

Hispanic Link weekly report

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Your News Source for 24 Years

MAKING THE NEWS THIS WEEK

University of Texas, Austin, student **Alba Esparza** from Clint, Texas, near El Paso, is First Lady **Laura Bush's** guest at President Bush's State of the Union address in Washington, D.C...California Gov. **Arnold Schwarzenegger** appoints former U.S. Treasurer **Rosario Marín** to head the State and Community Services Agency...New York state school superintendent of the year **Manuel Rivera**, of Rochester, is among four finalists for the National Superintendent of the Year honor...Spanish and language arts middle school teacher **James Orihuela**, of

Long Beach, Calif., receives a \$25,000 Milken National Educator Award. Dubbed the "Oscars of Teaching," the awards honor outstanding instructional practice...Rep. **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (R-Fla.) submits the first legislative response to Hamas' landslide victory in the Palestinian elections. Her bill seeks to further restrict travel, funding and representation in the United States by the Palestinian party...Liberty Power CEO **David Hernández** wins the 2005 Hispanic Business Magazine Entrepreneur of the Year award...

LATINOS OPPOSE ALITO 2-1 AS SENATE CONFIRMS HIS NOMINATION, 58-42

By José de la Isla

Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito was confirmed by the U.S. Senate, 58-42, in one of the narrowest such votes in a century. He is the second conservative justice put on the nine-member court by President Bush.

The two Democratic Hispanic senators, Ken Salazar of Colorado and Robert Menéndez of New Jersey voted against the nomination; Republican Mel Martínez of Florida voted in favor.

Salazar said Alito's judicial philosophy would expand executive power too far and hurt constitutional checks and balances by rolling back important civil rights protections. Martínez had earlier referred to Alito as a dispassionate judge with a "deep understanding and modest view" about the judiciary's role in legislating from the bench.

Four Democrats and 54 Republicans voted for Alito. One Republican, one independent and 40 Democrats opposed him.

No U.S. president has ever nominated a Hispanic to the court. President Bush's reelection in 2004 held the prospect he would send up a Hispanic nominee. Speculation centered on his chief counsel, Alberto Gonzáles. Instead, Gonzáles was nominated and confirmed as Attorney General.

Bush named John Roberts to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor on the court when she resigned. When Chief Justice William Rehnquist died before the Senate could hold hearings, the President tapped Roberts to be Chief Justice. He was confirmed late last year. Alito replaces O'Connor on the court.

During Senate hearings, Alito avoided answering questions about administration-authorized domestic spying without warrants, an issue that will possibly reach the court.

The last Hispanic senator to vote on a Supreme Court nomination was Joe Montoya (D-N.M.) in 1975.

The Inside Story

PAGE 4: John Trasviña details dangers of local immigration policing.

HISPANICS FOLLOW PARTY LINES IN REPLIES TO BUSH'S 'STATE OF UNION'

By José de la Isla

While key Hispanic administration officials say they are encouraged by the country's proposed direction offered in President Bush's Jan. 31 State of the Union speech, other Hispanic leaders are questioning many specifics the President mentioned or failed to address.

Referring to the points made by the president, Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutiérrez said the nation's goal is to become more competitive by "attracting the best and the brightest." There is a "role that immigration will continue to play in our country," he said. A U.S. advantage over other countries, he added, is "that we know how to assimilate immigrants. And we understand that throughout our history, immigration has brought new ideas, new innovation, new energy, and today should be no different."

Bush cautioned in his speech against an economic retreat that would lead toward "stagnation and [a] second rate economy."

Two sentences later, he admonished: "We hear claims that immigrants are somehow bad for the economy — even though this economy could not function without them."

Giving the Spanish-language response to

Bush's speech, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, emphasized, "Democrats want comprehensive immigration reform that respects our neighbors, [and] makes America safer and stronger."

The Democrat claimed that a better approach is to integrate immigration reform with other domestic initiatives, including health, economic measures and education. "It is time to put the issue of fixing our public schools to the front and center of the national debate," he said.

Bush referred to about 140 programs slated to be trimmed from the budget. On Feb. 1, the House approved by 216-214 a budget that cuts \$40 billion over five years in programs that include student loans, child support, welfare and Medicaid.

Peter Zamora, legislative attorney with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, told Weekly Report that many cuts affect Latinos. "We are going to keep



GUTIERREZ

(continued on page 2)

Minuteman Told 'No Vigilantes in Our Parade'

By José de la Isla

Minuteman Project co-founder Jim Gilchrist filed a civil rights lawsuit Jan. 27 against Laguna Beach, Calif.'s Patriots Day Parade. He accuses parade organizers of discrimination, breach of contract and unfair business practices. Gilchrist seeks an injunction and unspecified damages from having been denied entry in the parade.

The Minuteman group proposed a float with choreographed dancers with binoculars and folding chairs, imitating border patrols and actors in Revolutionary War costumes.

Charles Quilter II, vice president of the parade association, said its bylaws ban

religious or political advocacy groups from the parade. The Minuteman Project would be "divisive" and "disruptive," Quilter told The Associated Press. The March 4 event has been held annually since 1967.

"We don't need vigilantes in our parade," Quilter said. "If he (Gilchrist) wants to be in a political event, go find one."

Last year, Gilchrist entered the special election for Congress in Orange County. As the American Independent Party candidate, Gilchrist garnered 25% of the vote to keep the winning Republican candidate under 45%, thus denying him a majority.

Gilchrist's campaign was based on anti-immigration issues.

Political Poop

by Patricia Guadalupe



Legislator Wins Without Latinos

None of the Hispanic Republican members of Congress publicly backed new House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio), who was elected Feb. 2 by his GOP colleagues to replace Rep. Tom DeLay in the chamber's #2 leadership position.

All five GOP Latinos — Floridians Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Lincoln Díaz-Balart, Mario Díaz-Balart, Californian Devin Nunes and Texan Henry Bonilla — had stated they would back acting Majority Leader Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), who was widely expected to win.

Additionally, Resident Commissioner Luis Fortuño, Puerto Rico's non-voting con-

gressional representative, had indicated he would support Blunt. Fortuño is allowed to vote in leadership races.

Boehner credits his victory to his colleagues' desire for a "fresh start."

Blunt was considered a close ally of DeLay.

Post-Castro Cuba Weighed

Analysts specializing in Cuban politics held a Feb. 3 conference, "Cuba Without Fidel Castro," at the University of Miami where they offered their perspectives on life on the island after Cuban leader Fidel Castro's death. He has been in power since 1959.

"Too many people assume that when Fidel dies, the system is going to immediately collapse. We don't anticipate that. Fidel's brother, Raúl Castro, will take over. The succession will be smooth and quick," said Jaime Suchlicki, director of UM's Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, referring to Fidel's brother taking over the helm.

"The Politburo will first be concerned about

security. Second, assuring there are no rebellions, no demonstrations."

Suchlicki and other panelists said they viewed the gathering as a "reality check" for those who anticipate dramatic changes on the island after Castro's death.

"(Raúl Castro's) priority is to control Cuba," Suchlicki said. "(He) doesn't want to risk winding up exiled."

Candidate Focuses on Border

Texas businessman Van Taylor, vying for the Republican nomination to oppose Rep. Chet Edwards (D-Texas) in November, is running a television ad focusing on border security. The Marine veteran extols working in a military command that assisted the U.S. Border Patrol detain undocumented immigrants at the Texas-Mexico border.

Taylor is considered the GOP frontrunner in the primary to be held March 7.

Edwards has represented the north and central Texas area for 14 years.

Wide-ranging Responses to Bush Show Big Divide, Narrow Middle Ground

(continued from page 1)

pushing for a budget sensitive to the needs of Latino youth," he said.

In a Feb. 1 speech on the Senate floor, Robert Menéndez (D-N.J.) took exception to the President's tax policy, saying, "More than 70% of the president's tax cuts have gone to people who make over \$200,000, while families who earn between \$50,000 and \$75,000 have received less than five percent of the cuts."

In remarks made the same day to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral commented that Bush extended an "open hand" for bipartisan cooperation. She said that Bush's goals for national security, competitiveness, a guest worker program, and education are intertwining goals — going with energy independence, another major emphasis in the President's speech.

In his address, Bush said, "We hear claims

that immigrants are somehow bad for the economy — even though this economy could not function without them."

The president's maneuvering room may be circumscribed by anti-immigration forces that have already sought to define the issue.

Tamara Jacoby, a senior fellow at the conservative Manhattan Institute, told Weekly Report the president's message means that "it is not enough to just enforce the laws. We need to change them too." The next chapter will depend on the type of immigration reform legislation that results from the Senate, she said. Experts generally agree that some action will occur this year.

Congressman Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.), who has rallied anti-immigration forces in Congress, said the President "missed yet

another great opportunity" to change directions on immigration reform.

In his response to the President's address, Villaraigosa said, "Hardworking people who play by the rules, (should get) a greater opportunity to realize the American Dream." He added that 46 million Americans, of whom 39% are Latinos, are involved in some of the hardest jobs, and lack access to health insurance.

Julio César Moches, president of the *Asociación Social, Cultural y Deportiva de Rhode Island*, commented in a statement to Weekly Report that Bush failed to recognize, much less offer, proposals to strengthen ties with Latin America.

(Christine Senteno helped in reporting for this article.)

More Hispanic Reactions to Bush's 'State of Union'

National Council of La Raza said Bush could fix the immigration system and have a guest worker program. They called his direction worrisome because he supports a bill that funds the construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and what they call extremists in his party.

Senator Mel Martínez (R-Fla.) credited Bush with a realistic view of the challenges at home and abroad. Congress should elevate the tone in Washington to achieve bigger things, he suggested.

Senator Ken Salazar (D-Colo.) said that Bush "finally recognized" the role that alternative energy must play in the future of the United States.

Arizona Republicans, Gov. Napolitano Lock Horns over Funding Bill for English-Learners

By Miguel García

Democratic Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano vetoed a Republican-sponsored measure, HB 2002, that proposed English-language learning programs. The measure came from a special session of the legislature offering a revised plan on Feb. 1.

The governor had previously vetoed a similar bill Jan. 24.

The loggerhead between the Democratic governor and the state's Republican legislature centers on the level of funding.

The governor seeks to have an outside expert do a cost study to determine how much to spend for English-language instruction and seeks a \$45 million fund that could grow to \$185 million. Republicans in the state senate presented a counter proposal.

Napolitano vetoed the two Republican English-learner bills because they con-

tained corporate tax credits for private school scholarships that were believed to divert funds from public to private schools.

The partisan dispute failed to resolve the 1998 issue found in *Flores v. State of Arizona* that found the state failed to adequately fund English-learning programs for children to overcome barriers. Lacking a government program, the court has fined the state \$500,000 a day since Feb. 1.

About 154,000 Arizona students speak foreign languages, mainly Spanish, and struggle to learn English, according to *The Arizona Republic*. The language deficit is believed to contribute to the state's high dropout rate, which sparked the court case.

Governor Napolitano has said she wants the fines applied to ELL programs. Democrat Rep. David Luján told Weekly Report, "This issue needs a middle ground."

PAN Presidential Candidate Meets with U.S. Hispanic Chamber

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

MEXICO CITY — Mexico presidential candidate Felipe Calderón met last week with members of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, who were holding a conference in the Mexican capital. Calderón, who was the only presidential candidate to attend, focused on the need to increase North American collaboration, and spoke out against a bill which passed in last the U.S. House of Representatives last December, that proposes building a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

While there is no Senate equivalent to the bill, immigration is expected to begin heating up in the upper chamber this month, with others bills under consideration.

"The tension that is being generated on both sides of the border with the issue of the wall is producing the great risk of pulling us apart," said the conservative party candidate of the *Partido Acción Nacional*.

"We have to strengthen our ties, not break them," Calderón continued. "We need creative and deep solutions to the immigration problem."

Calderón proposed creating a fund through the North American Free Trade Agreement NADbank to help regions in Mexico that send high numbers of migrants to the United States, "instead of financing infrastructure at the border."

He expressed confidence that such an approach could dramatically reduce Mexican migration to the north.

Candidates of Mexico's two other major

Jewish Group Joins Virginia Latino Lobby For Immigrant Rights

By Rubén Alberto Carrete

Representatives of the American Jewish Committee Feb. 1 joined members of the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations to lobby in Richmond, Va., for the rights undocumented immigrants.

The two groups spent the day in the state capital meeting with legislators and lobbying on pending bills that impact Latinos, particularly those who are undocumented. More than a dozen bills that are detrimental to immigrants and Latinos have been introduced in the Virginia legislature, says VACOLAO chairman Andrés Tobar.

Most crucial, "is legislation that prevents undocumented students from going to college," he offered.

While the AJC, along with other Jewish organizations, has long had ties with the Latino community, Tobar indicated this occasion signals a more formal collaboration. "The Jewish community has stepped up at the time when we have most needed them."

political parties, the *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* and the *Partido de la Revolución Democrática*, were invited but did not attend. Mexico's presidential elections will be held in July to choose a successor to president Vicente Fox, who is completing his six-year term as Mexico's first opposition party president following 70 years of Institutional Revolutionary Party rule.

Members of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and other Latino chambers of commerce from across the United States said they were in Mexico on a three-day visit to strengthen U.S.-Mexico business ties and foster stronger communications between the neighboring countries.

The gathering included meetings with other prominent Mexican leaders, including finance minister Francisco Gil Díaz, and governors of five states.

The U.S. Hispanic chamber represents 215 local chambers and more than 2 mil-

Cedillo Leads Delegation to New York City in Search of Answer to L.A.'s Homeless Problem

By Christine Senteno

A California state senate delegation led by Sen. Gil Cedillo met Jan. 26-27 with key New York City officials to learn how California cities might reduce their homeless population by two-thirds as New York says it has done.

The Greater Los Angeles area alone has more than 91,000 homeless people, according to Eduardo Castro of the Los Angeles Midnight Mission, located in the heart of Skid Row. Latinos make up some 20,900 of them. Sen. Cedillo's district includes the 50 city-block Skid Row area, with 10,000 homeless residents living in the streets.

The meetings with New York law enforcement officials, judicial representatives, homeless advocates, economic development leaders and legislators "were immensely valuable," Cedillo told Weekly Report. "This insightful experience has provided a benchmark for what I hope we can



CEDILLO

Feingold Calls Gonzáles on Eavesdropping Issue

By José de la Isla

Attorney General Alberto Gonzáles' defense of President Bush's authority to conduct electronic surveillance is coming under new challenge.

In a Jan. 25 Georgetown University Law Center speech, Gonzáles made reference to Bush's "inherent presidential powers," stating that they stem from the Constitution.

In a subsequent letter to the Attorney General, Democratic Senator Russell Feingold

lion Latino business owners.

"We've had many visits from Mexican corporations that are interested in doing business with the United States, and we have a lot of our members who have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of gratitude by the Mexican community here as we all want to do business together," USHCC President Michael Barrera told Weekly Report.

"The wall sends a bad message as far as the relationship between Mexico and the United States," said José Lopez, a USHCC board member from El Paso, Texas.

Agreeing with candidate Calderón, López concluded, "Mexican nationals have helped the United States grow by providing the employees that do the jobs that other people don't want to do. You have to strengthen the economy of Mexico.

"You have to give the Mexican nationals a reason to stay instead of going to the United States. We all have to work toward that."

one day achieve as we continue to tackle the problems that we have in Los Angeles."

Cedillo already has six proposals he plans to present in the California legislature. One measure would curb police from channeling the homeless to areas like Skid Row. Cedillo proposes fair-share zoning that requires city and county housing plans to include emergency shelters, mental health services and transitional housing. Another would add two years to any sentence for selling drugs within 1,000 feet of a homeless shelter.

Los Angeles' Skid Row has several streets lined each night with cardboard boxes where the homeless sleep. A recent Los Angeles Times series depicted people using portable toilets as both homes and for prostitution. In one incident cited, someone used heroin while Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was talking to residents across the street.



VILLARAIGOSA

(Wisc.) raised the question about warrantless eavesdropping, saying Gonzáles dismissed the issue during his confirmation hearing in January 2005.

At that time, Gonzáles said the issue was hypothetical and "not the policy or the agenda of this president." He was White House counsel when the plan was authorized.

"It now appears that the Attorney General was not being straight with the Judiciary Committee," Feingold said in the letter.

Near the Street Where You Live

Guest Columnist

by John Trasviña



The absence of leadership from the Bush Administration and the enforcement-only approach taken by the U.S. House of Representatives have emboldened state and local legislators to attempt to enact immigration policies of their own.

Much of the legislation has been restrictive and overwhelmingly negative in scope. It has been vigorously opposed by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and other Latino immigrant rights, religious and labor organizations. As the U.S. Senate begins to take up comprehensive immigration reform, litigators and advocates need to pay close attention to state and local legislatures as well.

TRESPASS CHARGE DIDN'T STAND UP

Under the U.S. Constitution, the setting of immigration policy belongs under the purview of the federal government. Typically, in cases that interpret the Constitution's Supremacy Clause, the responsibilities to naturalize new citizens, enforce land and sea borders, and grant or deny admission to the United States are deemed to be federal functions.

On that basis, last summer MALDEF successfully helped challenge the actions of two New Hampshire local police chiefs who sought to apply state trespass laws against eight Latinos allegedly in the United States illegally and thus, according to the police, were in their towns without permission.

Had the Hudson and New Ipswich police in New Hampshire prevailed, sheriffs and police chiefs in cities and towns across the country — with no training or understanding of immigration categories or documentation — could have unlawfully attempted to apply similar laws in their jurisdictions.

RELATIONS WITH POLICE PUT AT RISK

Local law enforcement of immigration laws by untrained officials can easily lead to racial profiling, with police demanding documentation from individuals they perceive as "looking foreign," regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. This has been the experience with employer sanctions, where, for almost the past two decades, many employers of Latino workers have made excessive requests for documents beyond what the law requires.

A more dangerous consequence of involving local law enforcement in immigration laws is the damage it does to police-community relations. For example, local law enforcement officials are hard

pressed to educate and reassure domestic violence victims and their advocates that the same officer who responds to a call for help will not use his new immigration authority to pressure witnesses or family members to cooperate in an investigation.

Any jurisdiction that seeks to enforce immigration laws must take great pains to educate its community members on the legal scope of its authority. For the most part, local jurisdictions are left with both the responsibility to defend their actions and the liability to pay for them.

In the mid-1990s, when officials in Chandler, Ariz., conducted sweeps jointly with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, predictable turmoil followed in the local Latino community. The City of Chandler, not the federal government, had to pay \$500,000 to community members whose civil rights were violated.

LOS ANGELES CONSIDERS MODEL LAW

Another area where local ordinances interact with immigration laws is the prohibition of day laborers seeking employment by gathering around high traffic areas. In 2005, MALDEF obtained court orders blocking the implementation of ordinances in two Southern California communities. It continues to monitor day-labor ordinances and fight unwise restrictive proposals.

More recently, the cities of Herndon, Va., and Burbank, Calif., have promoted privately run temporary labor centers that are safer for workers and reduce the potential for disturbances to neighboring homes or businesses.

In addition, Los Angeles is contemplating what many consider to be model legislation that would require temporary worker centers to be co-located on the premises of very large home improvement stores. As long as small employers in the construction, home improvement and related industries seek out and hire temporary workers, the workers — not all of whom are here illegally — will gather to meet them. Establishing temporary worker centers allows local officials to advance safe and secure hiring without involving themselves in the federal act of setting immigration policy.

PATCHWORK MEASURES WON'T DO JOB

The Bush Administration and Congress must address our nation's immigration problems with a comprehensive solution that includes necessary improvements in enforcement as well as legal channels for undocumented workers to adjust their status and continue contributing to local communities.

The patchwork of local measures is no substitute for federal action. Allowing local law enforcement officials to enforce federal immigration laws without training, resources or community education creates not only more problems, but dangers to the communities these local officers have sworn to protect.

(John Trasviña is Senior Vice President for Law & Policy at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. He may be contacted by e-mail at jtrasvina@maldef.org)

Sin pelos en la lengua

Kay Bárbaro

THE GOOD OLD DAYS: In case you didn't notice, Weekly Report carries a new squib leading off the Calendar column on page 5 each week. We call it, "In the Link 20 years ago."

I like it not so much for its single-line flashback, but because sometimes I'm invited to dig into our dusty volumes to do the research. And nostalgia engulfs me.

I get to huddle with old and famous friends who are total unknowns to today's 20-year-olds.

"Fernando who?" one lad who shaves weekly questions me.

"Fernando Valenzuela!" I say. The yellowing Links refresh my memory about our national *Fernandomania*. "From the little Mexican town of Etchohaquila. A major leaguer at age 19. In 1986, he

became the highest-paid pitcher in major league history. A three-year contract worth \$5.5 million!

Twenty years ago? **Clarence Thomas** was chairman of the EEOC, a weird hideout for such a person. He used it to campaign for the abolition of goals and timetables.

Sin Pelos reported that *The Wall Street Journal* carried an editorial on an immigration bill headed, *Wetbacks as People*.

Caminos magazine honored **Richard Alatorre** as its Man of the Year. "Richard who?" The next mayor of L.A., I dreamed.

1986? San Antonio Mayor **Henry Cisneros**, tall, dark, handsome and youthful, a sure thing as the first brown vice president, maybe even president some day, of the USA.

"Henry who?" a history student now asks me.

Rubén Salazar. "Who's he?" a Latina majoring in journalism wants to know.

César Chávez? Oh, yeah. The boxer.

Marielitos? Tasty little candies, a college junior ventures.

That's okay. I still have my memories.

Collecting

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ACROSS THE BORDER: The Woodrow Wilson Institute and "Foreign Affairs en Español" have released a compilation of articles by U.S. and Mexican journalists, titled "Writing Beyond the Boundaries: Journalism Across the U.S.-Mexico Borders." Michael Jones-Correa's article on three misconceptions identifies how news stories lack context and perspective. He notes that, contrary to the stereotype, only 40% of Latinos living in the U.S. are foreign born. He also notes that the United States receives the benefit of most Latino immigrant spending; only 4% to 5% goes back to their home countries. The 104-page book may be downloaded free at www.wilsoncenter.org/mexico, or free by calling Kate Brick at the Institute, at (202) 691-4050

THE GRIM FACTS: The Death Penalty Information Center has released a report, "Blind Justice: Juries Deciding Life and Death With Only Half the Truth." Intended to inform about problems from the jurors' perspective, the report shows how jurors are excluded on the basis of race and ethnicity. Dallas County, Texas is used to illustrate how prosecutors strike blacks 57%, Hispanics 36%, and whites 27% of the time. A copy of the 36-page report can be downloaded from www.deathpenaltyinfo.org.

THE AMERICAN STARS OF TEACHING: One teacher from each state and the District of Columbia will be recognized for the 2006 American Stars of Teaching Award by the U.S. Department of Education. Teachers from all grade levels and disciplines are eligible and may be nominated by parents, students, colleagues or anyone who believes the nominee has the qualities for the award. The deadline for nominations is April 15 and can be made by accessing www.ed.gov/teacherinitiative.

MUSEUM FELLOWSHIP: The New York City-based Cooper-Hewitt Museum and the National Design Museum offers a 10-month fellowship in its award-winning education department. The fellowship, sponsored by the Kell-Muñoz Architects of San Antonio, provides a \$10,000 stipend for 10 months to a graduate student of Hispanic origin in the U.S. To apply, contact: Internship Coordinator, c/o Education Department, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum; 2 East 91st St., New York, NY 10128.

Late News

Employer Collaborative Offers Guide To Aid Workers Get Full Tax Benefits

By Christine Senteno

With tax season upon us, Corporate Voices for Working Families, a non-profit Washington-based collaborative of employers across the nation, released a guide on Jan. 30 to demonstrate to low-income workers how to get the most out of their tax refunds.

It also offers warnings about the predatory practices of refund loan agents.

Available in both English and Spanish, "Promoting Tax Credits and Federal Benefits Employer Guide" encourages employers to educate workers, particularly those who make \$11 an hour or less, to avoid refund loan agencies that erode tax refunds because of the high financial charges.

Corporate Voices encourages using Volunteer Income Tax Assistance centers, which offer their services free, although refunds often take longer to process.

The tool kit has been expanded from the previous two years to include information not only on the Earned Income Tax Credit, but the Advance EITC Child Tax Credit, Medicaid/State Children's Health Insurance Program and other federal benefits.

Corporate Voices policy director Lynn Mitchell emphasizes that once workers become aware of the EITC, the food stamp program and the state child health insurance program, they can access all of them collectively "and help the stability of the household."

Many working families are not aware of what is available, causing them to lose billions of dollars of their tax refunds.

In 2004, more than 3.7 million households nationwide missed out on the EITC dollars they were entitled to, according to ACORN, a nationwide community advocacy group for low- and moderate-income families. They estimated the unclaimed amount to be between \$6.7 billion and \$13 billion.

The 13-page Employer Guide can be downloaded at www.cvworkingfamilies.org. Flyers, posters, paycheck stuffers and other information can be downloaded as well.

Calendar

In The Link 20 Years Ago:

Reagan White House public liaison director Linda Chávez quits to run for U.S. Senate. (She lost to Barbara Mikulski, 61%-39%)

This Week

SRI MARKETING SUMMIT

Miami Jan. 29 - 31

The Strategic Research Institute hosts its 11th-annual Hispanic marketing summit.

Information: (888) 666-8514

FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR

Stockton, Calif. Feb. 4

The Mexican American Chamber of Commerce hosts its second-annual bilingual college student financial aid workshop.

Information: (209) 943-6117

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Washington, D.C. Feb. 8

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: carloseth@hispaniclink.org

Mickey Ibarra & Associates hosts its 5th anniversary celebration.

Information: (202) 969-8777

LATINA STYLE AWARDS LUNCHEON

Washington, D.C. Feb. 9

Latina Style magazine hosts its annual diversity awards ceremony.

Information: (202) 955-7930

LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION

Washington, D.C. Feb. 9

The Cuban American National Council hosts a leadership celebration.

Information: (202) 898-4880

NAHJ SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

New York City Feb. 17

The National Association of Hispanic Journalists hosts its annual scholarship awards gala.

Information: (202) 662-7145

SCCCS RECEPTION

Washington, D.C. Feb. 21

The Spanish Centers of Catholic Community Services host a solidarity reception.

Information: (202) 939-2435

NPF AWARDS GALA

Washington, D.C. Feb. 23

The National Press Foundation holds its annual awards dinner.

Information: (202) 663-7282

Coming Soon

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

CABE CONFERENCE

Los Angeles March 1 - 4

The California Association for Bilingual Education holds its annual conference.

Information: (626) 814-4441

THIS WEEK IN LATINO HISTORY...

Nuyorican poet **José Hernández Cruz** was born **Feb. 6, 1949**.

Chicano activist **Gregorio Jaurequi** was shot and killed in Silver City, N.M., **Feb. 6 1992**.

Ritchie Valens, famous for his hit rendition of "La Bamba," was laid to rest in San Fernando, Calif., **Feb. 7, 1958**, after being killed in a plane crash.

General **Valentina Gatica** joined the Mexican revolution **Feb. 9, 1911**.

Former congressman and co-founder of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus **Edward Roybal** was born **Feb. 10, 1916**.



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Translations/ traducciones
Translations to Spanish.
Traducciones al inglés.

NAHJ

NATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION seeks temporary part-time membership/convention assistant to provide aid with database maintenance and convention registration.

Supports membership manager in coordinating mass mailing to membership, managing convention registration and other membership assignments. Position requires solid computer experience, excellent organizational skills and strong customer service skills.

Position available from Feb. through mid-July. 25 Hours per week. \$12/hr. Work hours will increase in May and June. Travel to convention in June required.

Send résumé with Cover letter and references to: 202/662-7144 or e-mail to: yguillen@nahj.org. Visit www.nahj.org for more information about the association.

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CARTOONISTS

We pay \$25 for humorous or political cartoons. Submit to: Alex Meneses Miyashita, Editor, Hispanic Link Weekly Report, 1420 N St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone (202) 234-0280

**PUBLIC WELFARE FOUNDATION
GRANTS MANAGER POSITION**

The Public Welfare Foundation is seeking a candidate for the position of Grants Manager to support the Executive Director, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, and program staff with the grantmaking process of the Foundation.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to management of the administrative processes of grantmaking, working with website designers and consultants to ensure the presence of accurate and timely content on the Foundation's website, and managing the annual report publication.

Required qualifications: Bachelor's degree; five years of relevant experience in a non-profit environment, which would preferably include hands-on experience with grantmaking; knowledge of legal, regulatory, and accounting requirements for grants managing; maintaining a database and report generation; production of annual reports or other publications; content management of a website; budgeting; familiarity with statistical techniques; proficiency with MS Word and Excel; strong written, oral, and interpersonal skills; and demonstrated reliability and attention to detail.

Interested individuals should submit letter of interest and résumé by email to:

Human Resources
Public Welfare Foundation
1200 U Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
Email only: hr@publicwelfare.org

Please visit our website at www.publicwelfare.org. No phone calls, please. Deadline for submissions is February 17, 2006.

SENIOR REPORTER

KOKH-TV, FOX 25 in Oklahoma City is looking for a Senior, General Assignment Reporter, and a position that could include some fill-in anchoring.

Candidate must have at least three years of reporting experience and be able to cover a variety of assignments, particularly hard news with considerable live shop experience. We are primarily looking for candidates with a crime and courts background. We need someone who's a strong writer, someone with sharp news judgment and the ability to work well others. We're also looking for someone who is a self-starter and who can generate his or her own story ideas.

To apply for this position, please visit our website at www.okcfox.com and include your salary requirements. You will also need to send a non-returnable tape to:

Human Resources
1228 E. Wilshire Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
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Executive Director

UNITY: Journalists of Color, Inc. an alliance of four associations representing Asian American, Black, Hispanic and Native American journalists, seeks Executive Director. Must have excellent fund-raising track record with an emphasis in private foundations and corporate giving. Requires experience with organizational development,

financial management, public relations, nonprofit management and strong convention management, and appreciation of and work with diverse races and ethnic groups. No phone calls. Email a resume and cover letter with salary requirements to info@unityjournalists.org. For more info on UNITY and a complete job profile go to www.unityjournalists.org.

KRQE-TV

Commercial Producer

Television stations, KRQE & KREZ seek talented Commercial Producers in Albuquerque and Durango to help provide top quality customer service through creative television advertising.

QUALIFICATIONS: The successful candidate must possess solid experience in script writing, shooting video, creating graphics, animation and editing on non-linear equipment. A minimum of two years experience in video production or equivalent field is required. Advance skills in computers and broadcast equipment is helpful.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: You must have a valid driver license and an acceptable driving record. Cover letter must indicate your preference of the station/city in which you are applying for.

SEND RESUME TO:

Human Resources KRQE-TV Commercial Producer) 13 Broadcast Plaza SW Albuquerque, NM 87104 email: erika.gonzales@krqe.com fax: (505)764-5279

PUBLIC WELFARE FOUNDATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

The Public Welfare Foundation is seeking an experienced candidate for the position of Administrative Assistant to assist staff in the development and funding of proposals related to social and economic justice programs, and to support staff with daily office operations.

Responsibilities include coordinating correspondence and grantee communication; managing travel arrangements, site visits, small conferences and meetings; maintaining database; assisting with scheduling; responding to phone inquiries; and assisting in board meeting preparation.

Required qualifications: Relevant work experience that includes a variety of administrative tasks. Must demonstrate flexibility and the ability to handle many tasks at once while meeting multiple deadlines. Requires excellent telephone manner and ability to interact effectively with grantees and staff at all levels. Strong administrative skills; attention to detail; solid written and verbal communication skills; and computer proficiency.

Desired qualifications: Associate's degree or some college; work or volunteer experience with grassroots or nonprofit organizations; experience with travel planning, databases and spreadsheets. Spanish-speaking skills desirable.

Interested individuals should submit letter of interest and résumé to: Human Resources, Public Welfare Foundation, 1200 U Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Email only: hr@publicwelfare.org. Visit our website at www.publicwelfare.org. No phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is: February 17, 2006.

Marketplace ■



New Sounds

Edited by Miguel García

Explore the latest music by Latino musicians

Capítulo II: Brinca, DJ Kane (EMI Latin): DJ Kane proclaims, "This is not a pop album." Certainly not, but it is a Spanish "Jump Around" morphed into the title track "Brinca."

"Jump Around," a one-time hit single from more than a decade ago, seems like the worst mistake a Latino artist can make in his music career. But DJ Kane successfully resurrects the track with Spanish lyrics and Latin rhythms.

The album, consistent with current Latino popular culture, includes a *reggaetón* version of the track.

DJ Kane offers a variety of genres and styles, as well as mood and tone. The songs "Brinca" and "How we do" mix rap and Latin beats that let the listener either bob his head or take a friend out to the dance floor.

Other tracks such as "Ultimo Adiós" and "Ayer" show DJ Kane's talents as a ballads and R&B singer, demonstrating once again his ability to transcend and mix various music genres.

More feel-good songs on the album such as "Salud (El Borracho)" show the fun times people have partying together until sunrise shouting in unison, "¡Arriba! ¡Abajo! ¡Al Centro! ¡Adentro!"

DJ Kane's new album is definitely worth buying, not just downloading, as the variety in the music, both in

language and style, draws the listener into a world composed of smooth rhythms and lively beats.

C About Me, Marcos Hernández (TVT Records): Marcos Hernández's recently released single "If You Were Mine," quickly climbed the Billboard Top 100. What followed, "C About Me," marked his debut album.

Although mostly in English, it includes a Spanish remix bonus track of the single, "If You Were Mine," showing Hernández's skills as a vocalist in both English and Spanish.

"Bailamos," another Spanglish track, has the potential to be a major dance hit, as the beats and lyrics flow well together. Hernández's voice gives his audience a reason to get out of their seats and dance.

Other songs like the ballad, "I'm Lost" show emotions about love loss and having it stripped away too soon. On the track, Hernández reaffirms, "It's true what they say. You don't know if you truly love someone 'til they are gone."

Something to think about, huh?

Hopefully, Hernández's multifaceted voice will lead to a second, more soulful album in the future, contributing to the growing number of bilingual Latino artists more frequently appearing on both English and Spanish radio stations.



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



OSCAR NODS: Five Latin American and Spanish filmmakers are among 2006 Academy Awards nominees, including the first-ever pair of Mexican cinematographers competing in the same category.

As expected, Argentine musician Gustavo Santaolalla gained an Oscar nomination for Best Original Score, one of eight nods earned by top nominee *Brokeback Mountain*. Santaolalla won the Golden Globe last month for the movie's theme song, but *A Love That Will Never Grow Old* did not qualify for Oscar consideration.

Santaolalla is a first-time Oscar nominee, but he composed the score for last year's *Diarios de motocicleta*. Jorge Drexler's song from that movie, *Al otro lado del río*, won the Best Song Oscar last year, but Santaolalla did not produce it.

Another first-time nominee is Alberto Iglesias, also nominated in the score category for *The Constant Gardener* (a film by Brazilian Fernando Meirelles shut out from the Best Movie and Director categories). The Spanish composer is best known here for his work with director Pedro Almodóvar, including his latest film

A second Latino nominated for *Brokeback Mountain* is also a first-time nominee; Rodrigo Prieto is one of two Mexicans nominated for Best Cinematography.

Like Santaolalla, Prieto is a frequent collaborator of Mexican director Alejandro González Iñárritu and is a current American So-

ciety of Cinematographers nominee, also for *Brokeback Mountain*.

Mexican cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezky earned his third Academy Award nomination for his work on *The New World*. His previous nominations were for *Sleepy Hollow* and *A Little Princess*, a film by Mexican director Alfonso Cuarón, Lubezky's close friend and collaborator.

The fifth Latino nominee is Argentine Pablo Helman, part of a team of four nominated in the Visual Effects category, for *War of the Worlds*.

Winners will be announced March 5.

This year's crop of Latino nominees nearly matched last year's record-setting six, but none of the nominations are for Spanish-language films. In fact, not a single Spanish-language or Latin-American film earned a nomination this year, including the Foreign Language category.

In contrast, two Mexican documentaries and two Latino-themed U.S. films were among the top winners at this year's Sundance Festival, announced last month.

The top World Documentary prizes went to Mexican films: *Tin Dirdamal's De Nadie*, about a Central American woman's difficult migration to the United States, took the audience award and Juan Carlos Rulfo's *En el hoyo*, about workers building a Mexico City freeway, took the jury prize.

The two top prizes for dramatic films – award and jury – went to *Quinceañera*, a film by Wash Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer about a teen growing up in the Los Angeles Latino neighborhood of Echo Park. And Dito Montiel won the dramatic film directing award for his *A Guide to Recognize Your Saints*. The film stars Robert Downey Jr. and Rosario Dawson.

Media Report

by Sirena J. Scales



MARKET MOVES: Spanish-language newspaper chain **ImpreMedia** buys the central Florida weekly *La Prensa*. It's ImpreMedia's fifth newspaper buy since its

creation in January 2004, and the company's first foray into Florida. ImpreMedia publishes New York's *el diario La Prensa*, Chicago's *La Raza*, Los Angeles' *La Opinión*, and recently bought San Francisco's *El Mensajero*.

The Denver Post launches *Al Día*, a web site featuring news in Spanish, with links to news sites throughout Latin America.

Ottaway Newspapers purchases *La Ganga*, a free Spanish-language weekly published in Watsonville, Calif.

PAWEL DEPARTS: Los Angeles Times re-

porter Miriam Pawel, author of the controversial exposé on the United Farm Workers union, is leaving the Times. Managing editor Dean Baquet say her departure has no relation to the article.

CORRECTION: Media Report incorrectly reported Jan. 23 that Dallas' *Al Día* is switching to free circulation. It is retaining paid subscriptions for home and business delivery, publisher Gilbert Bailón says, clarifying, "Al Día has a controlled circulation that includes both free and paid circulation."

Hispanic Link weekly report

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U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce members & Mexico hosts hear from CEO Michael Barrera, PAN's Felipe Calderón, board chair George Franco. See p. 3.