

El Editor

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Week of November 17-23, 2005

Lubbock, TX USA

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409"El Respeto al Derecho
Ajeno es la Paz"

Lic Benito Juarez

Presiona el Senado para el retiro de Irak

Mostrando señales de impaciencia con la política de la Casa Blanca en Irak, el Senado aprobó una resolución sin fuerza de ley pidiendo que se agilice el control iraquí sobre su seguridad para garantizar la salida gradual de las tropas estadounidenses de esa nación, aunque el organismo rechazó imponer fechas límite para el retiro de dichas tropas. Solicitó además que la Administración provea reportes regulares sobre el progreso del operativo en esa nación.

La aprobación de la resolución se produjo en momentos en que el presidente George W. Bush, de gira por Asia, enfrenta bajos índices de popularidad sobre todo por el manejo de la guerra en Irak algo que ya un sector republicano comienza a ver como un problema camino a los comicios de medio período en 2006.

La resolución aprobada en votación 79-19 la sometió el senador republicano de Virginia, John Warner, presidente del comité de Fuerzas Armadas del Senado y gozó de apoyo bipartidista. La medida forma parte del proyecto de gastos de Defensa por 492,000 millones de dólares que el Senado aprobó ayer.

Precisamente es para 2006 que los senadores consideran que Irak debe comenzar a demostrar que está asumiendo el control de su propia seguridad.

El mismo proyecto autoriza los tribunales de guerra para los sospechosos de terrorismo detenidos en la Base Naval de Guantánamo en Cuba, aunque permite —de forma limitada y no en todos los casos— que los detenidos tengan acceso a

tribunales estadounidenses para apelar sus casos.

Asimismo, ofrece lineamientos en torno los interrogatorios y el trato de sospechosos de terrorismo así como prohibir el empleo de la tortura.

Todo promete una batalla con la Cámara de Representantes donde el apoyo a Bush en el tema de Irak es más generalizado y cuya medida de gastos no contempla ninguna guía en torno al trato de detenidos, algo que la Casa Blanca considera que interfiere con su política antiterrorista.

"No se ve a menudo en los salones legislativos aquí en Washington que se emitan votos de desconfianza hacia una Administración. Hoy [ayer] lo que se vio fue un voto de desconfianza hacia las políticas de esta Administración en Irak", opinó el líder de la minoría demócrata del Senado, Harry Reid, de Nevada.

"Demócratas y republicanos reconocen que mantener el rumbo [actual] no es el camino a seguir. Y por lo tanto, éste es un voto de desconfianza hacia la política de la Administración Bush en Irak", reiteró Reid.

En total 41 republicanos, 37 demócratas y el único senador independiente votaron a favor de la resolución.

Pero los republicanos insistieron en que no se trata de una crítica hacia la Administración Bush sino de enviarle un mensaje a los iraquíes de que ciertamente urge que comiencen a dar señales claras de que están capacitados para asumir el control de su destino y de su seguridad.

Los republicanos, claro está, reaccionaron así a la enmienda demócrata derrotada del senador Carl Levin, de Michigan, que solicitaba fechas aproximadas para el retiro de tropas de Irak.

ESPERA POR REDUCCIÓN DEL DÉFICIT

Por otra parte, la Cámara de Representantes reanudó ayer la sesión pero al cierre de esta edición no se había programado el voto de la medida de reducción del déficit presupuestal cuyo debate tuvo que ser pospuesto la semana pasada porque los republicanos no contaban con los votos para su aprobación.

La medida de reducciones presupuestales de 51,000 millones de dólares por cinco años incluye recortes a programas sociales y nutricionales, entre esos, las estampillas de alimentos para ciertos residentes legales.

El proyecto requiere que los inmigrantes legales hayan residido en Estados Unidos por siete años antes de ser elegibles para recibir estampillas de alimentos. Al presente el requisito es de cinco años de residencia. Para ganar votos y ante la presión de los legisladores hispanos republicanos de Florida, el lenguaje se cambió para eximir del requisito a los inmigrantes legales que ya estén participando del programa; que tengan 60 años de edad o más; y que hayan solicitado la naturalización.

Pero grupos pro inmigrantes indicaron que se trata de un cambio cosmético porque supone que otros inmigrantes legales, incluyendo discapacitados, no tengan acceso a las estampillas aunque cualifiquen bajo las reglas actuales.

McDougal, Boren, Galbreath Call for Close of Guadalupe Email Clarified

An email circulated this past week among Lubbock residents alarmed Guadalupe neighborhood residents as it said that Lubbock Mayor Mark McDougal, Councilpersons DeLeon, Boren and Galbreath had held a meeting to discuss the closing of Guadalupe School. According to the email, a consensus was reached to work toward closing the school and converting it to a community service center to replace the torn down Guadalupe Center.

A statement clarifying the meeting is given by Councilman Boren on page 2. Comments of concerned citizens are also printed.

Community Voices!

An article in last week's El Editor resulted in some interesting comments being exchanged via email on the subject of whether Congress should continue legislation detailed in the Voting Rights Act of 1975 which calls for renewing a requirement that large communities of "people who speak limited English must have access to (voting) ballots in their native language".

Here are 3 Lubbock residents' voices

"We are seeing the racial division that exists in Lubbock and the lack of more Hispanic representation. I think we need to take action to make sure that this law is renewed or else all our political efforts can be jeopardized." Modesto R. Rodriguez - Lubbock Resident

"We should encourage our representatives to help Hispanics by extending the bilingual ballots. On another important note, we should encourage our people to speak and read English on par if not better than native English speakers. All of the worthwhile jobs, political positions, and high level government appointments require a mastery of English. The thing that is keeping Hispanics from learning proper English is machismo. Our people need to drop the machismo act and begin to open their eyes to the fact that they need to master English. Machismo doesn't put food on the table and all it does is put our young people into poverty, gangs, eventually jail for young Hispanic men, and single motherhood for our Hispanic women."

Jerry Perez - Lubbock Resident

"I wish 'machismo' was the only reason Spanish speakers were preventing themselves from speaking English. Lack of funding for quality bilingual, ESL (English as a second language), and bilingual special education classroom instruction is one of the main reasons cited as why people are only Spanish proficient. If more funding for these types of programs were available instead of always being cut, then perhaps more pride in speaking, reading and writing English, as well as being educated in English would exist."

ÓTexas ranks 46th among the 50 states with literacy problems. As such Ówe must require our legislators to invest more in our children's elementary and secondary education Ó And we must require them to make voting accessible despite language proficiency issues."

"Una persona bilingüe vale dos" Christy Martinez-García - Lubbock Resident

If you would like for your "voice" to be heard in "Community Voices", send your comment to El Editor Community Voices, 1502 Ave M, Lubbock, TX 79401 or you can email your comments to: acruzitc@aol.com

Hispanic Vote Helped Democrats Win In Virginia and New Jersey

By Alex Meneses Miyashita

In a week filled with significant Democratic Party victories, the Hispanic vote played a role in the Nov. 8 elections of Tim Kaine and John Corzine for the governorships of Virginia and New Jersey, states with growing Hispanic populations.

That's the word from Bill Richardson of New Mexico, the nation's only sitting Hispanic governor.

Nearly 70 percent of that vote in both New Jersey and Virginia went to the Democratic candidates, Richardson told reporters who gathered the next day at the Democratic headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Richardson, who chairs the Democratic Governors Association, beamed, "The Democratic Party is coming back with the Hispanic vote."

Corzine's victory in New Jersey leaves an open seat in the U.S. Senate, and the name of U.S. Rep. Robert Menéndez is among those circulating in the capital as a possible successor.

While Corzine defeated the GOP's Doug Forrester by ten percentage points in the tra-

ditionally middle-ground state of New Jersey, Kaine won by 5 percentage points against former state Attorney General Jerry Kilgore in a state that has traditionally leaned Republican.

Some Democrats and Hispanic leaders claim that a Kilgore campaign ad which targeted undocumented immigrants could have weighed into his defeat.

The ad portrayed Kaine as supporting taxpayer-financed day labor centers for undocumented workers. "What part of 'illegal' does Tim Kaine not understand?" the ad asked.

Andrés Tobar, co-chair of the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations, told Hispanic Link News Service, "I think those negative ads turned off a lot of people, including Republicans. I just hope that it sends a message to other politicians that bashing immigrants is not a good way to get elected."

Similarly Howard Dean, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, told reporters "I don't think the right way to run a campaign is to divide people."

Declining comment on the ads, Republican National Committee chairman Ken Mehlman told Hispanic Link that Kilgore and Robert McDonnell, the Republican candidate for Virginia attorney general, have "made it very

clear that they believe America is a nation of immigrants and we're a nation of laws. They believe we need to crack down on illegal immigration and we also need to support legal immigration."

The race for Virginia's attorney general is still too close to call, with McDonnell having less than half a percentage point lead over his Democratic foe, R. Creigh Deeds.

In California, Hispanics helped turn down all four of Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's referendums, including Proposition 77, which had raised concern among groups representing the interests of people of color, such as the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

The proposition granted the power to draw political boundaries to a panel of three retired judges, instead of the state's legislature.

John Trasviña, senior vice president for law and policy for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, told Hispanic Link the proposition would "not allow for diversity and other communities of interest to be fully considered" in the decennial reapportionments.

Another of the governor's propositions would have forced public employee unions

to gain members' consent to spend their dues for political campaigns.

In Texas, after voters approved a constitutional amendment barring same-sex marriages, Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, called the results a "tyranny of the majority...No one would tolerate this being done to any other minority, but it's still open season on gay people."

The task force issued a national report earlier this month looking at 105,000 gay Hispanic couples.

It claimed that gay Hispanics, who form nuclear families more often than other gay couples, would be particularly affected by the amendment's passage.

The lone, though not unexpected, Hispanic election disappointment came in New York City. Former Bronx Borough president Fernando Ferrer was soundly defeated in his underfinanced campaign to unseat multimillionaire Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Other mayoral elections were held in Detroit, Cleveland, St. Paul and San Diego, but no major Hispanic candidate ran.

(Alex Meneses Miyashita is editor for Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Washington, D.C. He can be reached at alex@hispaniclink.org)

El Voto Hispano Ayudo a Ganar a Los Demócratas en Virginia y en Nueva Jersey

Alex Meneses Miyashita

En una semana repleta de victorias importantes para el partido demócrata, el voto hispano jugó un rol en las elecciones para gobernador de Tim Kaine en Virginia y John Corzine en Nueva Jersey, estados cada uno con una población hispana creciente.

Así opina Bill Richardson, de Nuevo México, actualmente el único gobernador hispano. Aproximadamente 70 por ciento del voto hispano tanto en Nueva Jersey como en Virginia favoreció a los candidatos demócratas, les contó Richardson a periodistas reunidos al día siguiente en la sede del partido demócrata en Washington, D.C.

Richardson, director de la Asociación de Gobernadores Demócratas, sonrió ampliamente: "Vuelve el partido demócrata gracias al voto hispano".

La victoria de Corzine en Nueva Jersey deja un escaño libre en el Senado de los Estados Unidos, y se circula en la capital el nombre del representante Robert Menéndez como su sucesor.

Mientras que Corzine le ganó a Doug Forrester, del partido republicano, por diez puntos porcentuales en Nueva Jersey, un estado tradicionalmente centrista, Kaine en Virginia ganó por cinco puntos porcentuales contra el anterior fiscal del estado, Jerry Gilgore, en un estado tradicionalmente republicano.

Algunos demócratas y dirigentes hispanos manifiestan que una propaganda de la campaña de Kilgore que enfocó a los inmigrantes indocumentados pudo haber tenido que ver con su pérdida. La propaganda pintó a Kaine como defensor de centros para jornaleros financiados con impuestos. "¿Qué no comprende Tim Kaine del término 'ilegal'?", preguntaba la propaganda.

Andrés Tobar, co-director de la Coalición de Organizaciones Latinas de Virginia, comentó a Hispanic Link News Service, "Me parece que la propaganda negativa ofendió a muchas personas, incluyendo a republicanos. Sólo espero que reciban el mensaje otros políticos que arremeterse contra los inmigrantes no sirve para hacerse elegir".

Sin querer comentar sobre la propaganda,

el director del Comité Nacional Republicano, Ken Mehlman le indicó a Hispanic Link que tanto Kilgore como Robert McDonnell, candidato republicano a fiscal del estado de Virginia, han "hecho muy claro el que creen que los Estados Unidos es una nación compuesta de inmigrantes y que somos una nación de leyes. Ellos creen que hay que caer con fuerza contra la inmigración ilegal y que también hay que defender la inmigración legal".

Es muy pronto para dar indicios sobre quién ganará la fiscalía de Virginia, ya que McDonnell cuenta con sólo medio punto porcentual sobre su rival demócrata, R. Creigh Deeds.

En California, los hispanos ayudaron a rechazar los cuatro referendums que promovía el gobernador republicano, Arnold Schwarzenegger, entre ellos la Propuesta 77, que preocupaba a grupos que representan los intereses de las personas de color, como el Fondo Mexicano-Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación, y el Centro Legal Asiático Pacífico Americano.

La propuesta hubiera otorgado la autoridad

de delinear fronteras políticas a un panel de tres jueces jubilados, y no a la legislatura del estado.

John Trasviña, vicepresidente principal de derecho y políticas del Fondo Mexicano-Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación, le comentó a Hispanic Link que la propuesta "no permitiría la plena consideración de la diversidad y de otras comunidades interesadas" en los delineamientos decenales.

Otras de las propuestas del gobernador habría obligado a los sindicatos de empleados públicos a obtener el visto bueno de sus miembros antes de poder gastar los fondos de membresía en campañas políticas.

En Texas, después que se aprobó una enmienda a la constitución que prohíbe el matrimonio entre personas del mismo sexo, Matt Foreman, director ejecutivo del National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce (grupo de trabajo nacional homosexual) dijo que los resultados eran "una tiranía de la mayoría. Nadie toleraría que esto se le hiciera a cualquier otro grupo de minoría, pero las personas homosexuales siguen siendo el

blanco de ataques". Este mes el grupo de trabajo emitió un informe nacional que describió a 105,000 parejas homosexuales hispanas.

El estudio expresa que los hispanos homosexuales, quienes se conforman a la norma de familias tradicionales con mayor frecuencia que otras parejas homosexuales, sería el grupo más afectado por la aprobación de la enmienda.

La única decepción, aunque no inesperada, de una campaña electoral de un hispano se dio en la ciudad de Nueva York. Anterior presidente del distrito del Bronx, Fernando Ferrer, perdió por mucho en su campaña de magras finanzas contra el actual alcalde Michael Bloomberg. Otras elecciones de alcalde se vieron en Detroit, Cleveland, St. Paul y San Diego, sin la participación de ningún candidato hispano.

(Alex Meneses Miyashita es editor de Hispanic Link Weekly Report en Washington, D.C. Comuníquese con él por correo electrónico a: alex@hispaniclink.org)

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READ IT FIRST EL EDITOR

OPINIONS -COMENTARIOS - LETTERS

From: Modesto Rodriguez
To: Bidal Aguero ANOTHER
BAD PROPOSAL BY
COUNCILMEMBERS.

At a recent meeting concerning the Guadalupe Center issue, Mayor McDougal and Councilmen Boren and Gilbreath proposed to close Guadalupe Elementary to convert it into a Senior Citizen Activity Center and have the Head Start Program school.

I think this is just another bad proposal made by the Mayor and City Councilmembers. I believe that we the Hispanic community need to unite and organize to have our voices heard. We need to not only voice our opinions on the issue but offer solutions that will benefit the community to take it before City Council. If we allow the closure of Guadalupe Elementary where will the children be transferred to and what will happen to all of the teachers that have given these students so much of their time? We need to send a message that the children's education and the respect of the teachers is our top priority. As a community we need to find a better solution to present that will be better for all.

As Cesar Chavez once said, "Society is made up of groups, and as long as the smaller groups do not have the same rights and the same protection as others-I don't care whether you call it capitalism or communism-it is not going to work. Somehow, the guys in power have to be reached by counterpower, or through a change in their hearts and minds, or change will not come." The only way we will really reach City Councilmembers by counterpower is if we propose our own solutions and show them the benefits of the proposed solutions. The biggest challenge is to change the hearts and minds of the Council as to

what to do about this issue, but we must be persistent to have our voice heard in our society. Our problems are man-made, therefore they may be solved by man. And man can be as big as he wants. No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings. John F. Kennedy.

Modesto R. Rodriguez
From: Henry F. Martinez

These people in our own City Council continue to do as they please if we allow them to, the math is there they have no interest in what goes on in that part of the City. McDougal has already wiped out all of the Overton area and dropped in a line of Apartment Complexes that anyone that used to live there will never be able to afford.

Then to top it off we have a Wal-Mart coming in there that will wipe out every small business that's around it and what's so bad is that we didn't even have a say in the matter. The one thing that people do not understand is that, if we allow them to CLOSE this Guadalupe Elementary School and we do not build a Neighborhood Center the value of every property and home in that area will go down. Who will want to live there? with no school. People wake up! If we want things to change you better VOTE!

Sincerely, Henry F. Martinez
From: Ernestine Cantu

Why is it that the money which we voted for is being appropriated for another Southwest Parks, renovations? Many former Guadalupe residents have not and will never forget the wonderful services and yes use of our neighborhood park.

Ms. Sutherland would teach as well as Mrs. Ray at the center, which afforded many of us the students at Guadalupe, K. Carter

and Carol Thompson, tutoring when none was to be had at those school buildings.

Now why is it that we in the North Lubbock area must endure the "they won't care attitude," and the "they won't miss it," mentality.

I say, "Come on former Guadalupe residents and grease the squeaky wheel, we can get it done. We voted for the bond and thus we need our fair share.

Thank goodness Councilwoman Deleon, who, spoke up; during the council hearings. Yes I am one of several that may not have attended the council meeting, but did tune in, to Channel 2. The former Guadalupe residents need to step-up and let those that live there know we will never forget our neighborhood and that our money will be there in support of rebuilding a much needed center and that Guadalupe Elementary is a needed commodity for the area of Education of those children.

Guadalupe has been an exemplary school, why change it a program that has reached many, successfully? We need to continue to have an outstanding educational facility such as Guadalupe available to the students in the Guadalupe neighborhood. I may not live there, but I am proud to say I did attend Guadalupe. They took K. Carter and Carol Thompson, we must not loose Guadalupe!!

From Dolores Martinez
I believe if the numbers are there for the school, don't fix something that isn't broken. If the numbers are there, look to enhance the school to attract others.

From Chico James
 My opinion on the mayor's notion to close Guadalupe school [in which he was joined by Boren

and Gilbreath]
 Remember K. Carter Elementary?
 Remember Carroll Thompson Elementary?
 Remember Carol Thompson Jr. High?

Remember Dunbar High School?
 Remember Posey Elementary?
 Remember Alderson Jr. High School?

Remember Sanders Elementary?
 Remember Matthews Jr. High?
 If you remember all those things, you will know that the powers that be in Lubbock have an intense hatred directed toward those of us who live in Central, East and North Lubbock, a hatred that you can see when they try to close down all public facilities in our areas - in short to destroy our neighborhoods.

We've had a few victories too: Remember Guadalupe neighborhood in 1970? "They" wanted to bulldoze it off the map.

We stopped that.
 Remember the fight over Cavazos Jr. High. After fifteen years of fighting, we got it built. Remember the redistricting fight in the 70's? We won and got a "minority" state representative district [later abolished by Republicans when they had the governorship in 1981]

THE ONLY SOLUTION:
 Massive public outcry. That's the only things the racist moneybags that control Lubbock understand it embarrasses them to have their evil plans made public - their plan is to use the power of the government to make them richer and the poor poorer. We have to stop that. As we know, in the absence of lots of work on our side, the other side gets away with whatever they want in Lubbock.

Send In Your Comments to
 El Editor via email to
 eleditor@sbcglobal.net or by mail to
 P.O. Box 11250, Lubbock, TX 79408

Councilman Boren Responds to Issue of Closing Guadalupe Elementary

This past week, it was widely circulated in the community that some members of the city council had suggested the closing of Guadalupe Elementary in order to convert the facility into a neighborhood center.

In an effort to bring our readers both sides of the story, an email was sent to Councilman Gary Boren asking him to respond to the issue. Here's his response:

I personally called the meeting to see if any possibilities of cooperation existed for community/citizen/school children usage of Guadalupe Elementary, between the City of Lubbock, LISD, and the United Way in resolving the problem of not having a Guadalupe Community Center.

I noted that the school was located in a wonderful, clean, neighborhood with lots of pride! I additionally noted that this neighborhood has a wonderful church, schools, beautiful parks, and a great history!

However, I wanted the attendees to know, that it was going to take a lot of work to get a consensus, and WILLINGNESS for a meeting of the minds to find a solution.

At the time of this meeting last week, there were not any solutions, possibilities of solving this issue being discussed or brought forward by city staff or city council that were known to me. As a matter of a fact, there were not any known solutions of compromise being brought forth for discussion regarding the Guadalupe Neighborhood community center.

My thought was to get some "positive traction" going forward and look for additional possibilities and compromises that might exist that could be used as discussion "tools" for this desired community center. In my opinion, our citizens were looking for answers to fix and resolved this situation.

The thought that I presented, as one of many possibilities, for a possible answer, was for a "unique shared cooperative" use of Guadalupe Elementary School. This would be accomplished by utilizing any available space, classrooms, and facilities that were not being used

CURRENTLY in an educational setting by SCHOOL children and faculty. The thought was that..... is it possible to use Guadalupe Elementary both "educationally and as a community resource center", thus serving dual purposes in the neighborhood. The dual purposes discussed by this group was the following: first and primary, the educational mission, configuration, and current space available of the elementary school, which was the priority to LISD; and secondarily, the other being the notion of using any possible available classroom space, library, cafeteria,

computer room, and the gymnasium for the community resource during the day, during the evening time, and on weekends, that the city could financially fund to meet the community resource mission.

The major primary specification and defined statement was that if it was possible for cooperative, dual usage purposes by the community, City and LISD, that there would be the necessary EDUCATIONAL and PHYSICAL safe-guards to protect the children's prime learning hours from any possible outside distraction, and interruption by the community resources.

Mrs. Ann Graves, Asst. Supt. for Elementary and Larry Mulligan, Asst. Supt., attendees FROM LISD, both expressed at the beginning of the meeting, that this WAS NOT A DISCUSSION of "Closing Down Guadalupe Elementary School or changing the educational purpose/programs of the school!"

Not only did the Asst Superintendent's expressed that theme strongly, they mentioned that it was not being discussed or considered internally by the school administration, or by the Board of Trustees.

WE ALL ACKNOWLEDGED that fact, and it was expressed in a positive manner that having more possible uses educationally, and as a community resource, might further protect Guadalupe Elementary from such decisions and discussions.

The LISD Asst. Superintendents gave us the current student population census, transfers, general history, etc. They asked what adult programs would be available for consideration for community resources, and Nancy Haney from the City of Lubbock was instructed to provide that data and information to them.

Mr. Glenn Cochran, of the United Way, gave the history of the United Way's involvement and the current commitment and direction that United Way is providing as services to the families in this area.

There was general discussion of other possibilities, other concerns brought forth why combining the two missions (Educational & Community Resources) might not be a good fit, and lastly, what facilities were being currently used in the neighborhood.

The new City Manager, Lee Ann Dumbauld, was going to take a visit to the neighborhood that afternoon and look at other possible strategies that might bring resolution.

We agreed to share any information and hopefully meet again and discuss alternatives that might be considered. I thanked everyone for coming on such a short notice, because we needed to look at all possibilities and I would appreciate all possibilities being brought forward that might solve this problem.

At this time, we have not met any more for discussions. I hope this has answered your question.

Best Regards,
 Gary Boren

LUBBOCK CITY COUNCIL IN "STINK" ABOUT PARK BOND FUNDS

And port-a-potties continue to be good enough for families in North and East Lubbock

Op-ed by Christy Martinez-Garcia

The City Council Public Comment time last week proved to be an eye opener for members of the Lubbock City Council; and for about 100 folks from the Latino community and leaders of the West Texas Organizing Strategy (WTOS), a "stinky" situation.

Several representatives addressed the Council and asked them to equitably distribute funds intended for the Canyon Lakes Dam #4 Capital Improvement Project. It was originally voted on as a bond project in the 1999 bond election. Since that time, the project has required re-engineering several times due to the "discovery of historical artifacts."

As a result, City Administrators deemed the location as undesirable. Therefore, recommendations for the project were closed leaving \$2,256,914 remaining. Some City Council members (allegedly Boren, Martin, McDougal, and Gilbreath) quickly moved in on the funds deciding where they would reallocate the money. As such, they distributed \$1.3 million from those funds to Southwest Lubbock.

For many it was disappointing that those council members did not also recommend projects in North and East Lubbock, where voters decided in a bond election that it would be good development for that area.

Instead those elected officials overlooked an opportunity to consider a new press box/concession stand/bathroom facilities for the Northwest Little League, who annually pay to rent port-a-potties because bathrooms that are South of the field are not up to par. They also did not consider providing the amphitheater, which is being constructed in East Lubbock, with desirable bathroom. Rather they will also be required to rent port-a-potties. And, the Guadalupe Center, which was torn down and has been in a heated debate for several months, and has been required to raise money through burrito and enchilada sales, they were not even considered! This even though because the facility would qualify to utilize funding from the park bond because it sits on a public park!

After the public comment time, one of the supporters of the Guadalupe Center, a senior citizen, said that they felt like they were reliving the past and experiencing a form of discrimination and neglect.

Incidentally, as a result of the display of solidarity, Councilman Gary Boren asked the Mayor to pull the Public Comments from the City's Public Access channel, which seemed to some as another slap in the face! The city

spokesperson said that the Public Comment times never air, which is incorrect. They do...except when a large number of minorities turnout to address an issue.

You may recall another notable time (or you might not since it was never aired) of when the Public Comment time was pulled, which was when almost 300 Latinos and others turned out to speak on behalf of the inequity issue regarding Tommy Gonzales, who was serving as interim City Manager. Gonzales was not offered the permanent position allegedly because of his "age."

It is amazing how some of those council members can suggest they are for the citizens and yet censor them. If you're for free speech, make sure you are not preventing it.

While all of Lubbock deserves to be transformed, it is imperative that we not overlook and ignore older and established neighborhoods and projects that have been sitting "on the pot" for some time.

If the city council had taken the advice of Councilwoman Deleon when she requested that the council not rollback the 1.25 cent tax, which provided about \$30 million for city services annually, then that money would have been available to maintain city streets, parks and libraries and support city services such as police, fire and various inspection and enforcement activities.

Unfortunately, the alliance of four (Boren, Martin, McDougal, and Gilbreath) defeated sustaining that rate and encouraged that the 57-cent tax rate be rolled back. As such 68% of Lubbock homeowners with homes under value are in deficit, and because our local government is trying to mirror our national government, the rising economy keeps creating charges.

As it sits, the remaining almost \$1.2 million will not be decided upon until the December 15th meeting. Unfortunately, citizens of Lubbock will not be allowed to hear the concerns of others because of the censorship on the tax-funded public access channel. As such, unless folks turn out for the upcoming Council Meeting Nov. 18th at 7:30 a.m., many families and groups desiring to have a better quality of life in their parks and in their districts will continue to be stuck with port-a-potties.

Therefore, I encourage you to call your city council representatives and ask them to reinvest the remaining \$1.2 million back into North and East Lubbock. And if they don't, hold them accountable during the upcoming elections. Let them get a sniff of their own reality.

Does Race Matter?

By Abel Cruz

My guess is that one can find just as many people to answer that question with a no as will respond with a yes. That race matters is an issue that came to the forefront most recently during the worst hurricane to hit New Orleans in recent history. We all watched the mostly black faces as they wandered around the New Orleans Civic Center, knowing but afraid to admit, that maybe, just maybe, their government had abandoned them because they were black.

In the immediate hours that followed the realization that no one was coming to get them as quickly as they needed them to, race or the lessons that race had taught them, told them that it was because they were black that they were being left to die. In their minds, most people felt that their blackness was the main reason for them being left to their own devices and no amount of reassurance that that was not the case, that government incompetence was the reason, was going to convince them otherwise.

Did race matter in this case, one could make a safe bet that to them it did, even though government officials kept reassuring them that it didn't. My view is that economics mattered more than race in this case, but poverty is all too often a consequence of race.

In the urgent aftermath, people from both sides of the issue stated their case as to whether it was a case of race or poverty or both that had contributed to these people being called "refugees" and being humiliated as the whole world watched in horror. Unfortunately, a horror that only lasted as long as the mainstream media showed those faces on their TV screens.

In the months that have followed, the conversation about race that some people had dared to start, albeit a quiet one, became as invisible as those faces. Soon, the talk turned to other pressing issues like no bid contracts, Supreme Court nominees, CIA leaks, and other political issues. Quietly, the issue of race disappeared from the American landscape once again.

But if we are to ever move forward and become a society that values diversity and inclusiveness, we have to apply the lessons that a catastrophe like the one in New Orleans has taught us and recognize that sometimes our decisions impact others in a way that can be interpreted as racist. That may never be the intention of the decision makers, but they must recognize that as elected or appointed officials, or just people who enjoy a certain social stature, they must be sensitive to cultural and racial differences that exist in their communities and cities. By not understanding and not acknowledging these differences, we are doomed to keep repeating accusations and pointing fingers.

This past week, much of the conversation in the community has revolved around decisions that have been made by the Lubbock city council in regards to funding city projects. On one side, people argue that when it comes to funding projects for areas of this city that have traditionally been economically neglected have at times been made on the basis of race. That may not be the case, but people are entitled to their own perception and their perception of how these decisions are made cannot be called either right or wrong; they must be respected.

On the other side, there are people who assure us that decisions are made strictly on city policy and race does not enter into the equation at all. Race probably doesn't, but a failure to recognize and fully understand the cultural differences that shape a person's way of thinking might.

For example, two projects that have been pointed to as proof that funding for Lubbock's mostly minority districts has been adequate are the Fiesta Plaza and Amphitheatre projects. Both projects have been marketed to the community as places that once completed, will serve as locations that can be used for "Hispanic events" such as Fiestas del Llano or "Cinco de Mayo".

If that's the case, then a person of Hispanic descent could infer that the officials responsible for these types of public funding must think that all the Hispanic community does is hold and attend fiestas. They could argue that the people making the decisions to fund these projects have no understanding of the real needs of the community, which include economic development and opportunity. For a lot of people who care more about economic well being and public safety than having a place to hold fiestas, it may seem like a total disregard of their needs. In this case, these projects may be widely seen as reinforcing cultural stereotypes, even though that was not the intent of the decision makers. But those are the consequences of thinking that we are a one size fits all community.

The issue of racial divisions in this country have been around since Europeans first decided that they had to "take the Indian out of person" in order to assimilate them into American society. And the divisions in this country will exist long after most of us are gone. But that doesn't mean that we haven't made progress.

Sometimes, people just need to be reminded that just like beauty; these divisive issues are what they are, in the eye of the beholder.

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Jim Hightower

AN EXTRA BURDEN ON THE POOR

Isn't living in poverty punishment enough, without adding congress to the burden of the poor.

Apparently not for the Republican majority that runs congress these days. Driven by a group of rabid anti-government ideologues, the GOP has launched "Operation Offset." These right-wing budget whackers are demanding \$50 billion in new spending cuts in federal programs to offset spending for hurricane relief on the Gulf Coast.

Well, hey, I'm for that! You can find \$50 billion in a hurry just by delving into Pentagon waste. Its budget is such a mess that it regularly loses billions of dollars a year - by which I mean it can't find where the money went! Star Wars would also be a good target, since we've already dumped \$150 billion down that dark hole of corporate welfare and produced nothing even close to a workable system.

Then there's the \$70 billion in new tax cuts that these same congress critters want to dole out - three-fourths of which would go to the wealthiest three percent of Americans. Let's just pull \$50 billion of that for rebuilding the Coast.

Get serious, say the offsetters - those are our friends, our contributors... our sacred cows. Instead, they're going after the already-reduced funding in programs for poor folks, at a time when the numbers of poor Americans are rising dramatically.

They're trying to take food stamp benefits from 300,000 people, for example, and cutting health benefits for some six million poor children on Medicaid. Also, in an odd move for a party that so loudly touts its commitment to families, they want to cut 270,000 kids from child care assistance, cut enforcement in the child support program, and even eliminate foster care assistance for many children.

This is Jim Hightower saying... To help get congress off the backs of the poor, call the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: 202-408-1080.

EL EDITOR

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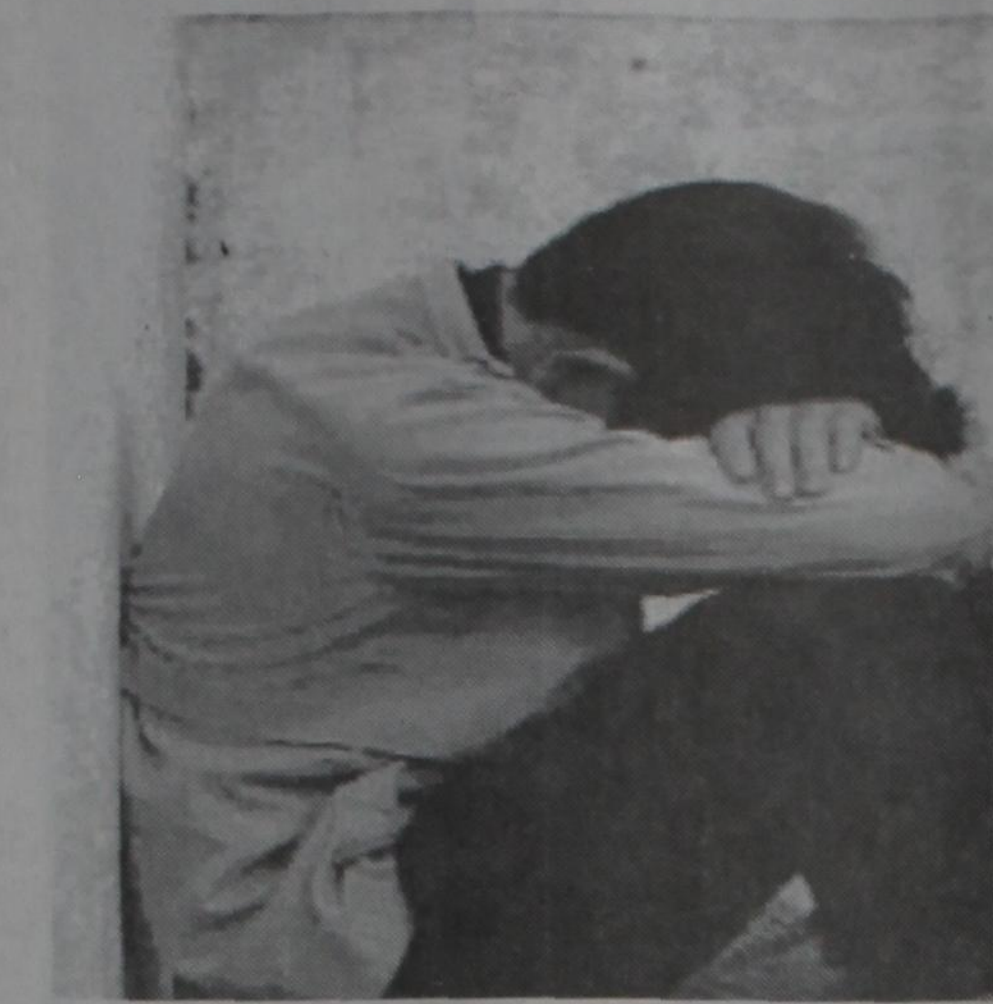
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America The Uneducated

How did the U.S. become the world's largest economy? A key part of the answer is education. Some 85% of adult Americans have at least a high school degree today, up from just 25% in 1940. Similarly, 28% have a college degree, a fivefold gain over this period. Today's U.S. workforce is the most educated in the world.

But now, for the first time ever, America's educational gains are poised to stall because of growing demographic trends. If these trends continue, the share of the U.S. workforce with high school and college degrees may not only fail to keep rising over the next 15 years but could actually decline slightly, warns a report released on Nov. 9 by the National Center for Public Policy & Higher Education, a nonprofit group based in San Jose, Calif. The key reason: As highly educated baby boomers retire, they'll be replaced by mounting numbers of young Hispanics and African Americans, who are far less likely to earn degrees.

Because workers with fewer years of education earn so much less, U.S. living standards could take a dive unless something is done, the report argues. It calculates that lower educational levels could slice inflation-adjusted per



capita incomes in the U.S. by 2% by 2020. They surged over 40% from 1980 to 2000.

Not everyone is so pessimistic. Education Secretary Margaret Spelling argues that President Bush's 2001 education reform law, the No Child Left Behind Act, is working to lift minority education

levels. "It makes me bristle when I hear people say, 'There's no way in hell we can have our children reach grade-level proficiency,'" she says.

Still, the Center's projections are especially alarming in light of the startling educational gains so many other countries are achiev-

ing. U.S. high school math and reading scores already rank below those of most of the advanced economies in Europe and Asia. Now education is exploding in countries such as China and India. There are nearly as many college students in China as in the U.S. Within a decade, the Conference Board projects, students in such countries will be just as likely as those in the U.S. and Europe to get a high school education. Given their much larger populations, that should enable them to churn out far more college graduates as well. More U.S. white-collar jobs will then be likely to move offshore, warns National Center President Patrick M. Callan. "For the U.S. economy, the implication of these trends is really stark," he says.

Callan's projections are based on the growing diversity of the U.S. population. As recently as 1980, the U.S. workforce was 82% white. By 2020, it will be just 63% white. Over this 40-year span, the share of minorities will double, to 37%, as that of Hispanic workers nearly triples, to 17%. The problem is, both Hispanics and African Americans are far less likely to earn degrees than their white counterparts. If those gaps persist,

the number of Americans age 26 to 64 who don't even have a high school degree could soar by 7 million, to 31 million, by 2020. Meanwhile, although the actual number of adults with at least a college degree would grow, their share of the workforce could fall by a percentage point, to 25.5%.

Steep Slide In Texas
These trends aren't carved in stone, of course. Bush's No Child law is helping to lift minority kids' test scores, says Jack Jennings, president of the Center on Education Policy, a Washington think tank that studies No Child. But the gaps are still enormous. On the recently released National Assessment of Educational Progress exams, 39% of white eighth graders were proficient in reading, vs. just 15% of Hispanics and only 12% of blacks. "Given these scores, there's no way the country will reach the 100% proficiency goal" of the No Child law, predicts Jennings.

Even with No Child, backsliding already has happened in Texas, the laboratory President George W. Bush used for the law when he was governor of the state. Why? The Lone Star State's Hispanic population is exploding. Because minority students are far more likely to drop out of high school, Texas now ranks dead last among the 50 states in the percentage of adults who have a high school degree. That's down from 39th in 1990.

Similarly, Texas ranks 35th among the states in the percentage of adults who have a college degree, down from 23rd in 1990. State demographer Steve H. Murdock is telling anyone who will listen that Texas public schools will be 80% minority by 2040, up from 57% in 2000. If the education gap persists, he warns, the income of the average Texas household will fall by \$6,500 by 2040, after inflation adjustments -- potentially fueling a spike in poverty, the prison population, and other social problems. "We've been very hard hit," says Murdock.

In Texas and across the country, No Child's focus on test results skirts the biggest Achilles' heel of the public schools: the growing dropout rate. Nationally, the on-time high school graduation rate is lower now than it was in 1983, when the report A Nation at Risk

first sounded the alarm about the nation's failing schools, says Michael Cohen, president of Achieve Inc., a nonprofit school standards group created by governors and business leaders.

In 2002 just 68% of high school students graduated four years after they started ninth grade. That's down from 75% in the early 1980s. True, many later earn a general educational development degree. But the GED has never been the same as a high school diploma. Once students quit school, it's difficult for them to make it into college, says Thomas G. Mortenson, head of Postsecondary Education Opportunity, a higher education newsletter.

Minority students who do get through high school face even greater obstacles in earning a bachelor's degree. Because many come from low-income families, they have been hit especially hard by the shift in student financial aid policy away from need-based grants toward loans and merit scholarships that favor the middle class. So just 10% of students from the bottom quartile of family income brackets earn a BA by the time they're 24, figures Mortenson, vs. 81% of those from the top quartile. "We are not dealing with the changing demography of the country," he says.

How can the trends be reversed? Jennings argues that the U.S. must push harder to get better teachers into poorer schools. States must also work far harder to keep students from dropping out of high school even as they raise graduation requirements. Today, only about a third of high school grads are prepared for college, estimates Achieve's Cohen. Many need remedial courses, a key reason why fewer than half of those who begin college earn a BA, says Cohen, whose group is working with 22 states to raise their high school graduation requirements. And more generous financial aid could make it easier for low-income students to go to college.

The prospects for U.S. education levels are a lot like global warming. Since erosion occurs gradually, it's easy to ignore. But if the U.S. doesn't pay more attention, everything from its competitiveness to its standard of living could sink.

Myrka Dellanos Refuses to Interview Luis Miguel Again

Reporter Myrka Dellanos stated she is done with Luis Miguel as she refused to interview him again since "it would be like interview an ex-husband".

Dellanos told Notimex she considered herself a "serious and professional reporter, reason enough not to interview Luis Miguel again..." "I did it five years ago. We had a relation and it ended. I would not do it because there would be a morbid fascination".

"I have never allowed myself to be a reporter who exploits morbid situations or to get involved in quite private aspects, sometimes it offends artists, so there is no point in doing it again", she stressed.

Myrka Dellanos returns to TV at Univision Network this Tuesday "with an exclusive and human interview", as she labeled it, with the singer Alejandro Fernandez at his ranch in Guadalupe, you will see someone quite different, Dellanos explained.

The ex-presenter of the TV show "Primer impacto" returns to the small screen with a night interview show, according to the plans, she is interviewing Rocio Durcal, where she clarifies the rumors about her health condition.

After more than one year of not working in TV, and the much-talked-about relation with Luis Miguel, Dellanos wrote a self-improvement book, based on her own experiences.

"My interview with Alejandro Fernandez was beautiful, we were quite relaxed and this is the first time he opens this property to the public. I know there have been pic-



tures of him at his Puerto Vallarta's house, his summer house where he lives with his family", the reporter explained.

"It was an honor to interview him and he to be confident enough as when someone enters into your house you feel like unprotected. He told me he never liked this kind of things, but at the end I think he also enjoyed it quite a bit", she said.

"We talked about his marriage, his divorce, his women, his paints, his brother, when he started as a singer and many things that his fans are interested in, they were interesting questions, but I tried to do them with class and respect".

She disclosed that other of her exclusive interviews will be with the singer-songwriter Joan Sebastian, who calls himself "The king of the Mexican rodeo".

"It took place at his ranch, we even took a ride on horse. He gave me a quite human, interesting and innovative chat", she said.

Myrka explained that her show will not only interview stars, but important people and it will also have news coverage, "I am a reporter who likes to be on the news' place".

- What do you think about the new journalism, especially in the showbiz which is based on scandals? she was asked

- Current journalism, especially in the show business has degraded in this country, in Mexico and Latin America those who know and love journalism know what kind of questions to ask and how to do them, so we get an answer but with respect.

- What has to be done, what you as a reporter and as someone who was harassed by the media suggest?

- Censorship should not exist, there is the US' Constitution First Amendment, which grants freedom of expression, I am a journalist born in this country, so I think what must remain is respect.

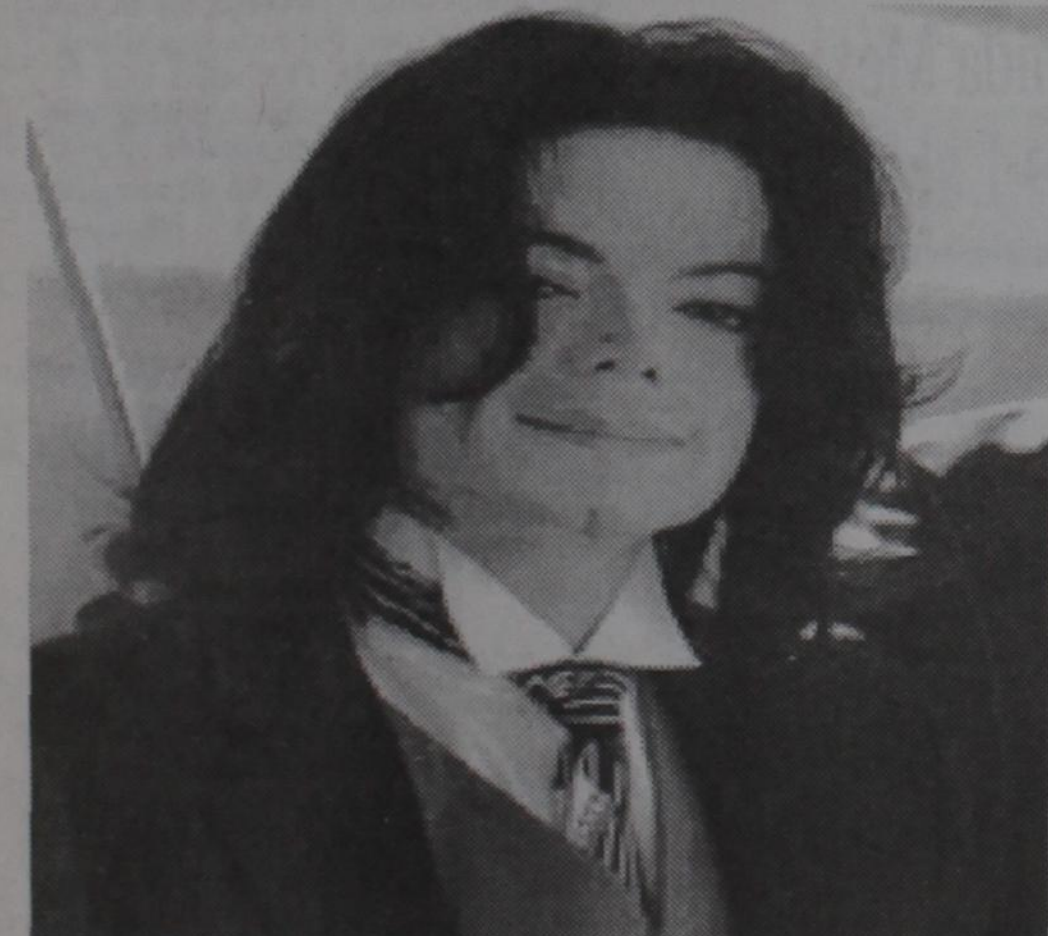
Michael Jackson spotted wearing women's clothes

Pop singer Michael Jackson was spotted wearing Arabian women's clothes in a ladies' restroom at a shopping mall in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

According to the newspaper Gulf News, after spotted, Jackson tried to hide from the people and the policemen in a bookstore.

The most detailed version is given by the Khaleej Times. It states that the event happened on Saturday night at the Ibn Batuta shopping mall, at 21:30 (17:30 GMT).

According to this newspaper, the singer was wearing pants, t-shirt,



An Australian clerk at the mall stated that the American singer was wearing a long tunic, which is worn by Arabian women to cover themselves to their feet. He was also wearing the traditional Muslim veil women wear.

A woman standing in front of a mirror close to the one Jackson was using to apply some make up screamed when she recognized his face. She took some pictures with her mobile. He was pulled out by his bodyguards.

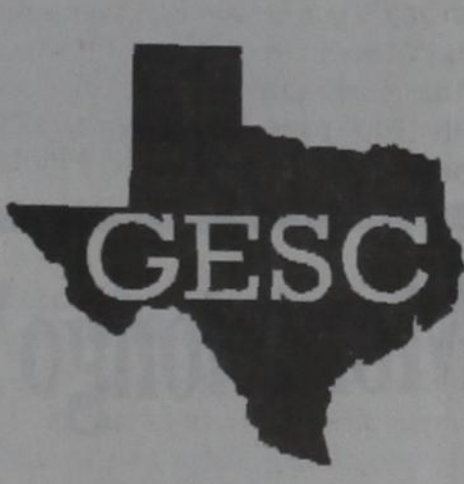
Jackson has been living in Bahrain since the withdrawal of child abuse charges in Los Angeles,

and was covering his head with the traditional Islamic veil.

The Dubai police department chief, Abdul Jalil Mehdi, asked the woman to give him her mobile to erase the pictures, and stated that there Michael Jackson was not charged. "Problem solved", he said.

The United Arab Emirates laws forbids pictures to be taken with commercial purposes, without authorization.

Michael Jackson is visiting Dubai along with Mohamad ben Sulayem, son of the Emirates king and motoring champion for his country.



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Eagles abandon the run and, quite possibly, all hope

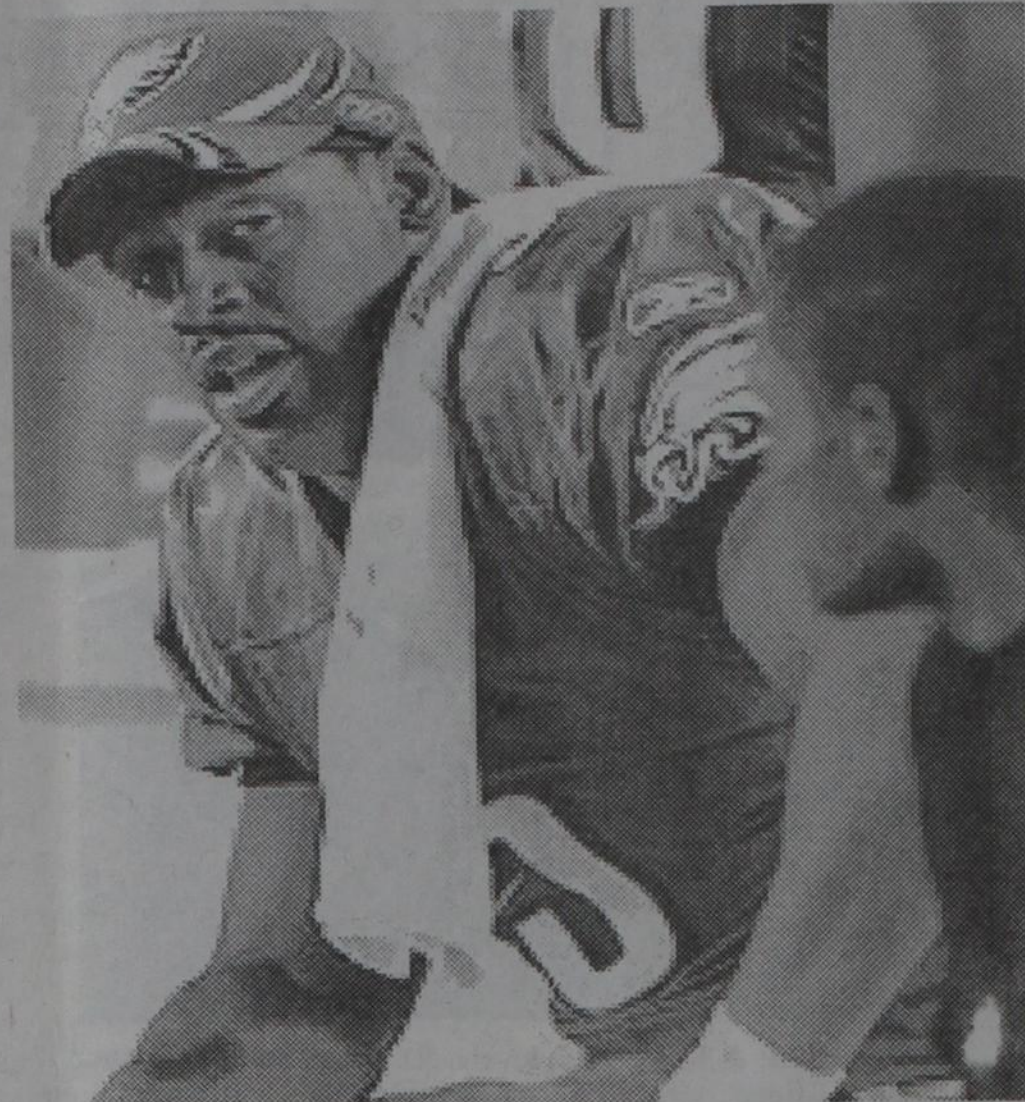
Don't blame this one on T.O. Sure, there was another misunderstanding in Philadelphia between the quarterback and wide receiver, only this time Terrell Owens wasn't in the house. Donovan McNabb, who will have an MRI Tuesday, says he misread the route. (AP) No, this time it was Donovan McNabb

and rookie Reggie Brown. Owens' stand-in, who misread each other - and their failure to communicate did more than cost the Eagles another game. It may have cost them the season. The Eagles won't admit it, nor should they. But after blowing a 21-20 decision to Dallas on Mon-

day night, they have to face facts, and the facts are these: They just lost a game they should have won; they just lost their third consecutive game and fourth in their last five tries; and they may have just lost McNabb.

The star quarterback bowed out for the final series after complaining of groin and abdominal injuries and walked with pain afterward. Coach Andy Reid said he expected McNabb to undergo an MRI on Tuesday, but it's a post-mortem on a disastrous call Monday night that's demanded first. I'm talking, of course, of that play -- that one lousy play -- that ruined a perfectly wonderful night for the Eagles. Ahead 20-14 with 2:53 left, the Eagles took a gamble that backfired and had McNabb and Brown called to the witness stand afterward. Both were asked about a McNabb pass that was meant for Brown, but that landed instead in the arms of Dallas safety Roy Williams, who returned the interception 46 yards for the game-winning touchdown.

McNabb later said he misread the route, while Brown said, no, he was the one to blame because he should've caught a subsequent



Ahead by six points with less than three minutes to go, the Eagles seemed in control. No, they were in control. They dominated a critical game with a perfect mix of run and pass and were one first down from putting away the contest and re-emerging in the NFC East race.

So they did what they should have done. They ran, with Lamar Gordon carrying the ball on first down to force Dallas to burn its first timeout. He gained three yards to the Philadelphia 38. Then, they did what they shouldn't have done. They threw on second-and-7 -- and you know what happened.

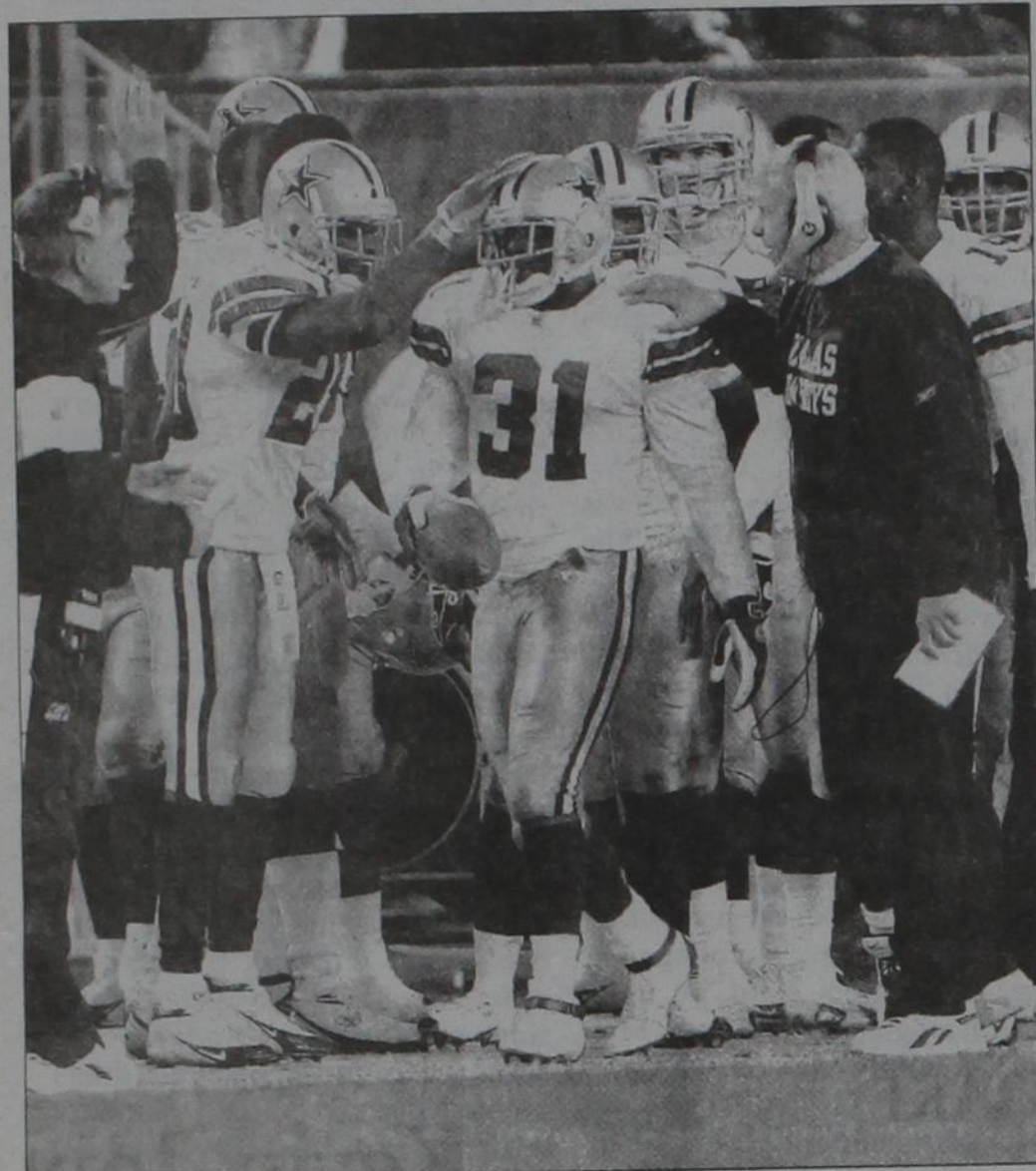
Brown said he read the route as a "go" after he was pressed on the line of scrimmage. That, it turns out, is what he was supposed to do. But McNabb misinterpreted the route and threw the ball into the flat, where there was no one but Williams.

"It was a hitch route converted to a fly route," Reid said. "The right route was run. They just weren't on the same page there."

pass that would've set up a game-winning field goal. The truth is, neither of these guys should have been put in position to answer

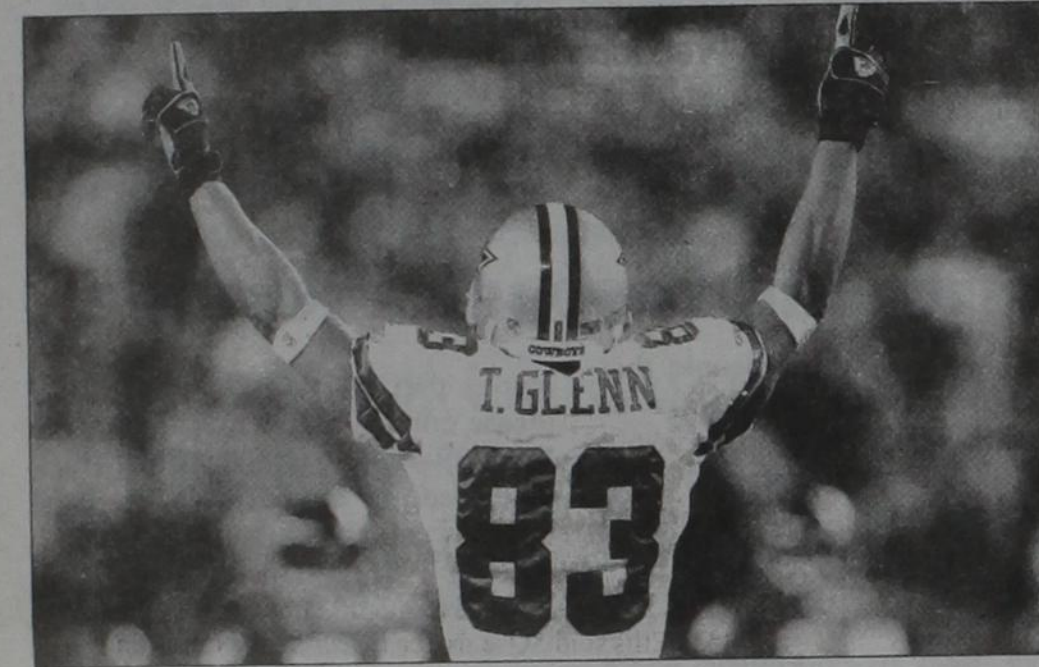
questions because the play never should've been called. Now let's go back to the scene of the crime.

Cowboys are Ready for Denver Broncos



The Dallas Cowboys and head coach Bill Parcells welcome Roy Williams after his interception return. It have the Cowboys their lead of the game on Monday Night Football against Philadelphia Eagles.

In bottom photo: Terry Glenn salvages adifficult night, celebrating a TD catch to get the Cowboys within six point late in the fourth quarter. The Cowboys will be playing the Denver Broncos on Thursday "Thanksgiving" Day.



Cardinals' Pujols earns first MVP award, edges Braves' Jones'

Albert Pujols won his first National League MVP award, beating Andruw Jones in a close vote Tuesday.

The St. Louis Cardinals first baseman ended Barry Bonds' four-year winning streak, receiving 18 first-place votes and 14 seconds for 378 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Jones, the Atlanta Braves center fielder, got 13 first-place votes, 17 seconds and two thirds for 351 points.

Chicago Cubs first baseman Derrek Lee got the other first-place vote and was third with 263 points.

"It's awesome when you hear people compare yourself with Barry," Pujols said.

Pujols was second in the NL with a .330 average, five points behind Lee, and hit 41 homers, trailing only Jones (51) and Lee (46). Pujols tied for second in RBI with 117, 11 behind Jones.

He played in 161 of 162 regular-season games despite being bothered nearly the entire season by plantar fasciitis, a heel injury that he also felt in 2004.

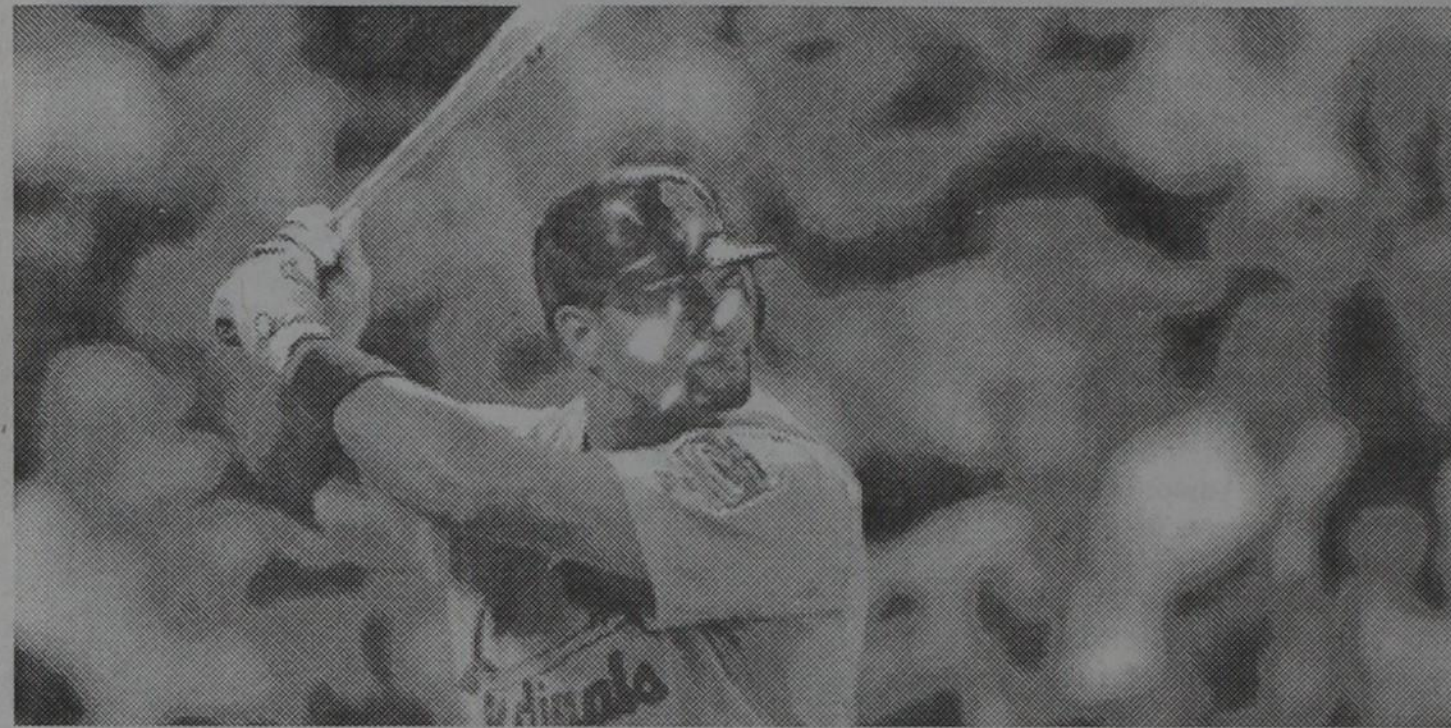
"There were some times when I got out of bed, I had to sit up before I jumped out of bed because it

was bothering me so bad," he said. The 25-year-old Pujols has put up remarkable statistics in his first five major league seasons, averaging 40 homers and 124 RBI to go with a .332 average.

He was third behind Bonds and

was the driving force on a team that lost Scott Rolen and other key players to injuries.

Atlanta went 90-72 and won its 14th straight division championship. Jones was the only Braves player with more than 21 homers



Adrian Beltré in last year's MVP voting after finishing fourth as a rookie in 2001 and second to Bonds the following two seasons. Bonds missed most of this year with a knee injury after winning the award four straight times to increase his total MVPs to a record seven.

Jones led the major leagues in home runs for the Braves, and batted .263. He has won eight straight Gold Gloves.

The Cardinals led the majors with 100 wins this season and breezed to the Central title. Pujols

or 78 RBI. Pujols, who gets a \$200,000 bonus, won the 15th MVP award for the Cardinals, the first since Willie McGee in 1985.

O's go 'different direction' without Sosa, Palmeiro

The Baltimore Orioles have bid farewell to star batters Rafael Palmeiro and Sammy Sosa. Both players struggled through

troubling seasons this year, a big reason Orioles executive vice president Mike Flanagan says the team won't ask either slugger to return in 2006.

The 41-year-old Palmeiro, who reached the 3,000-hit milestone this year, has indicated he would like to play next season. But after a season in which he was suspended for using steroids before implicating teammate Miguel Tejada, the Orioles no longer want him around. Palmeiro contended that Tejada gave him vitamin B-12 and suggested that the vial might have been tainted. Palmeiro continues to deny he intentionally took steroids, but he has offered no proof why stanozolol was found in his system during a May drug test.

Sosa, 37, came to the Orioles in February trade with the Chicago Cubs for second baseman Jerry Hairston and two minor-leaguers. Sosa was expected to provide the Orioles with a powerful bat in the cleanup spot, but ended up hitting only .221 with 14 homers and 45 RBI in 102 games during an injury-shortened season.

"At this point, we are heading in a different direction," Flanagan told the (Baltimore) Sun for a story on Sunday.

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Inscripción para plan de medicinas comienza hoy

Los más de 42 millones de personas que reciben asistencia médica bajo el programa Medicare podrán inscribirse a partir de hoy en un plan privado de cobertura de recetas médicas que entra en vigor en enero próximo.

El Congreso aprobó los beneficios en el marco de la reforma al Medicare en 2003 y, tras dos años de espera, el periodo de inscripción para un plan privado de cobertura de medicinas comienza el 15 de noviembre y concluye el 15 de mayo de 2006.

El próximo periodo de inscripción será entre el 15 de noviembre y 31 de diciembre de 2006, pero las autoridades han instado a los ancianos, jubilados y discapacitados a que se inscriban ya, sin importar su estatus económico, su condición de salud o cantidad de medicinas que tomen.

Bajo el programa, denominado

"Parte D" de Medicare, los beneficiarios se inscriben de forma voluntaria en un plan privado que cubre parte de sus recetas médicas.

Los beneficiarios tienen que pagar una mensualidad, un deducible anual y parte del costo total de sus medicinas, dependiendo del plan que cada persona escoja.

Las personas de muy bajos recursos, sin embargo, pueden solicitar asistencia financiera para recibir subsidios del gobierno y así costear su plan.

El gobierno federal ha destinado cerca de 720,000 millones de dólares en los próximos 10 años para subsidiar la cobertura de las recetas médicas.

Por ejemplo, las personas con ingresos mensuales de 1,200 dólares o menos (ó 1,600 dólares por pareja), y que tengan bienes por un valor de 11,500 dólares o menos (ó 23,000 dólares por pareja), pueden solicitar asistencia

adicional para reducir, o incluso eliminar, los costos asociados con la inscripción en el plan privado.

El programa es particularmente beneficioso para personas con altos gastos médicos, ya que la mayoría de los planes cubren buena parte de las recetas médicas.

Las autoridades recomiendan a los beneficiarios de Medicare que seleccionen un plan privado de acuerdo con sus necesidades y teniendo en cuenta el tipo y cantidad de medicinas que toman para su caso particular.

También deben comparar los costos de las medicinas, las mensualidades y demás costos bajo cada plan, y cerciorarse de que su farmacia acepta el plan que han seleccionado.

Organizaciones hispanas como la Alianza Nacional para la Salud Hispana, han elogiado el plan porque consideran que éste beneficiará a poco más de 1.3 millones

de latinos que ya reciben asistencia médica del gobierno a través de Medicare.

Según la presidenta del grupo, Jane Delgado, miles de latinos que antes no podían cubrir los gastos de sus recetas médicas podrán recibir cobertura de entre 85% y 100% del costo total de sus medicinas.

La Alianza Nacional, que constituye la red más amplia de profesionales de la salud hispanos, está ofreciendo asistencia gratuita para ayudar a la comunidad hispana a entender los beneficios del nuevo plan y cómo inscribirse, a través de su línea telefónica bilingüe 1-866-SU-FAMILIA (1-866-783-2645).

El gobierno también ha colocado información sobre cómo funciona el programa en su página de internet: www.medicare.gov, y a través de su línea telefónica 1-800-MEDICARE.

New Test Detects Down Syndrome Earlier: Study

A new test can detect Down syndrome in fetuses earlier in pregnancy and more accurately than standard methods, according to a study published in a US journal.

Expectant mothers currently have to wait until their second trimester before a blood test can detect the chromosomal abnormality, which occurs in one of every 660 births.

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that a new screening

method can identify the genetic disorder before the beginning of the second trimester.

Triggered by an extra chromosome 21, Down syndrome causes mental retardation, slow development, particular facial features and an increased risk of health problems.

The new method combines a blood test analyzing protein and hormone levels and an ultrasound measuring the thickness of the skin on the back of the fetus's

The study compared the new, first-trimester screening method against standard tests in more than 38,000 women at 15 hospitals in the United States.

The new test pinpointed 87 percent of Down cases in the first trimester while the customary second trimester test detected only 81 percent of Down fetuses.

If the new method is adopted, women would have more time to decide whether to undergo riskier follow-up tests to confirm the di-

agnosis. And for those who choose to terminate the pregnancy, an abortion could be carried out at an earlier, safer stage, US media quoted doctors as saying.

The study was led by Fergal Malone at the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland and was conducted by researchers at Columbia University in New York and other institutions. The US National Institutes of Health sponsored the 13 million dollar study.

Young Photographers Seek Help Improve Eastside Image

The Take Pride in the East Side Re-imaging Campaign is described as a very basic project with one fundamental goal - to encourage as many West Texans as possible to take a good second look at the beauty of East Lubbock.

Framed as a photo contest, the Take Pride the East Side Photo Contest / Image Campaign seeks to encourage the young people who someday inherit our city's future to look again at East Lubbock and seek out what is good and beautiful and help forever shape city-wide perceptions of East Lubbock.

Open to all Lubbock County residents between the ages 10 and 14 by February 1, 2006, participating youth have the chance to compete for over three thousand dollars in scholarships and prizes to be awarded for the best photographs and the chance to have their work shown in a unique city-wide exhibit showcasing the beauty of people, places and things in East Lubbock.

Organizers hope the project help in some way to change the mental picture of East Lubbock many of West Texans in see in their minds. They that picture, the one so often envisioned, was developed, or was allowed to develop over the years, and has been filtered through the prism of a long history of media misconceptions and the narrow view of our own ethnic notions. As a result of this collective consciousness, it has been difficult for East Lubbock to attract new



economic development, new home owners, and even more importantly, difficult to inspire new hope in the talented generation of young people who will someday guide our city.

Billie Russell, President of the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association, said, "We need to do everything to help East Lubbock and to encourage the children."

Dawn Wolf-Taylor, of the Underwood Center for the Arts added, "It great to see the children learning

new skill and showing us a window into their world."

Organizers indicate that more youth are needed to participate. Church youth teams are welcomed and encouraged to participate. Children who participate in one of the four scheduled workshops will receive free photography lessons, a camera, free processing and a free frame. Church youth teams are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

The project is sponsored by the African American Chamber of

Commerce, the Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association, the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association, the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts, City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation, the North and East Lubbock Community Development Corporation, Parkway-Cherry Point Neighborhood Association, and the TTU Upward Bound Early Outreach Initiative.

For more info, to register, or to enroll in any one of four scheduled "how-to" workshops, call 767-2704 or 762-8606.

'Wrap Up' Your Tailgate Menu

Score with saucy wrap sandwiches at tailgate parties.

Friends, food and football draw us to stadium parking lots hours before kick-off. What keeps us coming year after year? For some fans, it's the friendships developed over years of Saturdays or Sundays. More often than not, those friendships grew in gatherings around the barbecue grill.

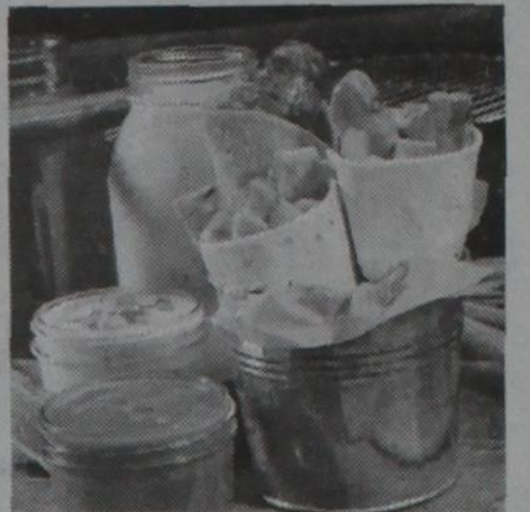
You might want to give more playing time to a new flavor this autumn - "Hot Wings" Chicken Wraps.

Spicy wings with bones obviously can't go on a sandwich, but you can enjoy the same flavor with chicken breasts and a classic wing sauce. Pair it with the usual Buffalo wing sides - blue cheese or ranch dressing with celery, and you're guaranteed to score.

"The barbecue sauce is a friend's family recipe that uses white sauce," said Pioneer Brand home economist Belinda Ellis. "I simplified it using our gravy mix."

Sauces make the wraps. Make the sauces ahead of time, and you'll have more time to enjoy tailgating, family, friends and football.

For more recipes, visit www.pioneerbrand.com.



'Hot Wings' Chicken Wrap with Blue Cheese Spread

Blue Cheese Spread:
1 1/2 cups water, divided
1 package (2.75 ounce) biscuit gravy mix (such as Pioneer Brand)
1/2 cup blue cheese, crumbled
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1/2 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

'Hot Wings' Chicken:
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 teaspoon Cajun seasoning
1 1/2 pound boneless chicken breast, cut into 1-inch strips
1/2 cup hot wings sauce
1/2 cup lemon juice
1/2 cup honey

1 cup diced celery

To make Blue Cheese Spread: In medium saucepan, heat 1 cup water to a full rolling boil. Meanwhile, dissolve gravy mix in remaining 1/2 cup cool water; pour gravy mixture

into boiling water. Whisk until thickened. Stir in blue cheese crumbles until melted. Refrigerate until completely cool. Stir in Worcestershire sauce, lemon juice, and fresh parsley.

To make Buffalo Chicken: Preheat grill to low heat. Combine mayonnaise and seasoning in small bowl. Coat chicken strips with seasonings. Grill three minutes on each side or until chicken is no longer pink. Combine hot wings sauce, lemon juice, and honey. Toss cooked chicken in sauce.

To assemble wrap: Spoon about 1/4 cup of the spread over a flour tortilla. Top with some of the chicken and diced celery. Fold in ends. Roll up from one side to the other.

Makes 10 wraps.

Thanksgiving - Twice Blessed

Turn turkey leftovers into a Friday treat.

Every year we gather 'round the table for the Thanksgiving feast with the 20-pound bird, cornbread stuffing and all the fixin's. Then we gather 'round the refrigerator wondering how to store all the leftovers.

On Friday, simple meals are in order. Instead of the same old turkey sandwiches, however, here's an idea for an unexpected turkey dish, simple and savory.

Turn turkey into a second-time-around treat with Turkey Ragout over Biscuits. "Our gravy mix makes a peppery sauce to flavor leftovers," Pioneer Brand home economist Belinda Ellis said. Use frozen biscuits for a quick and easy meal.

For additional tips and recipes for the holidays, visit www.pioneerbrand.com.



Turkey Twice Blessed - Turkey Ragout on Biscuits

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1/2 cup diced onion
1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
1/2 cup diced green bell pepper
1/4 teaspoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves
2 cups water, divided
1 (2.75 ounce package) country gravy mix, such as Pioneer Brand
2 cups cooked turkey, cut into bite sized pieces
1/4 cup fresh chopped parsley
freshly ground black pepper to taste

6 frozen biscuits, such as Pioneer Brand, baked

Heat vegetable oil in a 2-quart saucepan. Add onion, red bell pepper and green bell peppers. Cook three minutes, add garlic and thyme leaves. Stir in cooked turkey

and fresh parsley. Pour in 1 1/2 cups water. Bring to a boil.

In a 2 cup measuring cup, measure 1/2 cup cold water and stir in gravy mix until smooth. Pour into boiling water. Stir until slightly thickened. Add additional pepper as desired.

Pour over baked biscuits.

Serve topped with cranberry sauce if desired.

Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Makes 10 wraps.

Pequeños detalles hacen que los días de fiestas sean memorables

(NAPSM)—Desde el Día de los Muertos hasta el Día de los Reyes Magos, los días de fiestas son una temporada muy especial y hermosa del año. Para muchos, la oportunidad de compartir con familia y amigos en las fiestas, es lo mejor de la temporada.

Ser anfitrión de una fiesta es un honor. También te da la oportunidad de poner tu toque personal en la celebración y reconocimiento a tus amigos y familia de manera muy especial. Desde platos tradicionales hasta decoraciones para la mesa hechas a mano, tus detalles especiales harán las fiestas memorables.

Estas son algunas sugerencias de detalles para personalizar tu fiesta:

- Da una calurosa bienvenida a tus invitados antes de entrar a tu casa, decorando la puerta principal por fuera usando guirnalda de luces de colores.

- Prepara una cinta o disco compacto con la música favorita de tus invitados para tocar durante la fiesta. Incluye algunas canciones para que todos puedan cantar.

- Viste la mesa con decoraciones de la temporada que no sean de mucho costo. Por ejemplo puedes colocar frutas o vegetales de la temporada, tales como calabazas, en un plato hondo decorado con una cinta.

- Prepara juegos fáciles con premios para que todos puedan jugar como Dominó o La Lotería. A todos les encantan los regalos sorpresa!

Siempre el centro de toda reunión, la comida tiene un significado muy importante durante los días de fiestas. Escoger las recetas tradicionales que le recuerden a todos su país de origen, agregan un detalle especial a la comida.

Esta auténtica receta mexicana de budín de pan cubierto con crema batida y servido con café, es el toque final perfecto de una buena comida.



Foto cortesía de Nestlé

Postres tradicionales y detalles especiales para los días de fiesta que se aproximan.

CAPIROTADA ABUELITA (Rinde 6 porciones)

2 tabletas (de 90 gramos cada una) de chocolate ABUELITA de NESTLÉ®
1 lata (de 12 onzas líquidas) de leche evaporada NESTLÉ® CARNATION®
1 taza de agua
1/2 de taza de azúcar moreno compacto (o piloncillo)
1/2 taza de uvas pasas
1/2 taza de nueces picadas
1 palo de canela
6 rebunadas de pan francés de 1 pulgada de ancho
1/2 taza de queso panela desmenuzado

COLOCA el chocolate Abuelita, la leche evaporada, el agua, el azúcar moreno, las pasas y el palo de canela en una cacerola mediana. Cocina a fuego medio, revolviendo con frecuencia, hasta que la mezcla comience a hervir y la textura quede sin grumos. Retira del fuego; desecha el palo de canela.

COLOCA el pan en un molde de hornear de 13 x 9 pulgadas. Vierte la mezcla de chocolate sobre el pan. Salpica con queso. Sirvela caliente o helada.

Para más deliciosas recetas para entretener durante los días de fiesta, visita MiCocinaLatina.com.

Firefighter's Mural to be Unveiled

What took whole year of work for Madaleno L. Hernandez will be unveiled

Lubbock Fire Department starting with the first station and continuing

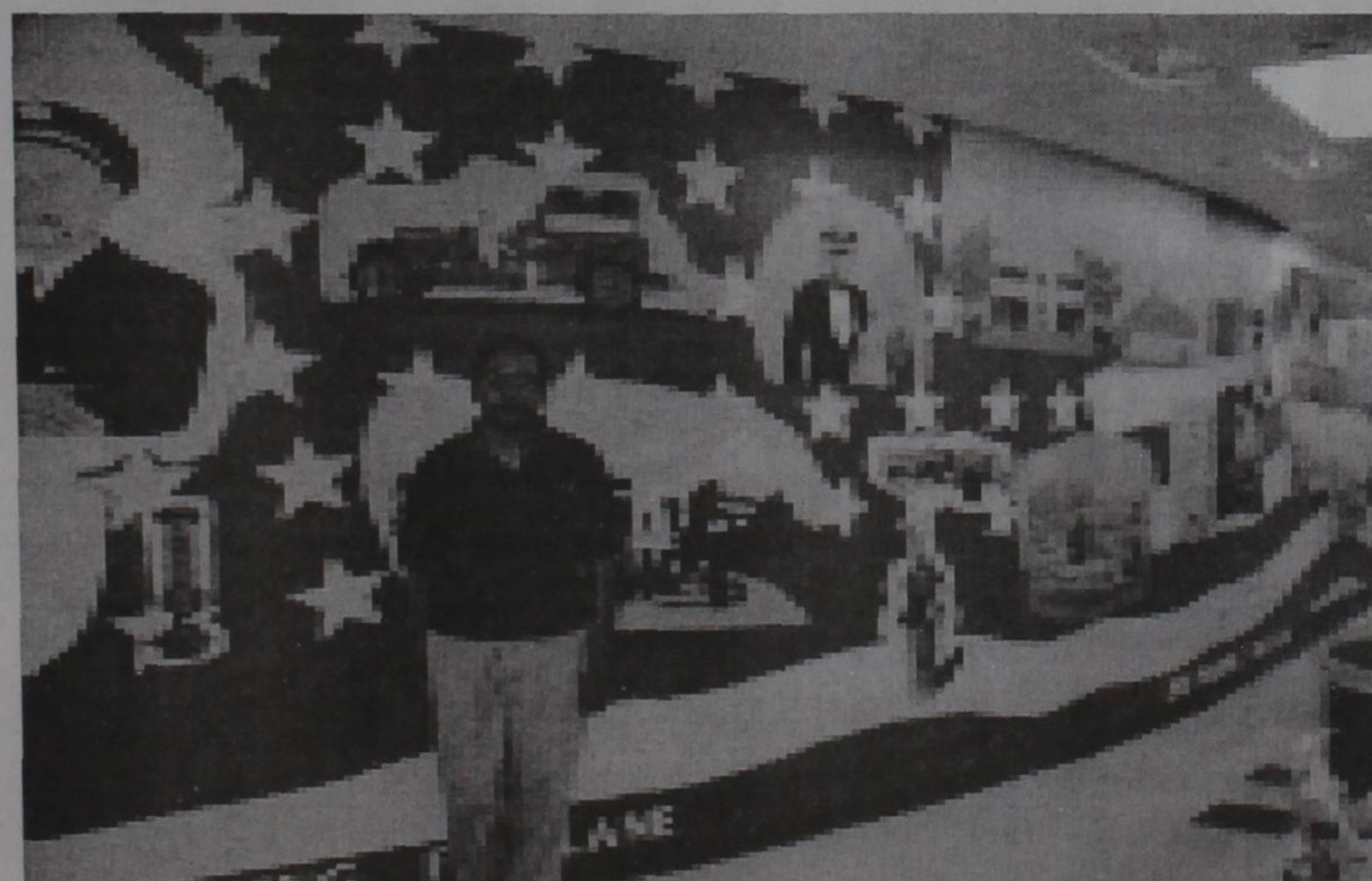
with a heart disease that takes much of his strength. Raul

Salazar.

The Mural which measures approximately 8 foot tall by 46 feet long contains soem 20 fiddrent scenes including painting of all of the firefighters who have lost their lives in cuty.

The mural also has pictures of fire chiefs who have served the Department.

The public is invited to view the mural where a discriptive brochure will be available. Effective



this coming Nove. 22 at 10 A.M. at Lubbock's Administrative Fire Office of Lubbock's Fire Department located at 1515 Ursuline here.

The painted mural depicts a history of the

with scene of Lubbock most nortorious fires. Hernandez who did the mural on a vounteer basis painted the mural in his spare time and "as my strength held out."

Hernandez is disabled

Salazaradministrative officer for the Fire Department said that they were very appreciative of the hard word put in by Mr. hernandez.

Much of the background work to paint the scene was done by Mr.

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Crisis entre México y Venezuela



se haga uso de "adjetivos que no son tolerables ni aceptables para México y para los mexicanos".

En esta misma tonalidad, la noche del domingo el gobierno de México, mediante la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE), dijo haber recibido "con sorpresa las declaraciones del presidente Hugo Chávez de Venezuela".

En particular, de acuerdo con un comunicado, porque los gobiernos de los dos países "acordaron, por medio de sus cancilleres, el pasado viernes 11 de noviembre, trabajar para superar las diferencias surgidas a partir de la IV Cumbre de las Américas dentro de un marco de respeto".

Sostuvo que incluso existe coincidencia con las declaraciones del ministro Rodríguez hechas a un periódico mexicano, apenas el fin de semana, de que en la relación entre las dos partes "debe primar el mutuo respeto, la sinceridad y el debate sin adjetivos..."

Resaltó, en el pronunciamiento, que toda vez que las declaraciones del presidente de Venezuela "atentan contra la dignidad del pueblo y gobierno mexicanos, México exige una disculpa formal del gobierno de Venezuela, en el

transcurso del lunes 14 de noviembre".

La cancillería advirtió que "de no producirse esta disculpa, el gobierno de México procederá a pedir el retiro inmediato del embajador de Venezuela y a llamar al embajador de México en ese país, reduciendo el nivel de las relaciones al de encargados de negocios".

Horas después, el lunes por la mañana, el ministro Rodríguez reaccionó sosteniendo que la presente situación es "de la entera responsabilidad del presidente Fox", ya que desde su llegada a la Cumbre de las Américas hizo públicos "sus ataques a la posición sostenida por el gobierno venezolano durante las negociaciones preparatorias de tal encuentro".

Recordó que una vez concluida la Cumbre, "el presidente Fox arremetió contra la posición venezolana en términos irrespetuosos, muy difundidos y nunca negados por tan alto dignatario hacia el presidente Chávez".

En contraste, planteó, "el gobierno venezolano esperó pacientemente que hubiese alguna expresión positiva por parte del presidente Fox, ante el silencio que es necesario dar la respuesta que se dio.

¿Cuál? el presidente Chávez, consecuente con una práctica democrática en nuestro país, dio a conocer lo ocurrido a través de su programa dominical".

Finalmente Rodríguez reiteró que el gobierno de Venezuela "reafirma su profundo respeto por el hermano pueblo de México, cuyas tradiciones patrióticas y antiimperialistas han sido siempre ejemplo para nuestro pueblo y para su gobierno".

En las últimas horas de ayer, la SRE se disponía a dar a conocer la postura oficial del gobierno de México en torno a los últimos acontecimientos del delicado asunto.

Se especuló que en cualquier momento arribaría a la Ciudad de México el embajador mexicano Enrique Loeza y Tovar, procedente de Caracas.

Por su parte, el embajador venezolano, Vladimir Villegas, notificó que a eso de las 21 horas partiría de la capital mexicana, y dijo confiar en que el problema se resolviera antes de eso.

Se autodefinió "optimista por naturaleza, los revolucionarios somos optimistas y yo soy embajador de un país donde se está dando

una revolución pacífica, democrática y sobre todo bolivariana, y los revolucionarios somos optimistas porque si creemos que es posible un mundo mejor es porque el optimismo nos alimenta esa esperanza".

El diplomático agregó que la postura de su país es "bien clara, que ha sido expresada en los comunicados por nuestra cancillería. Ya el canciller habló claramente, ya nuestro Presidente ha hablado y, por supuesto, como decimos en Venezuela: 'Más claro no canta un gallo'".

La crisis diplomática se presenta, a pesar de que los dos países mantienen pactos vigentes como el Acuerdo de San José y un Programa de Cooperación Energética para Países de Centroamérica y el Caribe, que prevé asistencia energética a Barbados, Belice, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panamá y la República Dominicana.

Asimismo, México y Venezuela son miembros del llamado Grupo de los Tres (G-3), al que también pertenece Colombia y podría sumarse Panamá.

Luego que el presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez decidiera retirar a su embajador en México, el presidente Vicente Fox procedió en el mismo sentido con su embajador en Venezuela, por lo que desde ayer las relaciones entre ambos gobiernos quedaron reducidas a nivel de oficina de negocios.

Poco antes de que el canciller mexicano Luis Ernesto Derbez leyera un comunicado en el que anunciaba el enfriamiento de las relaciones bilaterales, Fox manifestó que "nosotros habíamos solicitado una petición de disculpa, que no ha venido, y para tal propósito habíamos establecido que en 24 horas retiraríamos a nuestro embajador, de hecho ya vamos a proceder a hacerlo".

Fox puntualizó que, de ahora en adelante, y por tiempo indefinido, su gobierno "simple y sencillamente tratará de mantener la relación con el pueblo venezolano".

El ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Venezuela, Ali Rodríguez calificó como "una agresión sin sentido el ultimátum" mexicano por exigir disculpas públicas al presidente Chávez.

En la capital venezolana, Rodríguez manifestó que el gobierno de su país "rechaza como una agresión sin sentido el ultimátum emitido por el gobierno de México, según el cual si el gobierno venezolano no se disculpa ordenará el retiro de nuestro embajador".

Informó que "una vez creada la situación por el gobierno mexicano, se ha ordenado el inmediato regreso del embajador Vladimir Villegas, dejando los asuntos de nuestra embajada de México en manos de un encargado de negocios destinado a tal fin".

En entrevista televisiva el presidente Fox enfatizó ayer que se

optó por el retiro del embajador mexicano en ese país sudamericano debido a que "ya está anunciado de parte de Venezuela, el retiro de su embajador".

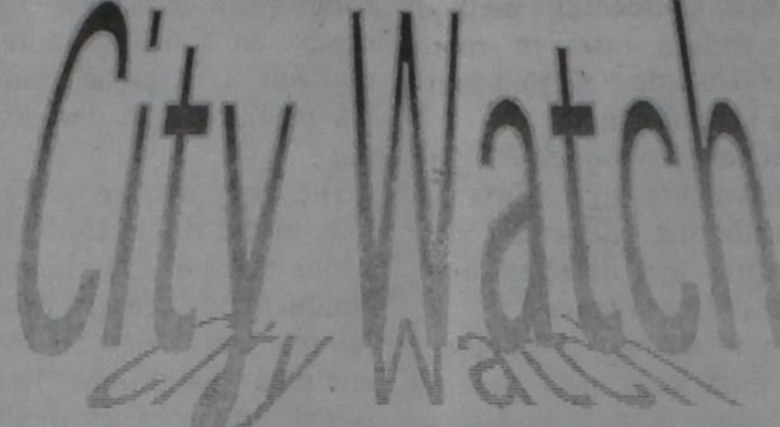
El factor que provocó la crisis diplomática se produjo hace un par de días cuando, en el contexto de las desavenencias originadas durante la reciente Cumbre de las Américas, Chávez arremetió de nuevo contra su homólogo mexicano al advertirle: "No se meta conmigo, caballero, porque sale espinado, espinado".

A través de su programa semanal de radio y televisión ¡Aló, presidente!, insistió en que su colega mexicano "está sangrando por la herida", al no haber logrado la aprobación en ese foro hemisférico, celebrado en Mar del Plata, Argentina, de una declaración formal en torno a un acuerdo comercial que fuera favorable a Estados Unidos.

Pese a que la semana pasada Chávez ya había acusado a Fox de ser un "cachorro del imperio" estadounidense, esta vez aclaró que sencillamente estaba respondiendo a su colega mexicano, puesto que éste había dicho que "yo había hablado para las cámaras, que me dejé llevar por la euforia, por la parafernalia, por cosas que no son serias".

Ayer Fox respondió que en tal reunión de presidentes se limitó a utilizar su libertad de expresión acerca del intercambio comercial, como es normal en "los países democráticos", pero acotó que a nadie se le está "apretando el brazo" para que acepte sus posturas al respecto.

Tras de anotar que "no se vale llevar un tema institucional, un tema económico, un tema de desarrollo de nuestros pueblos al terreno personal", descalificó que



This week we debut a new feature in El Editor. "City Watch" will offer our readers an opportunity to stay informed about city politics, city services, and any issue relating to how our city is governed and managed. In keeping with El Editor's mission to provide content that is relevant to our readers and information that is important for the public to know, "City Watch" will cover subjects discussed at city council meetings. From time to time, we will invite comment from elected city officials and city management so that they may also weigh in on issues of the day. We hope you enjoy our new column and find the information provided useful.

City Council Meeting

Friday November 18, 2005
The council meeting on Friday 11/18 will begin at 7:30 AM at city hall located at 1625 13th St. It will begin with a public comments session expected to last 30 minutes. According to the city's website the agenda will include the following speakers:

- 1) Christy Martinez-Garcia and others will address the council concerning censorship and the public access channel
- 2) Alice Lozada will speak about funding allocation for North and East Lubbock

In addition to these 2 items which should be of great interest, especially to those residents living in Districts 1 and 2, Councilwoman Linda DeLeon will introduce a resolution establishing policy relating to broadcasting of City Council meetings on the City News Channel. This discussion stems from last week's decision by city elected officials to discontinue the televising of the citizen comments section during that portion of the

November 7, 2005 City Council Meeting.

Utility Rates Vote

In another agenda item, the council is scheduled to "deliberate, vote and take final action on electric rates of Lubbock Power and Light", according to this week's meeting agenda.

Funding of North and East Lubbock

As Christy Martinez-Garcia writes in an opinion-editorial in this week's El Editor, on December 15, 2005 the Lubbock City Council will vote on how to allocate or use the over 1 million dollars that are still available from an original 1999 voter approved bond vote. Already about 1.3 million dollars have been designated for park improvements in west Lubbock.

Getting Involved in the Political Process

It is a generally held opinion by residents of any city that elected city officials should be held accountable for their actions and in particular how they vote on a particular issue that comes before them. If that is to happen, then it is crucial for its citizens to let their elected officials know how they feel. That ensures that elected officials are at least aware about how the people that they represent feel about a particular subject. To that end, here are the names of city elected officials, their phone numbers, and email addresses. You are strongly encouraged to contact them and express your views and opinions.

By doing so, residents of this city are engaging in the political process; that process in which decisions are made that affect all of us.

Mayor Marc McDougal - 775-2010, or mcmdougal@mylubbock.us

City Council Members and Districts:

- District 1, Linda DeLeon - 775-2027, or ldeleon@mylubbock.us
 - District 2, Floyd Price - 775-2007, or fprice@mylubbock.us
 - District 3, Gary O. Boren - 775-2023, or gboren@mylubbock.us
 - District 4, Phyllis S. Jones - 775-2008, or pjones@mylubbock.us
 - District 5, Tom Martin - 775-2011, or tmartin@mylubbock.us
 - District 6, Jim Gilbreath - 775-2031, or jgilbreath@mylubbock.us
- City of Lubbock Website - www.ci.lubbock.tx.us
Questions, Comments, or Suggestions for "City Watch": Email: acruzts@aol.com

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