

OBSERVADOR



Actress Makes Directorial Debut

(AP) — Actress Salma Hayek says she initially turned down the offer to direct the upcoming cable television movie "The Maldonado Miracle."  
 "I felt so honored, but I passed," she said. "Then I went to do 'Frida' and when I came back and I started reading scripts and I didn't like anything, I said 'I need to find something that I'm passionate about.'"  
 The film is Hayek's directorial debut. "The Maldonado Miracle" is about the testing of a small town's faith when a statue of Jesus appears to be shedding tears of blood. It stars Ruben Blades, Peter Fonda and Mare Winningham.  
 "She's a born leader and you want to deliver for her," Winningham told the Television Critics Association last week. "She's very inspired and excitable and bossy and creative, and you want to make her dream come true."  
 Hayek also was executive producer for the movie, which airs Oct. 12 on Showtime.

Actor and director Salma Hayek takes questions from the media during the presentation of the cable-TV movie "The Maldonado Miracle," her directorial debut. (AP photo)

Check All Boxes that Apply

Census amplifies confusion of what it means to be Latino

(AP) — Jean-Robert Lafortne considers himself Latino, but to the government he is not Hispanic. He checked off black as his race on his census form, but ask him directly and he will call himself Afro-Caribbean.  
 While the Census Bureau recently minted Hispanics as the nation's largest minority group, Lafortne is an example of the confusion over what it means to be Hispanic or Latino and the comparison with blacks and whites.  
 Hispanic first appeared in 1980 as a choice on a census questionnaire. The ethnic category is different from any other label the government uses in looking at Americans. Hispanics can be of any race.

There are white Hispanics, black Hispanics and Asian Hispanics, for example. Yet it is unclear what the category means.  
 Many, but not all, Hispanics speak Spanish. For some, ancestry in a Spanish-speaking country was many generations back.  
 The Census Bureau reported this month that the Hispanic population grew nearly 10 percent to 38.8 million between April 2000 and July 2002. The rate of growth was four times that of the overall U.S. population.  
 About two-thirds of the country's Hispanics are Mexican, 9 percent are Puerto Rican and 4 percent are Cuban. Hispanics can come from nearly 20 other places as well, including Colombia, El Salvador and Spain, according to the Census Bureau.  
 The government defines Hispanic as someone from a Spanish-speaking country, though hundreds of native dialects that predate the introduction of Spanish by colonists still are spoken throughout

Central and South America.  
 As immigration from Mexico began to grow in the 1960s and 1970s, pressure mounted to more accurately count Hispanics.  
 On the 2000 census, the question was phrased, "Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?" People who said "yes" were asked to check off a box that identified them as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or a write-in box for another country of origin.  
 The Census Bureau release included four pages of guidance on how to compare race and ethnicity data. The bureau recommended comparing Hispanics to all blacks, regardless of ethnicity or how many other races they belonged to.  
 It was the first time in more than a decade that the bureau issued such guidance.  
 About 1.7 million people in July 2002 were identified by the government as black and Hispanic, while 36.3 million said they were white and Hispanic.

Publicaciones en Espanol

Según los datos del censo nacional de 2000, el 7 por ciento de los residentes de Oregon son hispanos/latinos. Esta cifra equivale a más o menos 230,000 personas.  
 Para mejor servir las necesidades de los hispanos y latinos del estado, el Servicio de Extensión (Extension Service) de Oregon State Univer-

sity hoy en día ofrece un número creciente de sus publicaciones y videos en español, así como en inglés.  
 El Servicio de Extensión ofrece más de 37 publicaciones y videos en español, con una amplia variedad de temas, incluyendo la jardinería, la cocina, el cuidado de niños y la

seguridad para trabajadores agrícolas.  
 Una lista de los materiales disponibles se encuentra en el Internet. Visite <http://eesc.oregonstate.edu>. Escoja "Publications and Videos," y luego "Spanish language (Español)."

Latina Singer Supports Troops

What does "You Are My Hero" mean in our current situation with Iraq? What it means to one American Latina artist is "giving back" through the power of music.  
 Constantina, the beautiful, international singer and songwriter, is absolutely committed to supporting

our U.S. troops with her recently released CD titled "You Are My Hero." She has launched a new web site at [www.myhero.com](http://www.myhero.com). She also will be honoring our soldiers by performing on tour in the near future.  
 "No matter what our personal feelings are about war, the fact is,

our men and women in uniform are doing their best to protect our freedom," said Constantina. "It's unbelievable that since May 1st, when major combat ended in Iraq, over 60 American soldiers have died. They must not be forgotten as the days and months go on."

Mexico's Old Ruling Party Advances

(AP) — Final vote counts in congressional elections confirmed setbacks for President Vicente Fox and showed that - against all odds - Mexico's old ruling party is very much alive three years after Fox ended its 71-year grip on power.  
 The July 6 election strengthened the former ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party's position as power broker in Mexico's

lower house of Congress, and party leaders immediately signaled their willingness to negotiate with Fox's party to pass long-delayed reforms.  
 "The Mexican people have told the government and political parties to buckle down and get to work," said Carlos Jimenez, spokesman for the Institutional Revolutionary Party, also known

as the PRI. "We have to translate this vote of confidence into action and pass the reforms this country needs."  
 The other big gainer in Congress was the leftist Democratic Revolution Party, which appears to have nearly doubled its congressional delegation based largely on a reputation for PRI-style social and public works programs.

Cubans Mourn Segundo in Funeral March

(AP) — Thousands of Cubans marched in a hometown funeral procession for Compay Segundo, singing his famed song "Chan Chan" as he was lowered into his grave.  
 The cigar-smoking guitarist who helped revive worldwide interest in traditional Cuban music died of kidney failure. He was 95.

Bystanders threw flowers as the musician's body passed by on a sweltering 2.5-mile journey to the cemetery from a city building where an overnight vigil was held.  
 At the cemetery, the crowd sang an impromptu, somewhat mournful version of "Chan Chan" — a song made famous by the 1997 record

"Buena Vista Social Club." Compay Segundo became an international star only in the final decade of his life — first gaining recognition with concerts in Europe, then embraced by global fame after the 1997 Grammy-winning record "The Buena Vista Social Club" and "Chan Chan."

Winters Urged to Run for Congress



State Sen. Jackie Winters

The 2004 elections are 16 months away, but State Sen. Jackie Winters, R-Salem, is already considering a challenge to Democratic Congresswoman Darlene Hooley.

Could replace J.C. Watts as lone Republican

And she's getting encouragement from President Bush, who'd love to see a black Republican in Congress. There are none left since Oklahoma's J.C. Watts left Congress last year.  
 "I've had conversations with the president on a couple of occasions," said Winters, who is serving in her first state Senate term. "I've said that I would look at it, but I won't do anything until after the session."  
 Winters, 66, said she likes the idea of taking her interest in human services to the next level.  
 Winters, owner of Jackie's Ribs, has a long history of community involvement. She is a charter mem-

ber and president of Salem's NAACP, vice-chair of Salem's Human Rights Commission and founder and past president of Oregon Northwest Black Pioneers Association, to name a few.  
 After moving to Portland at the age of 6, Winters attended Portland Public Schools, graduated from Jefferson High School and attended the Oregon State University. Since then, she has won many leadership honors, including the City of Salem Distinguished Service Award, the NAACP President's Award for advancing the cause of civil rights in Oregon and the Who's Who in Black America.

Community Bank Opens on Fremont



Bank of Portland Branch Manager Jack Alvord promotes business-related loans from his Northeast Fremont Street location.

Bank of Portland has opened a new office at 2416 N.E. Fremont. The community bank makes business-related loans as a primary function of business and takes deposits from both individuals and businesses. It does not make individual loans for consumer purposes.  
 The bank first open in Portland on Northeast Sandy in 1996, a subsidiary of the Bank of Salem which opened in 1991.  
 Jack Alvord is vice president and branch manager.  
 He came to Bank of Portland after a 37-year career with US Bank. He was raised and educated in Portland and is a graduate of Lewis and Clark College and Pacific Coast Banking School. His wife, Susan, is a teacher at Rose City Park Elementary.  
 A resident of northeast Portland, Alvord said he is looking forward to becoming involved in local community activities "as a good banker should."

Rights Group Gives Retailers 'D' Grade

Companies cited for poor hiring practices, charitable work

for the black community.  
 Retailers got an overall grade of D in a report released last week at the NAACP's annual convention. It was the group's first ranking of the sector. The highest grade was a C+, awarded to Wal-Mart Stores.  
 "It is very obvious that in that industry the time for change is now," said NAACP President Kweisi Mfume.  
 Three retailers — Dillard's Inc., Kohl's Department Stores and Nordstrom Inc. — got Fs. Of those three, only Dillard's responded to the survey.  
 The report ranked 45 large com-

panies based on employment, marketing, procurement, community reinvestment and charitable donations.  
 Nordstrom spokeswoman Brooke White said her company couldn't complete the survey within the two weeks required by the NAACP. She said Nordstrom is a partner with the civil rights group in black youth programs across the nation.  
 The other two failing companies did not return calls for comment.  
 "To those companies that did poorly: Watch out, we are coming your way," Mfume said.

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