

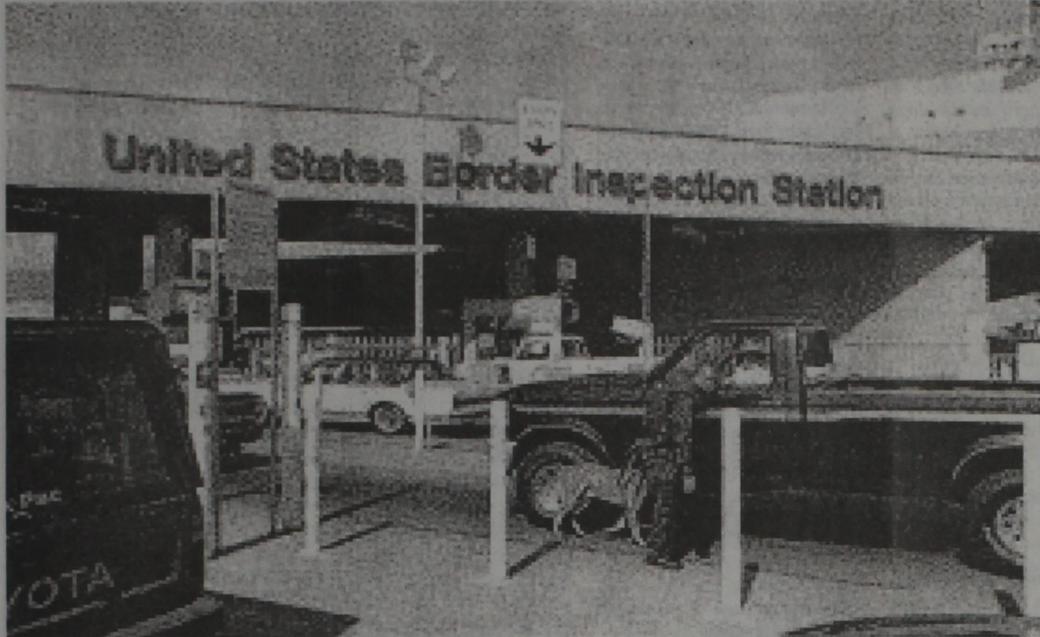
# el Esalador

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## Bush Guestworker Program Going Nowhere



Three months after President George W. Bush outlined a set of major immigration reforms, immigration activists say they have serious doubts about any legislation moving forward this election year.

The president himself has made no visible attempts to push a bill on the proposal.

"When this administration wants to get something done, they do more than lay out principles," National Council of La Raza vice president Cecilia Muñoz says flatly.

According to John Wahala, research associate with the Center for Immigration Studies, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank seeking immigration curbs, most immigration experts find the prospect of the proposal becoming law "slim to none" this congressional session.

The Republican Party is divided on the issue, and the Democrats don't like the proposal either, Wahala emphasizes.

Under Bush's plan, which he outlined Jan. 7, workers abroad and those living without documentation in the United States could apply to fill U.S. jobs. Legal status would be extended to workers for three years and could be renewable, although this critical element isn't clearly defined.

The proposal came under fire from Latino and immigrant communities, who claimed they were never consulted. They expressed fears that it would replicate the flawed bracero program of World War II, riddled with workers' rights violations and abuses. Also bothersome is the fact that after three years, the administration would have identifications of the workers who signed up.

In the first national poll on Latino reaction to the proposal, released earlier this year, opposition grew dramatically among the undocumented once they were told that most of those in the proposed guestworker program would have to return to their home countries. Before receiving this information, 19 percent opposed the proposal. After this was explained, opposition swelled to 50 percent.

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## Programa de Trabajadores Invitados de Bush No Va Para Ningun Lado

Por Fresia Rodriguez Cadavid

Tres meses después de que el Presidente George W. Bush esbozó una serie de grandes reformas de inmigración, los activistas de inmigración manifestaron que tienen serias dudas de que alguna legislación se apruebe en este año electoral. El presidente mismo ni siquiera ha hecho algún movimiento visible para forzar

Bajo el plan de Bush, el cual esbozó el 7 de enero, los trabajadores y los que viven sin documentación en Estados Unidos pueden solicitar empleos en Estados Unidos. A estos trabajadores se les concedería un estado legal extendido por tres años que luego podría ser renovado, aunque este elemento crítico no ha sido específicamente definido.

La propuesta ha estado bajo fuerte escrutinio de parte de las comunidades inmigrantes y latinas, quienes reclamaron que nunca fueron consultadas. Ellos expresaron sus temores de que esta propuesta sería una réplica del malogrado programa bracero durante la segunda Guerra mundial, que estuvo plagado de abusos y



un proyecto de ley sobre la propuesta. Cecilia Muñoz, vicepresidenta del Concilio Nacional de La Raza dice abiertamente, "cuando esta administración quiere completar algo, ellos hacen mucho más que meramente esbozar ideas."

Según John Wahala, un investigador asociado para el Centro de Estudios de Inmigración, un centro de investigación y análisis sobre asuntos de inmigración con base en Washington D.C., la mayoría de los expertos en inmigración sostienen que las probabilidades de que la propuesta se convierta en ley durante esta sesión congressional es de "casi ninguna a cero."

El partido republicano se mantiene dividido sobre el asunto y a los demócratas tampoco les satisface la propuesta, afirma Wahala.

violaciones contra los derechos de los trabajadores. También molesta el hecho de que después de tres años, la administración tendrá identificaciones de los trabajadores que firmaron.

En la primera encuesta nacional sobre la reacción de los latinos a la propuesta, que se publicó anteriormente este año, la oposición creció dramáticamente entre los indocumentados una vez se les explicaba que la mayoría de los participantes de la propuesta de trabajadores invitados tenían que regresar a sus países natales. Antes de recibir esta información, el 19 por ciento se oponía a la propuesta. Después de la explicación, la oposición saltó a un 50 por ciento.

(Continúa en la Pagina 5)

## Why Kerry May Choose a Latino VP

By Pilar Marrero

He's the popular Democratic governor of a southwestern state, with the unlikely advantage of being an experienced international diplomat. He was born in California, but spent his childhood in Mexico City. He speaks real Spanish - not the spanglish kind - and has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize. He's a political moderate with charisma and charm.



Bill Richardson

Those are some of the reasons why New Mexico governor, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, former congressman and former Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson Lopez is on everyone's short list as a potential vice presidential nominee to accompany Sen. John Kerry on his bid for the White House.

Though close to 60 people have been mentioned as possible running mates, Richardson is no doubt on Kerry's short list, too.

It's not the first time Richardson has been this close to the vice presidency. In 2000, he made no secret of his ambition to share the ticket with Al Gore, but was quickly dropped from contention after nuclear secrets were stolen from the Los Alamos National Laboratory and later found behind a copy machine. Richardson wasn't exactly to blame for the security lapses, which over decades had become legendary within the Department of Energy, but because he was at the helm he was deemed responsible.

Republicans in Congress, obviously nervous at the prospect of Richardson on the ticket, made a huge deal of the incident. This time, however, the issue has likely lost its ability to neutralize the governor. Democrats have already given Richardson a prominent position in this election cycle, as chairman of the Democratic National Convention that will nominate Kerry in Boston at the end of July. He heads Moving America Forward, a political committee aimed at registering Latinos in Arizona, Florida, New Mexico and Nevada.

Those states are precisely why Richardson is such an attractive choice for the VP spot: As the South goes increasingly Republican, Democratic strategy could shift to courting the Latino vote in the battleground states of the Southwest and even in Florida, where the non-Cuban, Latino Democratic vote is growing fast.

There are other interesting potential VPs on Kerry's short list, such as Sen. John Edwards, the smart, attractive, populist campaigner who gave Kerry a run for his money in the presidential primary. But if the question is, "Can you carry your state and help carry other states outside of the nominee's reach?" then many experts say Richardson is the better choice. No one knows for sure if Edwards or anyone else can help Kerry win anywhere in the South.

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## Border surveillance in Arizona to divert immigration to Texas

Dallas, Texa., U.S.A., March 30, 2004 (Notimex) - Border Patrol Agents and some U.S. legislators warned that reinforcing border surveillance in Arizona could easily cause illegal immigration to divert towards new routes through Texas.

"Arizona will be put under pressure and soon we'll see them crossing through places in Texas, like Del Rio and Laredo," warned Rich Pierce, executive vice-president for the Border Patrol National Council, which represents the corporation's 10 thousand agents.

Officials for the Homeland Department announced their Arizona Border Control Initiative on March 16, saying 200 additional agents will be deployed to the Border Patrol and Border Services in the Tucson sector.

The project, which will increase to two thousand the number of agents in the area, will also add 60 more agents to the desert search and rescue missions.

In addition, four helicopters, a million dollars in surveillance technology, including ground sensors and for the first time, unmanned planes that will fly over the border to detect crossing by undocumented immigrants by means of sophisticated television cameras.

With increased surveillance in Arizona, "doubtless traffic patterns will target other potentially soft areas such as Del Rio and Laredo," warned democrat Silvestre Reyes, federal representative.

In statements to the press, Reyes said the Homeland Security Department needs to foresee these changes in order to assure that agencies are allotted the

resources needed to carry out their functions.

The legislator, who served 24 years on the Border Patrol reaching the corporation's leadership in the El Paso area, was the first to design a strategy to block off illegal immigration crossing at an area of the border when he set up Operation Hold the Line in 1993.

As a result of Operation Hold the Line in El Paso and of another similar one - Operation Gatekeeper - launched in San Diego just one year later, crossing of undocumented persons was diverted to areas on the Arizona border.

The effect could now be the opposite, warned Pierce. Spots on the Texas border, east of El Paso and west of Brownsville could be the new crossing points for illegal immigrants he pointed out.

Officials for the Homeland Security Department said that on this occasion the Border Control Project in Arizona will include plans for dismantling human smuggling organizations and reduce violence in border communities.

"We expect to bring about a general reduction in the flow not only divert people to another point," said Roger Maier, spokesperson for the Office of Immigration and Border Security.

"If patterns indicate this is happening, people end up diverted to other points, then we will have to address that issue as soon as possible," said Maier, "since that is definitely not the desired result," he added.

Currently more than 40 per cent of yearly illegal immigration into the United States flows through the southern Arizona desert. NTX



## Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

Ya se llegó el tiempo. For this past week, voters have been making the decision and this coming Tuesday more will be asked to answer the question of who will be our next county commissioner. The person that will be elected will have given the voter what they want. The person who will be elected will be the one who has answered the voter's questions. To put it simple, the person who will be elected will be the people's choice.

The campaign throughout the past month, after the primary election, has been full of points and counterpoints and when it comes down to the final decision, the voter must think about the future.

To us there is only one answer. Ysidro Gutierrez is the best candidate. We have only to listen and look at each of the candidates to come to that conclusion.

Gilbert has continually pointed to his past accomplishments as proof of his effectiveness. He has not given us any goals, any plans or any new ideas about how he will improve our community.

And there can be no doubt that our community needs to progress. We agree with Ysidro when he says that Precinct 3, which encompasses most of OUR community, has been in a maintenance mode and at a status quo. We cannot afford to do this anymore.

Our community needs to move forward and into the future. Our community must follow in the steps of what the majority of Lubbock is doing in trying to improve and bring Lubbock to the forefront in activity in West Texas

We can only do this by electing a person with new visions, new tactics and new strategies. We can only do this by electing a new County Commissioner. We urge you to join us in electing a new County Commissioner and voting for Ysidro Gutierrez on election day this Tuesday April 13th.

Contact Bidal at [eleditor@llano.net](mailto:eleditor@llano.net)

# Envidia Comunicativa -- ¿La Padece?

Por Edward Barrios Acevedo  
Mientras esperaba en fila mi turno para registrarme en un pequeño hotel en Verona, Italia, una súbita revelación azotó mi mente: saber sólo inglés y español ya no es suficiente.

De alguna manera, yo ya sabía esto, pero nunca había sido capaz de expresarlo claramente, hasta hace poco. Mientras observaba a un joven y apuesto hombre italiano en la recepción del hotel que intercambiaba tranquilamente el italiano, francés, español, inglés y portugués como un experimentado bailarín de salsa que baila con cinco fabulosas acompañantes a la vez, me di cuenta que sufría de envidia comunicativa.

Si, envidia comunicativa: El deseo incurable de poder hablar otros idiomas.

Esta increíble sensación era completamente nueva para mí, ya que yo nací en el este de Los Angeles y crecí hablando tanto inglés como español. Sin embargo, a pesar de lo orgulloso que me sentía de saber dos idiomas, con el tiempo crecí y enseguida sentí la vergüenza provocada por el discurso anti-español y anti-hispano en general proveniente de

los padres de mis ex-novias, maestros, gobernadores y otras figuras.

Una vez hasta llegué a pensar tontamente que hablar español era una especie de impedimento, un defecto que tenía que ignorar y olvidar por el bien de mi futuro éxito.

¿En qué estaba pensando? Tuve que viajar ocho mil millas y registrarme en un hotel para descubrir lo que tenía que haber sabido desde el principio: saber muchos idiomas es sexy.

En Europa, el campeón italiano de la recepción del hotel no era la excepción en cuanto a saber varios idiomas. El era la regla. El no tiene dificultades o inseguridades lingüísticas. Es decir, no sufre de envidia comunicativa.

Quería ser como él. En mis viajes a Europa en los pasados años, he conocido a docenas de personas que, por así decir, están bien dotadas con cuatro, cinco o seis idiomas.

Recientemente, conocí a un hombre franco-marroquí que se ganaba la vida enseñando sueco. ¡Sabía nada menos que ocho idiomas!

A medida que me encontraba

con más y más personas con mejores habilidades comunicativas, la destreza lingüística de la que una vez estuve tan orgulloso comenzó a consumirse.

¿Qué hice mal? Bueno, descubrí que, a medida que yo crecía, todo excepto mis habilidades lingüísticas había crecido. A pesar de haber crecido en un país donde entender un segundo idioma es casi tan malo como una enfermedad infecciosa, no podía culpar a nadie más que a mí mismo. Después de todo, saber español era como sentarse en un cohete gigante que podía lanzarme fácilmente a aprender muchos otros idiomas. Por tantos años, tuve las llaves en mis manos, pero estaba muy asustado como para encender el motor.

Como ha de esperarse en un año de campaña política en los Estados Unidos, vemos una vez más al discurso anti-inmigrante y favorecedor del "Inglés solamente" abriéndose paso al frente como asunto primordial. Los latinos, así como los demás bilingües, deben entender que éste es el trabajo de aquellos con casos de envidia comunicativa mucho más drás-

ticos de lo que podríamos imaginar.

¿Cuál debe ser nuestra respuesta? Tenemos que vacunarnos usando nuestras habilidades comunicativas para promover el aprendizaje en nuestros niños, nuestros amigos y nuestra comunidad. Hacerlo nos va a hacer inmunes a estas infecciones ignorantes.

Sabemos español, entonces, ¿por qué parar ahí? ¿Por qué no italiano?, ¿francés?, ¿portugués? ¿y japonés?

Fortalecer nuestras habilidades comunicativas desarrolla más nuestra confianza, nos da mayor acceso a un mercado global en expansión y nos motiva a visitar lugares y a conectar con personas con las que no lo hubiéramos hecho si la situación fuera distinta. También nos brinda la oportunidad de hacer algo divertido, como tomar una clase en un instituto de carreras cortas local o en el centro comunitario, con aquellos a quienes amamos.

De seguro le gana a ver televisión y sufrir de envidia comunicativa por el resto de nuestra vida.

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# The Past Versus The Future

By Abel Cruz

By this time next week, two things will have happened. One person will have heard the voice of the voters in precinct 3 that it is he who they want to lead the county precinct for the next 4 years. The other candidate will wake up on Wednesday morning asking the why and how questions that always follow a defeat.

In the runoff race for county commissioner Precinct 3, there are 2 candidates facing each other in a runoff created by the inability of one candidate to garner at least 50% of the vote in the Democratic primary. In that race, only 9 votes separated the incumbent Gilbert Flores and Ysidro Gutierrez.

Last Saturday, the 27th, I was pleased to see, by my estimate, about 50-60 residents at a candidates debate. The debate was held in Idalou which is in Precinct 3, and it was clearly a pro-Flores crowd.

The debate was mostly the two candidates trading barbs and accusations against each other. Mr. Flores at one point was clearly agitated that Mr. Gutierrez's campaign had sent out a political mail out that depicted Mr. Flores' face in the midst of a tornado, and showed pictures of construction work going on in the Overton neighborhood. The obvious intent was to lead the voter to believe that Mr. Flores has been at fault for the physical unsightliness of the precinct.

On the other hand, Mr. Gutierrez was clearly annoyed by Mr. Flores' attempts to paint him as a Republican, his questioning of his inexperience as an elected official, and his inactivity since his retirement from the military in the early 90's.

Of course these things have nothing to do with whether one person or the other is the right person to lead the precinct, and both candidates would be better served if they stuck to the issues!

At the end of the day, both candidates seem to be qualified. By virtue of his 12 years experience in the position, Mr. Flores qualifies to run for this elected office again. By virtue of Mr. Gutierrez' education, military experience, and political involvement in the community, he is also qualified to run for this office.

For voters in the precinct, the choice will be fairly easy. The choice comes down to answering one of these two questions:

1) Am I satisfied with things as they are in county politics and do I want things to continue as they are for another 4 years?

Or  
2) Am I dissatisfied with the incumbent and am I ready for change and a new way of governing the precinct in hopes of seeing some improvements in the future in the county and city?

One thing was very clear in Saturday's debate. Mr. Flores is proud of his accomplishments in the past 12 years (it's up to the voter to decide if there have been accomplishments) and will depend on that message to carry through to the voters. Mr. Flores on the other hand, feels that precinct 3 has been left behind economically, socially, and developmentally, and wants to bring a fresh approach and style of governing to county government. He is also willing to cross over the boundaries of the precinct when it comes to getting involved in city and Federal issues. Mr. Flores it seems accepts the fact that a county commissioner's role is clearly defined and is primarily dictated by state mandates. It does not sound like he is comfortable operating outside those boundaries.

The most important thing to remember is that all votes count. By some estimates, there are about 25,000 registered voters in the precinct. Only 7.9% or 1,990 voted in the primary. It is a shame that so few voters make the decision on who will serve in such an important capacity. It is even sadder when only a small amount of the voters actually know that there is a runoff election. Don't let yourself fall in the latter category.

There are plenty of opportunities for a person to vote early in this election. The locations are many and convenient. Let's hope that voters in Precinct 3 understand that the responsibility to make a clear choice between the past and the future lies in their willingness to exercise their responsibilities.

Remember:  
"Votar es su responsabilidad y su derecho, haga que se oiga su voz!"  
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# Language Envy -- Do You Have It?

By Edward Barrios Acevedo

While I was standing in line and waiting my turn to check into a small hotel in Verona, Italy, a revelation smacked the back of my head: English and Spanish just aren't good enough anymore.

Somehow I already knew this, but I was never able to articulate it to myself until recently. As I watched a young, handsome Italian man at the reception desk coolly switch from Italian, French, Spanish, English and Portuguese like a seasoned salsa dancer with five hungry women, I realized I had language envy.

That's right, language envy. The incurable want of knowing other languages.

This outrageous feeling was entirely new to me since I was born and raised in East Los Angeles and grew up speaking both English and Spanish. Yet as proud as I was to have two languages under my belt, I eventually grew older and quickly felt the shame of anti-Spanish and general anti-Hispanic rhetoric used by the par-

ents of ex-girlfriends, teachers, governors and other talking heads.

Once I even foolishly thought that speaking Spanish was some sort of handicap, a disability to be ignored and forgotten for the sake of my future success.

What was I thinking? I had to travel 8,000 miles and check into a hotel to find out what I should have known all along: Knowing several languages is sexy.

The Italian stallion at the reception desk wasn't the exception in Europe when it comes to knowing several languages. He was the rule. He has no hang-ups or linguistic insecurities. To put it plainly, he has no language-envy.

I wanted to be like him. Traveling through Europe the last several years, I have met dozens of people who, should I say, were well endowed with four, five or six languages.

I recently met a French-Moroccan man who made a living as a Swedish teacher. He knew a whopping eight languages!

As I encountered more and more people with superior communicative skills, the linguistic prowess I had once been so proud of began to shrivel.

What was wrong with me? Well, I figured that as I grew up, everything but my language skills had grown. Although I was raised in a country where understanding a second language is nearly as bad as having an infectious disease, I had no one to blame but myself.

After all, knowing Spanish was like sitting in a giant rocket that could easily propel me forward to learn several other languages. For so many years, I had the keys in my hand, but was too afraid to start the ignition.

As to be expected during a political campaign year in the United States, we once again see English-only and anti-immigrant rhetoric making their way to the forefront as wedge issues. Latinos, as well as others who are bilingual, should realize that this is the work of

those with far more drastic cases of language-envy than we could ever imagine.

What should our respond be? We must vaccinate ourselves by using our language skills to promote further learning in our children, our friends and our community. Doing so will keep us immune to such ignorant infections.

We know Spanish, so why stop there? Why not Italian? French? Portuguese? And Japanese?

Strengthening our language skills further develops our confidence, gives us greater access to an expanding global market and inspires us to visit places and connect with people we couldn't have otherwise. It also gives us an opportunity to do something fun with those we love, like take a class at the local junior college or community center.

It sure beats watching TV and having language-envy for the rest of our lives.

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# Kerry's Piñata Politics

By Leonard Brennan Rodriguez

Earlier this month in San Antonio, Texas, John Kerry was introduced to the Latino community. With the junior senator at his side, Hispanic democrat Henry Cisneros gave the honors and made a bold statement about San Antonio's political identity. He called his hometown, half of which is Mexican American, the most democrat city in Texas and said that it always would be.

Cisneros' comments however, were not just meant for a Texas hooray. What Cisneros was really rallying was a pleading declaration for continued political allegiance to the Democrat Party from already fracturing Hispanic voting bloc. To the political ob-

server, the Cisneros and Kerry event begged two questions: If President Bush is sure to win Texas, why all the political attention on San Antonio? And more importantly, why the pleading rallying call to the Latino community, a said base for the Democrat Party?

In political speak San Antonio is described as the Great American Mexican-American City. It is not white Dallas and it is not the brown border. It is, as it is on the map, the middle; and at the core of San Antonio is the heartbeat of the nation's Mexican American community. San Antonio is the epicenter for Mexican American politics, culture and information. For all political purposes, San Antonio and Mexican American might as

well be synonymous. You influence San Antonio and you begin to influence almost two-thirds of the nation's Latino population. Politically speaking, this is why San Antonio matters in Presidential elections.

But for this election cycle, the more important question is why does Senator Kerry have to convince his own base for support, especially if San Antonio and the Mexican American community always have been a democrat stronghold and always will be? For starters, try because Senator Kerry has no relationship or history with the Hispanic community. Unlike President Bush, who governed in a state where over thirty percent of the population is Latino, Kerry hails from

Massachusetts where the Latino population is less than seven percent. Not until his presidential campaign started did Kerry realize the Latino community and then turned to the only two Hispanics he could -- democrat loyalists Henry Cisneros and Bill Richardson.

It is also equally important to note that Senator Kerry has accomplished little legislatively. Of his eight bills in nineteen years that actually have become law, two of them have to do with commercial fishing and ocean research matters; one of them was a grant and the remaining were ceremonial. Kerry's proven Senate record, or lack thereof, is hardly one to lead a nation much less champion Latino

issues. But what his recent record to Latinos does show is that when President Bush nominated the first Latino to serve on nation's second most powerful court, Senator Kerry said "No" to more Hispanic representation in the Federal Court system. For a party leader who is supposed to champion diversity, Kerry takes a third-row back seat to President Bush who is known for assembling the most diverse Cabinet in history and who has appointed more Hispanics than any other U.S. President.

March 6 marks an important day in Hispanic history. It is

the date the Mexicans recaptured the Alamo and in 2004, it is also the date Senator Kerry needed a Hispanic broker to introduce him to what is supposed be his own base. Interesting enough, ninety miles north on this same date, President Bush hosted President Vicente Fox. And while the two Presidents were progressing on issues truly important to the Latino community, Kerry was engaged in everything democrats falsely accuse the President of - pandering with no Hispanic record to tout at a symbolic mariachi piñata politics rally absent of any real substance.

# HAPPY EASTER -Enjoy the Day!



# Campaign to Restore CHIP

The Campaign to Restore CHIP, represented by local civic leaders, business owners, and elected officials, will hold six press conferences across Texas on April 1st to call for the full restoration of CHIP benefits and eligibility and to speak out about the local impact of drastic cuts to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). April 1st is the fourth anniversary of the Texas CHIP program.

CHIP enrollment has dropped by 118,978 children since cuts approved by the Texas Legislature took effect on September 1, 2003—a decrease of 23%. All children enrolled have lost critical benefits, including dental, vision, and hospice services. Local counties stand to lose \$500 million in federal matching funds as a result of cuts to CHIP.

Many Texas hospitals and clinics are facing huge revenue losses as a result of the decreasing CHIP enrollment, and children are having difficulty finding services that were eliminated from CHIP benefits. In addition, advocates urge State leaders to use \$469 million in federal fiscal relief funds to restore health and human services.

## Impact of Cuts to Local Communities

"Just imagine the dramatic impact if the entire population of 117,669 people in Midland County—every man, woman, and child—lost their health insurance," said Patti Everitt, Executive Director of the Children's Defense Fund Texas. "That's the situation for children in Texas; we have already seen CHIP enrollment drop by the population of Midland County."

As a result of cuts to CHIP: \* Texas will lose over \$500 million in federal matching dollars that, if unspent, will be redirected to other states. Texas receives \$2.59 in federal

## Bush Firma Ley que Aumenta Préstamos a Pequeños Negocios

El Presidente George W. Bush firmó el lunes la legislación que aumentará la autoridad de préstamos 7(a) de la Agencia Federal para el Desarrollo de la Pequeña Empresa en más de \$3,000 millones. El incremento de 30 por ciento en préstamos a pequeños negocios para el presente año le permitirá a la SBA levantar el límite de \$750,000 que había impuesto temporalmente por los pasados tres meses, así como eliminar las restricciones a los préstamos secundarios de segunda posición hipotecaria avalados por un mismo colateral (piggyback loans).

"La acción presidencial de hoy les permitirá a la SBA y a los pequeños negocios continuar financiado el crecimiento y la creación de empleos para la economía americana", dijo el administrador de la SBA, Héctor V. Barreto. "Creo que podemos esperar otro año record para el programa 7(a), y otro año histórico para los negocios pequeños de los Estados Unidos".

La nueva ley aumenta la autoridad de préstamos del programa 7(a) para este año a \$12,500 millones, lo que le permitirá ayudar a 90,000 negocios pequeños en el año fiscal 2004, creando o reteniendo hasta 500,000 empleos para los trabajadores americanos.

La legislación también le permite a la SBA eliminar de inmediato el límite de \$750,000 que había impuesto temporalmente a los préstamos, regresando a su nivel previo de \$2 millones. La ley también aumentó al máximo de los préstamos SBA Express a \$2 millones, y le permite a la agencia aumentar a 75 por ciento el máximo de la garantía en préstamos de hasta \$2 millones. Así mismo, se permitirá de nuevo los préstamos secundarios de segunda posición hipotecaria avalados por el mismo colateral.

La legislación reautoriza el programa de préstamos 504 y establece niveles de autorización para el Programa de Compañías de Inversión en Pequeños Negocios (SBIC, por sus siglas en inglés) hasta el final del año fiscal. La ley también garantiza que los programas de Negocios Pequeños en Desventaja, y Preferencial de Fianzas de Garantía continuarán funcionando hasta el 4 de junio de 2004.

funds for every state dollar spent for CHIP.

\* Every county in Texas will lose state and federal dollars, ranging from a \$11,778 loss in King County to \$136,452,782 in Harris County.

\* The cost of healthcare will be shifted to local healthcare delivery systems and taxpayers, putting additional strain on cities and counties already facing severe budget shortfalls.

\* If children lose health insurance and go to local county health programs for care, local taxpayers pay 100% of the costs, without any federal or state support. Local property taxes and rents are likely to increase as local communities absorb the costs of the cuts.

The Harris County Hospital District, for example, reports a \$36 million reduction in funds due to cuts to the CHIP program. The loss in revenue to the El Paso Hospital District has exceeded its predictions of \$11.2 million and may increase to over \$15 million.

Harris County Judge Robert Eckels expressed concern about the cost shift to local communities and the added burden to Harris County taxpayers. "CHIP enrollment has dropped by almost 20,000 children in Harris County, shifting the burden of care from federal and state dollars to the property taxes of local homeowners," he said. "At the same time, cities like Chicago and Denver are happy to use the \$136 million we have already sent back to Washington, D.C. to improve the health care of their youngsters."

Pete Duarte, the CEO of the El Paso County Hospital District agreed. "The state is not saving money in the long-run. It is just shifting health costs to local communities and losing federal dollars," he said. "Our CHIP enrollment in El Paso has already dropped by 4,619—over 20%, and we must serve these children even without state support."

All dental and vision care were eliminated from CHIP coverage, and most communities do not have adequate services available to meet the need of children who are uninsured.

"In the McAllen School District, we are seeing children with major dental problems who can't eat and have bad headaches, but we have ex-

# What is Latinas Learning to Lead?

The Latinas Learning to Lead Summer Youth Institute's main purpose is to train the next generation of Latina leaders. The Institute combines leadership training with technical and practical experience in a one-week comprehensive program in Washington, D.C.

The Institute focuses on personal and career planning, health and well-being, entrepreneurship and leadership skills. There will be sessions on cross-cultural communications, conflict resolutions, race, class, and gender issues. You will have an opportunity to interact with high-level Latina/o leaders during lectures, group exercises, and site visits. Up to 20 Latina undergraduate college students from diverse geographical areas and ethnic subgroups within the Hispanic community will be selected each year.

**Mission**  
To promote and foster the development of young Latina leaders through training, professional development, relationship building, and community and world activism.

**Purpose**  
The Latinas Learning to Lead Institute was created to ensure that young Hispanic women develop their personal and professional potential to serve as leaders within the rapidly growing Hispanic communities in the US. The Latinas Learning to Lead Institute combines leadership training with technical and practical experience in a

comprehensive one-week program. Benefits  
·Learn the significance of being a Latina leader  
·Develop professional and technical skills  
·Acquire valuable leadership and employment skills  
·Learn to be an effective voice in your community  
·Meet other outstanding and diverse young Latinas from across the country and become part of a powerful network  
·Gain insight into public policy issues affecting the Latino community and meet with national Latina/o leaders  
·Visit important sites in Washington, D.C.  
**Eligibility**  
·Program graduating no sooner than December 2004  
·Have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours by May 2004  
·Have a minimum GPA of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale  
·Be between the ages of 17 and 22  
·Demonstrated leadership as indicated by volunteer and other activities  
·Have a strong commitment to Latina/o issues.

comprehensively limited resources to send them for dental care," reported Mary Chaffee, the head nurse at Crocket Elementary in McAllen, Texas. "In my elementary school alone, I've identified 43 children who need immediate dental care but can't get services any longer due to the cuts in dental benefits."

**Call for Restoration:**  
The Campaign to Restore CHIP, represented at the press conferences by local civic leaders and elected officials in six cities across Texas, is calling for the full restoration of CHIP benefits and eligibility to what they were before cuts were approved by the 78th Texas Legislature.

An immediate priority is the use of \$469 million in federal

comprehensive one-week program.

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·Learn the significance of being a Latina leader  
·Develop professional and technical skills  
·Acquire valuable leadership and employment skills  
·Learn to be an effective voice in your community  
·Meet other outstanding and diverse young Latinas from across the country and become part of a powerful network  
·Gain insight into public policy issues affecting the Latino community and meet with national Latina/o leaders  
·Visit important sites in Washington, D.C.  
**Eligibility**  
·Program graduating no sooner than December 2004  
·Have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours by May 2004  
·Have a minimum GPA of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale  
·Be between the ages of 17 and 22  
·Demonstrated leadership as indicated by volunteer and other activities  
·Have a strong commitment to Latina/o issues.

Your commitment  
The program is intensive and requires your full attention and commitment. Participants must be able to travel to Washington, D.C. during the week of July 11 to July 17, 2004. You must attend all training sessions. Upon completion of the program, you will be required

fiscal relief for the restoration of health and human services. Much of this funding is due to federal fiscal relief provided to Texas through enhanced federal matching rates that states will receive through July 1, 2004. Health groups assert that these funds should be used for the restoration of health and human services. These funds could be allocated immediately with the approval of the Legislative Budget Board.

Health advocates point out that despite the cuts, CHIP coverage is still critical to hundreds of thousands of Texas children and will continue to cover doctor visits, immunizations, prescriptions, hospital care and the most needed medical services at an affordable rate.

to participate in a one-on-one or e-mail mentoring program with a professional NHLI alumna and you must also commit to mentoring two younger Latinas.

**Cost**  
The National Hispanic Leadership Institute will cover airline travel, room and board and all classroom materials needed for the program. Students are responsible for covering their own medical and travel insurance and any incidental expenses.

**How to apply**  
The 2004 Learning to Lead application is available online as a pdf document. You will need Acrobat Reader to open this file in your browser. If you do not have this program, you can download it for free from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). The deadline for the 2004 Summer Youth Institute is April 12, 2004.

To apply for this program, the following items must be included in your application packet postmarked by April 12, 2004:

Personal Essay: Essay must be typed and at least 500 words in length. Include your name in

the upper right-hand corner of the first page.

Your essay should address the following:

1. In your opinion, what are the major issues affecting the Latino community and how do you see yourself impacting change?

2. Why would you like to participate in the NHLI Latinas Learning to Lead Institute?

o A copy of your most recent transcript (official or unofficial)  
o Two letters of recommendation:

One from your academic advisor or a faculty member from your college; the other from any adult you know well.

o Résumé including education, honors, extracurricular and community activities, and employment history

o Five copies of your completed application.

Send your complete application postmarked by April 12, 2004 to:

NHLI Latinas Learning to Lead 1901 N. Moore Street, Suite 206 Arlington, VA 22209

Phone: (703) 527-6007 Fax: (703) 527-6009 Email: [NHLI@aol.com](mailto:NHLI@aol.com), [www.nhli.org](http://www.nhli.org)



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# On eve of 10th Masters, Don't Count Out Grown-up Tiger

Ten Masters. Can you believe it? One minute we're talking about a goofy Stanford kid with a jaw-dropping game and smile destined for zillion-dollar endorsements. The next, we're listening to one of the most famous faces in the world -- a man who may well go down as the best player ever -- spinning stories we expect from Jackie Burke and Arnold Palmer and talking about balance.



And yes, he's extended that cut streak of his by the skin of teeth from time to time, but should we be surprised? This isn't the kid who tagged along with Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus 10 years ago and found his head spinning when they drew him into a skins game here. Tiger Woods and the gallery go wild after his hole-in-one in Wednesday's par-3 contest. "We get to 18, we're having a great time and Arnold makes about a 20 footer to take all the skins on the back nine," he said. "I'm really feeling kind of shaken up now because I don't know if I've got pay or not."

Mind-boggling? No, just growing up. Maturing. Life. The stuff that happens to all of us sometime or the other. But we're lucky. We do it in relative obscurity. Not in magazines and on television. Not in front of the world.

Yes, we're talking Tiger Woods. The man of every hour, let alone every major. The man whose every move, every decision, every top-10 and every major without a victory makes headlines. The man who, right now, has to chuckle over all the headlines and theories and analysis and grocery store checkout line suggestions on what he has to do to snap out of it and, well, be Tiger Woods once again.

"It's just one of those things where people have an opinion and they've been voicing it quite a few times with me ..."

he said with a grin. "It's different for me vs. any other player. Some other player has a bad week, misses the cut, it's no big deal, slips through the radar whereas if I shoot one bad round, it's a little bit different. "It's expectation levels. It's not like I'm not trying out here."

On the contrary, Woods is one swing slot away from another major. Always has been. Always will be. Yes, he's been hitting it all over the planet.

And no, he didn't have to pay when he lost there, either.

This, instead, is the veteran, who has spent one-third of his life competing here; the three-time Masters champ who inspired U.S. Amateur champion and Monday practice round playing partner Nick Flanagan to take up the game. And, yes, he told him the story of putting his first putt rolling off the green -- missed it on the top side and it just kept rolling -- in his opening round. He tells it to every amateur he plays with.

"It was a great two-putt," Tiger grinned. "Pitched it back and made a putt. So that's a two-putt, technically, I guess."

Comfortable. Easy. The kind of guy you used to see only behind the scenes. Now, we're seeing him up close.

He hasn't changed one bit on the course. There's no question the breakneck, superhuman pace has slowed down. He hasn't won a major in -- what -- almost two years. Forty-eight hours of Jack Bauer's hectic life on 24. But he's still all about focus. And momentum. And those records -- 18 majors, six green jackets -- held by one Jack Nicklaus.

He'll tell you his swing is pretty close to where it was in 2000 -- even without Butch Harmon. The takeaway isn't as solid, but it's close enough to make him think that major

drought might just end this week.

At the same time, he'll tell you he's not the same kid he was a decade ago. He's measured now against himself, not others. He's not afraid to challenge himself by heading to Fort Bragg in North Carolina next week to see how push his limits against the best the military has to offer.

"I've always wanted to do something like this," he said. "If I was never introduced to golf, that's where I would be. I would be doing something hopefully in the special ops arena. That, to me, is interesting. The physical and mental challenges, I like that."

And he has another challenge just around the corner -- marriage and family. It's the one piece of the life puzzle he hasn't added yet -- the one Nicklaus and Palmer blended so seamlessly into their careers. The one, a decade ago, seemed so far off it wasn't funny.

The key? Balance. "You've got to have balance," he said. "Golf is what I do for a living. I love it. I love to compete. But it does not define me as a person."

Somewhere in the midst of putting him on pedestals and writing about the Tiger Slam and perceived slumps, we forgot about that. Far too often, we've continued to define him by his game and what he does on the course, not by who he is.

Nine years ago? It didn't matter. To him or to us.

But now? He's grown up. He's matured. He's still the best in the game. He's still a little bit of a goofy kid -- just watch his American Express Caddyhack commercial.

He's also a man who has life in perspective. And it happened while we were watching him here.

Ten Masters. Can you believe it?

## Magic 93.7 to Celebrate Cinco de Mayo

What: Magic 93.7 and Telemundo 46 will celebrate will hold the "Original Cinco De Mayo" celebration again this year. This year's festival will be a two day event.

When: Friday will be a battle of the bands closing with Latin Grammy Winner Jimmy Gonzales. Gates will open at 6:00pm

Saturday will kick off at 12:00 noon with local band Peligro. Also performing will be Mariachi Amistad, Balet

## Robi "Draco" Rosa satisfecho por su nuevo disco "Mad Love"



espontaneidad", comentó el artista en declaraciones al rotativo dominicano Listin Diario, en la presentación de su disco el pasado fin de semana en Puerto Rico.

"El amor es esencial en la vida a todo nivel. Este disco se llama "Mad love" porque en ese mismo jardín que es precioso vas a encontrar la flor que libera y la que traiciona, cada romance es así, lleno de olores y de triunfo", añadió el intérprete.

El artífice de éxitos de Ricky Martin como "Livin' la vida loca", "La Copa de la Vida" y "Maria" decidió alejarse de la composición para otros artistas con el afán de dedicarse de lleno a su propia carrera musical.

"Estuve preparando el disco durante dos años. Lo mismo que demoré en mis otras producciones. Me tomé tiempo para buscar ambientes nuevos, tratando de que las canciones sean buenas y perduren", manifestó Rosa. NOTIMEX

El cantautor puertorriqueño Robi "Draco" Rosa expresó hoy sentirse satisfecho con su nuevo disco "Mad love" que preparó durante dos años para incluir temas buenos que perduren en el gusto del público.

"Es un material puro que surge de un trabajo bastante improvisado y con mucha

## Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Seminar for Small Business

American State Bank Cordially invite all Small Business owners to a seminar. A representative from ASB will make a very informative presentation that will be very beneficial to anyone who is thinking of applying for a business loan, etc. Mr. Raul Alvarado owner/mgr. of Century Small Business Solutions will also present a session on business

taxes, reports etc. Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 Time: 5:00 - 5:20 Registration/Refreshments 5:30-7:00 p.m. Program Place: American State Bank, 1401 Avenue Q The first 10 registrants are free; thereafter \$15.00 per person till 4-19-04 Phone 762-5059 for reservations

## Mentoring Students, Changing Lives 'The Mentor Tech Program'

Mentor Tech aspires to enhance the quality of the educational experience of African American and Hispanic students through its Mentor Tech Program.

The 2nd Annual Mentor Tech Banquet takes place at the Texas Tech University Museum Helen DeVitt Jones Sculpture Court on April 19, 2004. At that time, students will be recognized for their improvements and experiences they had throughout the semester. There will be food, refreshments and prizes. Individual tickets are \$25, student tickets are \$12 and tables of eight are \$300. Tickets can be purchased by calling Cory Powell at 742-8687. The money raised will be used towards scholarships.

The program honors Dr. Lauro Cavazos, the first graduate to serve as President of Texas Tech University and Ophelia Powell-Malone, the first African American undergraduate to enroll at TTU. The programs are housed in the Texas Tech University System Office of Community and Multicultural Affairs.

Students are paired with faculty, staff and graduate students according to their academic, professional and cultural interests. The main goal is to provide a support group to improve the retention and eventual graduation rates of African American and Hispanic students at TTU. This system fosters a campus climate that is conducive to the students' academic, social and cultural needs and interests.

The Mentor Tech program is a great way to get students involved in the university and the community. It helps them develop interpersonal skills and provides them with a network of people to use as a guide to help prepare them for the future.

Leá El Editor para noticias importante para usted y su familia, y su comunidad!

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Act as Human Resources liaison to the Head Start Division of SPCAA by providing day-to-day support to employees. Duties include maintaining accurate personnel records, timely processing of information, preparing information for job vacancies, coordination of Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) issues, and assist in new employee orientation and staff training. Associate Degree required, Bachelor degree preferred. Must have Human Resources background and/or knowledge. Must have excellent computer skills. Requires a valid driver's license and satisfactory driving record. Applications available at WorkSource Career Center, 411 Houston Street, Levelland or see [www.spcaa.org](http://www.spcaa.org)

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# El Programa de Trabajadores Invitados de Bush no va para Ningun Lado

viene de la primera pagina

"Teniamos muchas esperanzas de ver grandes reformas de inmigración este año," dice Angela Kelley, directora delegada de los programas para el Foro de Inmigración Nacional (National Immigration Forum). Ella afirma que si Bush quería demostrar su compromiso serio con la reforma, lo pudo haber hecho sacando mollero por los proyectos de ley de reformas que circulaban en el Congreso tales como: el Acta de Oportunidades de Empleos en la Agricultura, Beneficios y Seguridad (AgJOBS por sus siglas en inglés) y el Acta DREAM.

El proyecto de ley AgJOBS, con cerca de 60 co-auspiciadores en el Senado y un

proyecto contraparte en la Cámara les ofrecería a los trabajadores agricolas indocumentados que viven en Estados Unidos, su pase a obtener la legalización. El Acta DREAM les permitiría a los estados el proveer incentivos del costo de matrícula para residentes en las universidades estatales para algunos estudiantes inmigrantes indocumentados.

Kelley dice que dado el hecho de que no queda mucho tiempo en el calendario legislativo, "El proyecto de ley AgJOBS sería uno que no sería tan difícil de conseguir. Sería un ejemplo de buena fe hacia la comunidad."

Oscar Chacón, presidente de

la Red Nacional Salvadoreña-Americana, denomina la creciente acumulación de solicitudes de inmigración, "como un ejemplo, sin lugar a dudas, de la falta de compromiso de Bush con el asunto."

En el año 2000, Bush prometió reducir la acumulación para que el tiempo de espera no excediera los seis meses. De acuerdo con la información del gobierno, las solicitudes de tarjetas verdes que se hubiesen tardado 14 meses en procesar para el 2001, ahora promedian 33 meses en procesarse. Desde el 2000, los casos que exceden más de seis meses casi se han duplicado.

Algunos senadores claves, entre ellos Chris Dodd (D-Conn) y Dick Lugar (R-Ind), criticaron a Bush el mes pasado por no haber hecho lo suficiente para adelantar la reforma. En una vista del Comité de Relaciones Extranjeras del Senado, la cual se llevó a cabo el 23 de marzo en el Capitolio, Eduardo Aguirre Jr., director del Departamento de Inmigración y Ciudadanía Americana para la Seguridad Territorial, dice que Bush "está esperando que el Congreso produzca la legislación que puede ser presentada a la administración."

Chacón responde que si un presidente se toma la molestia de anunciar proyectos de reforma y luego no hace nada para llevarlos a cabo, entonces "uno tiene que pensar sobre cuánto compromiso había en primer lugar."

# Why Kerry May Choose a Latino VP

from page one

Choosing Richardson over a Southerner would challenge the traditional wisdom that no Democrat can win the White House without being from the South or having significant support there. It would signal a strategy shift, a gamble on building more support in the Southwest, where Latinos are a growing presence.

In 2000, Gore carried New Mexico by only 366 votes and lost Arizona and Nevada to Bush. California and Texas are foregone conclusions - the first for the Democrat and the second for the president - but in a close race the smaller states could be the key to victory.

Richardson could help defeat the effort by Bush and his political point man Karl Rove to garner 40 percent or more of the Latino vote. The idea of voting for a half-Mexican who could be a heartbeat away from the presidency would be tempt-

ing for most Latinos across the nation.

Richardson has some potential downfalls: his enthusiastic support for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), for one. While in Congress, Richardson was a key vote-getter for NAFTA on behalf of the Clinton administration, back when Democrats were running as centrists and not populists. That puts him at odds with many Democrats from the heartland, who feel the pinch of jobs fleeing overseas and who espouse a more protectionist attitude.

Choosing Richardson for vice president could also alienate African Americans, who have expressed support for Edwards. Also, the black community has voted against Latino candidates in some local and state races, when they feel their political power is being undermined by the new largest minority. Few

African Americans will vote for Bush, but they may abstain if they feel unrepresented in the Democratic ticket.

On the other hand, African Americans may cast their ballots for anyone if they dislike the incumbent enough. In California's gubernatorial recall election, blacks supported Latino candidate Cruz Bustamante at a higher rate than Latinos.

Richardson predicted in 2000 that, "if not this time, for sure next time" there will be a Latino on the Democratic ticket. He insisted then that America was ready for such a revolutionary proposition.

Perhaps 2004 will do the trick. Even if Richardson does not become Kerry's right-hand man, most people who know the governor know he would love another position in a potential Kerry administration: Secretary of State.

# Bush Guestworker Program Going No Where

from page one

"We had our hopes up that we'd see major immigration reform this year," says Angela Kelley, deputy director of programs for the National Immigration Forum. She notes that if Bush wanted to show that he was serious about reform, he could do so by putting muscle behind bills circulating in Congress that would offer reform, such as the Agricultural Job Opportunity, Benefits and Security Act and the DREAM Act.

The AgJOBS bill, with about 60 co-sponsors in the Senate and a counterpart bill in the House, would offer undocumented farmworkers living in the United States a path to earned legalization. The DREAM Act would allow states to provide in-state college tuition to some undocumented immigrant students.

Kelley says that given the fact that not much time remains in the legislative calendar, "The AgJOBS bill would be one that wouldn't be a heavy lift. It would be a show of good will toward the community."

Oscar Chacón, president of the Salvadoran American National Network, calls the growing backlog of immigra-

tion applications "clearly a show of Bush's lack of commitment to the issue."

In 2000, Bush promised to reduce the backlog so that wait-time would not exceed six months. According to government data, green card applications that would have taken 14 months to process in 2001 now average 33 months. Since 2000, cases more than 6 months old have nearly doubled.

Several key U.S. senators, among them Chris Dodd, (D-Conn.) and Dick Lugar (R-Ind.) criticized Bush last month for not doing enough to push reform. At a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on Capitol Hill March 23, Eduardo Aguirre Jr., director of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, says that Bush "is looking to Congress to frame the legislation that can be brought to the administration."

Chacón responds that if a president goes through the difficulty of announcing proposed reforms and then there are no active steps to follow up, "You have to wonder how much seriousness there was in the first place."

## ¿Que Pasa?

### Girl Scouts Offer Baby-sitting Course

The Caprock Council of Girl Scouts will offer a baby-sitting course on Monday, April 12, from 9 am to 4 pm, at Covenant medical Center-Lakeside in the Arnett room.

The course is designed for people in grades six and up. Attendants will learn about the basi sey, irs a a esosibilitinvolved in baby-sitting.

The cost, which pays for materials, lunch and snacks, is \$5 per person. The RSVP deadline is April 9, and seating is limited to 100 people. To reserve a spot, call (806) 745-2855.

### Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Teams Provide Relief Service in Piedras Negras, Mexico

Salvation Army Disaster relief teams from Texas have responded to the flooding in Piedras Negras, Mexico. The flooding is a result of intense storm ahitheoe town and much of south Texas earlier this week.

Teams will continue to monitor the need for relief services and materials.

At this point, monetary donations are most needed. Donations should be marked "Mexico Floods", and sent to The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 12568, San Antonio, TX 78212. To make a credit card donation call 1-800-Sal-Army or visit [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org).

### Kid's Neighborhood Fiesta

Up and Coming Scholars Teen Victim Project presents Kid's Neighborhood Fiesta McWhorter Elementary School which is located on 1st & Boston. This event is scheduled to be on Sat., April 17 at 10 am - 1 pm. FREE entertainment, games, food, drinks, door prizes, health information& educational activities in gym.

Musical guest Z102 Star Jack Kidd Carson.

Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call 763-3131.

### Substance Abuse Conference Set for Lubbock

The 26th Annual Institute on Substance Abuse and Addiction conference, sponsored by Texas Tech University Extended Studies, will be held at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Sixth Street in Lubbock, on April 14-16.

The theme for this year's conference will be "Many roads, One Destination."

This year's Institute will focus on all aspects of chemical dependency and its effect on society, particularly the family. Everyone is encourage to attend but teachers, nurses, especially anyone in the healthcare industry, to take advantage of this wonderful conference which is offered once a year in our area.

For more information about the conference or registration, contact Texas Tech's Extended Studies at 742-7200, ext 270 or 222, or see the conference's Web site at <http://www.dce.ttu.edu/26institute>.

## Recognizing History, Education & Leaders Scholarships applications now being accepted

Fiestas del Llano, Inc. is encouraging young men to apply for the ¡Si Se Puede! Scholarships, which will be awarded on Cinco de Mayo Day, (May 5, 2004). A total of \$10,000 in scholarship awards will be given during the annual awards and scholarship banquet, which will benefit the future Hispanic Cultural Center in Lubbock.

Young men of Hispanic descent; between the ages of 17 through 24-years-old; who reside in Lubbock and a 70 mile radius from Lubbock; must be

admissible to Texas Tech University (TTU) and maintain a 2.5 grade point average or above, who are currently seniors in high school or are enrolled in a college or at TTU, and who have intentions of attending TTU, are encouraged to apply by April 20. Need may also be considered.

Several trailblazers and leaders of the community will also be honored and recognized at the banquet that will celebrate the historical battle of Puebla in which Mexico conquered French forces in 1862. The banquet will be held May 5, 2004.

Other celebrations will include a commemorative parade on Saturday, May 1, 2004, celebrating the diversity of

Lubbock. For more information, please call Frank Garcia, Scholarship Committee Chair, at 797-7233, or email [contact@fiestasdelllano.org](mailto:contact@fiestasdelllano.org). To access an application visit [www.fiestasdelllano.org](http://www.fiestasdelllano.org)

Happy Easter! to everyone

\*\*\*\*\*

Have a Safe & Good Weekend!

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Hello, my name is Stephanie Pleasant and attend JT Hutchinson Jr. High School. I have the opportunity of attending the Junior National Young Leaders Conference but I need your help. I would appreciate any type of donation or contribution sent to: 1201 48th St.-Lubbock 79412. I will be having other fundraisers such as car washes, bake sales...look out for me. Thank You.



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# Kerry Ataca Déficit de Bush



El candidato presidencial demócrata John Kerry fustigó el enorme déficit presupuestario que ha adquirido el gobierno del presidente George W. Bush y advierte que el actual mandatario dejará "una montaña de deuda" a las futuras generaciones de estadounidenses.

Bush impulsó "iniciativas nuevas y sin presupuesto durante los primeros tres años de su gobierno" que aumentarán el presupuesto estadounidense en al menos seis billones de dólares en los próximos 10 años, estimó un informe del comité de campaña de Kerry.

El informe muestra que "mientras el Presidente y sus funcionarios pregonan públicamente su compromiso con la disciplina fiscal, calladamente promueven —sin fondos— propuestas que resultaron en déficit siderales".

"Bush hipotecó la salud fiscal del país y dejó a las generaciones futuras a cargo de una montaña de deuda", aseguró uno de los consejeros de Kerry, Roger Altman, ex subsecretario del Tesoro en la presidencia de Bill Clinton.

El informe demócrata dice que los recortes impositivos de Bush más su propuesta de prorrogarlos costarían 2,277 billones de dólares. Las cuentas de la seguridad social privatizada otros 1,427 billones y los servicios de deuda 1,642 billones. Finalmente, los demócratas afirman que los planes para enviar hombres a Marte costarían 1 billón de dólares en los próximos cinco años, mientras que el gobierno asegura que el proyecto sólo

representará 1,000 millones de dólares.

**Respuesta del Presidente**  
Bush acusó a Kerry de planear aumentos de impuestos por 900,000 millones de dólares anuales si es electo y reforzó sus críticas a su contrincante en un discurso el lunes.

"Tendremos una elección clara en la campaña este año, la elección entre mantener el alivio impositivo que está haciendo avanzar nuestra economía, o cargar con mayores impuestos al pueblo norteamericano", dijo el mandatario en Charlotte, North Carolina.

El comité de campaña de Bush alertó en un comunicado que "los números de John Kerry no concuerdan y él lo sabe". Kerry "ha votado por mayores impuestos más de 350 veces, y ha reprobado los resultados de los grupos que controlan el presupuesto", dijo.

"No tiene un plan para resolver el problema de solvencia a largo plazo del sistema de seguridad social", aseguró.

La campaña republicana ha buscado retratar a Kerry como un demócrata "recaudador de impuestos". Un nuevo aviso de campaña de Bush, divulgado en 18 estados clave, ataca a Kerry como alguien con un perfil "problemático" en materia fiscal. El nuevo reporte de Kerry y su énfasis en la economía en los discursos recientes es un contraataque para no ser visto como un conservador en política fiscal.

# Hispanos no acuden a universidades por falta de información

La falta de información sobre los planes de financiamiento universitarios en Estados Unidos reduce hasta en un 75 por ciento el número de hispanos que podrían cursar estudios superiores, lo que lastra el desarrollo de la comunidad.

Un estudio reciente patrocinado por la Fundación Sallie Mae, dedicada a asesorar sobre planes de financiamiento educativos en Estados Unidos, indica que los altos costos de los cursos impulsa a los hispanos a interrumpir sus estudios.

En el informe de la fundación, 75 por ciento de los adolescentes hispanos que dejaron de estudiar tras acabar el "high school" (preparatoria) hubieran

ido a la universidad si hubieran tenido más información sobre cómo financiar los altos costos que implica.

Por lo tanto, y según los autores del estudio, hay un vínculo directo entre la falta de información sobre los planes de financiamiento, sobre todo créditos blancos a estudiantes, y el escaso acceso de los hispanos a la educación superior.

Según el mismo sondeo, de los que finalmente cursaron estudios universitarios, 77 por ciento barajaron varias opciones de financiamiento, frente al 50 por ciento de los que finalmente no dieron el paso.

"Las aspiraciones de las comunidades latinas para acceder a

la universidad es alta, pero el conocimiento de la ayuda financiera para lograrlo es el eslabón perdido", dijo Harry Pachon, uno de los profesores autores del informe.

Según éste, la mayoría de familias hispanas no planifican de forma adecuada el acceso a la universidad antes de acabar la secundaria.

Más de las dos terceras partes de estas familias no reciben ninguna información sobre esta posibilidad mientras están en "high school".

Estos porcentajes son los más bajos, comparados con los obtenidos en estudios similares realizados entre otras comunidades y minorías en Estados

Unidos.

Sobre las preferencias en este campo, casi el 65 por ciento de las familias consultadas escogen el "cara a cara", con asesores o consejeros escolares, para conocer las mejores opciones sobre cómo poder llevar a su hijo a la universidad.

Además, mientras que el 51 por ciento de los padres hispanos prefieren obtener esa información en español, los más jóvenes, en un 62 por ciento, escogen el inglés.

Ante este panorama, y con el fin de mejorar el acceso a este tipo de información sobre ayudas educativas, la Fundación Sallie Mae pondrá en marcha en las próximas semanas una iniciativa dirigida a la comunidad latina.

# Grupos Locales Piden Restauración de Beneficios en el Aniversario de CHIP

La Campaña Para Restaurar CHIP, endorsada por un grupo de organizaciones e individuos a través del estado de Texas, llevo a cabo seis conferencias de prensa este jueves, 1º de abril, el cuarto aniversario del Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (Children's Health Insurance Program - CHIP). Hablaron sobre el impacto que han tenido los recortes drásticos a este programa en los últimos seis meses, tanto en relación a la salud de miles de niños como a la economía local.

La inscripción de CHIP se ha disminuido por 118,978 niños desde que la legislatura aprobó los recortes y cambios efectivos el 1º de septiembre del 2003. Todos los niños inscritos perdieron servicios críticos tales como cuidado dental, revisión de la vista y lentes, servicios de salud mental y de hospicio. Los condados del Valle del Rio Grande están en riesgo de perder hasta \$68,168,237 en fondos estatales y federales a consecuencia de los cortes a CHIP y el condado de Harris se perderán hasta \$136,452,782.

Las conferencias de prensa locales se enfocaron en el impacto local ocasionado por los cortes a CHIP e hicieron un llamado a las familias y comunidades de Texas para que pidan la completa restauración del programa CHIP. Además, defensores de los derechos de niños se dirigirán a los líderes del estado para que utilicen \$469 millones en fondos federales disponibles para la restauración de servicios de salud y

recursos humanos antes del 1º de julio del 2004.

Impacto de los recortes a las comunidades locales - Como resultado de los recortes a CHIP, el estado pudiera perder hasta \$500 millones en fondos federales que se repartirán a otros estados si los líderes de Texas no actúan cuanto antes. Condados en Texas sin importar su tamaño perderán fondos estatales y federales desde \$11,778 (condado de King) hasta \$136,452,782 en el condado de Harris. Una preocupación importante es que el costo de proveer servicios de salud a nivel local causarán que los costos se transfieran a los sistemas aportados por impuestos y por consiguiente se vuelvan una carga difícil para los que pagan esos impuestos. Texas recibe \$2.59 dólares por cada dólar aportado por el estado para invertir en CHIP. Si los niños pierden beneficios de CHIP y acuden a los programas locales o del condado para atención médica, los que pagan los impuestos tendrán que cubrir el 100% de los costos, sin ninguna ayuda federal o estatal. Oficiales y proveedores de salud locales también se preocupan porque los costos de cuidado de salud y servicios médicos aumentarán el peso que las ciudades y condados ya están sintiendo por recortes de presupuesto y falta de fondos.

"En el Distrito escolar de McAllen estamos viendo niños con problemas dentales serios que no pueden comer y sufren de fuertes dolores de cabeza pero tenemos recursos limitados para mandarlos a obtener

cuidado dental," reportó Mary Chaffee la enfermera escolar de la Primaria Crocket en McAllen, Texas. "Solamente en mi primaria he identificado 43 niños que necesitan cuidado dental inmediato pero no pueden recibir estos servicios por los recortes en beneficios dentales."

El Alcalde Bill White de Houston asegura que, "Acceso a cuidado médico es una prioridad mayor de mi administración, y estoy gravemente preocupado acerca de los recortes al programa sumamente exitoso del Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP). Los recortes a CHIP agregaran un esfuerzo adicional a las ya repletas salas de emergencia que estan en estatus desviatorio mas de 30% del tiempo."

Si salas de emergencia están repletas de niños sin seguro de enfermedad, hay un riesgo más grande que las camillas de trauma no estarán disponibles para manejar emergencias verdaderas." "El programa de CHIP es una inversión prudente para los niños de Houston y para contribuyentes locales."

El Juez del Condado de Harris Robert Eckels dijo, "La matriculación de CHIP ha disminuido por casi 20,000 niños en el Condado de Harris, cambiando el cargo de cuidado de fondos federales y estatales a los impuestos de propiedades de propietarios locales," él dijo. "Al mismo tiempo, las ciudades de Chicago y Denver estaran mas que felices al utilizar los \$136 millones que nosotros ya hemos devuelto a Washington, D.C. para mejorar la asistencia médica de sus

jovenes."

Llamado a la Restauración - Defensores de derechos de niños hicieron un llamado para la restauración completa de los beneficios de CHIP incluyendo servicio dental, exámen de la vista y lentes, servicios completos de salud mental y hospicio y la restauración de la criteria de elegibilidad establecida antes de los cambios impuestos por la legislatura. Una prioridad inmediata es el uso de \$469 millones para la restauración de los servicios de salud y humanos disponible por medio de fondos federales especiales que los estados pueden recibir hasta el 1º de julio, 2004. Estos fondos pudieran ser utilizados inmediatamente con la aprobación de la Mesa de Presupuestos Legislativos de Texas.

El Obispo Joseph Fiorenza, Diócesis Católica de Galveston-Houston afirmó, "La Diócesis Católica de Galveston-Houston apoya totalmente el Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP), y nosotros urgimos a nuestros líderes del estado a restaurar completamente la elegibilidad y los beneficios para CHIP. Desde su principio apenas hace algunos años, CHIP ha tenido éxito en aliviar el sufrimiento para cientos de miles de niños de Texas y sus familias."

Líderes de salud aseguran que a pesar de los recortes, CHIP es todavía crítico para cientos de miles de niños y continuara a cubrir visitas al doctor, vacunas, recetas médicas, hospitalización y los servicios médicos mas necesitados a un precio razonable.

Mas de 1,200 organizaciones e individuos se han inscrito a la Campaña Para Restaurar CHIP.

## Observando a Texas

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Para más información acerca de carreras en enfermería, visite <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/careers/nursing.html>.

Fuentes: Carole Keeton Strayhorn, Contralora de Texas ([www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us)) y la Comisión de la Fuerza Laboral de Texas.



### PUBLIC NOTICE

This statutory notice is to announce the formation of the People's Liquor Coalition, Roger Settler, Director. The office address of said Coalition is: 2120 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas 79401-2913. Telephone: (806) 747-1230; rsettler@aol.com. This purpose of this Coalition is to circulate Local Option Liquor Petitions to legalize the sale of all alcoholic beverages, including mixed drinks, in Justice Precinct Number Three of Lubbock County, Texas. Said petitions shall be submitted to the Lubbock County Office of Elections, Dorothy Kennedy, Elections Administrator, 1308 Avenue G, Lubbock, Texas 79401; (806) 775-1339; dkennedy@co.lubbock.tx.us.

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For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Paulo Peres. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail; paulo.peres@ttu.edu.

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Pd. for by Ysidro Gutierrez Campaign, Magdaleno Hernandez, treasurer