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Texas Legislature Presents Redrawn Congressional District Map

By Mark Whittington

The Texas Legislature has unveiled a proposed map of the newly redrawn congressional districts, based on the 2010 Census. Texas will gain four congressional seats to create a Texas House delegation of 36 members.

The proposal creates two new majority Hispanic districts in south Texas, one based near San Antonio and Austin, the other south of Corpus Christi extending to the Rio Grande. The first Hispanic majority district will be at the expense of Rep. Lloyd Doggett, a Democrat, who will be thrown into a district with more Republican voters. There is also a sort of Hispanic district being created in the Dallas-Fort Worth area that would be best described as competitive for a Hispanic candidate.

More detailed analyses of the redistricting plan and its effect on Texas politics can be found in the Houston Chronicle and Politico. The intended effect will be a Texas House delegation of 26 Republicans and 10 Democrats. This rather naked gerrymandering is said to balance out a similar



gerrymandering taking place in Illinois, where Republicans are getting the short end. The 2012 Texas congressional district map is a study in what

happens when one party is the overwhelming majority in a particular state. Party strength in a state tends to be self perpetuating as a state legislature dominated by

one party will always draw congressional and legislative maps to benefit that party. Both parties engage in the practice, which means that the vast majority of seats in

the House of Representatives are not competitive. Unless a congressman commits some awesome act that causes a career killing scandal, he or she is generally in

for life or voluntary retirement.

Texas Democrats have little recourse to challenge the map, just as Illinois Republicans have little recourse. The Democrats will doubtless go to court to challenge the district map, once it is passed by the Legislature. The thin chance they have is that they can find some kind of ethnic discrimination that violates the Voting Rights Act. But it appears that Texas Republicans have been careful to cover themselves in that regard, but creating the majority Hispanic districts.

Is there a better way? California recently passed a Voters First initiative that created a citizens redistricting commission randomly selected, with a balance of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four either unaffiliated or other party, to redraw that state's congressional and legislative districts. The theory is that this process will be fairer to both parties and will draw equitable and competitive districts. The results of this experiment will be interesting to watch. If it works, it may prove to be a model for other states.

Hispanic Population, Rising Faster Than Anticipated, A 'Huge Weapon' For Obama

The biggest political story over the past week didn't involve a bus tour, sondt tweets sent from a congressman's account or even the posturing over whether to raise the nation's debt ceiling.

Instead, it was the no-frills release of a 16-page report by the Census Bureau, which underscored a massive paradigm shift in how politics is conducted.

On May 26, the Census released what an official at the bureau described as "the latest, most up to date data on the Hispanic population in the United States." The numbers, culled from its 2010 survey, tell a remarkable — albeit anticipated — story: The Hispanic population is growing at a rate much faster than any other demographic.

"The new census data affirms that one of the great stories of the 21st century is the changing majority of America from a majority white country to a majority minority country," said Simon Rosenberg, president and founder of NDN, a Democratic-leaning think tank that has focused heavily on Hispanic issues. "From a national political standpoint, this is a huge development."

Currently, 30.5 million Hispanics live in the United States (roughly 16 percent of its 308.7 million population), a significant increase from the 35.3 million Hispanics in the country in 2000. The 15.2 million difference accounts for more than half of U.S. population growth during that same time period.

showed negative percent change in the Hispanic population.

Gaining out the political ramifications of such a dramatic demographic shift is not an easy calculus. The Hispanic population is not monolithic; nor does it vote on singular issues, often prioritizing immigration reform before economic matters. What works as an electoral motivator in Florida may fall short in Illinois.

Operatives from both sides of the ledger agree, however, that a both Democrats and Republicans have a generation-defining opportunity at hand. But only one party seems



positioned to take advantage. In 2004, 5.1 million Hispanics voted for Democratic candidates, 4.3 million for Republicans. In 2008, the ratio changed, with 7.8 million voting Democratic and 3.6 million voting Republican, according to data compiled by New Policy Institute.

"When you talk about Democratic secret weapon — it isn't so much a secret because everyone sees it coming — but this is the year it could come," said Carlos Odo, Deputy Director for the Latino Vote Program during Barack Obama's 2008 campaign. "No one ever expects the logic to happen, but there is so much room for growth. If Democrats and progressives really played this, it could be a huge weapon. The census reinforces that."

Hector Barajas remains acutely aware of the weapon. As a Spanish media spokesman for both George W. Bush's 2004 presidential campaign and John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign as well as communications director for the California Republican Party, he has watched the evolving relationship

between the GOP and the Latino population from a front row seat. His post in California has particularly presented challenges, with the bulging Hispanic community forcing statewide candidates into a sharp political battle between demographic realities and conservative political pressures.

Recently, he's been making the rounds to various Republican Party entities, urging them to re-adjust the rhetoric and appreciate the trends, noting Obama's failure to deliver on key promises to the Hispanic community creates an opening. One part of his pitch includes a slide showing that even if all immigration into the United States came to a halt, the Hispanic population would continue to grow, with births inside the country rising at an even faster rate than net immigration.

"Every 30 seconds a Latino turns the age of 18," he told The Huffington Post. "There are about 11 million Latinos over the age of 18 who are U.S. citizens and not yet registered to vote. 2.4 million of them reside in Texas, 2.2 million reside in California."

Can you imagine if half of them got registered in Texas, how it would change the politics there?"

White House officials dispute those exact figures (the underestimated in Texas, they say, is about half that but not Barajas' broader point). Demographic changes have, indeed, altered the electoral map, or at least given that campaign liberty to say that the map is more open than ever before. In recent weeks, a number of stories have referenced the Obama reelection campaign's plans to play in Texas in 2012.

"Texas is a huge uphill battle," said Odo. "It will take a lot of outside players. I think it is doable. But it might not be a 2012 thing. It might be a 2016 thing... The tide has already shifted, and it's a gradual but accelerating process whose real impact will be seen, as with most things in campaigns, on the margins."

One of those margins is the simple conduct of the campaign itself. Already in Texas, Hispanic population growth has spurred a high-stakes debate over how to restructure redistricting in the state.

Republicans, reading the demographic tea leaves, have tried to create a super-majority Hispanic district in the Dallas-Fort Worth area so as to confine the effect of their vote. Hispanic officials, who once salivated at the idea of a firmly held House seat, are now inclined to fight the plan.

"They see the potential to have more of these districts with 30 to 40 Hispanics than to get a supermajority one," said Moses Mercado, a Democratic operative in D.C. who advised John Kerry's presidential campaign. "The growth is unbelievable. Instead of one super district you will have four or five... The [census] numbers were above what everyone was thinking. It is extraordinary, the large growth. And you are already seeing the impact of it."

Recognizing that trend, the Republican Party has begun a broad discussion about how to stem the flooding of Hispanics away from the GOP.

Conservatives in California have used the 2010 gubernatorial defeat at a hook to debate whether the party could win back Hispanic voters by emphasizing cultural issues or if larger, total changes were needed as well. In Texas, the redistricting issue has overshadowed the news that local Republican lawmakers are calling for less punitive immigration laws.

Nationally, GOP officials stress that they are re-doubling the effort for Hispanic candidate recruitment. But even then, many voice concerns that if the Republican Party is to ride and not be overwhelmed by the demographic trends, something more will be needed than superficial overtures.

"Good candidates, whether they are Republicans or Democrats, understand how they have to adapt their strategies and embrace different groups in their areas," said former Republican Congressman Henry Bonilla.

"Smart candidates will still run smart campaigns and embrace all ethnic groups," he added. "Those who don't get it will sing and dance around them, and the ethnic groups will understand they are recipients of just a little pandering."

Golpe supremo a indocumentados



Por un fallo de 5 contra 3 la Corte Suprema reafirmo el caso "Cámara de Comercio versus Whiting", que permite la vigencia de la ley de trabajadores de Arizona. Esta autoriza el uso obligatorio de E-Verify y penaliza a negocios que contraten inmigrantes indocumentados.

El máximo tribunal anunció la decisión ayer por la mañana. La ley titulada "Legal Arizona Workers Act" fue disputada por la Cámara de Comercio y diversas organizaciones de derechos civiles.

Este grupo argumentó que la ley federal de inmigración invalidaba la iniciativa. El mismo elemento usado en los tribunales contra SB1070. En este sentido, la decisión de la corte es crucial para medir una futura decisión en el caso contra la controversial legislación.

Los jueces John Roberts, Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas y Samuel Alito votaron a favor, mientras Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer y Sonia Sotomayor se pronunciaron en contra. Elena Kagan se abstuvo de participar en la decisión.

"La ley de licencias de Arizona cabe entre los confines que la autoridad del Congreso escoga dejar a los estados y por lo tanto, no está expresamente invalidada. Mientras la ley de inmigración prohíbe a los estados imponer sanciones criminales o civiles a aquellos que emplean a indocumentados, preserva la autoridad estatal para imponer sanciones a través de licencias y leyes similares" dice el fallo.

La decisión reafirma también el uso obligatorio de E-Verify. El base de datos del gobierno a la que se accede por Internet, usada de manera voluntaria por empresas para comprobar el estatus migratorio de los empleados. Un 11% de los empleadores del país utilizan el programa, es decir 7.7 millones.

"La ley de inmigración no contiene ningún lenguaje que circunscriba a los estados de acciones en torno a E-Verify. Prohíbe acción federal. El hecho de que el gobierno requiera el uso de E-Verify sólo en circunstancias limitadas, no dice nada sobre qué pueden hacer los estados", especifica la decisión de la Corte Suprema.

Commentaries - Opinions

Por José de la Haza

Wrestling Link Now Service
Editor's Note: MEXICO D.F. - En febrero, Sarah Palin comentó por Twitter sobre la destitución del presidente de Egipto, Hosni Mubarak, mediante un levantamiento popular. Primeros, los mirones atrapados en Chile, dijo y ahora los destituidos en Egipto. ¿Qué otro drama puede afectar al Occidente?

¿Chile? ¿Medio Oriente? ¿Aseo no se ubica Egipto en el Norte de Africa? En realidad, dentro de todo hay una especie de Egipto en México.

La semana después del comenatio por Twitter de Sarah Palin, secretario del Ejército estadounidense, Joseph W. Sestigall, en la Universidad de Utah, dijo, según el diario de Salt Lake City, The Desert News, que el ejército estadounidense podría terminar por pelear contra los insurgentes en México. Si punto era que batallas frías podrían NO llevarse a cabo en el Medio Oriente.

Wrestling fue el oficial estadounidense de mayor rango en usar el término "insurgencia" para describir a los narcotraficantes. Y tras a colación la posibilidad de tener soldados estadounidenses "armados y peleando sobre nuestros frentes, lo cual viola los principios de Egipto, Grecia, y en su lugar que esvaridos del rol de la frontera.

Admitió haber compartido su perspectiva

con la Casa Blanca, sin embargo es comensado, dijo, que sólo una embrión por comensado y no refutaba la perspectiva del gobierno. Es, como si se no fuera a trabajar el país, donde Egipto como representante del gobierno en su campo de responsabilidad.

El punto subyacente, no obstante, es que durante los últimos meses se están en las preparaciones militares de Egipto.

Resulta que la OTAN, la Organización del Tratado del Atlántico Norte, conformada en 1949, según su punto importante luego del ataque de Al Qaeda de septiembre, 2001, contra los Estados Unidos, cuando era el primer por primera vez el Artículo 5. El artículo comensado que un ataque contra un país miembro contra un ataque contra todos los países miembros. Desde entonces, se ha desplegado tropas en Afganistán. Más recientemente, la OTAN ha asumido liderazgo del conflicto en Libia por destinar a Mehmaran Gaddafi.

Los 28 miembros de la OTAN constituyen más del 70 por ciento del poder militar en el mundo. Por lo tanto, los EE.UU. constituyen el 43 por ciento del poder, mientras que el Reino Unido, Francia, Alemania e Italia proveen otro 15 por ciento del total en potencias militares en el mundo.

Lina Gutiérrez Espinoza, en su columna en el destacado periódico de esta ciudad, el

Excelsior, dirigió a una universidad alemana, Mitterer, Mitterer, quien dijo que la OTAN tiene a América Latina en la mira. La alianza ya consta con 29 países miembros así, desde El Paaso, Taba, hasta la Tierra del Fuego, el archipiélago sólo al norte de la Antártida que incluye partes de Chile y Argentina.

Mucha geografía, de acuerdo, pero los países agrados que impugna parte del territorio mencionado se ubica en el Occidente Medio.

Desde el día de las bases se supone se supone. Gutiérrez Espinoza dijo que la organización de investigación que lidera, Claret Latinoamericano de los Intelectuales Unidos, CLAEI, sabe que se mantienen tan en secreto estas bases que incluso algunos congresistas ignoran que existen. También se mantiene en secreto el número de soldados estadounidenses desplegados en cada país.

Decididos de la bases de los Estados Unidos, mientras que el Reino Unido mantiene tres en las Islas Maldivas, Georgia y Sándwich del Sur. La base aérea en Palenque, Colombia, es un punto de partida hacia África, posiblemente hacia Europa.

También tiene bases en Honduras, Panamá y El Salvador. La Flota IV estadounidense hace patrulla de América Latina con aviones nucleares en el Atlántico con aviones nucleares de 1967 que declamó América Latina zona libre de armas nucleares.

Oficialmente, la mayor parte de premisa que nge el tener bases estadounidenses y de la OTAN en América Latina se relaciona con el narcotráfico. Sin embargo, según Brian de la Asociación Internacional de Abogados Contra las Armas Nucleares, dijo que presentan una amenaza a aquellos gobiernos que no se someten a un acuerdo global de no proliferación que opta por una ruta independiente hacia el desarrollo. Es por eso, según Gutiérrez Espinoza, que los gobiernos de Ecuador y de Bolivia cederon dos bases.

Es posible que algo de estos antecedentes explique la razón por la que el subsecretario Miguel Pedraza luego de un comenatio tan aparentemente extraño, que en su comenatio no tenía sentido. Dijo, que en su comenatio una intervención del ejército estadounidense en México, pero que no "había" "sido" de "droga e inmigrantes ilegales".

Cuando lo dijo, sólo un tanto despreciado como algo que diría Sarah Palin. Pero ahora los Americanos tienen de un escenario del Medio Oriente, el del Norte de Africa.

Desde el día de la columna de distribución nacional en los servicios de noticias de News Link y Scripp Howard, los dos comensados durante dos años consecutivos por el periódico Media. El título de la primera columna fue "Our Man on the Ground: San Sabán primero en informar." "DAD" "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power." "2011: The Rise of Hispanic Political Power." (2011) disponible en journals@shoon.com. ©2011

Letters to the Editor

Send Mail to: Editor@shgblol.net

Undermining Texas Minorities

I have written before about the Great White Wave (stanam) inhuman actions. This wave invaders laid claims to the Native American lands by unjust and unkind actions. This wave was supposed to clear the lands of all non-white inhabitants and prepare it for white settlers only.

What the white settlers did not anticipate was the resilience and determination to stand tall by the non-white populations which were supposed to have been erased. Now, this great wave is receding and is coming back multicolored and threatens the brown, black, white citizens, especially in the South, who see the future and the showing of loss of dominance and political control. They most definitely do not like the thought of sharing no allowance anything that may change the status quo.

All over the country, state congressional actions are being undertaken to undermine non-whites from ever assuming control and from participating in governing. And Texas, especially, is no exception. The largely white-controlled Texas Congress has just recently made an important state budget cuts which will affect a large percentage of Texas minorities and will ensure continued white dominance.

What better way to keep minorities at bay than by keeping them ignorant, undereducated and unskilled? And, therefore, keeping them uneducated, disillusioned and unskilled? The state in education will cause teachers to lose their jobs and create overcrowded classrooms. These cuts will cause minority students who need the most attention from teachers to be ignored and placed at greater risk of failure. Never mind that minorities already have a high dropout rate. Furthermore, the advancement of full-day pre-kindergarten will be sacrificed. And financial aid for colleges and universities will be harsed to fund.

Add to this the budget cuts for health care. Who is it that has the greatest health care needs if it's not the poor? And, who are the poor if it is not minorities for the most part? As hard as it sounds, if poor minorities can not afford medical care and will not get decrease their numbers?

This perhaps is the most un-Christian action that the white-controlled Texas Congress has undertaken especially when it affect the elderly and children with serious illnesses. And if medical is denied, Sarah Palin's death pounds would certainly be created but this fact not be blamed by Democrats as she claimed. Governor Rick Warren of Arizona realized this fact in the lives of people, who were refused resuscitation.

Another legislator which will affect minorities is the Voter ID Law signed by Governor Perry. Why was this necessary? I have not heard of anyone fraud claim that elections officials taming away millions at voting places. Should not the Voter Registration Certificate or driver license be enough? Besides, the burden of proving voter eligibility and preventing voter fraud should rest on election officials rather than on the individual voter.

Former Ector County elections official Roberto Medina, before he settled his suit against the county, that he was fired unjustly because he was registering too many Hispanics to vote. Could this possibly be true? Should the Department of Justice investigate this allegation? Remember, where there's smoke there is a fire.

Furthermore and as far as the new redistricting plan is concerned, just now and how much against minorities will turn out to be. It has happened before and it most certainly will happen again.

We have yet to learn about the totality of the Texas Congress and the new budget cuts that are voted. Asten to look at, "Why did the Texas Legislature refuse to some of the Rainy Day Funds that could have lessened the effects of some of the cuts?" Believe it was intentional and so some extend racially motivated.

Every Memorial Day I can't help but remember how minorities have fought and died voluntarily to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today. But, I also can't help but remember that minorities have also fought in our very own country for rights to be respected throughout the Civil Rights Movement or through the courts. All of these efforts, which caused suffering one way or another should not go to vain. None of these dispersed, ignored or denied.

In order to do so, would be unwieldy turn the checked backwords. Finally, I truly believe that many of the new laws will need to be challenged in court. There is no other way to stop the implementation of such unjust laws. So I will continue to support MALDEF, NAACP, and the ACLU. I invite everyone to do the same.

Bob Motz

Odessa, Texas

A New Challenge Confronts Latino Grandparents

By Adolfo Flores, Hispanic Link News Service

Editor's Note: Maria Overta is among 2.6 million U.S. grandparents doing primary childcare for their grandchildren. Older Latinos like her face special challenges – and worries.

She is 68 and has two granddaughters. One of the two granddaughters she is raising in Alameda, Calif. Photo: Sarah Renegowitz courtesy of San Gabriel Valley News Center. ALAMEDA, Calif. – Two-year-old Richard looked like a normal toddler when he shares with his family. When he tripped on "Mama can call," he said, "Mom! I fell."

Over 31, or 51, in the little boy's mother. She is a grandmother. She's been raising Richard along with his older sister Jennifer, 10, since their mother was deported nine months ago.

It hasn't been easy for the family. They've faced evictions, poor schools, income below the poverty line and two deaths in the past 14 months. Many of their struggles are common among families headed by a grandparent, researchers say.

The majority are part of the nearly 10 percent of U.S. children living with a grandparent, according to the Pew Research Center, which analyzed 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data. It was the first year the Census inquired about housing partly or fully headed by grandparents. The report also found that a majority of the grandparents were women.

Data from the Census Bureau show that in 2008 there were 6.4 million grandparents living in households with grandchildren under age 18, and 2.6 million of them had primary responsibility for parenting their grandchildren. About a half million of those grandparents live below the poverty line.

While the numbers have more than tripled since 1970, being the sole caregiver of young children is increasingly complicated for grandparents, who face more health issues as they age. This phenomenon occurs among all races and ethnic groups, although the types of arrangements and issues vary.

A house with only a grandparent is considered a single-generation household, while one with a parent or both parents is considered a multigeneration household.

Whites, blacks, Pacific Islanders and Native American/Alaskan/Native American grandparents are more likely to live in single-generation homes than are Latino or Asian children.

Overta used to live in Latino town, but since her daughter was deported, the bulk of the responsibility for taking care of the kids falls on her.

"The problem is that for many Latinos, unless they're being lucky enough to become

middle class and have some stability in terms of income, when they take on the additional role of raising their grandchildren, it's a hardship," said Camelia Lucea, president of the National Association for Hispanic Daycare.

"Even those who are low-income do it with a lot of heart because the familia is the center," she said.

In the San Gabriel Valley and Whitaker areas where Mexican-American families moved from Los Angeles to the suburbs, families headed by grandparents were likely more stable before the recession, Lucea says, but is probably changing now.

The infrastructure for these families does not exist and is breaking down – as funding for other social programs has been cut. Lucea added.

"If you look at the middle-class and lower middle-class, I would say anything they're struggling when I talk about infrastructure," she said, "especially if the grandparent has been a grandpa."

Even if grandparents have taken care of themselves when they get to their senior years, they don't have the same energy and patience needed to raise kids, Lucea added.

Some grandparents, such as Overta, raise their grandchildren with little or no rights or recognition out of fear of being reported to the federal government. All Overta has as proof that she is responsible for the two children is a piece of paper signed by her and the children's mother, who is currently living in Tijuana.

Maria Reyes, the children's mother, was deported after having arrested several times, and Natalia's father was killed in 2008. The rest of her children are in foster families, who are not involved with raising the children.

There are two other siblings, Henry Reyes, 11, and Valeria Medina, 8, live with a maternal aunt. The family makes a point to bring the kids together every day.

"Even though they don't live together, it's important for them to know that they're still family," Overta said.

A little over five feet tall, Overta sits with her hands together as she tries to occupy as little space as possible. A smile rarely grazes her face around strangers, but it's all smiles with her grandchildren.

Every before Reyes was deported, Overta would take care of her four siblings. Their mother would disappear for up to a month and leave the children with her, she said.

Police would knock on her door and ask if her daughter was there.

"I would wait, then she'd not come back, but I would be more worried when she called the kids with her," Overta said. "I'm going to help my kids with whatever I can – we never

know what life is going to throw at us." Overta said. In this case, because her daughter is undocumented, she hopes to gain custody of the two children, but she first has to acquire legal residency. As a victim of domestic abuse who helped attorneys prosecute her abuser, she qualifies for a U-Visa for survivors of domestic abuse.

Helping Overta in this case are Mirsa Serrano and Teresa De La Torre, who run the Madison Health Start Family from a bilingual, bicultural Pasadena campus of Madison Elementary School.

"Our mission is to make sure that nothing gets in the way of the children's education," De La Torre said. "Even though Overta's situation is tough, we see that she is able to take care of her kids."

Gaining legal custody in general can be hard to achieve, said Jack Petersen, lead deputy executive director of Generations United, a Washington, D.C., nonprofit that advocates for the empowerment of young and older people's lives.

"Not only can it be costly, but sometimes they don't know where to go and there have been a number of instances where families ended up in court," Petersen said.

He said that ultimately the parent will come back, "Lena said.

Fixing Overta's immigration status is one of four issues she has to tackle. Her other plan is to get a green card. Getting the green card and looking after her kids.

When Overta stopped working at Camelia Gardens Care Center and was evicted from her Pasadena apartment six months ago, she was forced to move in with her three sons in Alameda.

She spends her days inside the home with Natalia. Her family and family help Jennifer from U.S. Navy to Name Ship for Cesar Chavez

LOS ANGELES – The U.S. Navy is building a transport vessel to be named the USSNS Cesar Chavez in honor of the labor leader and civil rights activist.

It was very grateful for this recognition of my dad, which for the family means that if we kept fighting for the rights of the most needy and demanding that they treat us Hispanics with respect there's a lot that can be achieved," Paul Chavez, son of the United Farm Workers founder, told a crowd.

"My dad served in the Navy from 1946 to 1948 in the South Pacific and died at discrimination against people of color when the Army forces him for them was very difficult. But 65 years later, the Navy is naming a ship in his memory," he said.

Chavez was born March 31, 1927, in Yuma, Arizona, and died in April 1993. The son of a family of Mexican-American farm workers who took their land in Arizona, Cesar Chavez has his parents moved to California where they all worked in the fields.

Appalled at what he saw and experienced in the fields, he joined activist Dolores Huerta in 1962 to create the UFW, an instrument with which boycott and hunger strikes were organized to pressure U.S. lawmakers to improve conditions for their overwhelmingly Hispanic workforce.

"The idea of naming a ship – (for) my dad was a proposal by the workers who make ships for the Navy at the General Dynamics NASASCA shipyard, which is located in Barrow Inon in San Diego, where most of the people are Latinos," said Paul Chavez.

"My dad was a very humble person who never in his life would have accepted an honor of this magnitude, but when Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus gave us the news we thought it was a great example of the contributions of Latinos to this nation and this debate we've had concerning immigration," he said.

The official announcement by the Navy was made to the Chavez family and UPW members in San Diego on Wednesday.

The USSNS Cesar Chavez is one of 14 new cargo vessels and will be able to transport two helicopters.

The ship, which will be launched on May 5, 2012, will be a supply ship of the Lewis-and-Clark class. This class's 219 members (683 tons) long and will be able to support a speed of 20 knots.

school. When she's not keeping a close eye on her grandson, she's dining or cooking.

The home is dark, with a bare living room. Overta is proud of the spotless kitchen. The rest of the house could use some love and care, she conceded.

Still, Overta is not isolated at the Alameda home, afraid of hearing a bus and getting lost. She depends on family and friends for rides to the store.

The only places she'll visit alone are those within the Pasadena campus of Madison Elementary School. "Even though Overta doesn't speak or write in English and is illiterate in Spanish, Overta was a mother before she could be a child. At the age of seven, her mom would have her babysit the children of other women in her rural Mexican village to work money. They never met her or Overta."

When Richard tried of kicking the ball around he grabbed his sippy cup and walked into the arms of the woman who's raising him. Grandpa or mom, it makes no difference.

Former Memorial Day, U.S. Congress, Seliger and Chairman Solomon presented Overta with their proposed congressional bill.

This map is a pre-determination of a similar and federal congressional plan, one that was constructed by the U.S. Department of Justice to address the needs of the Hispanic community. "Neither a full legal scheme more apparent than Texas and Dallas Counties," Reyes explained. "The Seliger-Solomon Plan is a ship of the memory, worthy to the 99th of Texas growth in the last decade."

An initial review of the proposed bill indicates that it is retrogressive and creates only 11 effective minority opportunity districts of 50,000 people to 11 effective districts in the current 12 member plan.

In fact, preserving only 11 effective minority opportunity districts when the state now has four additional seats to minority population growth would be retrogressive, and I have no doubt that a plan that will only 10 effective minority opportunity districts is out of the Voters Act," Reyes said.

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"A plan that splits and packs 2.1 million African American and Latino in Dallas and Tarrant counties to open up only effective voters in Congress is not just illegal, it's wrong," concluded Reyes.

State Representative Mark Trevino is serving his fourth term in the Texas House. He is a member of the Elections, Finance, Investments and Financial Services, and Redistricting Committee. Residents of District 15 are encouraged to contact Rep. Trevino at (512) 463-6076.

Map Denies Minority Communities the Opportunity to Elect the Candidate of their Choice

AUSTIN – Last week, Rep. Vessey offered the Fair Texas Plan, a congressional map that provides electoral opportunity for the Texans who carry our state (see additional congressional districts and requirements of the Texas Voting Rights Act, Texas Congress, Seliger and Chairman Solomon presented Texas with their proposed congressional bill).

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An initial review of the proposed bill indicates that it is retrogressive and creates only 11 effective minority opportunity districts of 50,000 people to 11 effective districts in the current 12 member plan.

In fact, preserving only 11 effective minority opportunity districts when the state now has four additional seats to minority population growth would be retrogressive, and I have no doubt that a plan that will only 10 effective minority opportunity districts is out of the Voters Act," Reyes said.

Reyes said that the Seliger-Solomon Plan is a ship of the memory, worthy to the 99th of Texas growth in the last decade. "An initial review of the proposed bill indicates that it is retrogressive and creates only 11 effective minority opportunity districts of 50,000 people to 11 effective districts in the current 12 member plan."

Census Bureau Reports Public School Systems Spend \$10,499 Per Pupil in 2009

Public school systems spent an average of \$10,499 per pupil in fiscal year 2009, a 2.1 percent increase over the amount spent in 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The amount spent per pupil varies among all other states, with the highest amount spent in Alaska at \$18,133 per pupil and the lowest amount spent in Mississippi at \$5,849.

These data come from Public Education Finances 2009, which provides tables on revenues, expenditures, debt, assets (and security holdings) of elementary and secondary public school systems with data for the nation, states and school districts. The tables also include more detailed data on spending such as instruction, transportation and salaries among others.

"Most children in the United States rely on public schools for their education, so it's important for people to understand how available resources are being spent within the public education system," said Lisa Blumhagen, chief of the Census Bureau's Public Schools Division. "These data provide a detailed look at how taxpayer money is being spent on education."

State and state average expenditures in per pupil spending in 2009 to 2009 were the District of Columbia (12.4 percent), Utah (10.3 percent), Minnesota (9.4 percent), North Carolina (7.4 percent) and Massachusetts (6.7 percent).

Public school systems received \$39.6 billion in funding in 2009, up 1.5 percent from the prior year. Of that amount, state governments contributed \$27.6 billion (69.7 percent), followed by revenue raised from local sources, which contributed \$28.9 billion (43.4 percent), and federal sources, which provided the remaining \$15.5 billion (39.2 percent).

Total spending by public school systems was \$604.6 billion in 2009, a 2.0 percent increase from the prior year. Total current expenditures was \$177.7 billion (45.6 percent), of which \$31.9 billion went to instruction. Total school district debt increased by 5.8 percent to \$391.1 billion in 2009. Other highlights: State and state expenditures that spent the least per pupil were Utah (\$6,386), Idaho (\$7,076), Alaska (\$7,813), Oklahoma (\$8,033) and Tennessee (\$7,871).

Instructional materials accounted for the largest category for public elementary and secondary education spending, accounting for 16.2 percent of total spending. Other categories include: Property taxes accounted for 65.2 percent of revenue from public school systems from local sources. The \$28.9 billion in funding schools received from local sources included \$227.7 billion (67.9 percent) from taxes and local government operations.

Editor

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With Eye On SB 1070, AZ Reacts to Supreme Court Ruling On Employer Sanctions Law

Supporters of tougher immigration enforcement say last Thursday's ruling by the

U.S. Supreme Court upholding Arizona's Employer Sanctions Law gives a "green light" to

states to supplement federal enforcement of immigration laws. Opponents argued the decision concerning the law that penalizes companies for knowingly hiring undocumented workers was narrow and won't set a legal precedent.

Then-governor Janet Napolitano—now the Secretary of Homeland Security—signed the Legal Arizona Workers Act (LAWA) into law in 2007. It requires businesses to use e-verify, a federal database to run checks on prospective employees to determine if they are legally authorized to work. Several federal courts upheld the law, despite a challenge from the business community in Arizona.

"This is a huge victory for America and the American worker. It is a defeat for the open-borders, profits-over-patriotism crowd. It is a death penalty for employers who continue to hire illegals and displace American workers," said Senator Russell Pearce, a Republican and main sponsor of the bill.

Republican Representative, John Kavanagh said this is also

good news for the future of SB 1070. "I think this ruling is a clear green light to states to proceed in the current course of helping the federal government," he said.

SB 1070, signed into law in March of last year by Governor Jan Brewer, makes it a crime to be in the state without documents. The law, which has inspired similar bills in other states, has been partially blocked in the federal courts, and is widely expected to be headed for review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Civil Rights attorney Daniel Ortega, said the high court's LAWA ruling on a 5-3 vote speaks only in a limited way to what states can do to regulate the businesses licenses of companies that hire undocumented labor. Ortega argues the Supreme Court ruled in a very narrow way to say that the Arizona state law wasn't in conflict with the priorities of the federal government.

He said if anything, the ruling strengthens the argument against SB 1070, that it is an example of the state overstepping into an area under federal

jurisdiction.

Governor Brewer, in a statement, came to a very different conclusion.

"In light of today's decision, I am more adamant than ever that states do have a complementary role in enforcing federal immigration laws, despite the Obama Administration's opposition at every turn."

Since LAWA took effect in 2008, only a handful of businesses have been sanctioned for violating the law. The impact has been mostly felt by undocumented workers who have been detained in worksite raids by Maricopa County sheriff's deputies under the direction of Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Over 300 workers have been arrested during the past three years.

Todd Landfried a spokesperson for Arizona Employers for Immigration Reform (AZEIR), a group representing over 200 businesses that were plaintiffs in the lawsuit challenging the law, said the ruling doesn't change the status quo for businesses.

"Quiet frankly the ruling wasn't unexpected, we already been living under this, so

there's no significant change that the business community expects. This points out that even bad laws can be constitutional."

Lydia Guzmán, the president of Respect/Respecto a local organization that monitors violation of civil and human rights in the state said there have been numerous problems with the law that have gone beyond the separation of immigrant families.

"Since January 2008, we've received several phone calls from people in the community that were denied an opportunity to work, people that are U.S. citizens or legal residents," said Guzmán.

She attributes this problem to glitches in the e-verify database in instances when people change their name or get married, and argues that once the problem occurs there's a lengthy process to correct errors.

Recently, a federal judge ruled against Arpaio's office for wrongly arresting a citizen and his U.S. resident father in a raid targeting undocumented workers.



Democratic registration has dipped in key states as Obama re-election campaign gets under way

In 2008, Barack Obama tapped into a record of nearly 15 million voters who cast ballots for the first time, a surge in registration that may be difficult to replicate next year.

Recent voter registration data show that Democrats have lost ground in key states that Obama carried in 2008, an early warning siren for the president's re-election campaign. While Republican numbers have also dipped in some states, the drop in the Democrats' ranks highlights the importance of the Obama campaign's volunteer base and the challenge they could

have of registering new voters. "When you look back at 2008 there has to be a recognition that it was a historic election, a historic candidate, a historic moment in time and potentially some type of a ceiling — I'm not sure there is ever a hard ceiling — in terms of voter registration," said Democratic strategist Chris Lehane. He said the political map in 2012 will likely look more like it did going into the close contests of 2000 and 2004, which hinged on swing states like Florida and Ohio, respectively, than in 2008, when Obama won traditionally

Republican states like Indiana and North Carolina.

Obama will have to re-ignite the passions of some Democrats who had high hopes going into his presidency and may be ambivalent about him now. Several states with Republican governors have tried to reduce the number of early voting days and required photo IDs, a move that Democrats say will disenfranchise poor and minority voters. Polls have shown some political independents drifting away from Obama since 2008, meaning Democrats need to register and turn out more

Hispanic and black voters, college students and women.

While Democratic registrations ballooned prior to the 2008 election, the numbers have declined in several important states, including:

— Florida: Democrats added more than 600,000 registered voters between 2006 and 2008, giving Obama about 4.8 million registered Democrats to help his cause. Registered Democrats now number 4.6 million in the Sunshine State. Republican registrations have slipped from 4.1 million in 2008 to about 4.05

million in mid-March, the most recent data available. Nearly 2.6 million voters in Florida are unaffiliated.

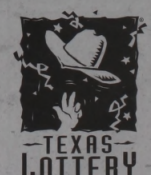
— Pennsylvania: Democrats maintain a 1.5 million voter advantage in registrations over Republicans, but their numbers have dwindled since Obama's election. There were 4.15 million registered Democrats through mid-May, compared with about 4.48 million in 2008. Democrats added about a half-million voters to their rolls in the two years prior to the 2008 election. Republicans currently have more than 3 mil-

lion registered voters, compared with 3.2 million in 2008. About 500,000 Pennsylvania voters are unaffiliated.

— Iowa: Republicans have gained ground in the state that launched Obama's presidential bid. GOP registrations increased from about 625,000 voters in 2008 to nearly 640,000 in early May. Democrats, meanwhile, have fallen from about 736,000 voters in 2008 to about 687,000 in May. Nonpartisan voters remain the largest bloc in the Hawkeye State, representing more than 762,000 voters.

¿MÁS GRANDE? IMPOSIBLE.

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¿Que Pasa?

SLATON OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE GARAGE SALE

Saturday, June 11, 7a.m. - 2 p.m., 705 South 4th. To rent a booth, call Dolores (806) 445-5385 or church office 828-5108. Cost is \$25.00. Come sell your items. The booths will be under the shade at the Gazebo.

REGISTER FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

For the first time in a number of years, Lubbock's four municipal pools will be offering swimming lessons for area children! All sessions consist of eight 45-minute lessons and cost \$35 per session. For our youngest swimmers we have Beginner Shrimps for preschool children ages 3-5 years old. Youth ages 6-12 have two levels available. Level I (Giuppies) is for youth with little or no water experience, and Level II (Minnows) is for intermediate swimmers. For more information or to register for lessons call the Parks and Recreation Office at 775-2673. The Parks and Recreation Office is located at 1010 9th Street (two blocks east of Mahon Library) and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lubbock's four municipal pools include Clapp Pool, 46th Street and Avenue U; Mae Simmons Pool, 24th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.; Maxey Pool, 4007 30th Street, and Montelongo Pool, 3200 Bates Street.

Information on all of our swimming lessons plus over 600 other summer activities is available on our 28-page Recreation and Leisure Services Summer Activity Guide, which can be viewed and downloaded online at www.playlubbock.com. To have a free copy mailed to you, call 775-2685.

"IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?"

Why? Court Appointed Special Advocates® (CASA) serve abused and neglected children in Lubbock County. However, at the end of April 188 children are still in need of a CASA volunteer to serve as an advocate for them in court. CASA seeks dedicated volunteers to support and serve as an independent voice for abused and neglected children. CASA volunteers serve as a fact-finder and advocate for local foster children in need and report their findings back to the judge. CASA volunteers spend an average of 5 to 10 hours per month over an 18 month period dedicated to helping abused and neglected children find a safe and permanent home. Commitment to the program includes a visit with the child at least once per month, reviewing the child's records, interviewing pertinent people and serving as an advocate to help prepare them for a better life after foster care. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old, participate in a 30-hour initial volunteer training program which includes classroom, on-line and hands-on components, and must pass criminal background checks and a pre-screening process. Call Today - new volunteer training begins June 7 in Lubbock!

SCIENCE: IT'S A GIRL THING

Texas Tech's IDEAL open registration for academic enrichment summer camp. Registration is underway for the academic enrichment program Science: It's a Girl Thing (SIGT). The Texas Tech University residential summer camp is scheduled for June 20-23 for girls entering grades 5 and 6 and July 18-21 for girls entering grades 7-11.

The program addresses the shortage and need for women scientists, provides an overview of an array of scientific fields and introduces girls to a university experience. The girls live on campus for four days and receive a first-class introduction to science and careers in science. The faculty comprises public school educators, Texas Tech faculty and representatives from NASA.

The Institute for the Development and Enrichment for Advanced Learners (IDEAL), a department within the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, is a non-profit organization. Formed in 1984, the institute has introduced thousands of students in grades K-11 to the university through a variety of on-campus academic enrichment programs.

For a program brochure or more information, contact IDEAL at (806) 742-2420 or email ideal.mail@ttu.edu. You may also find information and brochures online at www.ideal.ttu.edu.

WATER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Water restrictions went into effect April 1st in order to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of the day. The City continues to allow watering between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Water use between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. is restricted in order to minimize evaporation. The restrictions are part of the City's irrigation ordinance, which applies from April 1st to September 30th each year, and are designed to minimize water lost to evaporation during the warmer and windier times of day.

Exceptions are allowed for newly planted grass or landscaping, soaker hoses, and watering by hand.

The City continues to allow watering two days per week with up to one and a half inches of water for each area of the yard. Citizens can help stop the waste of water by eliminating significant runoff while watering lawns and gardens.

To report violations, please call the Water Hotline at 775-3952.

Hispanics Now the Majority in 28 Major U.S. Cities

Hispanics now make up the majority of the population in 28 U.S. cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants, most of them located in California, Texas, Florida and New Jersey.

That was revealed Tuesday by statisticians of the Census Bureau during a telephonic press conference that analyzed the latest demographic data for the Latino population, which in the last decade grew four times more than the country's population as a whole.

Though the number of Hispanics has increased nationwide since the year 2000, more than half remain concentrated in three states: California with 27.9 percent, Texas with 18.7 percent, and Florida with 8.4 percent.

In East Los Angeles, 97 percent of the population is Latino, a percentage surpassed only by Puerto Rico, where 99 percent of citizens are Hispanic.

Latinos currently represent 70 percent or more of the population in 13 U.S. cities including Santa Ana, Salinas, Oxnard and Pomona in California; Laredo, Brownsville, McAllen and El Paso in Texas; and Miami.

The Census Bureau uses the terms "Latino" and "Hispanic" interchangeably to denote

those citizens residing in the United States who define themselves as "of Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish" origin.

Demographics of the Hispanic population are consequently based on the roots people identify as their own and not on their place of birth. The Census does not ask about the immigration status of residents nor about other ethnic matters such as how well the person speaks English.

The information provided by the Census on Hispanics is key both for legislative redistricting and for deciding on the distribution of resources and services to each community based on its makeup and needs.

The number of Hispanics in the United States increased 43 percent between 2000 and 2010, a growth rate more than

four times that of the overall population.

Latinos made up 15.2 million of the 27.3 million new residents the United States gained over the decade.

Numbering 31.8 million, Mexicans are by far the biggest national group within the U.S. Hispanic population, accounting for 63 percent nationwide and constituting the majority of Latinos in 40 of the 50 states.

Next come the 4.6 million from Puerto Rico, who are U.S. citizens by birth, followed by the 1.8 million people of Cuban origin.

Three other Hispanic national groups reached or surpassed the 1 million mark between 2000 and 2010: Salvadorans 1.6 million; Dominicans, 1.4 million; and Guatemalans, 1 million.

BeyondFaith Homocare & Rehab is now accepting applications for FT RN Case Managers. Experience preferred.

Competitive Salary, Great benefits offered, sign on bonus available. Spanish Speaking preferred but not required. Please fax resume to 806-798-2443 or email to tjobe@beyondfaithhomocare.com.

Civic Lubbock, Inc. Announces 2011 West Texas Walk of Fame Inductees

The Civic Lubbock, Inc. Board announces twelve inductees into the newly constructed and relocated West Texas Walk of Fame.

The honorees are SuzanneAKER, George Ashburn, Cecil Caldwell, Don Caldwell, John Gillas, Mary Gillas, John Hartin, Jane Prince Jones, Pete Morales, Los Premiers, C.B. "Stub" Stubblefield, and Ed Wilkes. The induction ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at the site of the Buddy Holly Statue located in the Buddy and Maria Elena Holly Plaza on the corner of 19th Street and Crickets Avenue.

The Walk of Fame's new home inspired the Directors to develop the mission of the Walk of Fame to more accurately represent the devotion of our West Texas citizens to the arts. "The West Texas Walk of Fame was established to honor those individuals who have devoted a significant part of their lives to the development and/or gained recognition in the promotion or production of arts, music and/or entertainment, and who have an affiliation to Lubbock and the West Texas Area." In honor of this new direction, the twelve West Texas Terrace Inductees will join the West Texas Walk of Fame!

Suzanne Aker - 2002
Artist, Choreographer, Teacher
Founder of Ballet Lubbock

George Ashburn - 1997

Promoter, Musician
"Meadow Musical"
Cecil Caldwell - 1996

Musician:
Promoter, Producer
"Fiddler"

Don Caldwell - 1998
Promoter, Producer/
Engineer

"Six Man"
John Gillas - 2008
Singer and Musical
Theater Director

Mary Gillas - 2008
Singer and Voice
Teacher

John Hartin - 1998
Promoter of Country
Music
Education

Jane Prince Jones - 1999
Actress, Theatrical
Promoter/Director

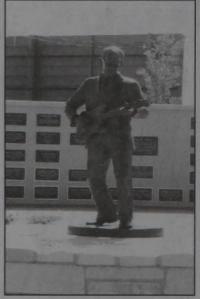
Pete Morales - 2002
Accordianist, Mentor, Musician
"Amigos de Todos"

Los Premiers - 1997
"Pioneers of Chikano Music"

C.B. "Stub" Stubblefield - 1996
Promoter & Producer
"Barbecue Man"

Ed Wilkes - 1999
Radio Personality "Big Ed"

West Texas Walk of Fame
In the late 70s, Larry Corbin, Jerry Coleman, and Waylon Jennings



initiated the idea of an award for famous artists and musicians from the West Texas region. In 1983, Civic Lubbock, Inc. began their tenure as the custodians of the "Walk of Fame" with the induction of Mae Davis. "The West Texas Walk of Fame was established to honor those individuals who have devoted a significant part of their lives to the development and/or gained recognition in the promotion or production of arts, music and/or entertainment, and who have an affiliation to Lubbock and the West Texas Area."



This photo was taken at the unveiling of the Buddy Holly Statue at its new home.

Olga Agüero (widow of Bidal Agüero who was the founder of the 'Los Premiers' and) and Maria Holly (widow of Buddy Holly) pose in front to the Los Premiers plaque.

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Bozeman	Harwell	Murfee	Rush	Wilson, R.
Brown	Honey	Overton	Smith	Wolffarth
Dupre	Jackson	Parkway	Waters	Wright

- ★ Tuition waivers available for families that live inside LISD boundaries. /

★ Head Start, bilingual and special need students are encouraged to apply. / Se invita a los estudiantes de Head Start, bilingües o con discapacidades a que se inscriban al programa.

La inscripción en línea en
www.SOAR.LubbockISD.org
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or call 766-1600 (hablamos español).

In search for Almodóvar, actress Inma Heredia finds her own light

The woman was on the verge of her own nervous breakdown. At every audition, Inma

crowds that include Spanish expats and the nuns from the convent next door. But Here-

diately assume you don't know English, that you are ignorant. Though she has a master's de-



Heredia, whose Spanish accent is as colorful as the French "Pink Temptation" lipstick she wears on stage, was told that she was perfect - for a Pedro Almodóvar film - but not for whatever it was that was being cast.

So she squeezed into a ruffled pink dress, slipped a gypsy flower to her hair and put on a show of her own, "My Audition for Almodóvar."

The one-woman show chronicles the chorus of rejection endured by a Spanish actress from Sevilla, also named Inma Heredia, with a set of well-known flamenco songs.

Part Spanish-language history lesson, part cabaret and part rant on the "cruz" - as in Penélope Cruz - she must bear, the show was created by TV writer and novelist Alberto Ferreras. At rehearsals, Heredia pitched her own ideas, earning her a co-writing credit.

"My Audition" premiered at Teatro IATI last July. After two sold-out performances, Heredia didn't wait for producers to serenade her with proposals.

"Your dreams," she says, "you make them happen." The show found a home at Centro Español, performing weekly last fall in the sangria-red theater space above La Nacional Spanish restaurant at 239 W. 14th St. Since January, it has been playing monthly to

dia's still waiting for that one VIP.

"One day, the real Mr. Almodóvar will come to the show and he'll discover me for real," she says. Until then, she continues to pick a member of the crowd to play him from the audience.

This Sunday and on June 12, "My Audition for Almodóvar" will play at Centro as part of TeatroStageFest, the fifth annual Latino theater festival that opens Saturday with "They Call Me La Lurpe," starring Lauren Vélez.

The two-week fest presents seven New York plays that have had successful recent runs, one premiere and two international shows - "Quijote," a puppetry production from Spain, and from Chile, Mameña Infante's "What's He Building in There?" Heredia, who lives in Rego Park, Queens, earned a Best Actress in a Musical award this year from the New York Latin ACE Awards.

No, she hasn't quit her day job, teaching English as a second language to adults. In fact, the show's message of embracing who's who was informed by her experience with her students.

"Many of them are doctors, engineers. They have a lot to offer," Heredia says. "But y'know how it is. Other people hear an accent and they imme-

gree in linguistics and English literature. Heredia has wanted to be an actress since age 3.

Wearing her mother's fur coat and pretending to smoke a cigarette, she imitated legendary actress Carmen Maura as she appeared in coffee commercials in her native Spain.

"Ohhh, tacita, tacita," Heredia recites the jingle. "And then a big car comes out that says, 'If you buy this coffee, it's so cheap you're gonna get a big Mercedes.'" Maybe you had to be a toddler living in Spain to get the full effect.

Years later, Heredia got to meet her idol at the New York premier of "Volver," approaching Maura while everyone else crowded around Penélope Cruz. But Heredia's biggest chance encounter occurred in 2005 on a street in Madrid.

She had just dropped off her head shot and resumed at Almodóvar's production company, when, she recalls, "I was walking with my mother - She's like a talisman. My mother brings good luck. Always - And she says to me, 'Look, that's Pedro Almodóvar.'"

Finally, Here he was. The one director who could make her a star. "He was very polite," Heredia says. "But, y'know, he didn't give me a call. It doesn't matter. I kept on going. I kept on."

El 'Chavo del Ocho' expande marca a EEUU

Roberto Gómez Bolaños, creador del "Chavo del Ocho", del "Chapulin Colorado", y de sus respectivos personajes, está dando mucho de qué hablar.

Lo más reciente es que parece quiere traer una obra teatral de su autoría a Broadway. Lo último es que luego abrir su cuenta en Twitter a sus 82 años de edad, consiguió en dos días más de 300 mil seguidores.

Además de estos acontecimientos, uno de los secretos mejor guardados que tiene el comediante y escritor mexicano es expandir su marca en Estados Unidos, a través de una gira de teatro con los personajes del "Chavo del Ocho", titulada "El Chavotón" e interpretada por actores que utilizan máscaras, muy al estilo a la gira que ya se ha presentado en México en recientes meses.

Una fuente anónima expresó en exclusiva a este rotativo que Chespirito, Florida Meza y los managers del icono mexicano, piensan traer "El Chavotón" a Estados Unidos, y que la misma Straladrará por varias ciudades del país, incluyendo Nueva York, Los Angeles y Chicago.

Según la fuente, la gira tendrá lugar a finales del año 2011. "La negociación ya está en camino, es un hecho de que la gira del Chavo

Por lo pronto, los productores de la marca de Chespirito también pretenden expandir la imagen del icono universal a una nueva generación de latinos que viven en Estados Unidos, en su mayoría de origen mexicano.

De ser así este proyecto completaría una transmisión diaria del programa televisivo original creado en la década de los 70, y que se transmite en la actualidad por Telefutura durante las tardes.

Según varios diarios mexicanos, Roberto Gómez Bolaños ha estado en su casa en Cancún, descansando junto a su esposa Florida Meza, que también funge como productora. En recientes semanas, Meza también confirmó a la prensa mexicana su interés de llevar a Broadway la obra escrita por Gómez Bolaños, "La Reina Madre".

En cuanto a "El Chavotón", el plan de mercadeo ya está en línea la que integra actores que interpretarán a los personajes del vecindario, usando máscaras y doblaje de voz de personas que utilizaron en la producción de la cinta animada del show que se lleva a la pantalla grande y que ya fue distribuida en México.



Regresa Alejandra Guzmán a la actuación

Alejandra Guzmán se encuenra lista para comenzar a grabar el próximo lunes sus primeras escenas en "Una familia con suerte", telenovela de Juan Osorio, que será producida por Salma Hayek en Estados Unidos.

En declaraciones a la prensa, Osorio manifestó su gusto al respecto, y señaló que Alejandra Guzmán está muy entusiasmada por este regreso al terreno de la actuación, donde además también tendrá la oportunidad de cantar. "Está contenta y con muchos ánimos", dijo.

"Habrá muchas sorpresas, pues Ale, no le sola a la historia, sino con alguien muy querido también", indicó. "El jueves tendremos un ensayo en mi oficina y el lunes comenzamos las grabaciones".

preciso el productor, quien aseguró que Guzmán aportará mucho a la telenovela, aunque

Azcapotzalco, Álvaro Obregón y Cuauhtémoc está presente.

Por otra parte, señaló que le da gusto que la telenovela tenga éxito y que gracias a que ha traspasado las fronteras la versión mexicana, "Una familia con suerte" va a ser producida por la mexicana Salma Hayek para Estados Unidos.



no quiso dar detalles de en cuántos capítulos aproximadamente estará.

Lo que sí confirmó es que la intérprete estará participando en la campaña contra la obesidad y la diabetes que realiza la historia, pero descartó que en la gira musical que realizará el elenco a partir del 16 junio en las delegaciones Iztapalapa,

"Me da gusto, es una gran historia y si se rodea de un buen elenco tendrá grandes resultados", expresó el productor.

Referente a los cambios en el melodrama, el productor indicó que con la salida de Jorge "El Burro" Van Rankin, el actor Gustavo Manguia se sumó al elenco.

Questions? Comments? Send us an email. We want to hear from you!

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The CSP and further information can be obtained by accessing the **Electronic State Business Daily** (<http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us>) **NIGP Class, Item No. 909-16**

This project will construct new Private Suites, Club Space, press box and elevator, and individual seating and shading over the center section of the grandstands. For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Debbie J. Cox. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-1169 or e-mail: debbie.cox@ttu.edu.

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Medication Shortages Becoming A Growing Concern

Shortages of medications for illnesses from cancer to cystitis fibrosis to cardiac arrest have hospitals scrambling for substitutes to avoid patient harm, reports the Associated Press (AP).

"It's just a matter of time now before we call for a drug that we need to save a patient's life and we find out there isn't any," Dr. Eric Lavonas of the American College of Emergency Physicians said in a statement.

The number of medications in short supply has tripled over the past five years, to a record 211 medications last year. According to the University of Utah's Drug Information Services, another 89 drug shortages have occurred in the first three

months of 2011.

Injectable medications used by medical centers hold the majority of the shortages.

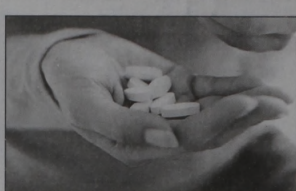
Some of the causes for the shortages include recalls of contaminated vials, trouble importing raw ingredients, trouble in demand and a temporary shift down for quality upgrades.

Some experts said price-branded-name drugs are in short supply. The Food and Drug Administration agrees that the overarching problem is that fewer and fewer manufacturers produce these older drugs.

Valerie Jensen, who leads FDA's shortage office, said if one company has trouble, then there are few others able to ramp up their own production to fill the gap.

The nonprofit Institute for Safe Medication Practices said last fall that two it had two reports of

hospital across the country is working to make sure those things don't happen, but short-



people who died from the wrong dose of a substitute painkiller during a morphine shortage.

"Every pharmacist in every

ages get the perfect storm for a medication error to happen," University of Utah pharmacist Erin Fox, who oversees the

shortage-tracking program, said in a statement.

The FDA has asked some foreign companies to temporarily ship their own versions of some scarce drugs to the U.S.

Hospira Inc., the largest maker of injectable drugs, told AP that it is increasing production capacity and working with the FDA "to address shortage situations as quickly as possible and to help prevent recurrence."

However, the Generic Pharmaceutical Association said some shortages are beyond industry control, such as FDA inspections or stockpiling that can exacerbate a shortage.

"Drug shortages of any kind are a complex problem that require broad-based solutions

from all stakeholders," adds the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, a fellow trade group.

There is a legislation pending that would require manufacturers to give FDA advance notice of problems like manufacturing delays that might trigger a shortage.

The FDA cannot force a company to make a drug, but was able to prevent 38 close calls from turning into shortages last year by speeding approval of manufacturing changes.

"No patient's life should have to be at risk when there is a drug somewhere" that could be used, Senator Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., who introduced the bill, told AP.

Buscan avances en educación para hispanos

Con desafíos pendientes, como lograr avances que beneficien a los latinos en la reautorización de la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria, la Casa Blanca presentará ayer, 15 nuevos miembros de la "Comisión Asesora del Presidente para la Excelencia Educativa de los Hispanos".

Actualmente, Estados Unidos cuenta con 17.1 millones de latinos menores de 17 años. Un 23% de este segmento a nivel nacional. De ellos 12.4 millones asisten a escuelas primarias, intermedias y secundarias.

Sin embargo, la cantidad no se traduce en calidad. De acuerdo al reporte "Cómo mejorar la educación de los latinos en Estados Unidos", difundido

recientemente por el Departamento de Educación, cerca de la mitad de los estudiantes hispanos logra graduarse del duodécimo grado. Más aún, sólo un 13% de los hispanos poseen un título universitario. Juan Sepúlveda, director de la Iniciativa de la Casa Blanca sobre la Excelencia Educativa de los Hispanos, aseguró que ya es hora de "dejar de trabajar en reportes y poner manos a la obra".

Durante la primera reunión estratégica con los nuevos miembros de la comisión, se espera analizar las áreas críticas e identificar los cambios más importantes a nivel de política pública.

El objetivo primordial de la

iniciativa es "identificar, ayudar a organizar y fortalecer las colaboraciones entre los sectores público y privados, dirigidas a reformar la educación en la comunidad y en el espacio de acción se está desarrollando en 33 comunidades y 13 estados. Entre ellos figuran nueve ciudades de California: Inland Empire, Long Beach, Santa Ana, Los Ángeles, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno y San José, además de urbes con alta densidad como Nueva York y Houston.

"Estoy muy honrada de estar aquí. Creo que es muy importante enfocarse en los estudiantes que están aprendiendo inglés y también ver qué podemos hacer con la reautorización de Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria, porque ahora perjudica, más que ayuda a los latinos", explicó a La Opinión la nueva comisionada y profesora de postgrado en la Universidad de California, Patricia Gándara.

El movimiento en el Congreso en torno a esta legislación ha estado prácticamente congelado. Recientemente el Presidente del Comité sobre Trabajo y Educación de la Cámara Baja, John Kline (R-MN) indicó su intención de avanzar a través de proyectos de ley pequeños, en lugar de una reforma integral. El primero de ellos, presentado este mes, propuso eliminar 43 programas que no han recibido fondos o

que fueron considerados inapropiados.

"Aunque sea a través de medidas pequeñas, queremos mejor lenguaje legislativo en cuanto a los exámenes que rinden los estudiantes que todavía no hablan inglés. Hay que monitorear a los estudiantes una vez que hayan salido de la categoría de ELL (English Learners)", agregó Gándara.

La nueva comisionada y ex superintendente de la Oficina de Educación del Condado de Los Ángeles, Darline Robles, se mantiene optimista. "Tengo esperanza que consigamos avanzar en la reautorización. Trabajaré de manera bipartidista, como ocurrió con el Presi-

dente Bush. Incluso aunque tome tiempo, debemos asegurarnos de cumplir de la mejor manera posible las necesidades de los estudiantes", dijo.

La Comisión Asesora del Presidente para la Excelencia Educativa de los Hispanos está integrada por Alicia Abella; César Conde; Sylvia Acevedo; Manny Sánchez; Daniel J. Cardinale; Alfredo J. Artilles; Francisco G. Cigarrota; Luis Ricardo Frago; JoAnn Gama; Patricia Gándara; María Neira; Lisette Nieves; Darline P. Robles; Ricardo Romo y Marta Tienda. Se espera que en un futuro cercano se nombren nuevos comisionados y se realice otra reunión, probablemente en septiembre.

Summer Is an Ideal Time to Volunteer

Summer camps and summer school are not the only stimulating activities young people can do to have a productive summer. Another attractive option is to do

choose, it's relatively easy to join a group of people working for a good cause.

Below you'll find some of the resources available, whether you

gov is a great place to start your search. This is a website created by the federal government as part of a nationwide initiative that seeks to promote community service.

- Search for volunteer opportunities by topic of interest and geographical area
- Learn about volunteer work available in your community
- Get contact information for organizations seeking volunteers
- Share your experience with others

How to Create Your Own Volunteer Project

You can also create your own volunteer project tailored to the needs of your community. This might be a good opportunity for parents and children to share a positive and stimulating activity.

These toolkits can help you create a community campaign such as a food bank. The guides offer step-by-step instructions on how to build your own community project.

- Organize a book drive for low-income students who lack age-appropriate books
- Start a walking team for senior citizens

• Make your home energy efficient and get your neighbors to do the same

If you start your own project, you can also use Serve.gov to promote your initiative and to look for volunteers.

Long-Term Volunteer Work For some, volunteering is a commitment that goes beyond the summer. There are federal

programs that offer volunteer work both in the United States as well as in foreign countries:

- AmeriCorps is a network of domestic volunteer programs that features full-time volunteer work in different parts of the country.
- Here you'll find opportunities in the areas of urban and rural development, infrastructure improvement and emergency assistance

• Peace Corps offers full-time volunteer work in other countries for periods of about 27 months. Volunteers get to work in different areas of interest and in several parts of the world

USA.gov and GobiernoUSA.gov are the U.S. Government's official web portals in English and Spanish, and part of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).



volunteer work. There's no shortage of opportunities nationwide to do charitable work, from food banks and clothing drives, to community emergency preparedness and health events. No matter what you

are looking to join a charitable group, create your own volunteer project or participate in long-term volunteer work.

How to Become a Volunteer There are plenty of opportunities to do volunteer work, and Serve.

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