Hispanic Caucus has raised "serious" concerns about Alito.

Among the leading Latino endorsers of Alito are the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the all Republican Congressional Hispanic Conference.

In the Senate, Republican Mel Martínez has praised Alito for his "impeccable academic credentials, a sound record of achievement as a lawyer, and well-experienced in handling arguments before the United States Supreme Court and the Third District Court of Appeal."

Democrats Sen. Ken Salazar (Colo.) and

recently appointed Sen. Robert Menéndez (N.J.) have yet to announce their official position.

While most Latino activists were disappointed at President Bush for his failure to nominate a Hispanic to the highest court, opponents now raise concerns on Alito's past positions on issues impacting immigrants and people of color.

Two groups, the Alliance for Justice and People for the American Way, issued reports last week criticizing Alito's record on discrimination, civil rights, immigration and other issues. They claim that Alito tends to side with the executive branch of the government instead of the individual, and if confirmed, could push the court to the far right.

"What he has shown is a pattern of deci-

sions including dissents, where he has not upheld the rights of immigrants to fair process from asylum cases to cases involving deportation," Elliot Minberg, vice president for People for American Way, told Weekly Report.

The report mentions a Reagan-era letter that Alito to the FBI wrote as deputy assistant attorney general to the FBI. It argued, based on a 1970 Supreme Court case, that undocumented immigrants have restricted equal protection rights.

The report claims Alito interpreted the case in a flawed manner and ignored a subsequent Supreme Court decision that says the Fourteenth Amendment clause for equal protection applies to undocumented immi- (continued on page 2)



MINCBERG

The Inside Stories

PAGE 2: Poll shows GOP losing much ground with Hispanics.

PAGE 4: Immigrant ghosts pay a visit to Scrooge.

Political Poop

by Patricia Guadalupe



CAFTA Launch Date Missed

Implementation of the Central American Free Trade Agreement set to go into effect Jan. 1 is postponed until further notice because Costa Rica has not ratified the pact. The Dominican Republic also has "several obligations" forcing it to delay fully implementing the pact until at least late summer.

"We missed the target date because we are still working with our CAFTA partners on the implementing process," a spokesperson for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative told The Associated Press. "They

just need to work through it."

CAFTA allows for largely tax-free trade among the United States and Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Abramoff Gave to P.R. Groups

Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff, who pleaded guilty to tax evasion, conspiring to bribe members of Congress and mail fraud, received hundreds of thousands of dollars from organizations that lobby on behalf of Puerto Rico — mainly groups that advocate statehood, according to documents released by several congressional committees.

Between 1998 and 2000, an Abramoff lobbying firm contributed \$600,000 to "Future of Puerto Rico," a now-defunct group that sought tax credits for U.S. firms that operate on the island.

Another group that received money is the "United States Council on Puerto Rico Statehood." Its president, Antonio Monroig, told the island daily *El Nuevo Día* that the Abramoff case should not taint lobbying on behalf of island issues.

Padilla Faces Charges

So-called Puerto Rican Taliban José Padilla faces terrorism charges in a Florida criminal court after being transferred from a military prison in South Carolina. He is accused of joining an Al Qaeda support group to "murder, maim and kidnap."

In the next few months, the U.S. Supreme Court will take up another aspect of his case; whether presidential powers extend to detaining U.S. citizens indefinitely without charges. Padilla was held for nearly three years before the Bush administration filed charges against him.

N.Y., N.J. AMONG BEST PERFORMERS IN CLOSING LATINO-WHITE STUDENT GAPS

(continued from page 1)

■ **Best:** New Jersey (11.1 points) and New York (10.6 points) showed the greatest gap decreases.

■ **Worst:** Hawaii (6.3 points) showed the largest increase.

But overall, "The achievement gaps remain substantial and deep," said Lynn Olson, senior editor for Education Week.

Eighth-grade Hispanics improved their math scores by 14.1 points, above the national average of 10.7. However, the gap, narrowed by only 2.2 points, now stands at 27.0 points. Eighth grade Hispanics worsened their reading scores by 3.5 points, while the national average improved marginally to 0.3 points. A 24-point gap remained.

Eighth grade math performance in other key states:

■ **Best:** New York and New Jersey led in

narrowing the gap, with 10.6 and 7.2 points.

■ **Worst:** In Colorado and Utah, the gaps widened by more than 5 points each.

Eighth-grade reading results:

■ **Best:** Virginia, Delaware and Maryland narrowed their gaps by 8.3, 6.1 and 4.8 points.

■ **Worst:** Oregon, Kansas and California widened their gaps by 9.2, 8.6 and 4.5 points.

Swanson said that in reading, the nation has not improved as much. "Although we are still getting typically more improvement for black and Hispanic and poor students, it is not as dramatic as when we look at math," he added.

The report, Quality Counts, which has tracked student achievement in all states and the District of Columbia for the past ten years, can be viewed at www.edweek.org.

ABA Unanimously Gives Alito Highest Evaluation

(continued from page 1)

grants.

St. Mary's University in San Antonio law professor José Juárez told Weekly Report that Alito's approach to civil rights statutes should be a major concern for Hispanics.

Alito has dismissed discrimination cases without even allowing a jury to decide, he said. "In other cases, he has imposed very heavy proof requirements, so it would become almost impossible for victims of discrimination to win their cases."

Juárez co-signed along with some 500 law professors a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee opposing the nomination.

In spite of numerous attacks by several organizations on Alito's record, he enjoys ample support from such groups as the American Bar Association, which last week gave him a unanimous "Well Qualified" evaluation, the highest rating possible.

Jan La Rue, chief counsel for Concerned Women for America, told Weekly Report, "It's absolutely wrong for anybody to conclude that this man has some kind of bias against minorities and women. You can't find anything in his rulings to substantiate that."

Whether he voted with the government in a discrimination case "tells you nothing about the merit of the claim, the legal reasoning, the precedence applied and so forth."

Juárez concluded, "The Republicans have a majority in the Senate, and so the only way that this nomination is not going to succeed is if in fact the committee members ask the hard questions that they should be asking."



ALITO

Poll: GOP Loses Ground with Hispanic Voters, Congressional Action Could Alienate Them More

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

A survey of Hispanic adults released Jan. 5 by the pro-business group The Latino Coalition shows Republican gains made with Hispanic voters in the 2004 presidential elections are slipping away fast.

Its fall 2004 poll showed Hispanic voters siding with Bush and Democratic candidate John Kerry evenly split at 37% on the issue of "Being in touch with the Hispanic community." The new poll shows Hispanics favoring Democrats over the GOP, 57%-16%, on the same statement.

TLC president Robert de Posada said the results send a clear message to GOP leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives, which closed the year by rushing

through restrictive immigration legislation.

"If they allow partisan, radical demagogues to control their legislative agenda, particularly on immigration, there will be a tremendous backlash in the Hispanic community that will last many years to come," he said. "There could be a repeat of the Pete Wilson era, where Hispanics were completely alienated from the Republican Party, if current trends continue."

The coalition poll in 2004 showed Latino voters favoring Kerry 43%-35% over Bush on immigration. In 2005, the poll favors Democrats 46%-17%.

Between Dec. 17-20, 1000 Hispanic adults (393 registered voters) were polled. Results at www.thelatinocoalition.com.

Sin pelos en la lengua

Kay Bárbaro

DOGS, SIESTAS AND SCRIBES: In Fremont, Calif., five nasty Chihuahuas gnawed on the ankle of a policeman who brought their 17-year-old master home after stopping him for a traffic offense...In our motherland Spain, 2.4 million govt. employees are having to adjust to a new work schedule that eliminates their afternoon *siesta*...Zero Latinos made Washingtonian magazine's list of the capital's "50 Best & Most Influential Journalists."

NOVELLO FOR SENATE? It's new: www.DraftNovello.com.

Dr. Antonia Novello, popular U.S. Surgeon General for six years under **Papa Bush**, has apparently given a green light to Republican activists to explore her attractiveness as the GOP alternative to **Hillary Clinton** in the latter's bid for reelection this year.

Puerto Rico native Novello presently serves as New York Governor George Pataki's commissioner of health.

MUCH AIR, LITTLE SPACE: The Smithsonian Institution's hugely popular Air and Space Museum holds its first-ever bilingual Spanish-English program on Saturday, Jan. 28 "to kick off family programs for the museum's 30th anniversary year," says the English-language press release we received a few days ago. It is "for people of all cultural backgrounds...with storytelling and art activities for children ages 3-11," the release says.

A great idea. No wonder it took them three decades to come up with it. *Sin Pelos* called for details and ended up speaking with three people, including the one directly in charge of the program. What schools and Hispanic organizations had been contacted and invited? *Well, somebody knew somebody who spoke to somebody with some Hispanic group.* Would visitors be able to hear the IMAX mega-screen presentation on Milestones of Flight: Apollo 11 in Spanish? *Nobody's sure yet.* Any other firm plans? *Well, I took some sick leave and we're behind schedule.*

BEST OF ALL: Have you sent out a release in Spanish yet? *No, we'll get to that.*

Anyway, ¡FELIZ DIA EN FAMILIA!

NORTH CAROLINA HISPANIC IMMIGRANTS CONTRIBUTE BILLIONS TO STATE ECONOMY

By Christine Senteno

Latino immigrants, both legal and undocumented, in North Carolina contributed more than \$9 billion to the state's economy while costing the state \$102 per immigrant to provide social services such as education and healthcare, according to a study released Jan. 3 by the Kenan Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

According to the study, the Latino (both

immigrant and U.S. born) population made up 7% or 600,913 of the state population in 2004.

They earned on average nearly \$32,000 per year.

After taxes, the income of only Latino immigrants was estimated at \$8.3 billion while they contributed \$756 million in taxes directly and indirectly.

If the migration continues, the impact of

spending could be \$18 billion by 2009 the study notes.

Report author John Kasarda is quick to emphasize how much North Carolina businesses benefit from the \$1.9 billion saved

in wages because the Latino immigrant workforce is paid less.

Kasarda maintains business owners are sometimes dependent on these workers to stay alive, particularly in the areas of agriculture and manufacturing.



KASARDA

Service industries such as restaurants and hotels are able to pass their wage savings onto consumers.

"Very few ethnic groups are paying their own way...Above and beyond their direct and indirect impacts on North Carolina business revenues, Hispanic [immigrant] workers contribute immensely to the state's economic output and cost competitiveness in a number of key industries," said Kasarda.

The study found Latinos helped fill labor shortages by taking one in three new jobs created in North Carolina in the last ten years.

In construction, Latinos (both immigrant and U.S born) accounted for more than 42% of the jobs.

The findings further reveal that without Latinos, annual labor costs would be nearly \$1 billion higher and as many as 27,000 homes would not have been built.

The 65-page report, "The Economic Impact of the Hispanic Population on the State of North Carolina," can be found online at www.kenaninstitute.unc.edu.

For more information, contact the North Carolina Bankers Association at (919) 781-7979 or the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise at (919) 962-8201.

Best Buy Violates Race and Sex Discrimination Laws, San Francisco Employees' Lawsuit Charges

By Christine Senteno

Latino, black and women employees of the electronic specialty store Best Buy are awaiting a response from the class action lawsuit filed in a U.S. district court in San Francisco Dec. 8 for violating race and sex discrimination employment laws.

"Best Buy enforces a nationwide policy that results in the preference of white male employees in hiring and for desirable job assignments. The low number of women and minorities employed by Best Buy sets it apart from other large retailers," claims the plaintiffs' attorney Todd Schneider of the San Francisco law firm Schneider & Wallace.

The lawsuit claims more than 80% of store managers nationwide are white men while less than 10% are Latinos or African Americans. Less than 10% are women.

Best Buy has 107,000 employees and 679 stores nationwide.

Neither it nor the plaintiffs' counsel provided Hispanic Link Weekly Report with overall figures on Latinos or women.

"Even when the company does hire (Latinos, African-Americans and women), it generally does not permit them to work on the sales floor, the pathway to promotion. Rather they are segregated to the stock room, cashier stations and minor sales

positions, maintains Bill Lann Lee, also a San Francisco based attorney for the plaintiffs from Leiff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP.

The only Latina plaintiff of the six named, Amy García, says she was denied a promotion last year after being told by her general manager that Best Buy would not consider her application because she was a single mother.

When she complained to the Best Buy human resources department, she was given fewer hours to work and scheduled to work during hours that conflicted with her child care responsibilities.

Best Buy, based in Minnesota, did not respond to phone calls made by this publication for comment but did release this statement on its website, "The discriminatory behaviors alleged in the attorney's press release are inconsistent with our policies, values and culture. Best Buy is committed to a workplace free of discrimination. We do not tolerate discriminatory practices."

Best Buy has more than 10% of its stores in California. They had a revenue of \$27.4 billion last year.

Plaintiffs' attorneys say they may still add other employees to the lawsuit if more come forward with disputes.

Immigrant Ghosts Prepare Scrooge for New Year

Guest Columnist

Ernesto Portillo Jr.



In the spirit of the political season, with a nod of appreciation to Charles Dickens, I offer up an immigration version of "A Christmas Carol."

U.S. Rep. Ebenezer Scrooge successfully pushed an enforcement-only immigration reform bill through the House of Representatives just days before Christmas.

The bill would, among a dozen provisions, authorize construction of a double fence along 700 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border, make undocumented immigrants felons, call for a plan to increase use of military surveillance equipment on the border, and require employers to verify Social Security numbers with a national data base or face civil or criminal penalties for hiring undocumented workers.

It even mandates that Border Patrol uniforms be made in the United States, not Mexico.

GHOST OF IMMIGRATION PAST PAYS A VISIT

On Christmas Eve, Mr. Scrooge went to his clean home and well-tended children. The maid and gardener, an undocumented immigrant couple from Guatemala, and his illegal Salvadoran nanny had gone home disappointed that Mr. Scrooge had not given them a Christmas bonus.

In the night, Mr. Scrooge awoke to a voice. It was Dominic Rossi, the Italian-born ghost of immigration past. The ghost took him to the United States 100 years earlier. People were arriving in large numbers. They wore tattered clothes and spoke foreign languages. Their skin was olive or dark.

"Who are these people?" asked a disdainful Mr. Scrooge.

"They are your forefathers," Rossi told him. "They are poor, uneducated immigrants, chased away by crushing poverty and political indifference in their home countries, and attracted by visions of a better life here. I was one of them."

HE HUNG HIS HEAD IN SHAME

The ghost escorted Mr. Scrooge across the country, where they saw scores of legal and illegal immigrants building the country, mining and tilling the earth, attending religious services, educating their children and becoming U.S. citizens.

Mr. Scrooge heard earlier U.S. inhabitants scorn the newcomers and blame them for times gone sour. He saw Congress pass laws restricting immigrants' entry. He witnessed border agents forcibly returning Mexican emigrants and their U.S.-born children to Mexico.

He hung his head in shame. "I cannot believe the immigrants were treated this way," he said.

"They were," said the ghost as he bid Mr. Scrooge goodbye.

Before long, a second ghost — the ghost of immigration present — appeared. He was Juan González, an undocumented Mexican immigrant, who took Mr. Scrooge to the Southern Arizona desert.

There, Mr. Scrooge saw undocumented immigrants dying of thirst. He saw U.S. inhabitants waving flags, signs and guns, demanding that a wall be built and calling the desperate border crossers terrorists and criminals.

"But they're not terrorists or criminals," said a now-adamant Mr. Scrooge. "They're hungry people looking for work."

"I know," González agreed. "I was one of them."

And then the ghost departed.

SOLDIERS SHOT WATER CANNONS

As Mr. Scrooge pondered all he had seen, there appeared the ghost of immigration future, Haipeng Wu, a Chinese woman living illegally in the United States on an expired visa.

The two glided over the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border, now lined with a 12-foot double fence equipped with electronic sensors and guarded by soldiers.

Mr. Scrooge watched in horror as the soldiers shot water cannons at border crossers who tried to climb over the barriers.

Passing over the coastlines, Mr. Scrooge watched as small boats crowded with desperate people try to reach the shore.

He spied small airplanes, carrying far more people than allowed, landing on clandestine inland airstrips.

Farther north, along the U.S.-Canadian border, Mr. Scrooge saw people crossing on foot, some nearly frozen, in the dead of winter.

"Is this what will become of us?" he asked his guide.

"Sadly, yes," said the ghost of immigration future.

"Tell me what I can do to prevent it," begged Mr. Scrooge.

The ghost thought for a minute, aware that the U.S. Senate will be formulating its version of immigration bill as early as February.

HE AWOKE A NEW MAN

"Pass a comprehensive immigration plan that allows people to work here legally and humanely," she said. "Persuade the U.S. government and foreign companies to improve economic conditions in the immigrants' home countries so they will not be so desperate to leave. And treat undocumented people with the dignity that all humans deserve."

"Yes, I will," promised Mr. Scrooge. And the third ghost vanished.

In the morning, Mr. Scrooge awoke as a new man with a new outlook.

Wherever he went on Christmas Day, Mr. Scrooge was heard to offer this heartfelt wish: "Goodwill and peace, to all people on Earth."

(Ernesto Portillo Jr. is a columnist with The Arizona Daily Star. He may be reached by e-mail at eportillo@azstarnet.com.)

Collecting

BASEBALL POPULARITY: Baseball enjoys the most popularity among Hispanics, according to a recent Harris Poll. It found that 20% of Hispanics said baseball was their favorite sport, compared to only 6% of blacks. Among age groups, the sport enjoyed the most popularity among those 18-27, with 21%.

Pro football was the favorite sport of all, with 33% of all respondents, followed by baseball, 14%, college football, 13%, auto racing, 11%, and college basketball and hockey, 5%. Pro football enjoyed the popularity of 50% of black and 29% of Latino respondents.

The poll was conducted online among 1,961 adults, 1,401 of whom keep track of at least one sport. It is available at www.harrisinteractive.com.

SEX SURVEY: Eighty-three percent of Hispanics in California believe sex education is very important, according to a survey by the Public Policy Institute of California.

This is also true for 82% of blacks, 74% of Asians and 71% of whites. Hispanics also ranked highest (79%) among respondents who believe that access to birth control is very important to reduce pregnancies which are not planned.

They were followed by blacks (74%), white (69%) and Asian (53%). Only 38% of Hispanics and 24% of Asians, however, said they know a lot about birth control methods and contraceptives, compared to 68% of blacks and 60% of whites. The 27-page report, PPIC State-wide Survey: Special Survey on Population, is available at www.ppic.org.

DRIVER PROBLEMS: Hispanics aged 20-24 had the highest rate of alcohol-related driver fatalities in California in 2002, with more than 15 fatalities per 100,000 people, according to a report by the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute. Hispanics in the 21-30 age range had the highest number of DUI arrests in the state, with 3,000 per 100,000 people.

The report provides recommendations that address traffic safety among the state's Latino population. The 36-page report, "Traffic Safety Among Latino Populations in California: Current Status and Policy Recommendations," is available at www.trpi.org.

Connecting

Bilingual Education Conference

The National Association for Bilingual Education will hold its 35th annual International Bilingual/Multicultural Education Conference Jan. 18-21 at the Phoenix Civic Plaza and the Hyatt Regency Phoenix.

The conference will gather teachers, administrators, researchers and policymakers involved with English language education in the United States. It will feature more than 500 sessions, including a variety of workshops, renowned speakers, product exhibition and job fair, and networking opportunities.

The sessions will provide practical information to apply in the classroom and beyond, from helping students develop their language skills, working with different linguistic groups, to making use of technology and the Internet and implementing reforms in education. Register online at www.nabe.org. (888) 241-8407. NABE 2006 Housing, P.O. Box 714330, Columbus, Ohio 43271.

Ocean Fellowships to Students of Color

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution offers the Minority Fellowship program for undergraduate students of color enrolled in U.S. universities. The program provides a training and research experience for students interested in oceanography. Fellows will engage in independent research and receive the guidance of a research staff member from the institution or the U.S. Geological Survey's Center for Marine and Coastal Geology.

Requirements include at least two completed semesters of undergraduate study and an interest in natural or physical sciences, mathematics, engineering or marine policy. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The fellowships range from ten to 12 weeks in the summer, or a full semester during an academic year. These include weekly stipends of \$412. The application deadline is Feb. 15. For more information, visit www.whoi.edu. Summer Student/Minority Fellowship Committee, Academic Programs Office, Clark 223, MS #31, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, 360 Woods Hole Rd., Woods Hole, Mass. 02543. (508) 289-2219.

Calendar

IN THE LINK 20 YEARS AGO:

"Launching a 'Wrath of Grapes' Campaign, César Chávez called for a ban on five pesticides used on grapes".

This Week

AWARDS GALA

Detroit Jan. 10
Latinos on Wheels hosts its 10th-annual Urban Wheels awards gala.
Information: (313) 963-2209

WINTER CONCERT

Washington, D.C. Jan. 15
The Cultural Institute of Mexico holds a Winter Music concert.
Information: (202) 728-1675

NABE CONFERENCE

Phoenix Jan. 18 - 21
The National Association for Bilingual Education holds its annual conference.
Information: (202) 898-1829

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JOB CONFERENCE

East Elmhurst, NY Jan. 19, 20
The Tribute Publishing Company/Newsday stages its 23rd-annual minority job fair.
Information: (631) 843-4667

Coming Soon

SRIMARKETING SUMMIT

Miami Jan. 29 - 31
The Strategic Research Institute hosts its 11th-annual Hispanic marketing summit.
Information: (888) 666-8514

FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR

Stockton, CA Feb. 4
The Mexican American Chamber of Commerce hosts its second annual bilingual college student financial aid workshop.
Information: (209) 943-6117

LATIN STYLE AWARDS LUNCHEON

Washington, D.C. Feb. 9
Latina Style magazine hosts its annual diversity awards ceremony.
Information: (202) 955-7930

NAHJ SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

New York City Feb. 17
The National Association of Hispanic Journalists hosts its annual scholarship awards gala.

Information: (202) 662-7145

NPF AWARDS GALA

Washington, D.C. Feb. 23
The National Press Foundation holds its annual awards dinner.

Information: (202) 663-7282

LULAC AWARDS

Washington, D.C. March 1
The League of United Latin American Citizens stages its 7th-annual legislative awards gala.
Information: (202) 833-6130

THIS WEEK IN LATINO HISTORY...

Former congressman **Robert García**, the first Puerto Rican elected to the New York State Senate, was born **Jan. 9, 1933**.

Mexican-American singer, songwriter and activist **Joan Báez** was born **Jan. 9, 1941**.

Puerto Rican Lawyer and a leader of the Latin American abolition movement **Eugenio María de Hostos** was born **Jan. 11, 1839**.

Acclaimed Mexican dancer and choreographer **José Limón** was born **Jan. 12, 1908**.

Sinclair Broadcast Group WSMH-TV

Position: Accounting Assistant - Part Time

Compensation: /year

Job Description:

WSMH Fox 66, a Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. member, has an exciting part time position available in our Business department. We are looking for a diversified team player to support the Business Manager in many facets of A/P, A/R, and Human Resources. This would be an ideal position for someone pursuing an accounting degree as you would be receiving hands on experience in the accounting department.

Benefits:

Health, Dental, Vision
401K
Employee Stock Purchase
Vacation/Sick/Personal Days
Holidays
Short/Long term Disability
Life Insurance

Education Required:

The ideal candidate will have a two-year accounting degree and some monthly closing experience.

Experience Required:

Applicant must be detail oriented, possess some accounting and PC skills, and be proficient in Excel and Word.

Other Requirements:

Drug Test
Date Available: 1/16/2006

Contact Info:

Gary Pringle
gpringle@wsmh.sbgnet.com
Instructions: To apply for this position please go to www.sbgi.net under employment.
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Sales Account Executive -REV

JOB DESCRIPTION: Responsibilities will include, but not limited to: Sell television schedules to local accounts using available sales tools. Conduct sales and service calls. Prospect and develop new business. Prepare proposals for presentations. Meet revenue goals. Maintain good working relationships with clients, local agencies, station management and the station's sales department. The area of concentration will be the Albuquerque/Santa Fe area.

QUALIFICATIONS: Sales Account Executive (New Business Development). Two or three years sales (non broadcast acceptable) experience. Aggressive self-starter and skilled closer. Excellent communication, organizational, and presentation skills. Proven track record in new business and development. This is a full-time commission position. Great entry level position in broadcast sales.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: Must be able to perform the essential functions of the job. The Company will make reasonable physical accommodations to facilitate the ability to perform essential job functions. Work requires extensive driving around town to service accounts and prospect for new business.

SEND RESUME TO:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, Job# 26-05 4 Broadcast Plaza SW, Albuquerque, NM 87104, Fax: (505) 764-2505, Email: dibrown@kobtv.com

No Telephone Calls Please

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

D.C. HOUSING NEEDED

Christine Senteno of Los Angeles joins Hispanic Link's reporting staff Dec. 8. We're helping her search for housing in the D.C. area, preferably Northwest Washington. Her two sons, ages 14 and 11, will join her. She is looking for an affordable place with two bedrooms to rent or lease for long-term or possibly short-term, while she gets acquainted with the area. If you have any leads, please contact Charlie Ericksen, (202) 234-0280, or Hector Ericksen-Mendoza, (202) 238-0705. Thanks.



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Translations/ traducciones
Translations to Spanish.
Traducciones al inglés.

The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.

Position: Visiting Assistant Professor of Arts History – Twentieth Century American and European Arts.

Salary: Salary commensurate with experience. The funding for this project is currently for the next three years, but with an expectation of continuance beyond that date. The position may become regular after that date.

Appointment: 9 month, full-time, one year renewable, visiting academic position.

Responsibilities: The central task of this Assistant Professor will be to teach in the new University of Illinois Program at the Phillips collection in Washington, with the possibility of an occasional rotation to teach on campus in Urbana-Champaign. Candidates should be qualified to teach American and European twentieth -century art history and be engaging lecturer with strong potential as a publishing scholar.

The primary duties will be to offer one lecture course per semester on modern art for a broad range of students that will include university undergraduates, graduate students, and continuing education students from the community in Washington, to teach one specialized seminar per semester for art history students and to supervise academic work of the University of Illinois interns working in the Phillips Collection Study Center as needed. The subject matter of the lecture courses should be in a general way related to the core collections of the museum.

Desired Qualifications: A completed Ph.D. by June 2006 is preferred, but ABD candidates are welcomed.

Starting Date: Aug. 16, 2006.

Application: Submit a letter of application, a curriculum vita, samples of publications and/or dissertation chapters, and request three letters of recommendation be sent directly to:

Professor Jonathan Fineberg
Chair of the Modernist Search, School of Art and Design
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
408 E. Peabody Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

Inquires to address above, or (217) 333-2537, (217) 244-7688 (fax) or fineberg@uiuc.edu.

To ensure full consideration applications must be received by January 30, 2006.

Minorities, women and members of other designated classes are encouraged to apply. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer.



New
Reads

Explore the latest writings by
Latino authors

Edited by Alex Meneses Miyashita

Scar Tissue, by *Gustavo Pérez Firmat*: The author shares a memoir of overcoming disease and going through the loss of a loved one in this revealing and courageous work. Pérez Firmat uses prose and poetry back and forth to describe some of the various events that have impacted his life, such as his battle with prostate cancer and the death of his exiled father, reflecting on the personal magnitude of these events and the resources for healing and renewal.

"When my father died, embittered and penniless after more than forty years of fruitless exile, I told myself that he had left me one invaluable legacy: The determination not to be like him. Two months later, the diagnosis of prostate cancer, a disease from which he had

also suffered, put me in my place, his place," begins the author. The book is split into four chapters, each named after one of the four seasons of the year. Pérez Firmat is author of *Tongue Ties*, *Cincuenta lecciones de exilio y desexilio*, and *My Own Private Cuba*, among others. He is a poet, writer and scholar, and a professor of Humanities at Columbia University. (Bilingual Press; paperback; \$12.00; 104 pp.)

King Tiger: The Religious Visions of Reies López Tijerina, by *Rudy V. Busto*: The author provides a portrayal of an aspect of the controversial activist Reies

López Tijerina's life, by exploring his sermons, speeches, interviews and personal narrative. Tijerina is a legendary figure in the history of New Mexico and a Chicano icon, developed through his leadership of the Hispanic grass roots group *Alianza Federal de Mercedes Reales* (which fought for land rights in the Southwest), but gained through a specific event.

"The year 1997 also marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Tierra Amarilla courthouse raid, an event in New Mexican history that forever changed the political and cultural landscape in the American southwest. Reies López Tijerina, the leader of this spectacularly failed attempt by 'Spanish-Americans' to arrest the New Mexico district attorney, became an immediate celebrity in the Chicano



Movement," writes Busto. He explores the religious foundation that has motivated Tijerina, his religious sensibilities and the way these have influenced his political thoughts, an aspect of his life that has often been overlooked by biographers. Tijerina, of Mexican American descent, was born in 1926. He experienced labor injustice early on in his life, and eventually undertook a persistent activist path in favor of the less privileged. Busto is a religious studies professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara. (University of New Mexico; hardcover; \$29.95; 260 pp.)

If you have a recently released book or CD you would like 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

by Antonio Mejías-Rentas



YEAR IN MUSIC: A couple of Colombian singer-songwriters reached new heights in 2005, *reggaetón* solidified its hold on audiences and the passing of a Tejano superstar was commemorated in the year that just ended.

Few musicians made as much noise in 2005 as Juanes, the Colombian rocker who made Time magazine's list of "The 100 Most Influential People in the World." He was honored for his fight against land mines in Latin America and closed out the year with two major international broadcasts – the lottery for the 2006 soccer World Cup and the concert honoring the Nobel Peace Prize winner. Juan Esteban Aristizabal continued touring in support of *Mi sangre*, which yielded its third straight No. 1 hit this year, *La camisa negra*.

Fellow Colombian rocker Shakira made noise of her own with two albums. The all-Spanish-language *Fijación oral Vol. 1* in June was followed up by the English-language *Oral Fixation Vol. 2* —with all new songs — in November. Shakira had the most air play with the Spanish single *La tortura*, a duet with Spanish singer Alejandro Sanz that featured the year's ubiquitous sound of *reggaetón*.

Around the country, several Spanish-language radio stations changed their formats to accommodate Latin hip-hop and *reggaetón*.

The genre's undisputed king was Puerto Rican Daddy Yankee whose 2004 album *Barrio Fino* was the top-selling Latin CD in 2005. He toured the U.S. and Latin America, cleaned up at award shows and closed out with a live version of his top-selling album, *Barrio Fino: en directo* and a multi-year deal with Reebok to launch the DY collection of shoes and sporting apparel.

One of the most popular tours starred three very different Latin pop artists: Mexican Alejandro Fernández, Puerto Rican Chayanne and Nuyorican Marc Anthony. *Juntos los tres* launched in August in San Antonio and visited 15 U.S. cities through mid September.

The tenth anniversary of Selena's assassination was marked with the release of several CD and DVD sets and an April 7 concert at Houston's Reliant Stadium, broadcast live by **Univisión**, where several top recording artists performed hits by the late Tejano star.

The Tejano Music Awards 25th year was marked in March with a first-ever ceremony outside of San Antonio – in Eagle Pass, Texas — where David Lee Garza and *Los Musicales* were top winners.

Nuyorican pianist, composer and arranger Eddie Palmieri celebrated his 50th year in music with an April 30 concert in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, that reunited him with several vocalists who worked with him throughout his career.

A November concert in Houston by Juan Gabriel ended early when the Mexican singer-songwriter fell off the stage. Juanga, as he is known by legions of fans, suffered a broken wrist.

Media Report

by Sirena J. Scales



ESCOBAR JOINS PEW HISPANIC: Former Washington Post city editor Gabriel Escobar is joining the Pew Hispanic Center as associate director for publications, Pew director Roberto Suro said Jan. 5.

Escobar, born in Colombia and raised in New York, will step into his new post at Pew later this month. He joined the Post in 1990 as a police reporter and was named city

editor in 1999. His resignation last month was viewed as the most recent departure in a wave of higher-level Latino journalists leaving the Post due to a dearth of promotions for qualified journalists of color.

OLIVER NEW CEO OF NAHP: The National Association of Hispanic Publications has named Thomas Oliver as NAHP's executive director and CEO, President Lupita Colmenero announced Jan. 4.

Oliver, chosen by the board of directors at its recent meeting in Dallas, has served as NAHP's interim executive director while heading NAHP's Foundation for four years.

VARGAS & WOODRUFF DEBUT ON ABC: Elizabeth Vargas and Bob Woodruff made their debut Jan. 3 as co-anchors of **ABC's**

World News Tonight. Vargas, of Puerto Rican descent, is the first Latina to anchor a live evening news program, and her pairing with Woodruff is the first dual-anchor news program in 10 years.

NCM TURNSTEN: The San Francisco Bay Area's **NBC 11** and **Telemundo 48's** San José station are hosting a luncheon Jan. 10 for **New California Media** – soon to be renamed **New America Media** – and their sponsors in honor of NCM's upcoming 10th anniversary.

The luncheon kicks off a series of events celebrating NCM's anniversary as well as the 7th annual NCM awards in San Francisco set for Jan. 26. For more info, visit www.ncmonline.org. —Sirena J. Scales

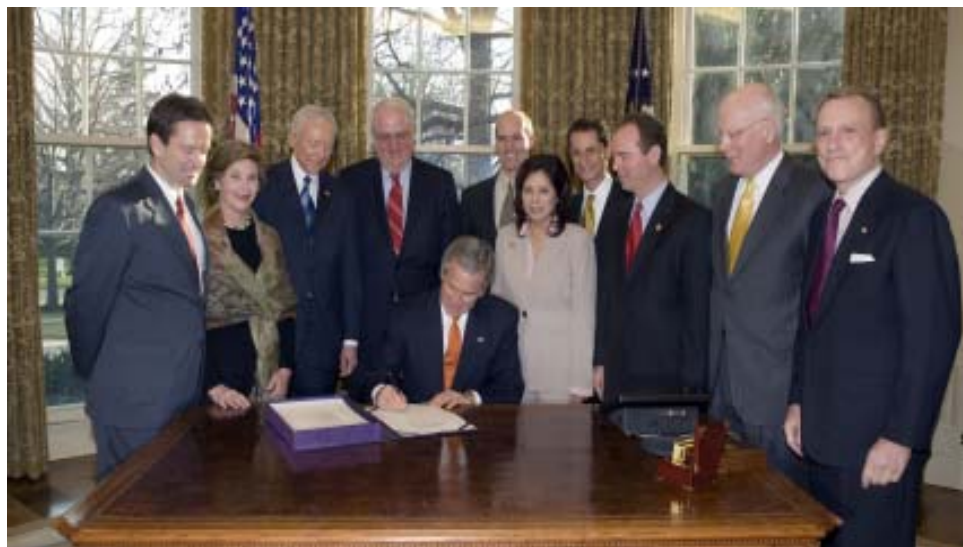
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Institutions \$140; Personal \$118; Student \$58. Trial subscription (13 issues) \$40.

CLASSIFIEDS: \$1.30 per word. Display ads \$45 per column inch. Placed by Wednesday, ad will run in Weekly Report mailed Friday.



President Bush signs the Violence Against Women Act Jan. 5 in the White House, in the presence Congress members, including Hilda Solís (D-Calif.)