

Leftovers from City Hall: More local pols seek Hilda's seat

Posted: 01/25/2009 07:19:31 PM PST

It seems like every week now there's something new in the race for Rep. Hilda Solis' seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The latest round of politicians to announce their interest in the Congressional seat - which will be empty if Solis is confirmed as President Barack Obama's labor secretary - are Blanca Rubio and Ed Chavez.

Rubio, president of the Baldwin Park Unified School District Board of Education, said she's definitely running, and thinks her experience would allow her to successfully serve the people.

Chavez, on the other hand, is still tossing the idea around. The recently-elected Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District board member has formed an "exploratory committee to gauge the level of support" for his candidacy."

Chavez has been taking some heat in the political community lately from residents and colleagues questioning why, months after getting elected to the water board, he would even consider running for higher office.

According to a recent press release he sent out, Chavez said he wants to "fight for the people and not for the greedy corporate giants."

If he runs Chavez (and Rubio) will square off against Board of Equalization Chairwoman Judy Chu, who was recently endorsed by two of the most powerful labor unions in the region - the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor and Service Employees International Union.....

t's official: After a few flubs and two swearing-in ceremonies, Barack Obama is now our 44th president.

Residents and politicians alike spent Inauguration Day last week hosting parties and barbecues to watch the historic ceremonies that come with the official swearing-in of the president.

Locally, the Democrats of the San Gabriel Valley hosted their own shindig at Taste of Texas, a barbecue restaurant in Covina. The co-hosts were La Puente Mayor Louie Lujan, West Covina Mayor Roger Hernandez, Board of Equalization Chairwoman Judy Chu, and Assemblyman Ed Hernandez, who was only there in spirit because he was actually in Washington, D.C.

As a side note, organizers said the venue had nothing to do with Texas-native George Bush. The restaurant was chosen because it's in the middle of the 57th District.

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