

HISPANIC COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Amigos de las Americas

Amigos de las Americas provides summer service opportunities to young people who want to get to know another culture and improve living conditions in Latin America. Meet **October 23** at the Metropolitan Learning Center, 2033 NW Glisan. For information call: 231-9355 or 234-7790.

Hispanic Poetry Conference

Renowned Argentinian poet Juan Gelman heads the cast of guest poets from Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru and the U.S. reading at the **University of Oregon International Poetry Conference October 24-26** in Eugene. Call (541) 346-4039 for information.

"Che" Guevara film shown

The Argentinian-born revolutionary's life is reconstructed in the documentary "The Bolivian Diaries", **October 25 & 26**, at 7 & 9 pm, at the **Northwest Film Center**. Call 287-9806 for information.

Flamenco Guitarist at Cafe Sol

Flamenco guitarists Victor "el Agua" and Stephen Seavey will accompany singer Raphaela de Cadiz and a special guest dancer from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm Saturday, **October 25** at Cafe Sol, 620 SW 9th Ave. Call 243-2161 for information.

Hispanic Chamber meets

The **Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's** monthly luncheon will be held Tuesday, **October 29** at The Benson Hotel. Networking starts at 11:30. Guest speakers will be Democratic Senate candidate Tom Bruggere and Republican candidate Gordon Smith. Call 281-7079 to reserve your seat. This event is sponsored by PG&E.

Gloria Rolando, Cuban film director

Afro-Cuban film director Gloria Rolando, head of the Havana-based independent film-making group, Imagines del Caribe, will show and discuss her films "Oggun" and "My footsteps in Baragua" on **Wednesday October 30**, at 7:30 pm, at the **Northwest Film Studies Center**. Call 287-9806 for information regarding the showing and reception.

Latina Leadership Summit

Featured keynote speaker Dr. Lydia Ledesma-Reese will discuss "The Latina Superwoman Syndrome" at the Latina Leadership summit on **Friday November 1**, in Seattle. The event is sponsored by Nordstrom and Image de Seattle and includes a Coalition-building Workshop. Anna Maria Arias, Editor of Latina Style Magazine is also featured. Registration is \$50. Contact Cecelia Contreras at (206) 553-2899 or Sandra Madrid at (206) 543-0199 for information.

Hispanic orphans need parents

Northwest Adoption Families Association (NAFA) will provide information on domestic and international adoption at NAFA's Adoption Fair at the Galleria, 921 SW Morrison, on **Saturday, November 2**, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. This event is in support of National Adoption Awareness Month. Contact Deborah or Lynn at (503) 222-9661.

Pre-Columbian art & jewelry exhibit opens in Portland

An exhibition of Pre-Columbian art and jewelry from Mexico, Central and South America will be shown in Portland through November at **Abante Fine Art**, a private art gallery located on the corner of Second Street and Yamhill, adjacent to the MAX line. For information, call Rudi Milpacher at (503) 295-2508.

Photographs exhibited at Miracle Theater

Photographs by award-winning photographer Francisco Rangel are on display in the lobby of the **Miracle Theater**, at 525 SE Stark Street in Portland. Call 236-7253 for viewing times.

Michoacan copper vessels

Art of the People is hosting an exhibition of handmade copper vessels from Michoacan through the month of October at 818 SW First Street in Portland. These vessels were each created from solid copper ingots in a Pre-Columbian method used by the Purepecha Indians for centuries before Europeans arrived in the Americas. Call (503) 221-0569.

"Chavez" play in final week

"Chavez reflects the folkloric tradition of Latino theater that arises from the Miracle plays in Medieval Europe. The message is couched in iconic symbols and it is both simple and powerful"—Steve Friedman of the Metropolitan Human Rights Commission comments. Call 236-7253 for show times for the play inspired by Cesar Chavez.

Oregon Latino Voter Registration Drive needs volunteers

OLVREP needs volunteers to help encourage voter participation in the November 5 general election. Cash contributions are welcome, too. Contact (503) 375-3808 in Salem for more information on how you can help this statewide effort. *Su voto es su voz.*

Portland Observador seeks youth writers

The Portland Observador is seeking essays by young writers for our In Our Own Words (En Nuestras Proprias Palabras) feature. We would like to publish your thoughts, feelings and experiences from a Hispanic perspective. Contact Editor, The Portland Observador, 4747 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Portland OR 97211. Please include the name of the school you attend and a daytime phone number.

CFO accused of trading university funds

Mexico's largest university has accused its chief financial officer of playing the stock market with its funds.

The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) said it had asked Mexican authorities to investigate the executive, Miguel Solorzano Albores, who has been missing for a month.

A UNAM statement said Solorzano misused university funds to buy and sell shares on the stock market through broker Jose Sanchez Pizzini, the jailed former head of Mexican

brokerage Estrategia Bursatil.

The university said it discovered Solorzano's trades when reviewing its relationship with the troubled brokerage, which was taken over by the government last year after authorities found financial irregularities.

The UNAM said it was not clear how much money Solorzano may have bilked the university.

Broker Sanchez Pizzini was arrested in July on charges of masterminding a \$47 million swindle with the former treasurer of the state-run Mexican Social Security Institute.

Through our own eyes Por nuestros propios ojos

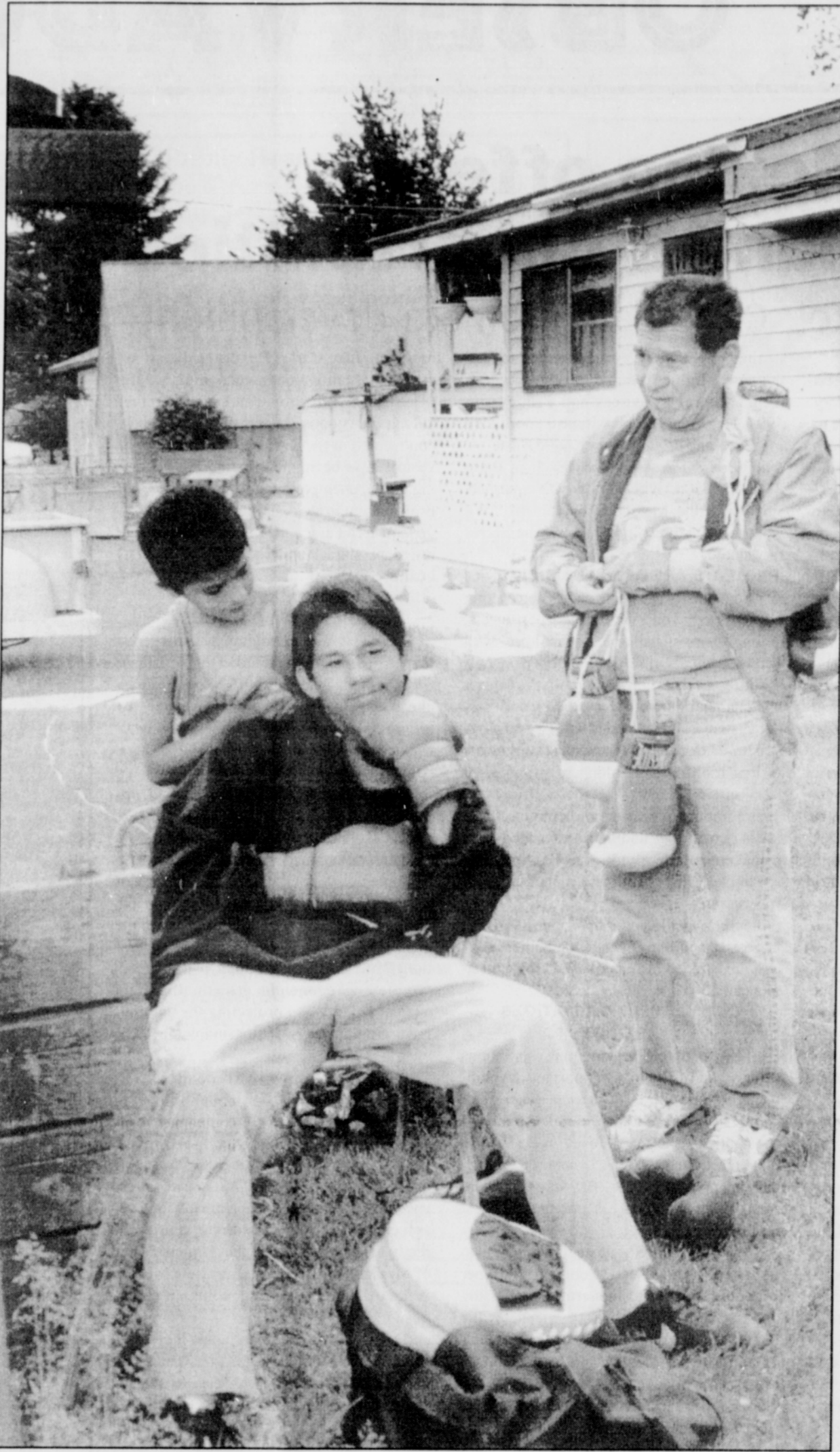


Photo by Marisol De la Rosa, age 12, from Nyssa, in Malheur County.

"When I take a picture I feel like I am making art. The thing I like most about photography is that when I take a picture, I know that no one else could ever take a picture exactly like it. When someone sees one of my pictures, I want them to see what I saw and feel what I felt, but I also want them to have their own feelings. That, to me, is the most important thing about art."

—Nick Long, student.

"In a time where life seems increasingly fragile, it is difficult for anyone to stand tall. We will all be knocked down. Growing up in such real and underprivileged worlds, it is inconceivable to imagine finding the strength that these young adults find each and every day. The young photographers in straight shooting face their world with a sensitivity that, at many times, seems too perceptive. They are consciously aware of the failures of our society.

"Flooding our darkrooms with clearly seen photographs of magical and beautifully truthful images, these students remind us of the power of photography as an art. It is an art of looking at our world. While anyone can take a picture, only these young adults could have made these photographs.

Only these young adults could have evoked these dreamlike scenes of oppression, or their undying love for family in a single image. We are all privileged to learn from their work.

"All of us involved, the students and the mentors, had to reach out towards each other's worlds. The understanding and strength gained is inexplicable. The relationships formed and photographs created in this program are testament to the extreme value of our society working together. There is pain, sorrow, and oppression in our country. There is also self-confidence, grace and pride amidst it all. The students in Straight Shooting have taught us this with their insightful photographs and strength of spirit. I thank them all."—Adam Ogilvie, Mentor and Coordinator.

Each spring, Straight Shooting provides a small group of young people from six counties with an opportunity to learn photographic skills and develop self esteem, allowing them to explore and find expression through the use of a camera. Contact: Jeff Nunn, Project Coordinator, Oregon Commission on Children and Families in Salem (503) 373-1283.

In our own words En nuestras propias palabras What It Is To Be An American

Continued from Metro, page B1

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RON WALANDA,
A STUDENT AT ALBINA YOUTH
OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

My family is Puerto Rican. We are American citizens by birth even though Puerto Rico is not officially a state. Puerto Ricans have all the same privileges of citizenship as any other American.

To be an American is to live in this country knowing that you have the freedom and power to choose your government; to be whatever you want to be; to practice your religion and

your culture freely. That's the reason why other people come to this country because of the opportunity. People just come here with an idea or dream and they can make it a reality. But, some people cannot see the opportunities that this country offers and what it is to be an American. They don't realize the opportunity that this country offers and what it is to be an American. They don't realize the opportunity that's here. They complain, not knowing what it is to be persecuted because you don't have the right to speak freely.

To be an American is to be free.

In Our Own Words (En Nuestras Proprias Palabras) will be a regular feature of The Portland Observador, offering to Hispanic youth the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings—and to describe their experiences—as a Latino in a predominantly Anglo environment. The Observador encourages our young readers to submit their own writing and a photograph and we will try to find space in our pages for you.

Agencies net thousands of fake Levi's

Agents of the Mexican government's General Administration of Customs and the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) have recently raided an international operation involved in the manufacture and distribution of illegal counterfeit Levi's(R) merchandise.

The raid resulted in the seizure of 7,100 pairs of counterfeit Levi's(R) 501(R) and silverTab(TM) jeans from a makeshift warehouse in a residential area of Mexico City on September 27.

In connection with the seizure, Mexican government officials have cited the owner of the counterfeit merchandise, a Mexican citizen, for trademark and customs violations under Mexican law. Several U.S. citizens are also believed to be involved

in the counterfeiting operation but have not yet been cited pending further investigation.

The raid, which netted 6,700 pairs of counterfeit Levi's(R) 501(R) and 400 pairs of fake Levi's(R) silverTab(TM) jeans, represents one of the largest seizures of bogus Levi's merchandise this year.

According to Tim O'Neil, Assistant Regional Director for Brand Protection at LS&CO.'s San Francisco world headquarters, the seizure last Friday demonstrates the increasing effectiveness of government agencies around the world in combating the distribution of counterfeit merchandise.

"We consider consumer confidence and trust in the quality of our products to be among our most valuable

assets and we take the job of protecting them very seriously," O'Neil said. "The government of Mexico has done an impressive job of enforcing the trademark and customs laws that help us protect the confidence and trust of the people who wear our products."

The individual cited by the Mexican customs and IMPI agents at the time of the raid is believed to have been operating a clandestine manufacturing operation in Mexico City in which workers were producing garments from their homes. Last week's raid took place at a private residence in Mexico City where the counterfeit merchandise had not only been stored but where it may also have been produced, according to LS&CO. officials.

Spain strikes at fugitives

Spain agreed on Monday to extradite a fugitive banker wanted in Mexico on \$60 million fraud charges and threw another top banker back into jail, authorities said.

A joint statement by Mexico's Attorney General's Office and Foreign Ministry said Ricardo Javier Armas Arroyo, formerly chief legal officer of Banca Union, had three days to appeal the extradition ruling.

The banker, arrested in Madrid in September 1995, is considered one of the men closest to Carlos Cabal Peniche, former head of Banca Union, who has been on the run since 1994, when the bank collapsed amid charges he approved unsecured loans, the statement said.

Separately, Mexican bank chief Angel Isidoro Rodriguez Saez was taken back to jail in Madrid on Monday after a judge revoked a ruling placing him under house arrest.

Rodriguez Saez looks earned him the nickname of "El Divino" ("The Divine One") after he became the youngest financier to buy a bank in Mexico's privatization programme. Saez is also awaiting extradition proceedings. He was arrested by Spanish authorities in July while sailing his yacht, Moon Dance, near the Spanish island of Ibiza.

The latest charge he faces is that his bank, Banpais SA, granted a loan to a company he owned without going through proper channels, causing a loss of about 60 million pesos (\$8 million), the Attorney General's Office and Foreign Ministry said.