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INLAND EMPIRE BIDS FAREWELL TO MEXICAN CONSUL LIC. CARLOS GIRALT CABRALES

Lic. Carlos Giralt Cabrales was honored at a farewell reception on the occasion of his transfer to a new position in the City of Mexico, after a 5 1/2 year tenure as Mexican Consul for the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. Pictured above, center, Lic. Carlos Giralt Cabrales, right, wife, Wanda Ortiz-Giralt, left, consul's mother, Elida Nury Cabrales, and son Carlos Cabrales, Jr. Photo by IEHN

Mexican Consul Lic. Carlos Giralt Cabrales was honored at a farewell reception on Thursday, April 10, 2008, at the San Bernardino County Government Center with a myriad of adulations during his 5 1/2 year tenure in charge of the Mexican Consulate encompassing the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

Inland Empire elected officials, community organizations and leaders praised Consul Giralt Cabrales in recognition of his outstanding administrative leadership in expanding immigration and auxiliary services and exceptional interrelationship with governmental agencies and community groups, and outreach to all segments of the region via radio, television and community meetings.

Lic. Giralt Cabrales announced his departure as local consul administrator in March and his future assignment as Deputy General Director at the Office of General Direction for Protection and Consular Affairs, Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the City of Mexico. Jeremias Guzman Barrera is acting consul until a new consul arrives in several months, Lic. Giralt Cabrales said.

Lic. Giralt Cabrales was presented with 50-plus resolutions and plaques from elected officials, community groups and individuals including Congressman Joe Baca, California State Senate and Assembly, co-signed by Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod and Assemblywomen Wilmer Carter, Assemblywomen Nell Soto, Supervisor Jonie Gonzales, Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Sinfinia Mexicana, Banning Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Inland Empire Hispanic News, among others.

The Inland Empire is comprised of a large geographical area of cities, upper and lower deserts with a large Mexican population of over 1.5 million people. A large proportion of these residents require multitude of services including immigration assistance, document verification and identification assistance, emergency and death assistance services, civil and legal rights, visas, and an array of services applicable to the needs of Mexican families and American citizens residing in the region.

Lic. Giralt Cabrales has been recognized as a progressive official, initiating office expansions and organizing customer services with efficient and expedient operations to accommodate increasingly service demands, according to many observers. He stated, with a satisfactory smile during an interview, that over 65,000 persons in 2007 were provided multiple services.

A unique operation is the implementation of mobile consular services, one of three consulate offices in the United States providing assistance in outlying areas. Other unique services are the participation of the consulate office with health officials to provide local health fairs, and memberships in the Bi-National Health Group, extending health services throughout the region.

Lic. Giralt Cabrales, an outgoing foreign service professional, has developed an extensive public relations network in radio talk shows

CÉSAR CHAVEZ EVENT: A SUCCESSFUL AREA ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Parents, students, community enjoyed an event at San Bernardino's Cesar Chavez Middle School

Dr. Carlos Cortez, UCR professor emeritus and noted author and lecturer, was the keynote speaker at the Cesar Chavez Celebration at Cesar Chavez Middle School. San Bernardino. Dr. Cortez spoke on the life of Chavez and his commitment to improve economic, social and health conditions among California grape field workers and their families. Photo by IEHN

The large newly-built Cesar Chavez Middle School cafeteria was the scene on March 29, 2008, where parents, students, community members, school officials from the cities of Colton and San Bernardino participated in A Celebration of the Life of Cesar Chavez, with a cordial greeting by Principal Stephanie Cereceres and the presentation of colors by a proud Cesar Chavez Middle School Color Guard.

The annual event sponsored by the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE), San Bernardino City Unified School District, Colton Unified School District, Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino and Inland Empire Hispanic News attracted over 500 people, according to Mel Alviso, chair of the Cesar Chavez Committee.

"The committee's goal was to involve as many students from kindergarten to high school in our two cities, including city and school officials and, very important, to target the parents," stated Albiso, "We were successful with the cooperation of the school districts, community groups and local businesses in a collaborative effort for an outstanding annual event to celebrate the life of Cesar Chavez."
LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Vietnam Veteran's Moving Wall

The American Legion Post 772, in conjunction with the City of Fontana and five other Veteran's Service Clubs in the area will be sponsoring the Vietnam Veteran's Moving Wall. The "Moving Wall" is a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. The Moving Wall has 58, 228 names of the service men and women that gave their lives in the Vietnam Conflict. There are 13 persons from Fontana listed on "The Wall" and a total of 50 additional persons from the surrounding cities.

"The Moving Wall" will be delivered to Miller Park in Fontana on April 30th. We will have "The Wall" available for viewing 24 hours each day from May 1st thru May 5th. On the 6th of May it will be transported to the next location for display. During the visit in Fontana we expect over 10,000 people will come to view "The Wall".

We are in the process of seeking donations from local businesses to help offset the cost of preparation, maintenance, and services required at the site, food for the volunteers, and the other associated cost of the project. We are estimating that the total costs will be upwards of twenty thousand dollars.

Please consider giving a generous donation to this very worthy project. Your donation will qualify as a tax deduction as this project is completely non-profit. All checks should be made payable to "American Legion Post 772 - Moving Wall Fund".

Thank you for your contribution.

Joseph J. Dean
Post 772 Commander

Editor's note-address: American Legion, Steele-Toomey Post 772, 16767 Spring Street, Fontana, CA, 92335 Federal Tax ID# 95-6907408, phone (909) 829-9490

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

WHAT WAS ONCE A DREAM IS NOW A REALITY


WASHINGTON, D.C. - The United States Senate today took up and passed S. 2739, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. Contained within that bill was the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of American Latino Act (H.R. 512/ S.500), legislation which passed in the House of Representatives February 6, 2007. The bill now comes back to the House for a procedural vote and then will head to the White House for President Bush's signature.

"The last few months have witnessed an incredible level of momentum and support for this endeavor," Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), H.R. 512's author, said, "What was once a dream is now a reality. It is my hope that we can get this to the president in short order so that we can immediately form the commission and subsequently move forward to complete our American cultural mosaic."

"I believe we must celebrate the diversity of our nation, and Latinos have been a significant part of American history. They have contributed to the arts, business, and served in our nation's military with distinction," Senator Salazar, S. 500's author, said. "This bill would take the first step in commemorating the rich contributions of the Latino community to American life. The end result will be a more enhanced experience for the 20 million visitors that come to our nation's capital to learn the full history of America."

H.R. 512 sets up a 23 member commission charged with producing three things: one, a national conference to bring stakeholders, experts, policymakers and other interested parties together to discuss the museum's viability, two, a fundraising plan to create an extensive public-private partnership; and three, a report to Congress detailing a planned plan of action on how to move forward with taking the museum from concept to reality. All of this will happen within 24 months of H.R. 512 being signed into law.

"Today's vote would never have occurred were it not for a bipartisan group of champions who all agreed that this was a worthwhile effort," Rep. Becerra said. "To the 24 bipartisan cosponsors of S.500, the Senate version of H.R. 512 thank you for your support and your fortitude. To Senators Harry Reid, Jeff Bingaman, Mel Martinez and Pete Dominici: thank you for the 11th hour advocacy that ensured this bill's passage.

"Leaders, corporations, and several great non-profit groups have done tremendous work to educate our congressional leaders and the public about this effort and deserve both recognition and thanks. Some of these groups include the Museum of the American Latino Advisory Board Committee, the Central American Resource Center, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, the Hispanic Education Coalition, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund, the Mexican Heritage Corporation, the National Council of La Raza, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, the Southwest Voter Registration & Education Project, the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the William C. Velasquez Institute, and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials.

"And most importantly, to Rep. Illeana Ros-Lehtinen and Senators Ken Salazar of Colorado and Bob Menendez of New Jersey: this effort would be nowhere if not for your passion and your dogged drive to see to it that this bill became law in this Congress."

For information Contact: Steve Haro, 202.225.6235, 202.225.8355 (mobile) or Steve.Haro@mail.house.gov or Greg Buss, 213.483.1425 or Greg.Buss@mail.house.gov
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CESAR CHAVEZ EVENT-A SUCCESSFUL AREA ANNUAL CELEBRATION
Parents, students, community enjoyed an event at San Bernardino’s Cesar Chavez Middle School
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songs and Riley Elementary School students performed various Mexican regional folklórico dances.
The Chavez Committee established an art and essay contests relating to the life of Cesar Chavez, with participation of students in kindergarten-6th grades, 7th and 8th grades, 9th to 12th grades, and honorable mention categories in the Colton and San Bernardino School District. The response from students was overwhelming, according to the judging panel. The winners in the art and essay categories are as follow:

Art Awards
Kindergarten to 6th grades: Max Nelson, 1st place, Guadalupe Rodarte, 2nd place, and Celeste Espinoza, 3rd place; 7th and 8th grade: Brooke Anderson, 1st place, Antonia Gerardo, 2nd place, and Celeste Espinoza, 3rd place; 9 to 12 grades: Elizabeth Jasso, 1st place, Jesse Carvalho, 2nd place, and Edwin Sanchez, 3rd place; honorable mention: Tyler Mardis, Emilio Barron, Gerardo Ramirez, Karina Torres, and Nathaniel Hearms.

Essay Awards
Kindergarten to 6th grades: Taylor Sanchez, 1st place, Xitlah Cardenas, 2nd place, and Cole Chammas, 3rd place; 7th & 8th grade: Alberto Calvillo, 1st place, and Bhavin Jindal, 2nd place; honorable mention: Evelyn Batz, Judith Romo, Daisy Avila, Valerie Ascencio, Pedro Vásquez, and Bradley Schubert.

Albiso thanked the Cesar Chavez Committee, school districts, and contributors for the involvement and support to the annual event. “These volunteers, community groups, schools, and businesses were the contributing factor in the most successful Cesar Chavez celebration. This will establish an ongoing tradition to continue celebrating Cesar Chavez Day,” Albiso said.

APPRECIATION TO SUPPORTERS OF THE CESAR CHAVEZ EVENT SAN BERNARDINO

The Cesar Chavez Committee wish to thank the Communities of San Bernardino and Colton, their respective school districts’ teachers and personnel, parents, kindergarten\high school grade students, and area businesses for their wholehearted participation in the “A Celebration of Life of Cesar Chavez Event on March 29, 2008, Cesar Chavez Middle School, City of San Bernardino. The success of this annual event is due to all of your support.

HISPANICS AND THE VOTE
Hispanics and the 2008 Election: A Swing Vote
By Paul Taylor and Richard Fry

After spending the first part of this decade loosening their historic ties to the Democratic Party, Hispanic voters have reversed course in the past year, a new nationwide survey of Latinos by the Pew Hispanic Center has found.

Some 57 percent of Hispanic registered voters now call themselves Democrats or say they lean to the Democratic Party, while just 23 percent align with the Republican Party—meaning there is now a 34 percentage point gap in partisan affiliation among registered Latinos. In July, 2006, the same gap was just 21 percentage points—whereas back in 1999, it had been 33 percentage points.

This U-turn in Hispanic partisan allegiance trends comes at a time when the issue of illegal immigration has become an intense focus of national attention and debate—the presidential campaign trail; in the corridors of federal, state and local governments; and on cable television and talk radio.

The new survey finds that a plurality of Hispanics view the Democratic Party as the one that shows more concern for Latinos and does a better job on the issue of illegal immigration (although a substantial minority of Latinos see no difference between the parties on these matters).

Also, many Latinos (41%) say the policies of the Bush Administration have been harmful to Hispanics, while just 16% say they have been helpful. Another third (33%) say they have had no particular effect.

Important Issues
Even though immigration has had a very high profile in the 2008 presidential contest, it does not rise to the top when Latinos registered voters are asked to state which issues in the campaign are very important to them personally.

Given a list of six issues, the greatest number of Hispanic respondents (94%) considers education as either extremely important or very important. Next comes health care (91%); crime (84%); immigration (79%); and the war in Iraq (70%). Among the issues tested in this survey, immigration is the only one that has risen significantly in importance since 2004. Back then, just 63 percent of Hispanic registered voters called immigration an extremely or very important issue, placing it last in importance among the 10 issues listed in the Center’s nationwide survey of Latinos taken in June of that year.

Thanks to Assemblyman Joe Coto’s “sunshine” bill, The Foundation Diversity and Transparency Act, the public has heard more about diversity and accountability on philanthropic foundation boards in two months than it has in two decades. This bill, which my organization sponsored, would require large foundations to disclose their board and grant-giving diversity. Information of this type is already provided by every major bank and regulated utility in the state. What we did not realize, though, is how this issue would ignite a firestorm of controversy and condemnation from major foundations. Almost every week there is a new charge that the proposed law would unlash “diversity police” or promote “reverse racism.”

The strongest argument against AB1624 has not been raised by anyone in the philanthropic world, and there is good reason why. If the $700 billion of foundation assets were truly private in nature, then the Legislature has no right to require transparency as to the uses of these funds. But the taxpayers subsidize through tax exemptions to the foundation world between $40 billion and $80 billion a year.

These taxpayer subsidies were awarded in order to encourage the foundations to assist the poor and under-served communities. They were not intended, for example, to subsidize the opera or the symphony, which throughout the United States receive more than $1 billion in assistance from foundations and wealthy donors. As Robert Reich, a former U.S. secretary of labor and currently a public policy professor at UC Berkeley, has written, “These aren’t charitable contributions. They’re often investments in the lifestyles the wealthy already enjoy and want their children to have.”

For the past three years, the Greenlining Institute has published an annual report that looks at philanthropic foundation giving to minority community nonprofits. Our 2008 report found that only 10 percent of the total giving goes to low-income communities. Many community leaders feel this low level of giving to the needy does not make sense, considering how much foundations receive every year in tax subsidies.

That foundations may fear the most is not the Coto transparency bill, but where it may eventually lead.

Today, foundations spend only a quarter, on the average, of their annual income on philanthropy. Included in this sum are grants to wealthy universities that already have huge endowments, an example of which is the Koret Foundation’s $3 million dollar gift to Stanford in 2006.

Foundations could be doing far more, to address the immediate crisis, particularly during a recession, if they spent a larger portion of their annual income on philanthropy. For example, foundations today spend only half their income every year. If they were to spend 80 percent of their annual income, that number would rise to more than $100 billion a year.

To further support Assemblyman Joe Coto’s bill, Greenlining has asked the chairman of the congressional Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Charles Rangel, to request a GAO study of the dollar amount of annual federal, state and local tax subsidies to the foundation world. And, the governor, facing a major budget crisis and substantial cuts in health, education and other social services to low-income families, may wish to ask the State Franchise Tax Board to report on the dollar amount of California taxpayer subsidies.

Greenlining estimates it at $4 billion a year. This may be enough to avoid cuts in education and health care for low-income families.

In the spirit of compromise and maximizing impact, Greenlining invites all foundations, including the Koret Foundation, to join us in a venture which will have profound and long-lasting benefits for our state’s underserved families. We have written Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to request that half of the annual income of the state’s foundations be devoted to helping low-income victims of the recession for the next two years. In a time of recession, we hope that foundations will be vocal supporters of this idea.

John C. Gamboa is executive director of the Greenlining Institute. The opposing view by Jeffrey A. Forbes of the Koret Foundation ran in Open Forum on March 25. To read it, go to sfgate.com
**HATE CRIMES LINKED TO IMMIGRATION DEBATE**

**By David Crary**

NEW YORK - Anti-immigrant sentiment is fueling nationwide increases in the number of hate groups and the number of hate crimes targeting Latinos, a watchdog group said Monday.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, in a report titled "The Year in Hate," said it counted 888 hate groups in its latest tally, up from 844 in 2006 and 602 in 2000.

The most prominent of the organizations newly added to the list, the Federation for American Immigration Reform, or FAIR, vehemently rejected the "hate group" label, and questioned the law center's motives. FAIR said the center was using smear tactics to boost donations and stifle legitimate debate on immigration.

"Their banner may be 'Stop the hate' but it's really 'Stop the debate,'" said FAIR's president, Dan Stein. "Apparently you can't even articulate an argument for immigration reform without being smeared."

The law center's report contends there is a link between anti-immigrant activism and the significant rise in hate crimes against Latinos in recent years. According to the latest FBI statistics, 819 people were victimized by anti-Latino hate crimes in 2006, compared with 595 in 2003.

"The immigration debate has turned ugly and the result has been a growth in white supremacist hate groups and anti-Latino hate crime," said Mark Potok, director of the law center's Intelligence Project. "The majority of anti-Latino hate crimes are carried out by people who think they're attacking immigrants, and very likely undocumented immigrants."

Potok said hate groups were proliferating because a growing number of Americans were agitated by the immigration debate. He said many new groups had appeared in the border states of California, Texas and Arizona where illegal immigration has been a particularly volatile issue.

Critics of the law center, including FAIR, contend that the periodic reports on hate groups exaggerate the threat to public safety and inflate the total by including entities that are little more than Web sites or online chatrooms.

Potok acknowledged that some of the groups may be small and said it is impossible for outsiders to gauge the membership of most of the groups. Among the largest categories of hate groups, Potok said, are neo-Nazi, white nationalist, racist skinhead and those with links to the Ku Klux Klan.

FAIR'S president, Dan Stein, described the assertions of bigotry as "a total fantasy."

Both FAIR and law center are relatively well known in the ranks of advocacy groups. The law center, which started as a small civil rights project in 1971, has amassed an endowment fund totaling $200 million as of October and it received nearly $29 million in grants and contributions in fiscal 2007.

FAIR claims more than 250,000 members and reported more than $4 million in contributions in 2006.

Stein, in addition to rejecting the "hate group" label, questioned the law center's linking of anti-immigrant sentiment to the recent increase in anti-Latino hate crimes. The data on such crimes is inexact and prone to misinterpretation, and some of the incidents classified as anti-Latino hate crimes involved violence between Latino gangs and non-Latino rivals, Stein said.

The law center has listed numerous incidents not fitting that profile. In one such assault, in February 2007, three men broke into a mobile home in Wright City, Mo., yelling "immigration enforcement" and beat an illegal immigrant from Mexico with a piece of lumber, according to police reports.

In Arkansas, where the Latino population has grown rapidly, there have been several recent violent incidents. In December, police said, a Hispanic man was fatally beaten in Lowell, Ark., after his nephew spoke Spanish to the assailant's girlfriend.

CSUSB HONORS PRESIDENT-ELECT OF CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AS THE 2008 ARROWHEAD DISTINGUISHED EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bernardino's College of Business and Public Administration. The college bestows the award at an annual event to executives whose leadership, civic service and commitment to education make a difference in the community. GnanDev will be honored with a reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. and an optional black tie dinner and program at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 9, at the Ontario Convention Center. GnanDev's membership in professional organizations include the American College of Surgeons, the American Association of Vascular Surgery, the Society for Vascular Surgery, the San Bernardino County Medical Society and the California Medical Society. He has received honors from the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors including the Community Service Award for founding the youth tattoo removal program, was a corecipient of Inland Empire Leaders of Distinction Humanitarian Award in 2003, and was the American Heart Association Stars of the Heart Physician Honoree in 2005.

MIGRANT MUST GO, AND $49,000 STAYS, U.S. SAYS
By Ana Menendez

After nine years of washing dishes, Pedro Zapeta managed to save $62,000. Then he lost most of it overnight. Not to addiction or street thugs. To the U.S. Government.

Customs agents confiscated $59,000 of Zapeta’s money when he tried to board a plane home to Guatemala (he had another $3,000 in his pockets) in 2005. It’s not illegal to take that much money out of the country. But it’s illegal not to report it on a special form. Zapeta didn’t know that. He’s not a frequent flyer.

Earlier this year, U.S. District Judge James Cohn levied a heavy civil penalty for Zapeta’s mistake: $49,000. Zapeta was graciously allowed to keep the remainder of his earnings. Then he was kicked out. He has until January to leave the country.

Exhausted and bewildered, Zapeta wants to go — but without his money, which everyone agrees he acquired through honest labor.

“You can imagine the great effort it took me to earn that money and when they took it, it caused me a great sadness,” Zapeta told me in Spanish. “But I know there is a God who is great and good, and I know he is looking down and will help me.”

The college bestows the award at an annual event to executives whose leadership, civic service and commitment to education make a difference in the community. GnanDev will be honored with a reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. and an optional black tie dinner and program at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 9, at the Ontario Convention Center. GnanDev’s membership in professional organizations include the American College of Surgeons, the American Association of Vascular Surgery, the Society for Vascular Surgery, the San Bernardino County Medical Society and the California Medical Society.

He has received honors from the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors including the Community Service Award for founding the youth tattoo removal program, was a corecipient of Inland Empire Leaders of Distinction Humanitarian Award in 2003, and was the American Heart Association Stars of the Heart Physician Honoree in 2005.

Net proceeds from the 2008 Arrowhead Distinguished Executive Officer event will benefit CSUSB’s College of Business and Public Administration scholarship fund.

Held annually since 1990, the Arrowhead Distinguished Executive Officer event has become the premier fundraiser in the region, attracting business and governmental leaders from throughout Southern California.

For information about attending or sponsoring the event, or contributing to the college, contact Cal State San Bernardino’s College of Business and Public Administration at (909) 537-7295.

For more information on Cal State San Bernardino, contact the university’s Office of Public Affairs at (909) 537-5007 and visit http://news.csusb.edu.

BILLY BILL TO ALLOW FINANCIAL AID FOR AB-540 STUDENTS REACHES FISCAL COMMITTEE

AB 2083 (Nunez) was heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee this week. When AB 540 (Firebaugh) passed, undocumented students that spent three years in and graduated from a California high school and signed a waiver stating that they would attempt to normalize their status were permitted to pay in-state tuition rates. However, these students would not be eligible for federal or state financial aid. AB 2083 would permit AB 540 students to receive some financial aid including fee waivers and student loans.

For more information go to:
http://leginfo.ca.gov/pub/07-08/bill/asm_ab_2051-2100/ab_2083_bill_20080219Introduced.html

SANTO BERNARDINO, CA. - Cal State San Bernardino's College of Business and Public Administration will honor Dev A. GnanDev as its 2008 Arrowhead Distinguished Executive Officer on Friday, May 8, at the Ontario Convention Center.

GnanDev who founded the New Beginnings - Gang Tattoo Removal Program for reformed gang members, is a graduate of the college's first "M.B.A. for Executives" program in 2001. At that time he was serving as the Director of "The Program for reformed gang members," Begiimings - Gang Tattoo Removal Program for reformed gang members, has always shown a strong interest in the community and has worked with firefighters to raise money for children to attend summer camp. He founded a cardiac rehabilitation program for indigent patients, is a founding board member of the Inland Empire Burn Institute and has worked with firefighters to raise money for children to attend Burn Camp.

We are pleased to honor Dr. GnanDev for his leadership in the community, and as an executive who helped to build the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center to its stature and level of service in both health care delivery and education," said Karen Dill Bowerman, dean of Cal State San Bernardino's College of Business and Public Administration.

Fortunately, the hate-mongers are outclassed by those who know the punishment is way out of proportion to the crime. One blogger quoted scripture: "The wages you withheld from the worker who moved your fields dry out, and the cries of the worker reach the ears of the Lord of hosts."

Another offered to trade Guatemala one for one. "I'd do business with Pedro Zapeta. We'd get the better end of the deal." An Oregon man wrote his representatives on Zapeta's behalf: "I would deduct the taxes, give the man his money and deport him, although we could use more people like him."

Since his story became public, people have donated $10,000, which his attorney is keeping in trust.

Part of the outpouring is due to Zapeta's sad story. His break across the frontier was motivated by the kind of poverty that most Americans can't understand. His hard life here was sustained by the hope of one day returning to Guatemala to build a home for his mother and four sisters. For 11 years, he earned his money around in a bag, afraid to wire any of it. "I thought I'd take it with me all at once," he told me. "My only regret is that I've stained my name here."

THE CRIME

The "crime" he's being punished for is not illegal immigration. It's a bureaucratic technicality meant to catch drug dealers and smugglers, of which he is neither. We can disagree all we want on immigration policy, it takes an especially hateful nature to argue that a man is not entitled to his wages.

But there's another appeal to Zapeta's story. At a time when most Americans are deep in the red and the national debt rises by more than $1 billion a day, Pedro Zapeta may be the last man on earth who still embodies the great American ideal of thrift and hard work.

He never owned a car, rode his bicycle everywhere and denied himself every luxury beyond rent and electricity. If Zapeta were wise to the ways of popular culture, he'd pitch a self-help book: How to Think and Grow Rich on Minimum Wage.

Zapeta doesn't care about any of that. He just wants to get home to his family. That's understandable. But I think the authorities should reconsider.

Anywho, anyone who can amass $62,000 in nine years should be forced to stay here and teach the rest of us how to do it.

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Inland Empire Hispanic News
**HELPING CHILDREN COPE WITH DISAPPOINTMENTS**

By the American Counseling Association

What should you do when a child experiences a disappointment? Parents and teachers face this kind of situation regularly. Childhood disappointments come in many shapes and sizes — not being chosen for a playground game... losing in some competition... having a best friend or favorite teacher move away... losing a pet... getting sick and missing some special activity — the list is as long as a child’s imagination.

A good starting point in helping a child cope with disappointment is to listen to the child’s story. Don’t minimize or discount the event. Adults may see the story as trivial—“My best friend won’t talk to me”—or, they may see the event as a normal event—being turned down for a school play part—that will soon be forgotten.

But for the child the disappointment is not something minor. It may feel like it will never be overcome. It’s important to remember that your values and experiences are not the child’s.

One reaction to avoid is always trying to soothe the disappointment with a pleasant experience or reward. While that ice cream or surprise present may make the sorrow disappear, it can also establish patterns that will be hard for the child to overcome as he or she grows into adulthood.

Instead, react to what has happened by talking “with” your child rather than “to” your child. Don’t interrogate, but instead give the child an opportunity to tell you what has happened.

Share your understanding of the disappointment or loss being felt. Do that with statements of understanding, not explanations of your own life experiences. Don’t try to top the child’s disappointment with stories of your own life difficulties.

If you notice a change in behavior over a disappointment, especially one for which you have few details, make time to allow the child a chance to talk about what has happened and how he or she is feeling. If your child can’t or won’t talk about it, discuss the situation with your child’s school counselor. Counselors are trained to understand a child’s feelings and how best to communicate with children.

It’s important not to ignore or minimize the impact of disappointing events in a child’s life. When you do, you simply confirm what many children think all too often about the adults in their lives: “They just don’t understand.”

“The Counseling Corner” is provided as a public service by the American Counseling Association, the nation’s largest organization of counseling professionals. Learn more about the counseling profession at the ACA web site, www.counseling.org.

**REP. BACA AND MRS. BACA ATTENDED WHITE HOUSE EVENTS WITH POPE BENEDICT XVI**

Washington, DC — Congressman Joe Baca (D-Rialto) and his wife Barbara Baca, attended ceremonies held at the White House to honor Pope Benedict XVI, to commemorate his first visit to the United States as Holy Father.

“The Pope’s visit to the United States is a once in a lifetime spiritual opportunity for all Americans, both Catholics and non-Catholics alike,” said Rep. Baca. “Benedict represents a message of hope, justice, and human rights that resonates within each and every one of us.”

The ceremony included a welcoming speech by the President, and a brief address and blessing administered by Pope Benedict. "I was emotionally and spiritually moved to see Pope Benedict in person and hear his message of hope," added Mrs. Barbara Baca. “I am thankful to God for this opportunity, and pray the rest of the world has the same opportunity to hear his words.”

Congressman Baca and Mrs. Baca also were in attendance as the Pope led over 46,000 people in prayer at a Mass held in Nationals Park, in Washington DC. Congressman Baca and Mrs. Baca are parishioners at the St. Catherine of Sienna Church in Rialto, California.

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**SUPPORTERS OF MEL**

Continued from page 1

A native of Mexico, Lic. Giralt Cabrales graduated from the Metropolitan Autonomous University with a major in Economics. He held several positions in the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Mexico City. Completing his studies in Diplomatic Formation Course in the Matias Romero Institute for Diplomatic Studies, he was appointed as a permanent Foreign Service Officer and held various positions in the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

He served as Deputy Consul in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Deputy Consul and Acting Consul General in Sacramento, California, and in 1992, appointed Consul for the Inland Empire.

He has received various awards including “Influential Latino of the Year-2003” by the Inland Empire Hispanic Image Awards, “Latino of the Year-2005” by the Redlands Northside Impact Committee, and “Sol Azteca,” from the Coachella Valley publication La Prensa Hispana.

Lic. Giralt Cabrales, during the interview, stated that he gave full credit to the consular staff for contributing many recommendations to improve quality services and at all times, providing professional and courteous services to the public. “I am very grateful to all of them for working as a team and appreciative of a job well done”, he said.

“I have made many friends during my stay in the Inland Empire, and sincerely appreciate the cooperation extended to my office from elected officials, groups and many individuals. It is very hard for my family to leave due to the many good memories of so many friends. We will always remember the gracious people of the Inland Empire.”

Next Issue of the IEHN is our Cinco de Mayo Issue — April 30th

**Tickets**

Individual Tickets: $30.00
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*VIP Reception: $100.00
Amphitheater Seat Cushion $7.00

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**San Bernardino Valley College Foundation & SBVC Alliance for the Arts Present**

A benefit concert to provide full scholarships to economically disadvantaged students and bringing “Together” the legendary talents of Brenton Wood, Al Wilson and Tierra, performing such chart-busting greats as The Oogum Boogum Song, Gimme a Little Sign, Together and Show & Tell.

**Saturday, May 3**

3:00 pm San Bernardino Valley College GREEK THEATRE

**Tickets**

- **Individual Tickets**: $30.00
- **Students with ID**: $25.00
- **VIP Reception**: $100.00
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