

SAVE THE DATE! LULAC HOLDS 79TH CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C., JULY 7-12, 2008

LULACnews

September | October 2007



- CHICAGO CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS
- COMMUNITY PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP
- LATINO RETIREMENT SAVINGS CRISIS
- NEWS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE
- LULAC LEADERS PROFILES

Veterans Summit | Lake Buena Vista, Florida | November 8-11, 2007 ♦ Program Guide Inside

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LULAC National President Rosa Rosales with LULAC Youth Ladies.

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A MESSAGE

From the President



Photo by Luis Nahu Briones

It is a real privilege to serve as your national president during our 78th anniversary year and I am both humbled and honored that you have given me the opportunity to serve for another year.

This year's convention was an incredible event that energized our membership and the Hispanic community as a whole. The week-long convention marked LULAC's 78 years of service to the Latino community. With a record attendance of 15,000 people, LULAC was able to share our message of hope to members from throughout the country.

My sincere appreciation goes to our national staff and the volunteers who put in long hours during the past year to make the convention such a success. In

addition, I would like to thank our many corporate sponsors. Without their tremendous support we would not have been able to produce such an amazing event. This year corporate contributions were higher than any other year.

We have not been able to get an immigration bill that was satisfactory through Congress this year but we will keep working hard for a bill that is just and fair. LULAC realizes the importance of the 2008 election year and has put a great deal of energy and resources into a voter registration and education project to get out the vote. We hope that this will ensure that our voices are heard in the halls of Congress and elsewhere. We must never forget the significance and importance of voting and always take full advantage of our right to participate in our democracy.

During the coming year we will continue working on important issues to improve the lives of Latinos. A major goal remains passing immigration reform legislation that is fair and just. As you read through the pages of the LULAC News I hope you are inspired to continue LULAC's legacy of service to the Hispanic community. There are so many opportunities for service and advocacy that there is simply no excuse not to be involved. Whether it means calling your representatives in Congress to support the AGJobs bill or the DREAM Act, helping to get out the vote by driving folks to the polls or participating in our scholarship and student mentoring programs...YOU can make a real difference in your community.

We know we can count on you to recommit yourselves to the core objectives of LULAC. As you know, volunteerism can have a lasting impact on improving the lives of Latinos in this country. I salute all LULAC members, volunteers, and friends who take time out of their busy lives to help LULAC make a difference.

Please remain in contact with us by mail or e-mail throughout the year. We want to help you serve others in your community.

Rosa Rosales
Rosa Rosales

National LULAC President



Ben Garza, Jr., 1923-2007

CORPUS CHRISTI — Longtime Nueces County Justice of the Peace and city employee Ben Garza Jr. died Friday, September 14. He was 84.

After a 31 years with the city of Corpus Christi's building and engineering divisions, Garza served as Justice of the Peace for Precinct 1 Place 2 from 1979 to 1994.

Garza was active in the community, serving as president of the League of United Latin American Citizens Council No. 1 from 1961 to 1963, an organization his father, Ben Garza, helped establish in 1929.

"I think my father always had interest in public service," Garza's son and Corpus Christi school board president Louis J. Garza said.

Garza also served as vice president of Corpus Christi Academy School Board, vice president of the Catholic Area School Board and was on the Salvation Army board of directors. Before his career with the city and as a justice of the peace, he served in the Army from 1942 through 1946, including two years of combat duty in the Pacific theater during World War II.

"We have lost a very good man and public servant," said District Attorney Carlos Valdez, who said he first met Garza in the early 80s while exploring a run for public office. "Any time I needed any type of advice he was always available. By watching him and listening to him he made me understand that the office that we occupy does not belong to us but to the people."

Garza is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Garza; one son, Louis J. Garza; two daughters, Lisabeth Garza and Ida Contreras; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church. Burial with military honors will follow at Rose Hill Memorial Park.

Highlights from the 78th Annual LULAC National Convention & Exposition

EMPOWERING LATINOS: BUILDING PROSPERITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Story by Lizette Jenness Olmos, photos by Luis Nuño Briones

The League of United Latin American Citizens held its 78th Annual National Convention & Exposition, Empowering Latinos: Building Prosperity through Partnerships, in Chicago July 9 through July 14, 2007. As the premier Hispanic convention, the LULAC National Convention drew over 15,000 people, including the top leaders from government, business and the Hispanic community.

National delegates convened to discuss issues, set policies and elect the organization's national leaders. LULAC National President Rosa Rosales was re-elected for a second term to serve as the organization's leader. She was voted in by delegates from around the country. It is the only convention in which representatives from Hispanic communities determine the positions and strategies of a national Hispanic organization. A list of all the resolutions can be viewed on the following page.

LULAC convention was well attended by major corporations that recognize the importance of reaching out to national Hispanic leaders and influential community members directly. We want to thank the following sponsors for making this year's convention a tremendous success: Diamond Sponsor Wal-Mart and Presidential Sponsors, American Airlines, Blockbuster, Clear Channel, Comcast, Ford, GM, Miller, Shell, Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services. Sponsors had the opportunity to conduct workshops and events, to showcase products and recruit Hispanic professionals in the convention exhibit hall. In addition, all proceeds supported the work of LULAC to improve the quality of life for Hispanic Americans.

LULAC convention also hosted the LULAC Federal Training Institute (FTI) under the leadership of Emma Moreno, Director of Federal Relations, an intensive and structured career



Highlights from the 78th Annual LULAC National Convention & Exposition

development program for government and public sector employees. In partnership with the OPM Management Development Center and the Graduate School, USDA, the FTI held workshops and plenary sessions to enable mid and senior level government employees to enhance their leadership skills and develop the Executive Core Qualifications required for entry to the Senior Executive Service.

Also featured a career fair, college fair and a health fair. The three day event featured great job opportunities from over 250 top companies and federal agencies. There was also a college fair with more than 30 representatives from top notch colleges and universities that gave out information on how to get into top universities around the country. The health fair provided information on blood pressure screenings, blood sugar screenings, pregnancy testing, diabetes education and handed out free information. In addition there was a housing fair and a youth conference. The housing fair provided services related to buying and keeping a home. An array of financial institutions, credit counselors, realtors, mortgage brokers, insurance companies, housing services agencies and builders were featured and answered questions. Individuals were able to obtain a free credit report and pre-qualified for a loan at the convention.

A Presidential Awards Banquet included a video address from Democratic Presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton.

The 79th convention will be held in Washington, D.C., from July 7-12, 2008.



Continued on page 22 & 23

Midwest Corner

Cincinnati community Awards Recognize Diversity Leaders

LULAC Cincinnati's 2007 Community Awards program Sept. 4 at the University of Cincinnati celebrated the power of diversity and recognized individuals and businesses that have made outstanding contributions to diversity efforts. Proceeds from the program will benefit local education programs.

Ohio state Sen. Eric H. Kearney was the keynote speaker and Geri Geiler, associate counsel for Macy's Inc., served as host. The event was attended by top local leaders from government, business and education.

The Procter & Gamble Co. received the program's Corporate Award. Scott Stewart, external relations manager for P&G, accepted the award. George Perez, publisher of The Spanish Journal, received the Hispanic Business Person Award. Dr. Mitch Livingston, vice president of student affairs at the University of Cincinnati, received the Educational Excellence Award.

Robert "Chip" Harrod, executive director of Bridges for a Just Community, received the Diversity Award and Gary Hines, president of NAACP of Hamilton/Fairfield/West Chester/Mason/Lebanon, was selected Friend of LULAC. Sasha Rionda of Nuestro Rincon Anchor, Local 12, was recognized for Media Excellence and Linda Schmidt, a community outreach specialist for the FBI, was cited for Government Excellence. V. Anthony Simms-Howell, a member of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic-Latino Affairs, was given the Community Award.



Jason Riveiro (President, LULAC Cincinnati), Keynote Speaker: Eric H. Kearney (Ohio Senator), Michael Beck (Vice President, LULAC Cincinnati)

Scholarships of \$1,000 were presented by Ernesto Almanza of Allstate Insurance to Juan Carlos Vargas, who is attending the University of Cincinnati, and Mike Robinson of LaVerdad Marketing & Media, to Guillermina Pat Camacho, a student at Miami University/Hamilton. Michael Beck of Midwestlatino

presented an \$800 scholarship to Liliana Rodriguez, a student at Northern Kentucky University.

US Bank was the Community Award Diamond sponsor, contributing \$5,000 for the event. Platinum sponsors (\$2,500) were Northern Kentucky University, Dr. Gregory Stewart, La Verdad Marketing and Midwestlatino. Gold sponsors (\$1,000) were the University of Cincinnati, Miami University/Hamilton, the city of Hamilton, the Cincinnati Hispanic and Cristo Rey/Centra de Amistad.

Sponsors at the \$350 level were Toyota, Santa Maria Community Services, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Kentucky Commission of Human Rights, the American Red Cross of Cincinnati, Bridges for a Just Community, the National Park Service and The Spanish Journal.

Mexican Fiesta 2007 A Great Success!



Mexican Fiesta was held on August 24, 25th and 26th in Milwaukee, WI with thousands of participants in attendance. Since 1977 Mexican Fiesta brings a taste of Mexico to Milwaukee. Sharing Mexico's history, food, and entertainment



Photos by Luis Nolasco Briones

LULAC National President Rosa Rosales addresses thousands of Mexican Fiesta participants in Milwaukee.

the public has responded with open arms to the festival every year. Mexican Fiesta has become an enormous success with the help of the community and the thousands of people who attend this incredible festival.

Entertainers included famous Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan. The group is known as the world's greatest mariachi band.

Mexican Fiesta has grown to incorporate several events including the Miss Fiesta Scholarship Pageant on Friday and a dance contest. Also on Saturday, the festival hosts the El Grito contest in which men and women compete for the loudest yell.

In addition, Mexican Fiesta raises money for scholarships that help educate the Hispanic community.



Photos by Luis Nolasco Briones

Haydee Morin, singer Ramon Ayala, LULAC National President Rosa Rosales, LULAC Wisconsin Deputy State Director Darryl Morin, Haydee Rivera and LULAC National Youth President Jessica Martinez.

Farwest Corner

Rodriguez Wins Ohtli Award For Aid to Mexican Community

Mr. David M. Rodríguez, National Vice President for the Far West Region of LULAC, received the Ohtli Award (Reconocimiento Ohtli) Friday, July 13th, at the organization's 78th Annual Convention, in Chicago, Illinois.



(L-R) Jorge Valenzuela, Director, Save the Children Foundation, LULAC National President Rosa Rosales, LULAC V.P. Farwest Dave Rodriguez and Secretary of the Exterior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Candido Morales.

The Ohtli will be conferred upon Mr. Rodríguez by the Director of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad (Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior), Cándido Morales, who has expressed his recognition of LULAC's work in favor of the Mexican, Mexican-American and Hispanic communities in the United States.

David M. Rodríguez has been a member of LULAC for 26 years. In his current position, he has worked to foster the empowerment of immigrant communities in the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah, focusing a major part of his efforts on implementing programs encouraging the acquisition of U.S. citizenship, and supporting the integration of emerging Hispanic communities.

Mr. Rodríguez has also been in public service for over 20 years. Among other positions, he served as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, where he was known for initiating legislation and public policies aimed at promoting justice and equality for all state residents.

He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation, a non-profit organization which builds affordable housing for agricultural workers, and empowers families in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, and adjacent areas in Los Angeles County, California, through community involvement in development projects.

The Government of Mexico created the Ohtli Award as a way to honor individuals of Mexican or Latino ancestry who, like Mr. David M. Rodríguez, have devoted a great part of their lives to promoting the well-being of Mexican communities abroad.

The Ohtli is an official award of the Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior, a Mexican government entity responsible for fostering ties between Mexico and its citizens living abroad. Ohtli is a Nahuatl word which means "pathway".

Twelve years ago, the Mexican Government began granting the Ohtli Award to distinguished members of LULAC during their Annual Conference. Some past award recipients include: Hector Flores, Ed Peña and Belen Robles, former National Presidents of the organization; Richard Fimbres, Vera Marquez and Blanca Vargas, current Regional Vice Presidents.

Northeast Corner

Students Get \$20,000 In LULAC Scholarships

Council #12113 granted \$20,000 in scholarships for Hispanic students entering colleges and university this year on July 27 at the Massachusetts State House.

Attendees included:

2007 scholarship recipients

Nataly Castaño, Mass. College of Art;
Tawil Nohely Contreras, Boston University;
Shirley Marie Martínez, Springfield College;
Laura Beatriz Coral, UMass Lowell;
Fatima Natali Morales, Simmons College;
Tania Maria Duperor, Holy Cross College;
Rosita Maeks-Anderson, UMass Dartmouth and
Nicholas Isaak Snyder, Emerson College
Consul General de Mexico Hon. Rodrigo Marquez
Felix Arroyo Boston City Councilor-at-large;
Richard Chacon, Director of Policy and Cabinet Affairs for Gov. Deval Patrick; State Rep. William Lantigua;
Maura A. Hennigan, Suffolk Superior Court Clerk Magistrate;
Dolores Calaff, Director of Lawrence Center Cambridge College;
Juan de los Santos Suffolk, Chief Court officer;
Janet Gonzalez, 2006 Scholarship recipient;
Katherine Seoane, Middlesex Probation Officer;
Gail Linehan, Boston Convention Center, and
Michael D. Munn, Boston Convention Center.



Roland Hughes, legal advisor for LULAC in Massachusetts and President of the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys, receives an award from LULAC State Director Annabelle Guerra and VP for the Northeast Toulia Politis Lugo for his unconditional support throughout the years.

Southwest Corner

Texas State Convention Featured Key Politicians, Policy Discussions and Star Studded Entertainment

U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes, El Paso County Attorney Jose Rodriguez and actor Tony Plana were among the headliners at the Texas LULAC State Convention held in El Paso May 24-27.

The convention included exhibits, workshops, breakfast, luncheons and dinners at the El Paso Convention Center and the El Paso Marriott, which served as the headquarters hotel. Workshops and discussions were held on a wide range of subjects affecting Latinos, including education, health, immigration, media relations, racial profiling, personal finance and youth and women's issues. The convention included a training session on effective communication with legislators on issues of importance to Latinos.



In his keynote address, Rep. Reyes lamented the "ugly mood" that has developed in some quarters over federal immigration reform legislation. But he called the debate "a fight worth having." He predicted that failure to

LULAC National Vice President for the Southwest Adrian Rodriguez, Texas State Director Roger Rocha, Congressmen Silvestre Reyes and Past National LULAC President Belen Robles.

pass legislation this year will delay addressing the issue until after the 2008 presidential election. Reyes served with the U.S. Border Patrol and rose to become a section chief. The six-term congressman and former chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus represents the 16th Congressional District, which covers the western tip of Texas.

El Paso County Attorney Rodriguez discussed the need for immigration reform legislation and cited the role that young people play in shaping the debate. "Young people should understand that they constitute a strong political force that can help determine the outcome of the current immigration debate," he said. "They have a historical opportunity to not only influence our policy towards immigrants, but to also define what kind of nation we want to be." Rodriguez is co-chair of the U.S.-Mexico Border Task Force, an organization that advocates fair and humane immigration policies.

Actor Tony Plana, who has won critical acclaim for his role as Ignacio Suarez, father of Betty Suarez, in the television series *Ugly Betty*, lent a bit of Hollywood flare to the convention. Plana came to the U.S. from Cuba with his family in 1963 and has numerous movie, television and directing credits.

In addition to convention activities, attendees from around the state were able to enjoy the offerings of El Paso and its across-the-border sister city, Juarez, Mexico's fourth-largest city. Popular Juarez attractions included the Mission of Guadalupe and its adjacent cathedral.

Southeast Corner

LULAC Florida Urges Latinos To Report Lending Abuses

LULAC Florida is urging anyone who thinks they may have been a victim of a bogus lending company targeting Hispanics to contact their local consumer service department or LULAC Florida at 1-877-44-LULAC.

LULAC Florida State Director Bettina Rodríguez Aguilera said the alleged fraudulent activities of 4 Solutions Inc. may extend beyond Central Florida and involve victims from Miami to Tallahassee.

4 Solutions Inc. is the subject of a federal grand jury investigation for allegedly tricking Hispanics with limited English skills into signing paperwork they thought would result in refinancing their homes but actually transferred ownership. Many now face foreclosure.

LULAC Florida is gathering information to present to the U.S. attorneys working on the 4 Solutions case. It will do all that it can to help fraud victims, including the possibility of filing a class action lawsuit against 4 Solutions. Members working on the issue include LULAC Florida President Aguilera, Barbara Hernandez and LULAC Florida Housing commissioner Art Otero.

Oklahoma LULAC Meets To Plan for Growth, Meet Community Needs



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

Adrian Rodriguez, LULAC VP of the South West, visited with members of Oklahoma LULAC for a retreat on Saturday, Sept. 15th. At the heart of the discussion was an anti-immigration bill passed by the Oklahoma legislature, HB 1804, that threatens to widen the use of racial profiling by police agencies. Among those in attendance were Manuel Rendon, Immediate Past TX LULAC Youth Director, to address the need for more youth and young adult councils and Luis Nuño Briones to talk about media relations.

Unmask the Culture

Albuquerque is exposed

and ready to show you our beautiful blend of modern wonders and old world flavor. Continue helping us celebrate our annual festivities and attractions that enrich our culture. Visit our wonderful and mysterious city and make Albuquerque, New Mexico your next stop!



- Albuquerque Historic Old Town
- Museum of Natural History
- Albuquerque Museum
- Explora Children's Museum
- Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum
- Tingley Beach
- Albuquerque Convention Center
- Albuquerque Zoological Park/Bio-Park
- National Hispanic Cultural Center
- Albuquerque Downtown

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U.S. Navy Partners with LULAC To Increase Workforce Diversity

Washington, D.C. – The Department of the Navy’s Manpower and Reserve Affairs Office has partnered with LULAC to attract a more diverse Navy and Marine military and civilian workforce.

A partnership agreement was signed July 12, 2007. A key feature of the agreement is the new approach used during LULAC’s annual convention to highlight military and civilian job opportunities in both the Navy and Marine Corps. At the 78th National Convention in Chicago in July, military and civilian recruiters shared a Department of the Navy information booth to discuss career opportunities available in the active and reserve Navy and Marine Corps and for civilian workers.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs William A. Navas, Jr. said he saw the agreement with LULAC as an excellent avenue to promote the many career opportunities available in the Department of the Navy. “This initiative, started last year, is a way to make Department of the Navy jobs requiring skilled individuals more visible to those men and women who are interested and have the requisite skills to fill them,” Navas said.

Navas said the Navy also will “provide information, career counseling and mentoring to those who may not be ready at this time to pursue a military or civilian job in the Navy or Marine Corps but may at a later date.”

Attracting a more diverse and better-educated workforce is one of the goals stated in the recently published Department of the Navy 2007 human capital strategy. More information is available at the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Web site at www.hq.navy.mil/mra

Salvation Army Literacy Project Receives National Recognition

Elgin, Ill. – The Salvation Army Latino Literacy Project here graduated its first student recently, less than a year after the organization started its first Latino literacy program outside of Chicago. Local LULAC Council 5236 is a partner with the Salvation Army in the project.

The graduation of Juan Chavez from the equivalent of elementary school drew national recognition with the attendance of Dr. Margarita Pinkos, deputy director of the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of English Language Acquisition.

Jo Ann Armenta, a volunteer for the Literacy Project and a co-founder and past president of Local LULAC Council 5236, said Dr. Pinkos’ presence “was a great honor for us and for the Chavez family.” Ms. Armenta said that Dr. Pinkos “saw for herself the wonderful work we are doing here in Elgin.”

Mr. Chavez, who had no prior formal education, worked very hard and finished elementary school requirements very quickly, said Kiyo Johnson, director of the literacy project. He is currently working on middle school courses.

Mr. Chavez received the program’s first diploma from Major Ken Nicolai, Elgin-area commander of the Salvation Army, and Dr. Pinkos. Dr. Pinkos also met with the staff and students of the project and congratulated them for dedicating their time and effort to improving literacy among Latinos. One of the students she met with, Gonzalo Otiz, travels nearly 40 miles each way to attend the program and not missed a class in more than a year.

New Electronic Filing Required by the IRS

Dear LULAC Officer:

The IRS requests us to inform all of our subordinates about a new electronic filing requirement. In addition we were asked to post a link at our web site that contains information about this filing requirement Please, see <http://www.lulac.org/publicservice.html>. The new filing requirement takes effect in 2008.

If you have any questions please contact:

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Thank you,

LULAC National Office

Latinos Less Likely Than Most To Save Enough for Retirement

Survey Shows Need for Action

By Kenneth Dalecki

Washington, D.C. -- It's no secret that most Americans save too little for retirement. What is more troubling for the Latino community is that Hispanics are saving less than average, even when they have the financial means to develop a retirement nest egg.

According to the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) in Washington, D.C., only 41% of Hispanics surveyed this year say they have saved money for retirement, down from 60% in 2003. Overall, 66% of Americans surveyed said they have put money aside for retirement.



"While some differences in preparation (for retirement) can be attributed to differences in income distribution, other findings show that minorities are less prepared even when comparisons are made among workers with similar levels of household income," EBRI reported in its 17th annual survey of worker attitudes toward retirement.

Most Latinos who do have retirement savings have modest amounts. More than 50% say they have less than \$10,000 in savings and investments, compared with about 33% of all workers. Hispanics are also more likely than most

Americans to count on employer-provided retirement benefits they may not receive, including pensions, retiree health insurance and long-term care benefits.

Despite their smaller retirement nest eggs, Latinos are just as confident as most Americans (about 70%) that they have enough to live comfortably in retirement. Hispanic Americans, particularly those born outside the U.S., have far more confidence in the future value of Social Security and Medicare than most Americans.

EBRI started tracking worker attitudes toward retirement in 1991. Since that time, it notes, employers have been pulling back from their role in ensuring a secure retirement for their employees and government entitlement programs have come under increasing strain. Workers are being asked to take greater responsibility for financing their own retirements through 401(k) plans and other personal savings.

Hispanics and other minorities report spending less time than most Americans on retirement planning. EBRI found that those who spend more time planning save more and have more realistic expectations about retirement. EBRI has a Web-based calculator to help workers estimate how much they will need to save for a comfortable retirement. The tool, called Ballpark Estimate, is available at www.ChoosetoSave.org.

LULAC Veterans Summit To Convene in Orlando

By Lizette Jenness Olmos

LULAC will host the 2007 LULAC Veterans Summit in Orlando, Florida; with the collaboration of LULAC Community Councils.

The summit will be held Nov. 8-11, 2007 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, extensive to general public, including free workshops & expo.

As the leading summit addressing the needs of Hispanic veterans, the LULAC Veterans Summit will draw over 20,000 participants, including top government, business, military and community leaders.

The Summit will kick off the Community Prosperity Partnership (CPP) in Florida. The CPP is a LULAC initiative serving our nation's veterans and the communities in which they live via our LULAC community-based centers.

LULAC's second annual veterans summit will address issues of critical importance to U.S. veterans and their families in a state with over 3.5 million Latino residents. Attendees can expect to hear from Cabinet secretaries, political leaders, government experts, local elected officials and respected business and community leaders.

Seminars and workshops will feature expert panelists addressing the issues that affect our veterans the most, including access to benefits, education and employment opportunities, entrepreneurship and health care. The registration fee will also include access to the world-renowned Disney Institute seminars on leadership and loyalty. In addition, the summit will feature workshops for students seeking information about civilian and military career opportunities.

This year the summit affords our sponsors and participants a unique opportunity to share information about their programs and opportunities through hands-on workshops, informative seminars and plenary sessions.

Partners are being asked to support the summit through event sponsorships and participation in the veterans opportunity expo, the veteran business enterprise fair, advertisements in the event program and the support of local Iraq and Afghanistan heroes at the gala, breakfast and luncheons.

The summit will take place in the Walt Disney World Resort and participants will receive hotel and park ticket prices far below Disney's standard rates.

Participants can bring their whole family to the summit and provide them with the vacation of their dreams at a price they can afford.

Summit planners look forward to hosting attendees in a magical setting as our veterans take center stage in what promises to be a most successful summit.

The Impact of the Media on the Immigration Debate

By Richard J. Gonzales

John Quiñones, ABC News correspondent, told the LULAC audience how he hired a Mexican human smuggler to get him across the Mexican-U.S. border at Laredo. Working for a Chicago TV station at the time, Quiñones sought to provide an in-depth look at undocumented immigrants' entry into this country. After riding an inner tube across the Rio Grande, he said, he was probably the first Mexican to cross illegally and sleep that night in a Hyatt Regency.

Quiñones won an Emmy for his story and soon was hired by ABC. During the 78th LULAC National Convention in Chicago last week, Quiñones moderated a panel discussion in a workshop on media coverage of immigration issues. (In full disclosure, I'm president of Arlington LULAC Council 4353.

Olga Briseño, director of the Media, Democracy and Policy Initiative at the University of Arizona, said that many educators and reporters who write extensively about immigration have never been to the border.

"It's one thing to talk about immigration, and it's another to live it," she said. "The immigration story is a story about economics; it's about social history. It's not something that a reporter can jump into and jump out. Because this story impacts the Latino community and the country, we must demand that the newsroom cover this story with the depth that it deserves."

Briseño cited a UCLA study of news reporting by Otto Santana, instructor at the UCLA Department of Chicana & Chicano Studies, that described immigrants in animalistic, criminal and foreigner terms such as herding, illegal and alien. The stories slant the coverage to imply that Mexicans shouldn't be here, that they're uneducated and inferior, she said.

And, she said, this happens at a time when Latino youth should be encouraged to pursue education and well-paying jobs.

The panelists cited TV talk-show hosts such as Lou Dobbs who provide inflammatory entertainment but no real, in-depth immigration coverage. Quiñones

encouraged LULAC and other civic organizations to confront Dobbs and others who make their living bashing immigrants. He said that we need cable news outlets that counter right-wing commentators. Where are the Latino talk-show hosts?

Domingo Garcia of Dallas, the national co-chairman of LULAC's civil rights commission, said that he has asked U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to reintroduce the "Fairness Doctrine" in Congress to call for balanced coverage of controversial issues. He challenged Spanish news

viewers and listeners flooded congressional representatives' e-mails and phones with their opposition to the reform bill. The only major Latino voice was Eddie "Piolin" Sotelo, the Los Angeles Spanish-speaking DJ who delivered more than a million petitions for a comprehensive immigration bill.

Briseño said that community organizations play a major role in balanced news coverage. After the April 2006 pro-immigration marches, President Bush's popularity ratings went down. However, she said that Latino presence in the news media



ABC Co-Anchor Primetime 20/20 John Quiñones, Author Paul Cuadros, Olga Briseño Director, Media, Democracy & Policy Initiative, College of Humanities at the University of Arizona, Editor of HOY, Alejandro Escalona, News Director of Telemundo, Esteban Creste and LULAC Activist and Attorney Domingo Garcia.

media corporations such as Telemundo and Univision to counter these attacks. Instead of showing telenovelas or R-rated entertainment that do little to change society, they should enter the immigration fray with counter-viewpoints.

Esteban Creste, news director for Telemundo Chicago, said that his station recently covered an unsuccessful attempt by the Illinois Legislature to allow driver's licenses for the undocumented. The bill failed, not for the lack of news coverage but because grassroots organizations and legislators offered weak political strategies, he said.

Garcia pointed out that as a result of conservative commentators' encouragement,

has declined for the last 10 years. She said Latinos comprise 4.4 percent of employees in newspapers and less than 2 percent in radio. They have a better showing in television because of Telemundo and Univision.

Quiñones said that as a son of a poor migrant worker family, he got his professional break when a San Antonio community organization demanded that the local news media start hiring people who looked like San Antonians. The group threatened that if the stations didn't hire more Latinos, it would go to the Federal Communications Commission and challenge their licenses.

"Thank God for them," Quiñones said. "I wouldn't be here."

YOUTH CORNER

By Javier Montanez

LULAC's 78th Annual convention in Chicago hosted the LULAC Youth Conference a three-day event, featuring workshops and panel discussions on education, career opportunities, community service and leadership. In addition there were four days of leadership development and policy workshops for college students and young professionals.

The young adults had a packed schedule featuring community service projects. These consisted of painting a house, painting St. Casimir's Parish Center and volunteers La Casa Food Pantry. Workshops were held on self-esteem and leadership. McDonalds University hosted the students with an information session and a tour of the facility.

A Youth and Young Adults Awards Banquet was held in the Grand Ballroom at the Navy Pier and featured U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute President Juan Andrade, Chicago Bears guard Roberto Garza. Following the awards banquet,



LULAC Youth members picking up trash at Lindblom park.

LULAC held the Concierto de la Gente, featuring three-time Grammy winners La Mafia and Grupo Niche.

On Friday LNESc gave out student scholarships at the LULAC National Educational Service Centers



Jessica Martinez
LULAC National Youth President



Over 100 LULAC Youth conducted Community Service at Lindblom Park in Chicago, Illinois.



Belen Gonzalez from San Luis, Arizona, = LULAC and PPEP-TEC H.S. painting a house in South Bend, Indiana during the National Convention.

breakfast.

The youth elected their new officers at the Youth Assembly on Saturday.

New National Youth Executive Board Officers:

Jessica Martinez, Youth President; Michael Ramirez, VP-Far West; Carlos Blanco, VP-Southwest; Steven Astorga, Youth Treasurer; Cindy Camacho, Young Women.



Bertha Urteaga
LULAC National V.P. for the Youth

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



Photo by Luis Nunez Briones

(L-R) Silvia Gonzales, Fernando Grimaldo and Roger Rocha. Texas State Director Roger Rocha raised \$12,000 in 10 minutes during the Texas LULAC state convention for 9 year old Fernando Grimaldo for his college fund after he gave a speech to the Texas LULAC banquet audience.



LULAC National President Rosa Rosales with National LULAC Board members at the Latino Congreso in Los Angeles.



Photo by Luis Nunez Briones

(L-R) Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff with National Executive Director Brent Wilkes and Communications Director Lizette Jenness Olmos.



Scholarship Ceremony 2007. Students get \$20,000 from LULAC Council 12113 in Massachusetts.



The Hurricane Henrietta relief supplies are turned over to Mexican representatives: Jorge Valenzuela, Save the Children Mexico, Oscar Tellez, the Sonora State Representative, and Mr. Zacharias elected representative from the affected region of the Mayo India ns.



LULAC Cincinnati and P&G presenting \$10,000 check to AMIS (Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies) for Young Readers Program.

How To Organize A Press Conference

The Basics

A press conference can help publicize your event to many news outlets in your region. If you are putting together a rally, vigil, free clinic or large event, a press conference can be used to publicize the issue.

Contact Lizette Jenness Olmos at ljolmos@lulac.org or (202) 833-6130 ext. 16 for help in planning your press conference.

Who's coming?

Star Quality: To maximize media attendance at your news conference, it is beneficial to have at least one high-profile personality participating (e.g. dean, AMSA national officer, community organizer, police chief or the mayor). It is important to plan ahead and give enough notice to your invited participants.

Diversity: It will be important to show a cross-section of participants. This will demonstrate that the issue is a concern to everyone. Try to enlist participants from medical, religious, business, education and civic organizations. Strive for ethnic and gender diversity among participants.

Location, Location, Location

Eye candy: Use a location that is easily accessible but also visually interesting for the media. Examples include a hospital emergency room, local school or steps of the state capitol. Obtain a permit in advance if needed!

Visuals: Use visual aids at your news conference.

When to hold the event: Try to hold the news conference Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Avoid Mondays and Fridays. If at all possible, hold the event between 10:00 am and 2:00 p.m. Earlier than 10:00 am is hard for reporters to make. After 2:00 p.m. is sometimes too late for evening news. 10:00 am or 11:00 am are the best times-because many noon newscasts will include the event.

Getting the media's attention

Write a media alert that will serve as your announcement of the news conference/event to the press. Be sure to include who, what, where, when and why. Keep it short! Make sure to include a contact name and phone number.

Contact the National Office for press materials. The Communications Director can provide you with background materials, fact sheets, etc. Do not reinvent the wheel-this information is already available for you.

Most important media contact: The Associated Press daybook. This outlet lists press events for the following day and goes to almost all medical outlets. Call to make sure the event is listed. By noon the day before the event, FAX the advisory to the daybook editor.

Fax: One day before the event, all area media outlets should receive the advisory.

Follow up: One day before the event, call the assignment editors to confirm fax transmission, and make sure they know about the event. Talk it up as much as possible to encourage coverage! Many TV stations do not make their assignments until the day of the event. It is worth calling the TV assignment editors again between 8:30 am and 9:00 am the day of the event.

Setup

The right equipment: Are you using a microphone? Is

there electricity?

Do you have/need a podium? Do you have something for the microphone to sit on or attach to?

Arrange a press table: This is where reporters sign in and pick up materials. One person should be the "meeter & greeter" of reporters.

Permit: Do you need a permit for the location you have selected? Get one, bring it.

If it is an outdoor event, is there a rain location?

All participants should stand together behind the mike or podium so that everyone is in the picture.

Make sure that visuals are not placed too high so as to be out of the picture, or too low so as to be blocked by the participants.

Speaking Order

Who's next? Determine the order of speakers in advance. It is preferable to have each person come to the microphone and introduce him/herself. Remember to distribute a speakers list to the press as well as the speakers themselves.

Length

Short and sweet: Each speaker should keep remarks short. The overall length of the news conference should only be 20--30 minutes (including Q & A period). If there are a lot of speakers, each may only be able to speak for 2 minutes, or so.

Not all participants need to speak. Ask groups to send a representative, even if he or she does not wish to speak-this aids in showing the depth of support.

Speakers should distribute copies of their statements to the media.

If they are ready in advance, they can be included in the press kits. If not, they can be placed on the press table.

Questions

Often the press will ask questions. They may direct them specifically to one speaker. If not, you, as the host should be prepared to answer any questions that come up. If they ask a question that you cannot answer, don't be afraid to say you're not sure and get back to them later.

Reporters often want one-on-one interviews with speakers after the Q & A period. This is your chance to clarify or cover information not brought out in the Q & A.

Post-event follow-up

After the event, you will want to send a good quality photo to the newspapers in your region. Include the basics of the event, such as the "who, what, when, why, where" information, highlight any special happenings and the successes. Think of it as a news brief or mini-story.



Photo by Luis Nolasco Briones



Photo by Luis Nolasco Briones

Darryl D. Morin

Q: When and where were you born?

A: I was born on Nov. 2, 1967 at St. Joseph Hospital, Chicago, IL. I currently live with my wife Angela and sons Nathaniel and Matthew in a suburb of Milwaukee, WI.

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: I have been an active LULAC member for the last three to four years.

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: My parents for overcoming the many hardships they faced along the way, and for insisting their children learn to work hard, get a quality education, do what is right and to never be willing to settle for less out of life.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: In life, my parents. In education, Dr. Peter Lane, former Assistant to the Chancellor at the University of North Texas. In community service, Immediate Past President Hector Flores and President Rosa Rosales.

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: I have been fortunate to realize in life, while I am still young enough to do something about it, that true happiness doesn't come from professional success, but in service to others. I am equally fortunate to be in a position where I can devote much of my time to community service. As I evaluated a number of Hispanic organizations, I found LULAC to be the one organization willing to commit it's full resources to not just identifying and advocating on issues, but committed to providing working solutions as well.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: Education is the great opportunity of not just Hispanic's but all minorities. While we must continue our efforts on comprehensive immigration reform, healthcare, economic empowerment and the many other vital issues, it is only when our community is educated that equality and diversity in all areas of society can be realized.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: Saving Regina. Regina Bakala had fled to the United States and was to be deported back to the Congo where she had been imprisoned, sexually assaulted by government soldiers and had been targeted for execution for her advocacy for democracy. Due to LULAC's help, her's was the first deportation of this type to be stopped and to have the case reopened since the September



Photo by Luis Nino Briones

11 attacks. This summer, the federal immigration judge presiding over her case granted her authorization to stay, live and work in the United States and even encouraged her to petition for citizenship as soon as she was eligible. Regina is married and has two beautiful children. LULAC literally saved Regina's life.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: Aside from my national, state and local LULAC responsibilities, I serve on the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation and am a founding member of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Justice for Immigrants Committee. In my professional life I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Advanced Wireless, Inc., serving customers in 47

states and four countries.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: One's belief in purpose. While other skills such as the ability to listen, organize, evaluate and prioritize are important, no one can truly lead others if they themselves do not believe in their cause or purpose.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: When I am not busy with my for-profit or non-profit life, I enjoy spending time with family, golfing, hunting and reading for knowledge as well as entertainment.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: The birth of my new son Matthew, born on Sept. 6, 2007.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: The creation and implementation of a corporate initiative at Advanced Wireless, Inc. that provides a wireless LAN data network and five years of technical services to schools serving underprivileged children. To date, AWI has provided wireless LAN data networks to three schools and has committed to do the same for seven more schools.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: While it is important to always move forward, we are all obliged to those who came and struggled before us, to help those in need and to leave the world a better place for those who will follow.

Anita de Palma



Q: When and where were you born?

A: New York City, NY

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: 17 years

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: Matilda Garcia my mentor and best friend

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: The late Gabriel Cazares and Matilda Garcia

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: They represent everything I believe in and fought for all my life

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: A. Immigration. Being recognized for what we are - a group of people that can claim that our ancestors were the first from a European nation to put their feet on this American continent.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: When LULAC National President Rosa Rosales gave me the presidential medal.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: The one that people always talk about is hurricane season when we were hit with 4 hurricanes in 6 weeks. Our local councils and national LULAC came to help us. LULAC National fought with FEMA to get the resources we needed. The brotherhood of LULAC came to the floor and it made me continue fighting for what we stand for.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: Believe in what we stand for.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: I cannot say that I do anything but fight for Hispanics and the recognition that we have. I have dedicated my life to this. When I semi-retired from show business, I dedicated my life to the Hispanic cause and defending our rights.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: I attended the Democratic Presidential Debate in Miami sponsored by Univision. Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton said that Spanish was the first language spoken on this continent 500 years ago and people are not aware of it. It made me happy to hear that someone was finally bringing it out. I became very excited that a public figure brought it out.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: being the State Director of Florida and I believe having a successful term of office.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: We have to continue to fight the fight and be proud of our ancestry and most of all try to be united with other citizens of our country so we are a nation of one for many.

Manuel R. Marquez



Q: When and where were you born?

A: July 11, 1928 in Pike, Arizona

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: Since 1951.

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: My Grand Parents.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: Mario Obledo, Dr. Anita Del Rio and Bob Gnaizda

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: Witnessing acts of discrimination against Latinos.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: Anti-immigration laws persecuting Latinos.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: The completion of the formation of the California LULAC Educational Foundation

Q: What are the activities you are involved in?

A: Retired but involved with the California LULAC Educational Foundation. I was the Founder and President of the foundation which was created in 1988. The purpose of this organization is raising funds to provide academic scholarships to underprivileged yet deserving college bound Latino Youth.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: Integrity combined with commitment and personal sacrifice

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: Reading about current events. Following football (U.S.C. Trojans), Basketball (Lakers), working in my yard, hearing from my children and winning the war of wills with my dog "KOBI"

Q: What has had the biggest impact on you this year?

A: Seeing Latinos finally speaking up and defend their rights.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: Providing Academic Scholarships to deserving and needy Latino Youth via the California LULAC Educational Foundation.

Q: What do you feel still needs to be addressed this year?

A: Health Insurance, Mortgage and Financial Fairness to all Latinos.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: Action speak louder than words. Get Involved! Create a positive role model for the Latino Youth.

Profile:

Q&A



Elsie Valdez de Lizardi

Q: When and where were you born?

A: February 5, 1950

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: 24 years (consecutives)

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: "On the Earth & Under the Sun", they are various: (1) Pedro J. Rossello, Former Governor of Puerto Rico; (2) Ramon Luis Rivera, Former Mayor of Bayamon City; (3) my sons Juan Carlos Lizardi & Maria Lizardi.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: Mr Miguel A Pagan, Esq, lawyer, former PR Justice Department Sub-Secretary & Special Assistant to the PR Senate President

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: The fight and defense of the equality rights for the Latin American people.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: The United States of America Immigration Reform

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: In a 5 years political persecution process and discrimination by the Government of Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, finally re-vindicate with the Not Guilty decision of the jury at the Puerto Rico Supreme Court. This memorable moment was do the solidarity, integrity and defense by LULAC National, and special support by: Rey Velarde, Luis Vera, Hector Flores, Richard Roybal, Hayde Rivera, Margaret Moran, Brent Wilkes, Rosa Rosales and the PR LULAC Chapter; these are the true defenders of the human rights.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: At this moment the Community Prosperity Partnership with Veterans Affairs & LULAC in Florida and the promotion of LULAC & membership in this area. The coordination and

promotion of the 2009 LULAC National Convention in Puerto Rico. In New York the new LULAC member campaign. At the Women Commission the campaign to promote Puerto Rico as the state for the 2008 LULAC Women Conference. In Puerto Rico the LULAC Civil Rights Commission in the coordination of the activities for the PR Self-Determination.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: To preserve the integrity of the objectives and goals.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: Participate in the political activities of my state and communitarian services in my town.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: Be part of the LULAC Membership Campaign, making possible the integration of Florida community to LULAC, in order to develop alliances with Veterans Affairs Administration, the Church of God, Housing Programs & Women Commission. In addition one of the most memorable moment in LULAC was when the General Assembly of LULAC at the National Convention in 2007 approved unanimous the Equality Rights for Puerto Rico Resolution.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: A FAMILY, with 35 years of marriage, two wonderful sons and three grandchildren.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: The integrity of the objectives and goals that moves us in the defense of our rights. To motivate and involve the community in the active participation of their goals as Latin American and the solidarity with the causes and objectives that are leading.

“A Hero of the Heart”

AHIP, LULAC, and ADA launch a bilingual diabetes education campaign focused on proper foot care

On July 12 at their annual convention in Chicago, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) joined with America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) and the American Diabetes Association (ADA) to launch a bilingual diabetes education campaign aimed at reducing the number of lower limb amputations that affect people with diabetes.

With proper foot care, most of the 82,000 amputations due to diabetes each year can be prevented, and diabetes education is a top priority for all three of the sponsoring organizations. The three groups came together to publicize the fact that simple steps like removing your socks and shoes and having your doctor examine your feet on each visit can make the difference. The print, radio, and television PSAs feature Roberto Garza, starting lineman for the Chicago Bears. They are being distributed in English and Spanish in markets across the country. Bears fans will get to see the PSAs on the Soldier Field scoreboard before some Bears home games this season.

“For America's Health Insurance Plans, good health is our mission. And so we are proud to join Roberto Garza, LULAC, and ADA in a broadbased effort to encourage people with diabetes to get and practice proper foot care,” said AHIP President and

CEO Karen Ignagni, who initiated the project.

“We're proud to be partners with like-minded organizations such as LULAC. Both AHIP and LULAC will be urging English and Spanish-language media outlets to broadcast this simple, important message to audiences all over the country,” she said.

Diabetes education is a top priority for AHIP, LULAC, and ADA, and the campaign is part of a broad collaboration between AHIP and LULAC that will include an ongoing focus on diabetes prevention and treatment in the Hispanic community.

Approximately 10 percent of all Latinos—more than two million individuals—have diabetes, which is twice the rate as for non-Hispanic whites, according to the American Diabetes Association and the National



Photo by Luis Nuno Briones

Roberto Garza discusses his family's history with diabetes at a press conference during LULAC's annual convention in Chicago, where LULAC, AHIP, and ADA announced a joint diabetes awareness campaign.

Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

“LULAC has a long history advocating for patient education programs to continue raising the quality of life for all Latino families. We are very excited about our partnership with AHIP, ADA, and the Chicago Bears on a terrific public education campaign in the Hispanic community that creates greater awareness about diabetes prevention—a disease disproportionately affecting Hispanic families,” said LULAC National President Rosa Rosales. “Our campaign spokesperson, football star Roberto Garza, is a magnificent and inspiring role model to Latinos of all ages,” she said.

ADA was represented at the LULAC event by Dr. Edgardo R. Rodriguez, DPM, co-chairman of ADA Chicago Latino Initiative Program. “We are excited to continue our relationship with AHIP, LULAC, and Roberto Garza in educating the public about proper foot care and reducing the risk of amputations,” said ADA President, Medicine and Science, Larry Deeb, M.D. “It has been the goal of ADA to educate the public across the country and we are proud to be a part of this initiative once again.” Garza's commitment stems from



Photo by Luis Nuno Briones

(L-R) Karen Ignagni, President and CEO of AHIP; Rosa Rosales, National President of LULAC; Roberto Garza, Chicago Bears Starting Guard; Edgardo R. Rodriguez, DPM, Co-Chairman of ADA Chicago Latino Initiative Program.

Continued on page 21

“A Hero of the Heart”

family experience, including that of his grandfather, who lost two toes to the disease. Knowing that diabetes is more prevalent among Hispanic Americans, Garza was enthusiastic about launching the new campaign.

close three times to losing his feet due to diabetic foot ulcers and infection. After viewing the diabetes PSA and hearing about this collaborative effort, Gomez said, “I praise and thank AHIP, LULAC, and ADA for publicizing a bilingual awareness



Roberto Garza signs autographs for young fans at the AHIP booth following the press event launching the bilingual diabetes education campaign. Photo courtesy of Rita Carreon, AHIP.

“I believe that if my grandfather had this information, it would have made a difference for him,” said Garza. “I want to use my position to help others avoid what happened in my family,” he said. Garza removed his socks and shoes to film the PSA, but what he really showed was his heart. Those in attendance at the press conference announcing the campaign were clearly impressed and even inspired by his dedication to helping those with diabetes. One gentleman, in an unscripted moment, rose to tell his personal story of diabetes and lower limb amputation. “Diabetes is terrible and we all know it runs rampant in Hispanic communities,” says Tex Gomez, a federal executive employee at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, who attended LULAC’s press conference where the diabetes PSA collaboration was launched in July. Gomez is a diabetic and says he has come

campaign that spreads the word to Latinos about diabetes prevention. It was a thrill to meet their campaign spokesman Chicago Bears football player Roberto Garza at the convention, to see and hear his passion and dedication to our community and combating diabetes.” Following the press event, fans of Garza, including many starry-eyed children of all ages, lined up around the conference exhibit hall to meet him and have their diabetes campaign materials signed. Later, Garza was recognized as a “Hero of the Heart” at a youth dinner. Garza is a past nominee for the National Football League’s “Walter Payton Man of the Year” award that considers a player’s contributions to the community as well as his on-field accomplishments, and he has been heavily involved in diabetes awareness for many years.

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



F.C. Dallas check presentation to LULAC Council in Collin County, Texas on September 2007.



LULAC, World Care, PPEP, Inc., and Mexico Associate LULAC Council #1 teamed up again to help Sonora victims of Hurricane Henriette, 12 tons of emergency supplies were delivered to rural Sonoran communities.



Highlights from the 78th Annual LULAC National Convention & Exposition

EMPOWERING LATINOS: BUILDING PROSPERITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Continued from page 5

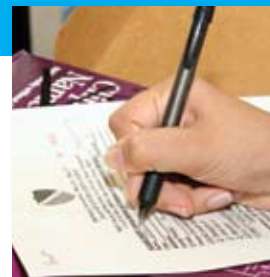


Highlights from the 78th Annual LULAC National Convention & Exposition



2007 LULAC Resolutions

<http://www.lulac.org/advocacy/resolutions/resolve07.html>



Military Resolutions

Congressional Medal of Honor Recommendation for Guy Louis Gabaldon, Rafael Peralta, Marcelino Serna
Congressional Gold Medal Escuadron 201
New Mexico National Guard
Commentary on the War

Health

Martin Luther King Jr. Harbor Hospital
Latino Children and the Foster Care System
Cheese Resolution
College Insurance
Public College and Universities
42 U.S.C. 1396 p
Health Disparities
Chronic Kidney Disease and Renal Disease
Bill of Rights for Diabetes

Education

Homeward Bound Fund
Elimination of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills
Texas A&M in San Antonio
Oppose Cap on 10 per cent rule
Latino teachers

Immigration

Immigration call center hotline
Waukegan city council
Section 245i on immigration and national act
Support for HR 64

Civil Rights

LULAC Cuban Democracy and Human Rights
Puerto Rico Self Determination
Voting rights for residents of Puerto Rico
Support for Latinos in the news media
Support for Johnny Canales
Restoration of SBA Micro Loan program
Reauthorization of U.S. DOL programs
Free America of police violence culture
Renaming Canon Lakes Drive to Cesar Chavez Drive

Port of Entry in El Paso , Texas
Signatory and endorse of Hispanic statement of cooperation
Improve Transportation in Texas
Ramsey Muniz
Second Chance Act
Voting Rights
Workers Rights
Richard Lafuente and Reyes Rodriguez
Resolution for Council 4604 District 3 Wichita Falls
Support of Independent Investigation by U.S. Department of Justice
Midland Texas
T Don Hutto Detention

Honorary Resolution

Remembrance of Grayce Noteboom Arnold



Photo by Luis Nunez Briones

POLICY and Legislation

Workshops on Latino Issues Lead to Resolutions

By Amethyst L. Narron, LULAC National Policy Assistant

Eight key policy issues were addressed at the 2007 National LULAC Convention in Chicago under the theme, “Empowering Latinos: Building Prosperity through Partnership”. Workshops over three days dealt with a variety of pressing policy issues of concern to the Latino community, including elder issues, government services communication, financial matters, health and healthcare, diversity, prevention of domestic violence, media coverage, civil rights, and human rights. The convention concluded with the adoption of most resolutions involving many of these discussed issues.

One of the more attended seminars, “Life After 50: Issues, Services & Advice for Aging Latinos” covered issues such as rapidly raising healthcare costs and available services for those reaching retirement and beyond. A seminar on “Partnering with Your State Government” focused on the ways the public can communicate with state agencies to get access to state services and overcome the cultural and language barriers facing the Latino community.

The issue of domestic violence prevention was addressed by a panel moderated by Annabelle Guerra, LULAC State Director for Massachusetts and victim witness advocate for the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office. Discussion included how immigration status may become a major issue in the eyes of a domestic violence victim for both documented and undocumented Latino domestic violence victims often fear deportation or change of immigration status if they report abuse to authorities. Literature with available services for victims and posters with a domestic violence assistance hotline number were distributed by Antonieta Gimeno of the National Latino Alliance for the Elimination of Domestic Violence.

The LULAC Health Commission conducted three hearings. The hearings covered issues of health care disparities,

obesity and chronic disease, and achieving universal health care. They were moderated by this year’s LULAC Health Commissioners Rev. Deacon Sal Alvarez, Jaime Martinez, Maria D. Rodriguez-Salazar, Dr. Roberto Jimenez, Dr. Oscar Perez, and Blanca Vargas.

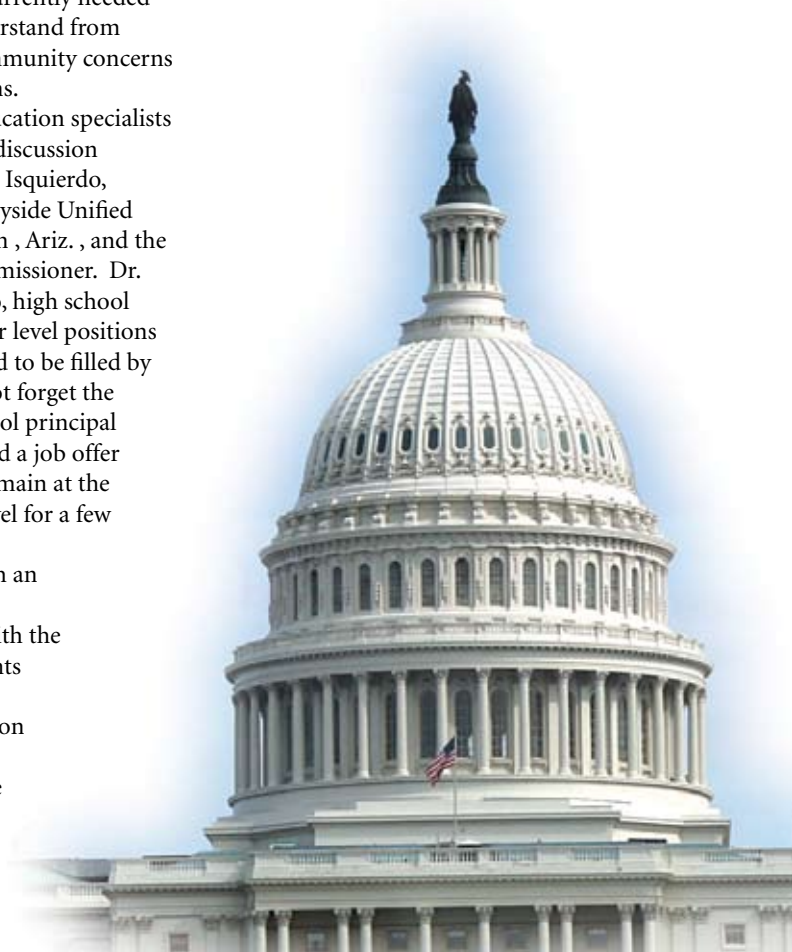
A seminar titled “The Impact and Importance of Latino Leadership in Education Today” was focused on the lack of Latino representation in higher positions of our education systems. Principals, superintendents, and educational decision makers lack Latino representation. Latino teachers and potential teachers need not limit their career goals to classroom teacher positions. Latinos are currently needed higher positions to understand from personal experience community concerns and appropriate solutions.

The large panel of education specialists provoked a penetrating discussion moderated by Dr. Manuel Isquierdo, superintendent for Sunnyside Unified School District in Tucson, Ariz., and the LULAC Education Commissioner. Dr. Edith Macklin-Isquierdo, high school principal said that higher level positions of education system need to be filled by Latinos, Latinos must not forget the high importance of school principal positions as she discussed a job offer she recently passed to remain at the high school principal level for a few more years.

A second seminar with an education focus “Latino Dropout Crises” dealt with the difficulties Latino students often encounter were discussed. First generation students may not have strong parental guidance because their parents are not familiar with the expectations and mechanics of the American school

system. Channel Wilkins, director of Head Start, spoke of the importance of starting education at a young age. Monty Neill co-executive of director of Fair Test, discussed the importance of teachers developing a personal relationship with students. Moderator, Dr. Joe Gonzales orchestrated the panel dialogue.

This year’s policy seminars led to the adoption of important policy resolutions. Resolutions are available on our web site at <http://www.lulac.org/advocacy/resolve.html>



San Antonio LNESC Awards Fundraiser Recognizes Outstanding Supporters

The San Antonio LULAC National Education Service Center here hosted its first annual education award fundraising gala Aug. 17 at the Granada Ballroom.

Business honorees were the locally based H.E. Butt Grocery Co. and Valero Energy Corp., North America's largest oil refiner. Individual award recipients were Laura Sanford, president of the AT&T Foundation, Dr. Harriet Romo, associate professor at the University of Texas at

leadership and personal involvement in supporting education initiatives in the San Antonio community.

Orlando Blancas did a great job in the short time as a coordinator raising over

\$25,000 for the event.

Past National LULAC President Oscar Moran served as the Master of Ceremonies.



Past LULAC National President Oscar Moran is the MC for the LNESC fundraiser in San Antonio.

San Antonio, and Ramon Chapa, Jr., a community leader and director of the Edwards Aquifer, District 8.



LULAC National President Rosa Rosales speaks at LNESC dinner addressing the crowd on the importance of giving back to the community.

LNESC recognized these companies and individuals for their outstanding

Notice: Mark Your Calendar

September, 13-14, 2008

Summit



National LULAC South West Regional Summit Lincoln Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas

Adrian Rodriguez, Vice President of the South West, announced the South West Regional Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas on September 13 & 14, 2008. The conference will target a general audience for the purpose of generating interest in the November elections. Workshops will be structured to meet the needs of participants wishing to know more about the electoral process and how to actively engage as participants in the weeks prior to the elections. A collegiate strand of leadership workshops will be offered as well as information for prospective citizens. In addition, Latino leaders from throughout the southwestern United States will be featured as speakers, panelists and participants. A summit of Hispanic leaders will help craft a plan of action on Sunday morning, September 14th for issues discussed during the conference.

The South West Regional Conference will be held at the Hilton Lincoln Center in north Dallas, Texas. The location is easily accessible and convenient to several major attractions in the Dallas metropolitan area.

For more information and sponsorship package, contact Adrian Rodriguez at adrian.rodriguez17@verizon.net or 214-478-5921

To All Scholarship Alumni,

Founded in 1973, LULAC National Educational Service Centers (LNESC) has made it a mission to provide educational services to America's Latino youth. In particular our scholarship programs seek to recognize academically talented students who wish to achieve a college degree. By providing financial aid, LNESC's scholarship program has aided students in achieving their academic and professional objectives by opening up the opportunity to investigate a number of careers and professions.



The ever increasing Latino youth is becoming a successful and integral part of the workforce. It is with this in mind, and in recognition of your personal success, that we are interested in what each of our scholarship recipients is currently doing. In effect, we would like you to join our LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) Alumni mailing list. By filling out the questionnaire available online, you will receive updates about our scholarship program and any new information about LNESC. Your personal stories and successes will serve as models for future applicants to aspire to and help introduce a new group of students to the opportunities available to them as they pursue higher education.

We thank you and wish you the best of luck on all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Roybal'.

Richard Roybal
Executive Director

Visit us at WWW.LNESC.ORG/LNSF to sign up and become a part of the LNSF Alumni network.



To learn about our programs visit us at www.LNESC.org or call for information at 202.835.9646

Richard Roybal, Executive Director | 2000 L Street, NW, Suite 610 | Washington, DC 20036



(L-R) LULAC National President Rosa Rosales with Texas State Director Roger Rocha award Texas Youth Leaders for their contributions to the LULAC organization and the Hispanic community.

(L-R) Miss Mexican Fiesta Contestant; Executive Director of Mexican Fiesta Teresa Mercado; LULAC National President Rosa Rosales; Consul General de Mexico en Chicago Manuel Rodriguez Arriaga; Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett; Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker; Miss Mexican Fiesta 2006 Remaining are additional Miss Mexican Fiesta Contestants.

Yes! I want to be a LULAC member!

All persons who are residents of the United States or are U.S. citizens residing abroad, are 18 years of age or older, and whose loyalty to our country is unquestionable, are eligible for membership in LULAC. LULAC members receive a copy of the LULAC Constitution, a membership card, a membership pin, and a complimentary subscription to the *LULAC NEWS*.

- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an active member. Please send me information on councils in my home area.
- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an associate member. Please find a check of \$25 enclosed.
- ☐ I want to become a lifetime member of LULAC. Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$1,000.
- ☐ My company would like to join LULAC as a corporate associate. Enclosed is a contribution of \$1,000.
- ☐ Please send me information on how I can start a LULAC council in my hometown.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____



League of United Latin American Citizens

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