

EL OBSERVADOR

Strike Force to Battle Cartels, Gangs

Drug trafficking is major focus

Attorney General John Kroger has announced that Oregon has received a \$1.5 million federal grant to create a drug crimes task force at the Oregon Department of Justice.

"I'd like to thank U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder for providing the resources for Oregon

to go after sophisticated drug traffickers," Kroger said. "I also appreciate the support of Sens. Wyden and Merkley, who helped us obtain this important grant."

The state attorney general investigates and prosecutes complex drug trafficking and racketeering cases, as well as

violent crime, public corruption and the sexual exploitation of children.

A major focus of the state's Criminal Justice Division is Mexico-based Drug Trafficking Organizations, which dominate the methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin importation and distribution trade.

In June, Kroger announced Operation Corridor Express,

the largest drug racketeering case ever prosecuted in the Oregon court system. The investigation and subsequent indictments broke up two Drug Trafficking Organizations - one based on Washington County and one based on Clackamas County - that distributed major amounts of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and other drugs

throughout the Willamette Valley.

The new grant will allow the department to hire two new prosecutors, two new investigators and a new analyst who make up the core of a multi-agency Drug Crimes Strike Force.

The new strike force will work with drug and gang investigators, local police and district

attorneys. The team will initiate new cases, enhance investigations and pursue arrests and convictions.

Included in the effort will be members of Oregon's High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area board, the Oregon Sheriffs' Association, the Oregon Police Chiefs' Association and the Oregon District Attorneys' Association.

New Moon Rising at Milagro

With two weeks of Hispanic arts, culture



Cuban jazz singer Jessie Marquez will take the stage at the Milagro Theatre as part of a two week festival of Hispanic arts and culture.

This week the Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St., kicks off its two-week festival of Hispanic arts and culture, which will feature flamenco dance, Cuban music, and reading of poetry and songs from local authors and musicians.

The event titled "La Luna Nueva" or "The New Moon" will highlight new artists. It all begins on Saturday, Sept. 12,

with "A Night in Sevilla," which features traditional flamenco music and dancing from respected artists.

The following week Jessie Marquez will belt out her soulful and eclectic version of Cuban jazz that draws on Brazilian bossa nova and North American sounds, wrapped together in pure Latin emotion.



Melinda Hedgecough has studied and performed traditional Flamenco dance in Spain and North America. She takes the Milagro Theatre stage on Saturday, Sept. 12.

The rest of the festival will feature story telling, poetry readings, and plays that will feature the work of Latin American literary giants like Pablo Neruda and Federico

Garcia Lorca. It will also feature the work of rising local writers.

For a schedule, visit milagro.org, or call 503-236-7253.

H1N1 Kills Security Chief

(AP) - The Ecuadorean government says President Rafael Correa's chief of security has died of swine flu.

The online government publication El Ciudadano says air force Lt. Col. John Merino died Sunday after being hospitalized for 28 days.

El Ciudadano cited as its source Francisco Torres, the doctor for the office of the Presidency, which was closed late Sunday.

The publication said Correa expressed his condolences to Merino's family at the military hospital where he died.

Ecuador has reported 36 confirmed deaths from swine flu as of last week, along with 1,382 infected.

Platinum Fade SALON



We have the Best Barber & hair Stylist in Portland and we do Razor Line Cuts, Weaves, Relaxers and Cuts

Barbers & Hairstylist Wanted - 1 month free

5010 NE 9th Unit A, Portland, Oregon 97221

503-284-2989

Hours of operation:

M-F 9 am - 6 pm

Sat 8 am - 9 pm

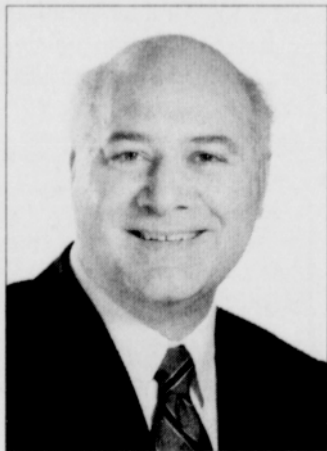
Sun 11 am - 6 pm

Latino Workers Supported

Civil rights priorities outlined

Oregon Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian wants Latino workers to know that the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) is there to help them grapple with employers who stiff them on wages or break periods, in addition to providing protections in housing and public accommodations.

"The state of Oregon is going to protect your rights," said Avakian to a crowd gathered



Brad Avakian

recently at Centro Cultural in Cornelius. "If you have questions about labor

laws or civil rights, call BOLI for help."

Avakian proudly points to the state agency's successful efforts to stave off harsh budget cuts during the last Legislative session in its Farm Labor Unit and Civil Rights Division, which is crucial to protecting the rights of workers.

He said inquires from Spanish-speaking Oregonian consistently represented 10 percent of all contacts for BOLI staff, and 25 percent of claims for unpaid wages also came from Spanish speakers in the same time period.

Advertise with diversity in The Portland Observer
Call 503-288-0033
ads@portlandobserver.com

Guns Sales Hurt Security

(AP) - Washington's new ambassador to Mexico says the United States must stop the flow of guns smuggled south across the border in order to improve security on both sides of the border.

Carlos Pascual says "we cannot continue to arm the cartels," referring to guns bought

in the United States and sold to drug gangs in Mexico.

Pascual also called for a solution for millions of undocumented workers in the United States.

He spoke Friday at the close of the annual U.S.-Mexico Border Governors Conference. Security and en-

vironmental topics dominated the meeting.

Coahuila state Gov. Humberto Moreira said he hoped the border region would become "a green wall" with the environmental accords.

The only U.S. governor to attend the conference was New Mexico's Bill Richardson.

Candidate Killed; Teenager Charged

(AP) - Police in Villahermosa, Mexico have arrested a 16-year-old boy and two young men for allegedly killing a state congressional candidate and his family.

Tabasco state Attorney General Rafael Gonzalez says the three told police they planned to burglarize the home of 43-

year-old Jose Francisco Fuente and rape his 38-year-old wife. Fuente belonged to the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

Gonzalez says the boy was a neighbor and another teenage suspect was a security guard at the gated community in Villahermosa where Fuente, his

wife, and their 9- and 13-year-old sons lived.

Gonzalez said Sunday that police found a receipt in the guard's uniform for objects used in the attack.

State officials are offering protection for candidates in the Oct. 18 election.

THE SPINA COLUMN™

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.

Part 1. CHIROPRACTIC: For the best in natural healing, hearing is believing.

Q: How did Chiropractic care come about?

A: Spinal manipulations have been practiced for over 2,500 years. Hippocrates, the "Father of Medicine," advised: "look well to the spine for the cause of disease." But modern Chiropractic came of age back in 1895. In Davenport, Iowa, a patient came to Dr. D.D. Palmer complaining of back pain. This patient had also been nearly deaf since suffering a back injury 17 years earlier. Dr. Palmer noticed a bump on the patient's back, which he suspected was related to a dislocated vertebra. To relieve

the patient's pain and reposition the vertebra, Dr. Palmer placed him on a table and pushed down on his back, performing a spinal manipulation or "adjustment." He performed this adjustment three days in a row. By the third day, not only had the patient's back pain disappeared, his hearing reappeared. Today's Chiropractors know that the central nervous system (housed within the body's spinal column) provides the energy, which governs all bodily functions. By making sure that the spinal column is in correct alignment, Chiropractors eliminate any possible interference, which would prevent the central nervous system from keeping the body functioning the way nature, intended.

To find out how Chiropractic might be able to help you or for answers to any questions you might have about your health, please feel free to call us at the phone number shown below.

Flowers' Chiropractic Office
2124 NE Hancock, Portland Oregon 97212
Phone: (503) 287-5504

Advertise with diversity in The Portland Observer
Call 503-288-0033 ads@portlandobserver.com

The Portland Observer Established 1970
USPS 959-680
4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington
EDITOR: Michael Leighton
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Mark Washington
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208
CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015
news@portlandobserver.com ads@portlandobserver.com
subscription@portlandobserver.com

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer - Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication - is a member of the National Newspaper Association - Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association.