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El Editor

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Lic Benito Juarez

VOL. XXXIII No. 21 Week of March 18 thru 24, 2010 www.leditor.com Lubbock/West Texas Region

Immigrant rights group slam Obama, Democrats for slow action with legalization bill



Leaders of nearly a dozen grass-roots immigrant rights groups escorted President Obama and congressional Democrats on Monday, accusing them of moving too slowly to legalize the status of undocumented immigrants and citing a record number of deportations in 2009.

"Our community is angry. Our members feel betrayed," said Brent Wilkes, executive director of the League of United Latin American Citizens. "We never believed in our wildest dreams that President Obama would have a record like this."

The critique, among the harshest to date from Obama's erstwhile supporters, comes as the president is struggling to deliver on a campaign promise to overhaul the nation's immigration laws and with time running out for legislative action before this fall's midterm elections.

Advocates have promised to bring tens of thousands of demonstrators to Washington for a March 21 protest and to punish Democrats at the polls in November if an immigration bill is not brought to a vote.

"No legalization. No reelection," Emma Lozano, executive director of the Chicago-

tisan piece of legislation that gets to the Senate floor, and that will be the marker that immigrant voters and others will use in November 2010 and November 2012 and beyond."

In February, the immigration advocacy group America's Voice reported that Hispanic voters could prove decisive this fall in 40 gubernatorial, Senate and House races. The list includes eight Senate seats, including the one held by Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.), as well as those in California and New York.

The tough line at Monday's news conference taken by the grass-roots groups -- which tend to work directly with immigrants in local communities -- stands in contrast to public statements by the main national immigrant organizations lobbying the White House and Congress. Those groups have refrained from criticizing the president so directly.

The outcry, however, reflects the growing disillusionment on the ground in Latino and immigrant communities. "People are suffering. Millions and millions of people cannot drive, cannot go to school, live in fear," said Dae Joong Yoon, the executive director of the Korean Resource Center in Los Angeles. "In 2008 many of our community members voted for change. . . . We've been waiting, waiting, waiting. But since then our president, our Congress members, have been in a deep sleep. So now we're saying, 'We can't take it anymore! Wake up! Do something!'"

"That may not be enough, said Ali Noorani, executive director of the National Immigration Forum.

"A legislative show is not going to be acceptable," he said. "The necessity here is a bipar-

city council members were the hallmark of his tenure, but his friends and supporters saw him as a man of the people who stood against special interests in defense of the little guy. "I'm not 32 anymore" he said. "I've



matured. I met with all the current members of the council and promised never

to surprise them on issues. I'm open to discussion and willing to change if I can be convinced an issue is right for Lubbock. By the same token, I will try to convince others of the validity of my position. If neither side can be swayed, we can agree to move on amiably." Victor's willingness to discuss issues openly and sincerely signals a what will be the hallmark of his new tenure.

One member of the audience asked about codes enforcement. Victor stated he supports codes enforcement and added that home ownership creates healthy neighborhoods. He supports using Community Development Block Grants

NAHP Awarded El Editor's late publisher, Bidal Aguero



Board of Directors of NAHP along with high prestige dignitaries were present during the event and took part of the celebration and presented the award to El Editor.

This past week in Albuquerque the NAHP (National Association of Hispanic Publications) held it's 25th Convention - and it was definitely one of the best ever.

A major highlight of the



Olga Aguero of El Editor takes time to congratulate and give thanks to NAHP founder Kirk Whisher and Zake Montes. They each recalled memories of their good friend and husband Bidal Aguero who passed 11-13-09. "We are very happy to hear and wish you and the family the very best and are impressed but not surprised that you will carry on Bidal's legacy with El Editor," Kirk Whisher said.

convention was the NAHP's José Martí Awards, the largest Hispanic media awards competition. The 68 individual categories are broken down in six categories:

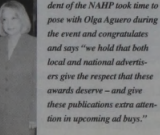
- * Overall Excellence Awards
- * Outstanding Editorial Section Awards
- * Editorial Writing Awards
- * Design Awards
- * Photo & Cartoon Awards
- * Marketing Awards

These awards were presented in 6 different award categories over three days of the convention.

The late Bidal Aguero, Publisher/

Editor of El Editor since 1977, most know for, "Comentarios de Bidal Aguero," was crowned with two awards within the "Outstanding/Editorial" category.

The awards were: Gold Award, El Editor, Lubbock, TX. Comenarios de Bidal; Chamber vs. Obama AND Silver Award, El Editor, Lubbock, TX. Comenarios de Bidal; Mike Leach, Texas Tech. The award was presented to Bidal's wife Olga Aguero who attended the conference in Albuquerque. Immediately following the presentation, all those in attendance paused with a moment of silence to pay their respect to Bidal. Mr. Aguero was recognized as being one of the first associate founders of NAHP in the early 1981.



Clara Padilla-Andres President of the NAHP took time to pose with Olga Aguero during the event and congratulates and says "we hold that both local and national advertisers give the respect that these awards deserve - and give these publications extra attention in upcoming ad buys."

Texas Gov. Rick Perry orders activation of first phase of Texas spillover violence contingency plan

Following the recent escalation of murders in northern Mexico and the increasing threat of violence crossing over into neighboring border communities in Texas, Gov. Perry today ordered the activation of the first phase of the state's spillover violence contingency plan. The state's plan is law enforcement sensitive and will not be released to the public for operational security purposes.

"With the growing threat of violence in Mexico spilling over the border, we have taken important measures to increase the law enforcement presence along the Texas border and have placed additional resources on standby to combat any potential situation," Gov. Perry said. "It is imperative that the federal government immediately provide additional resources to prevent spillover violence, but with the safety of Texans on the line, we can't afford to wait."

At the governor's direction, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), in coordination with local and federal law enforcement along the Texas-Mexico border,

has implemented critical elements of the state's spillover violence contingency plan. These steps include increased surveillance of border activity by state and local law enforcement, the Texas Border Security Operations Center, and the Joint Operational and Intelligence Center.

To ensure the timely sharing of intelligence information, increased ground, air and maritime patrol presence, and increased intensity of day and night DPS helicopter patrol operations along the Rio Grande River, as well as National Guard helicopters to support various missions. Additional resources ready for rapid deployment have been placed on standby, including DPS SWAT Teams and Trooper Strike Teams, as well as Ranger Recon Teams prepared to reposition based on threat.

"Texas has a unique cultural and economic relationship with Mexico, and we are committed to a common interest of shutting down these criminal enterprises," Gov. Perry said. "We will continue to closely monitor this situation, and take any necessary action

to ensure the safety of our citizens and to protect continued legitimate cross-border trade and travel."

Since January 2008, a reported 4,700 homicides have been committed across the border from El Paso in Ciudad Juarez, making it one of the most violent cities in the world. A porous border places Texas and the nation at risk from international terrorism, organized crime cartels and transnational gangs. Until the federal government fulfills its responsibility of securing our border, Texas will continue filling in the gaps by putting more boots on the ground, providing increased law enforcement resources and leveraging technology along the border.

Gov. Perry has a standing request with the federal government for 1,000 Title 32 National Guardmen to support civilian law enforcement efforts to enhance border security in Texas, as well as a more recent request for predator drones to be based in and operate over the Texas-Mexico border to provide essential information to law enforcement on the ground.

Victor Hernandez: Lubbock's Newest Comeback Kid Vows to work Amiably with City Council

Victor Hernandez left City Council about six years ago. At that time, many political observers believed city politics would never be the same - his announcement last week that he is seeking to take back his old seat of 11 years as City Council District 1 representative should serve as a life-lesson to everyone - "Never say never again."

Victor was a kid of 32 when he was first elected to City Council and 17 years later, he's Lubbock's newest comeback kid. This time Victor vows to work with all of the members of City Council in a spirit of cooperation. In his youth, his opponents believed his disagreements with the other

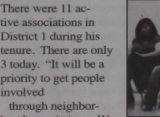
to surprise them on issues. I'm open to discussion and willing to change if I can be convinced an issue is right for Lubbock. By the same token, I will try to convince others of the validity of my position. If neither side can be swayed, we can agree to move on amiably." Victor's willingness to discuss issues openly and sincerely signals a what will be the hallmark of his new tenure.

One member of the audience asked about codes enforcement. Victor stated he supports codes enforcement and added that home ownership creates healthy neighborhoods. He supports using Community Development Block Grants

to help home owners comply with codes. He emphasized the importance of Neighborhood Associations. There were 11 active associations in District 1 during his tenure. There are only 3 today. "It will be a priority to get people involved through neighborhood associations. We can work together, there is strength in our combined voices," he said.

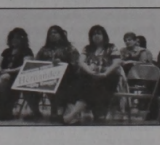
He called for the codes enforcement department to inspect apartments and rental properties and certify that they meet minimum standards before a landlord may rent them to new tenants. Victor believes such oversight is fair since landlords make a profit

from the area, they should invest back into the area to keep properties in code.



Another important issue was the ongoing effort to change the 100 year old City Charter. One proposal is to increase the size of the city council from 7 members to 9 or 11 members. Victor stated that he was open to discussion on this issue, but remained undecided as to its benefit. He was also asked about the makeup of the

Charter Committee, a committee that is void of minority and female representation.



He indicated that the makeup of the committee was a decision of the City Council and he would not second guess their motives. "You have to ask them," he said. His answer was a signal of the new and improved Victor Hernandez.

There are 14,577 registered voters in City Council District 1. El Editor urges all to get out and vote. The election is May 8, 2010. Early vote beings April 26 and ends May 4. For those who are not registered, the last day to register to vote in the City Council election is April 8, 2010. Let's GOTV.

Commentaries - Opiniones

No Better Time Than Right Now To Fix Early Childhood Education

No Muere Aún Proyecto De ley ;The new phone books are here!

By the time children are ready for school, they have been through a world of changes: learning to walk, talk, interact with others, ask questions and become self-aware. Research shows that quality early childhood education programs help channel this natural inclination to learn into academic success for all children, from kindergarten to high school and beyond.

It's no surprise then that the National Council of La Raza, this country's largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization, along with many educators, is focused on improving early education as a cornerstone priority for our children. When it comes to preparing for school, the best idea is to start early.

A report released this month by NCLR outlines unprecedented developments in U.S. policies and federal funding that can help states improve their early childhood education programs. Its preliminary findings indicate states are lagging woefully behind in serving diverse student populations, particularly Latinos and English language learners (ELLs). Most states must make im-

provements to create early learning standards for ELL students if our country is going to do a better job with diverse children and families. If it's now. Last year time caught up, there was ever a time to catch up, it's now. Over time marked a great investment in early childhood education programs, amounting to more than \$4 billion in federal funding.

If approved by Congress, the Early Learning Challenge Fund would provide another \$8 billion throughout the next eight years toward competitive grants for states to improve the quality of their birth-to-five programs. These improvements would affect Early Head Start, Head Start and preschool programs, in which Latino children are underrepresented or not well served.

Though Hispanic children make up nearly one-quarter of the child population in our country and are the fastest-growing group of children, Latino families have the least access to high-quality early childhood education. NCLR's report highlights several states that are doing right by ELL children, including California, which has developed benchmarks for three-

and four-year-old ELLs.

This is a significant step forward. By acknowledging the needs of young ELLs, California is setting a precedent for more effective teaching and high-quality programs.

Now it's time for the rest of the country to step up. Congress has an opportunity to strengthen early learning programs for Latino children in a number of ways, including by requiring states to support the development of better measures to identify ELL students; develop learning benchmarks for these students; require recruitment and training of diverse professional staff; and ensure that ELL experts are included in the creation of academic standards.

We cannot miss this important opportunity to transform quality early learning programs for our community. State leaders should be investing in the earliest years of all of our children, where it can make a difference in closing the profound achievement gaps that develop as early as nine months of age and persist throughout adulthood. The future of our classrooms, our states, our families, and, yes, even our country, depends on it.

By Gregory Tejada

My form for the Census Bureau's one-decade national population census arrived in the mail Monday (along with a batch of coupons and a cardlet for my brother from the EBHets Field Planee company).

No, I didn't do my "Navin Johnson" impersonation at the sight of the big envelope with the "Census 2010" logo printed on it. The form got put aside, and likely will be filled out sometime this week.

CONSIDERING THAT THE form comes with a return envelope that does not require me to add postage, the whole affair should cost me just a few minutes of time—since all I got was the 10-question form that really gets at nothing more than basic information about the U.S. population. Some eight decades from now when the information I provide now does become public, all people are going to learn about me is that in the year 2010, I lived with my brother in an apartment, that we were both of Mexican-American ethnicity, and they will be able to see my telephone number. By then, that number will be pointless. For all I know, some technological development likely will make the whole concept of "land lines" and 10-digit phone numbers will be considered downright quaint. That is why I don't "get" the people who want to make this whole process into something more invidious, or some sort of grand conspiracy by the federal government to get into our heads. DO PEOPLE who live in

mobile homes really think the federal government is "out to get them" because the Census form asks a basic question about whether one owns or rents their place of residence as of April 1, 2010? Now I know there are some people of certain ethnic interests, particularly those in the growing Latino population, who think they're making some sort of grand statement by ignoring the form (ignoring the note on the outer envelope that says a response "is required by law").

Aside from the fact that I wonder if most people will take that "threat" as being as meaningful as that tag that is not supposed to be removed from the mattress, I don't get how not filling out the form is much of a statement.

There are those who claim that since political people do not do much for Latinos, we should not be all that concerned about filling out the form upon whose data many government decisions will be made for the upcoming decade. BUT I'D ARGUE that those political people are apathetic because they somehow are not convinced that the talk of a growing Latino population is real. If anything, I'd argue that a strong and accurate count of all the people in this country with ethnic origins in Latin American nations would be the statement that we could make that would make these delusional politicians realize that we are a presence, and that we're here in this society to stay. I'd say the same goes for the growing Arab population (where I

also have heard some people argue that the Census count means little) developing in the United States, or any other group that thinks they're being overlooked. The Census is our chance to put ourselves on the record in a way that can't truly be overlooked. Too many political people overlook us because they think we don't exist.

In fact, one of the few "protesting" groups concerns gay people, some of whom say they wish there were categories on the Census form that would allow them to acknowledge sexual orientation (the form does ask people to specify their relationship, which allows for heterosexual married couples to confirm their relationship).

SO SOME OF those forms are going to be returned with assorted pink stickers affixed to them as a gesture of acknowledgement. It sounds cute.

But at least those are forms that are being returned.

So I plan to fill out my form and send it in, in large part because I have my own statement to make with regards to the growing Latino population.

WE NEED TO have as many Latinos as possible fill out their forms to confirm what ought to be obvious to people who are truly paying attention. We're in this country, and we're in just about every community. The point in time has been reached by which we're not going to be ignored any longer. Unless, by chance, too many of us decide to get lazy and ignore the form that should be arriving this week.

Ningun Momento Mejor Que El Presente Para Mejorar La Educacion A Edad temprana

Cuando llega el momento en que los niños están listos para ir a la escuela, ya han pasado por una infinidad de experiencias: han aprendido a hablar, caminar, interactuar con otros, hacer preguntas y darse cuenta de sí mismos. La inclinación natural de los niños es aprender, y los estudios muestran que los buenos programas de educación temprana ayudan a encarrilarlos hacia el éxito académico desde el kínder hasta la preparatoria, y más allá.

Por consiguiente, no es de extrañarse que el NCLR (Consejo Nacional de la Raza)—la organización nacional más grande de apoyo y defensa de los derechos civiles de los hispanos en los Estados Unidos—junto con muchos educadores, se enfoca en la mejora de la educación temprana de nuestros niños porque ésta constituye una prioridad fundamental. Cuando se trata de prepararse para la escuela, lo mejor es comenzar temprano.

Un informe reciente publicado por el NCLR detalla los avances en políticas y financiación federal de EE.UU. que ayudarían a los estados a mejorar sus programas de educación temprana. Sin embargo, los resultados preliminares indican que los estados lamentablemente no están proporcionando los programas adecuados para servir a la diversa población estudiantil, específicamente a los estudiantes latinos y a los que aprenden el idioma inglés (ELL). La mayoría de los estados debe hacer mejoras inmediatas para crear normas de educación temprana para sus estudiantes ELL, si queremos que nuestros hijos haga una mejor labor en los años niños y las familias de una población diversa.

Si algún momento había para ponerse al día, ahora es cuando. El año pasado se hizo una gran inversión en los programas de educación temprana, equivalente a más de \$4 mil millones de dólares en fondos federales. Si el Congreso aprueba el fondo Early Learning Challenge (ELCF), éste proporcionaría durante los próximos ocho años otros \$8 mil millones de dólares en subvenciones competitivas para que los estados mejoren la calidad de sus programas para niños de nacimiento hasta los cinco años. Estas

mejoras específicamente se reflejarían en los programas Early Head Start, Head Start, así como en otros programas prescolares, mismos a los que los niños latinos tienen poco acceso o son marginados.

Aunque los niños hispanos conforman casi una cuarta parte de la población infantil de nuestro país y son el grupo infantil de más rápido crecimiento, sus familias siguen teniendo el menor acceso a la educación temprana de alta calidad. En el informe del NCLR se señalan los estados que están cumpliendo con las necesidades de los estudiantes ELL, incluyendo el estado de California, que ya ha desarrollado puntos de referencia para medir el progreso de los estudiantes ELL de tres y cuatro años de edad.

Es un gran avance porque al reconocer las necesidades de los estudiantes ELL jóvenes, California está marcando un precedente para una pedagogía más eficaz y para la creación de programas de mayor calidad. Ahora es el momento para que el resto del país haga lo mismo. El Congreso tiene la oportunidad de fortalecer los programas de educación temprana para los niños latinos de diferentes maneras. Algunas de éstas pueden ser: requerir que los estados apoyen el desarrollo de normas académicas que identifiquen a los estudiantes ELL; desarrollar puntos de referencia para medir el aprendizaje de estos estudiantes; exigir el reclutamiento y la capacitación de un personal profesional más diverso; y garantizar que en la creación de normas académicas se incluyan expertos en ELL.

No podemos dejar pasar esta oportunidad tan importante para transformar los programas de educación temprana para nuestra comunidad. Los dirigentes de los estados deberán invertir en los primeros años de edad de todos nuestros niños, ya que es cuando realmente podemos hacer algo para eliminar las profundas brechas de desempeño que se pueden ver desde los nueve meses de edad y que pueden continuar hasta la edad adulta. El futuro de nuestros salos de clase, nuestros estados, nuestras familias, y sí, incluso de nuestro país, depende de ello.

Obama's Busy Day— With Hispanic Visitors And Issues

With 100,000 immigrant advocates preparing to rally on Capital Mall Sunday, March 21, calling on Barack Obama to assert greater leadership in resolving the country's immigration quandary, the President is moving to divert any political shrapnel that could dent his relationship with the Hispanic community. On March 11 he spent the better part of the day huddling with three disparate groups to deal with the matter and other tangential Latino issues.

In an eight-hour interval, he sat down with: * Representatives from 13 immigrant advocacy groups. * U.S. Senators Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) and Charles Schumer (D-New York), principals in shaping a new bipartisan immigration reform bill.

* Fourteen members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Among the advocacy groups present at the 90-minute after-noon White House meeting were the Hispanic Federation, National Immigration Forum, United We Dream and National Council of La Raza. Executive Director Deepak Bhargava of the Center for Community Change offered this summary:

"We walked away optimistic. If the White House follows through on its commitments, comprehensive reform can be achieved this year. The meeting is a direct result of tens of thousands of people preparing to march on Washington. Now the President and Congress need to do their part."

Next, Obama met privately with Schumer and Graham to discuss alternative elements of their comprehensive immigration reform legislation as it takes shape. The President followed up: "I was pleased to learn of their progress in forging a proposal to fix our broken immigration system." The White House statement added, "The President also updated the Caucus members on his meetings with grassroots activists and Senators Schumer and Graham on immigration reform and reiterated

his strong commitment to fixing the broken immigration system." Obama wrapped up his day by holding an early evening dialogue with the 14 Congressional Hispanic Caucus members to discuss immigration, healthcare, jobs and several other topics. He reaffirmed the administration's commitment to Latino community interests as he answered specific concerns.

Center for American Progress vice president Angela Kelley, who participated in the first meeting, summarized the day's events, saying Obama "showed he has not forgotten his promise to enact a law that will include a tough, fair and practical legalization program for workers and families."

Unless that actually occurs, of course all bets are off.

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¿Que Pasa?

The Buddy Holly Center invites families of all ages to take part in our 1950's Spring Break Soap Hop!

Hey there all you hip cats! The Buddy Holly Center will be having a 1950's style Spring Family Soap Hop on Saturday, March 27, 2010 from 11 - 2:30pm. Come dressed in your best 50's style threads, if you have them. If not, come dressed as you are. Parents come with your kids and learn the coolest dances and slang of this decade. Don't be a square or a party pooper, sign up today! Class limit of 25, preference is given to those who pre-register by Monday, March 22, 2010; families of all ages welcome. Date: March 27th, 2010; Time: 11am - 2:30pm; Cost: \$3 per pair or \$2 for an individual. Ages: Families of all ages. Pre-registration is preferred, as class sizes are limited. For more information or to register please call Helena Cohen, Education Intern at 806.775.3567.

Programming at the Buddy Holly Center is made possible in part by the generous support of Supporters of the Fine Arts (SOF), CH Foundation, Helen Jones Foundation and the City of Lubbock. For more information about these workshops or other events, please contact the staff at the Buddy Holly Center at 806.775.3560.

Annual Taste of Texas BBQ cook-off set for April 10

The sixth Annual Taste of Texas BBQ cook-off is slated for 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 10 at the Square in downtown Levelland. The event will feature live entertainment by the South Plains College Creative Arts Department as well as fun activities for the whole family. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and free for children under the age of two. The price includes the meal, one drink and one dessert with a ticket. Additional drinks and dessert will be available for purchase.

The cook-off is open to any local or visiting team of barbecue enthusiasts that wish to enter. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. April 9. Participating teams can begin setting up at that time.

A panel of celebrity judges will select the winner of the Traveling Trophy as well as two runners up. Proceeds from the event will benefit the SPC Student Government Association.

For more information, call 806-894-9079.

Civic Lubbock Accepting Local Grant Program Applications

Civic Lubbock, Inc. is now accepting Local Grant Program applications for events to be scheduled in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, City Bank Auditorium-Coliseum or Wells Fargo Amphitheatre for the 2010/2011 fiscal year (October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011). Civic Lubbock, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster and promote cultural, educational, and entertainment programs, to include the visual and performing arts, for the citizens of Lubbock. This grant program is funded through the revenues generated from the operation of Concessions at the Civic Center, City Bank Auditorium-Coliseum and Wells Fargo Amphitheatre as well as the Select-a-Seat ticketing operation.

The purpose of the program is to provide funds to assist programs and events in building strong participation in order to become self-sufficient on an annual basis. Applying organizations must be a 501(c)(3) organization (or government equivalent) and the proposed event should have a large or broad cultural and/or educational impact and appeal to all sectors of the community.

Local Grant Guidelines and Applications Forms can be obtained by calling the Civic Center Administrative Office (775-2242) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The deadline for submitting completed applications is Thursday, April 1, 2010.

College preparation seminar Go For It! Slated for March 30

South Plains College Reser Center will present Go For It! a free seminar providing one-stop planning for college, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. March 30 (Tuesday) at the Bridge of Lubbock, (formerly Poye Elementary School in the large gymnasium) 1301 Redbud (one block east of Maria Luther King Boulevard on 13th Street) in Lubbock.

Go For It! targets single parents, displaced homemakers and others with barriers to attending college. This resource-packed fair features South Plains College and local agency representative who will provide information on financial aid, childcare funding, technical programs, admission/enrollment and other special services. Participants will have the opportunity to speak individually to those who work daily with students helping them achieve their educational dreams.

Representatives from South Plains College, LEARN, Inc., Catholic Family Service, WorkForce Solutions, Career and Child Care Services, Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Dorothy Lomax Adult Education Center and other entities will be on hand. A panel discussion comprised of former and current students also will be presented. The students will share their own college experiences.

For additional information, contact First Step Counselor Lynn Gregory at (806) 716-4615.

Lubbock Housing Authority 2 abd 3 Bedroom Public Housing Waiting List Opening

March 15-19, 2010

Lubbock Housing Authority is opening the Public Housing Waiting List for 2 and 3 Bedroom Apartments and applications will be accepted beginning March 15, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. at the Lubbock Housing Authority Central Office located at 1708 Crickets, Lubbock, Tx. Blank applications may be picked up at the same location.

Completed applications should be delivered to the receptionist at 1708 Crickets, Lubbock, Tx before 4:00 pm on March 19, 2010.

Applicants will be contacted by LHA staff to schedule an interview appointment for placement on the Waiting List after all applications have been received.

The Public Housing Waiting List for 2 and 3 Bedroom Apartments will close at 4:00 pm on March 19, 2010. Applications will not be accepted after this time.

Gutierrez: Health bill's immigration caucus enough to vote against

The healthcare bill's immigration provisions are enough to spur Hispanic members of Congress to vote against it, Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.) said Thursday. Gutierrez, a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) in which he serves as chairman of its Immigration Task Force, said the caucus still has concerns over the extent to which the healthcare bill excludes illegal immigrants as well as legal residents from receiving benefits in the healthcare plan. "They are enough to say I can't support this bill," Gutierrez said during an appearance on MSNBC. Gutierrez and other members of the CHC to express

concerns about the immigration provisions in the bill, about which they've begun to speak out more forcefully as a vote on healthcare approaches. The Illinois congressman, who was an early supporter of President Barack Obama's run for the Oval Office, said that the immigration provisions were very unlike the president, and suggested someone in the White House had urged him to back more stringent provisions on immigration. "I think someone at the White House might have told him that a good way to leverage one thing or another," said Gutierrez, who declined to say who that person might be.

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Acalorado el debate por la salud

Legisladores demócratas defendieron ayer su plan de aprobar sin un voto directo la reforma del sistema de salud en la Cámara de Representantes, mientras los republicanos los criticaban por esa estrategia, en los últimos y feroces enfrentamientos sobre el ambicioso proyecto.

El líder de la mayoría oficialista en la Cámara de Representantes Steny Hoyer dijo que los demócratas aún no han tomado una decisión final sobre si usarán un complejo procedimiento legislativo que les permitiría aprobar el proyecto del Senado sin tener una votación directa a favor o en contra.

En cambio, los representantes demócratas, que no están satisfechos con la versión senatorial, votarían a favor de una regla de debate que daría por ratificada la versión del Senado una vez que se apruebe un paquete menor de

cambios. Hoyer defendió el procedimiento y señaló que ambos partidos lo han usado antes y los republicanos han recurrido a él más que los demócratas. Sin importar el método, agregó, la cámara baja aprobará el proyecto del Senado. "Estamos siendo sinceros", dijo. "Vamos a votar sobre esto de una forma u otra".

El líder demócrata también dijo que a la población no le importan los procesos sino los resultados y que el procedimiento polémico lograría implementar la reforma del presidente Barack Obama que busca dar cobertura de salud a decenas de millones de personas que no la tienen y crear protecciones en el mercado de seguros médicos para el resto de los estadounidenses.

La cámara baja sostendría votaciones decisivas a más tardar el fin de semana y sus republicanos incrementaron su ataque

contra la metodología con la esperanza de generar dudas entre

los demócratas. La oposición republicana es unánime. "Cualquiera que apoye esta estrategia será recordado por siempre por intentar decir que



los demócratas. La oposición republicana es unánime.

no votó por algo por lo 11:30 a. v. voto", dijo ayer el líder de la

In Attempt to Fuel Economy, Senate Backs \$18 Billion Jobs

An \$18 billion jobs bill is on its way to U.S. President Barack Obama's desk after the Senate passed the measure on a bipartisan vote.

Eleven Republicans joined all but one Democrat to approve the measure 68-2. It was the second vote senators cast on the bill, which was tweaked in the House and needed to be re-passed in the Senate.

The measure is the first clear legislative action in months that is aimed directly at persistent unemployment and demonstrated a spirit of

bipartisanship that has been non-existent in the current healthcare debate. The Washington Post reported.

"The beauty of this bill -- it's simple, it's focused on private-sector job growth and it's paid-for," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., one of the measure's co-authors. "It's modest, but ... it's almost a legislative dream."

Republicans have suggested

the bill uses accounting tricks to make the measure appear budget-neutral.

At the center of the bill is a new program that would give companies a break from paying Social Security taxes for the remainder of 2010 on new workers they hire who had been unemployed for at least 60 days.

Businesses also would get a \$1,000 tax credit for

each of those workers who remains on the company's payroll for at least one year.

In addition, the bill would extend for a year the law governing federal transportation funding and would transfer \$20 billion into the highway trust fund. The bill would extend a tax break allowing companies to write off equipment purchases, and would expand the Build America Bonds program, which helps state and local governments secure financing for infrastructure projects.

Texas Tech Hosts Latino Education Summit

Texas Tech University will host the 2010 Latino Education Summit from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Wednesday (March 31).

The summit will take place at the Overton Conference Center (2322 Mac Davis Lane) and present information on research, policy and programs designed to promote Latino/a educational success.

Featuring panels and panelists from a spectrum of higher education advocates including school district superintendents, university and college presidents, and policy experts, the summit's guests will include:

- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities President and Chief Executive Officer Antonio Flores
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Commissioner of Higher Education Raymond Paredes
- Wayland Baptist University President Paul Armes

- Texas Tech University President Guy Bailey
- South Plains College President Kelvin Sharp
- Angelo State University President Joseph Rallo
- Lubbock Independent School District Superintendent Karen Garza
- Freshness Independent School District Superintendent David Vroonland
- Plainview Independent School District Superintendent Ron Miller

The Latino Education Summit is organized by the Texas Tech Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement.

The summit is open to the public. Lunch is provided and attendance is free; however, all summit attendees must register prior to the event. For more information, and to register, visit www.depts.ttu.edu/diversity/latinosummit.php <<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/diversity/latinosummit.php>> or call (806) 742-8681.

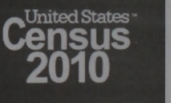
U.S. 2010 Census Begins, Forms Swarm Into Mailboxes

The 2010 Census forms began arriving in 120 million mailboxes across the United States on Monday, signaling the beginning of the once-a-decade population count.

"When you receive your 2010 Census, please fill it out and mail it back," Robert Groves, Director of U.S. Census Bureau, said in a press release Monday.

The current economic downturn has made the census more challenging, since "housing crisis has resulted in higher rates of vacant housing that must be visited to ensure a complete count," said the agency.

The population-counting body estimated that it will have to send census takers to an estimated 48 million households that do not respond by mail, even



though it has shortened the question list of the form to make it less time-consuming.

In 2000, about 72 percent of households returned their forms. The census data is very important because it serves as the basis for the distribution of congressional seats among states.

It also help determine how more than 400 billion U.S. dollars in federal funds are distributed to tribal, state and local governments every year -- including funding for schools, roads, healthcare and other critical programs, according to the bureau.

Kansas closes as unanimous No. 1 in AP poll

Kansas was on top of the preseason poll after the Jayhawks were in the same spot in the season's final Associated Press Top 25.

The Jayhawks, the overall No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament, were a unanimous pick Monday, their 15th week this season on top of the rankings. That matches Kansas in 1996-97 and Illinois in 2004-05 for the most weeks at No. 1 in a season since Duke ran the table in 1991-92. Kansas (32-2) received all the first-place votes from the 65-member national media panel and was on top for the second straight week. The Jayhawks were No. 1 in the preseason poll and for their first eight weeks of the season until losing at Tennessee. They had another four-week stretch of No. 1, ended by a loss at Oklahoma State.

This is the second time Kansas was No. 1 in the final poll. In 1996-97, the Jayhawks went into the NCAA tournament as the top-ranked team and they lost to Arizona in the round of 16.

While the top of the poll didn't change much in No. 1 in 2009-10 - with Texas, Kentucky and Syracuse also reaching No. 1 for a total of four weeks - a record 53 teams were ranked at some point in the season. That broke the record of 49 teams in 2007-08.

Kentucky, Duke and Syracuse, the other No. 1 seeds, were second through fourth this week. This was the 13th time in the last 14 seasons Duke was ranked in the top 10 in the final poll.

Oho State was fifth followed by West Virginia, Kansas State, New Mexico, Villanova and Purdue. Butler led the second 10 followed by Temple, Michigan State, George-

town, Tennessee, Wisconsin, BYU, Pittsburgh, Baylor and Maryland.

The last five ranked teams were Vanderbilt, Gonzaga, Texas A&M, Richmond and Xavier.

Texas moved into the No. 1 for the first time in school history in January and stayed there for two weeks before starting a second-year run that saw the Longhorns go 7-9 after a 17-0 start.

They became the fifth team to hold the No. 1 ranking and then drop out of the poll in the same season - Alabama was the last to do it in 2002-03.

Kentucky spent one week on top and the Wildcats were a unanimous pick that week. Syracuse moved to No. 1 for one week, the Orange's first time on top since 1990.

Kansas, Kentucky, Villanova and Duke spent the entire season in the top 10. Michigan State, Purdue, West Virginia, Tennessee and Georgetown were the other teams to be ranked all season.

Five schools - Notre Dame, Portland, Northwestern, Miami and Wake Forest - were one-week wonders.

More than half of the preseason Top 25 weren't in the final poll, matching the worst predicting job by the panel ever. In 1990-91 and 2001-02, 14 teams also failed to make the final poll after starting the season as a ranked team. Included in this year's group were Texas, North Carolina, Connecticut, Washington and Michigan, all ranked in the top 15 in the preseason.

The Big East matched its own record with nine teams being ranked at some point in the season with the Atlantic Coast Conference and Big Ten next with eight, while the Big 12 had seven.

Twelve of the 31 conferences had at least one team ranked this season.

Joe Flores' Missed Contributions

BY JOE ORTIZ

For the many thousands of Hispanics emerging as stars of professional football, Hispanic Business Magazine does a story on New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez was a good marketing strategy to acknowledge them, and to make NFL owners aware of their Latino purchasing power. I'm certain many other Latino media will pounce on Sanchez's success last year and we will see a plethora of articles about the gifted quarterback from the University of Southern California.

Most certainly last year's pro football season for Latinos was definitely one of the most exciting, especially with the feats of rookie NFL quarterback Mark Sanchez leaving USC one year early to present his credentials as a future National Football League star. While Sanchez showed moments of brilliance winning his first three games, he struggled to stay on top of his game the remainder of the season but did manage to guide the New York Jets to the NFC Championship to defeat the San Diego Chargers in the 2009 playoffs. While often criticized much for his rookie mistakes, it wasn't necessarily his passing that guided them to the NFC playoffs, as much as it was the NY Jets league leading running attack, led by Sanchez' inspiring character and excitement for the game had much to do with a successful first season.

Hispanic football fans have much to be excited about next year and may be for another decade or so as Mark Sanchez

should mature into a true NFL Super star. His charm, personality and good looks will obviously garner him many commercials (which is good for companies wooing the Latino consumer) and Sanchez' communications skills present potential for broadcasting and even movies down the line. It was a good article for Mark Sanchez but not necessarily for his writer Bob Kuznia, nor for Hispanic Business Magazine!

I don't know Mr. Kuznia's reporting background or how much football knowledge he may have; however, if a news reporter is going to mention how only a few Hispanic quarterbacks have blazed a path of glory in professional football, how can you leave off the name of Tom Flores?

Yes, the names Tom Romo, Jim Plunkett and Joe Karp bring back great memories of Hispanic quarterbacks (albeit one would have to have a deep interest in their ethnicity to know they are part Hispanic), unlike names like Jeff Garcia and Tony Gonzalez, recognizable Latino names. But, how do you leave off the name of Tom Flores?

Tom Flores, who is still a great part of professional football



As a color man on the Raiders Radio Network, along with Greg Papa, was the first Hispanic quarterback to play professional football when he was signed by the Oakland Raiders in 1960 in the old American Football League. Flores was a dominating quarterback but still held most of the passing records for the Raiders for many years. He would later play for the Buffalo Bills and was the backup quarterback to Len Dawson on the 1970 Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs. Later as an assistant coach to John Madden he helps guide that 1977 team to a 32-0 Super Bowl victory against the Minnesota Vikings for his 2nd ring. Flores then wins his third Super Bowl Ring in 1984 when then wild card Oakland Raiders rally against three formidable opponent in the playoffs and go on to crush the Philadelphia Eagles 27 to 10 after reassociating former New England quarterback Jim Plunkett's career in 1982. Tom Flores continues his coaching greatness and gets his 4th Super Bowl ring in 1985 by beating the Washington Redskins 38 to 9, this time as coach for the Los Angeles Raiders. Hall of Famer Marcus Allen is the MVP of that game. For that

matter, the majority of Raiders that are in the NFL Hall of Fame are there to a great degree because of Tom Flores unique brand of inspiring his players.

Tom Flores has a served as the first Hispanic General Manager of a professional foot ball team, is member of the American Football League's Hall of Fame, his old high school in Sanger, California calls their stadium: The Tom Flores Stadium, but yet he can't get his name mentioned as a trail blazer on one of the most prestigious Hispanic magazine's in the nation?

I have admired Hispanic Business Magazine for decades. I am personally proud to have been listed as one of its "100 Hispanic Influentials" in its 1988 issue. If I'm correct, I think Tom Flores may have made that list in the past as well. But, how soon we forget! To the few heroes we have: It's no wonder we can't get Tom Flores elected to the NFL Hall of Fame.

If I noted magazine such as Hispanic Business can forget to mention in a legitimate story one of the greatest trail blazing Hispanics football heroes we have ever had, why should main stream media and the Hall of Fame voters even care?

Tiger to return to golf at the Masters

For Tiger Woods, this figures to be a Masters like no other. Woods said Tuesday he will return more than four months of seclusion and play at Augusta National in three weeks, shielded by the most secure environment in golf as he competes for the first time since a sex scandal shattered his image.

"The Masters is where I won my first major and I view this tournament with great respect," Woods said in a statement. "After a long and necessary time away from the game, I feel like I'm ready to start my season at Augusta."

The Masters began April 8. No other major championship attracts such a large television audience, and that's under normal circumstances. Already the most popular figure in golf with his 82 worldwide victories and 14 majors - four of them at the Masters - Woods returns as a disgraced star who will be under the greatest scrutiny of his career.

"We're all looking forward to having him back. We wait him playing," Jim Furyk said. "I'm sure we're also looking forward to everything being business as usual. And it's going to take awhile. We know that."

Woods last competed Nov. 15 when he won the Australian Masters in Melbourne. Twelve days later, he rammed his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree outside his Florida home, an accident that set off scorching tales of extramarital affairs. Woods announced Dec. 11 that he would take an indefinite break to try to save his marriage.

"The major championships have always been a special focus in my career and as a professional, I think Augusta is where I need to be, even though it's been a while since I last played," Woods said.

"I have undergone almost two months of outpatient therapy and I am continuing my treatment," he said. "Although I'm returning to competition, I still have a lot of work to do in my personal life."

Augusta National chairman Billy Payne said the club supported Woods' decision to make his return at the Masters, adding that "we support and encourage" his decision to commit to rebuilding the significant work required to rebuild his personal and professional life.

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem also said he was pleased to learn of Woods' return. The Associated Press first reported last Thursday that Woods would not play until the Masters, despite

other published stories that he would return this week at the Arnold Palmer Invitational in Orlando, Fla. There has been a much buzz that when Finchem held a teleconference Monday on an undisclosed topic, the call was loaded with media speculating an announcement on Woods' return. Instead, it was to announce a new title sponsor.

Small wonder that CBS Sports president Sean McManis said last week of Woods' return to golf: "My only prediction is when he comes back, it will be, other than the Obama inauguration, one of the top biggest media spectacle in recent memory."

ESPN will televise the first two rounds of the Masters, and CBS Sports has the weekend. The highest TV rating for the Masters in the cable era was 14.1 in the Sunday in 1997 when Woods, then 21, became the tournament's youngest champion with a record 12-shot victory.

"Woods had had a lot of calls today from friends who have decided to come to the Masters this year," British Open champion Stewart Cink said on Twitter.

"Obviously, the ratings will be off the chart," said PGA Tour player Heath Slocum. "It will be interesting to watch - not only the reaction from him, but from the fans, the media, the players. I would venture to say it might be historic."

The Masters - "A tradition like no other" is a longtime CBS major - has restrictions like no other major. Media credentials are limited even in normal circumstances, and the club has tight control over who gets in. Some fans with season badges risk losing them forever for violating rules, such as being caught with a cell phone or a camera. Among the rules: No running.

Most players expect Woods to be back, although not as much - if any - at the Masters as he did in 2002.

"That's why Augusta makes such good sense," Furyk said. "There's less of that than anywhere else. Everyone is afraid to lose their ticket. The etiquette and behavior is far better than anywhere else because of the fear factor."

Still to be determined is the state of his game. Woods left for a Mississippi clinic for therapy on Dec. 31 - a day after his 34th birthday - and returned Feb. 11 to prepare for his first public appearance at the TPC Sawgrass when he apologized for his behavior and confessed to extramarital affairs. He took no questions.

He spent another week in Arizona for family therapy, returning Feb. 27 and heading to the practice range to get back into a routine. His coach, Hank Haney, was with him at Isleworth last week.

There had been reports he would play the Tavistock Cup exhibition next week in Orlando, followed by the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill, where he is the defending champion and a six-time winner.

"When I finally got to a position to think about competitive golf again, it became apparent to me that the Masters would be the earliest I could play," Woods said.

Woods twice has gone to a major without having competed after a long layoff - nine weeks and had mixed results. He missed the cut at Winged Foot for the 2006 U.S. Open after his father died, and he won the 2008 U.S. Open after a year of missing play on a shoulder left knee that kept him out the rest of the year.

"It's obviously great for golf that he's back," three-time major champion Padraig Harrington said. "It shows the commitment he has to his family. If he came back earlier, that would give him a better chance at Augusta. He would have been putting golf first. Putting his family first by not warming up for Augusta, it's a good statement."

Woods has been the biggest draw at the Masters since that watershed victory in 1997. That likely won't compare to his 2002.

This year came crashing down Nov. 27 when he fled his house in the middle of the night, an incident still filled with questions. "I don't know what occurred. Where was he going? What caused him to hit the tree? What injuries sent him to the hospital? And how could the world's most famous athlete be so confused?" Palmer said.

Woods lost three corporate sponsors - Accenture, AT&T and Gatorade - and became the butt of jokes nationally, from TV talk shows to Disney stage productions.

This will be the first time Woods has missed Bay Hill as a professional, the only regular PGA Tour event he has missed every year. Palmer told The Golf Channel that Woods called to apologize for not being there.

"He sounded good. He had some zip in his game," Palmer said. "It shows the way he wants to do with his life and the way he's going to handle it, and I guess we're going to give him that respect. I would think for Tiger it's going to be tough. It's going to be something that's going to take him a little time to get used to."

Palmer said Woods told him he didn't find his game was "up to speed so start playing this year."

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Movie Review: 'Our Family Wedding'



For a lot of Latinas who live constantly straddling two cultures, watching America Ferrera in Our Family Wedding, opening in theaters today, March 12, will be kind of like looking in a mirror. She plays Lucia, a modern, independent, ambitious girl — who turns into a wuss when she's with her traditional Latin family: They don't know she's dropping out of law school to pursue a dream, let alone that their angela lives with her boyfriend and has hot sex on the couch. She is thoroughly relatable.

Lucia is half of an interracial couple (House of Payne's Lucia Gross plays together, Marcus) who bring together

their families to announce they're getting hitched. He's black, she's Mexican, which is enough to start a culture clash, especially as Lucia's parents and Marcus' dad jockey for control of every last bit of the wedding. Complicating things further, the dads (Carlos Mencia as Miguel and Forest Whitaker as Brad) have a run-in even before they knew they were going to be family: Miguel tows away Brad's vintage car and the two trade racially-charged (but devilishly effective) insults, in a solid early scene. The scene launches a testosterone-athon that takes up a big chunk of the movie, with uneven results. A

toned-down Mencia is surprisingly likable as Lucia's misguided dad but he and Forest Whitaker (lacking in the comic timing department) have little chemistry. Supporting actors fare better: Anjelika Johnson (aka MADTV's Bon Qui Quo) delivers some choice acidic lines as sarcastic younger sis Izzy; and in one quirky scene, Chappelle Show alum

Charlie Murphy and Taye Diggs (making cameos) make a pretty compelling case for staying single.

There are some sharp moments in the film (one funny sequence imagines what it would be like to pair the more extreme breed of relatives from each side with each other with hilarious and vicious results); but much of it falls flat or is flat-out gratuitous: Did we really need to see Lucia's prejudiced grandmother, played by a misused Lupe Ontiveros, literally convulse on the floor after meeting Marcus' in the end, for all its noise, the film has next to nothing to say about race relations.

Ana Ortiz From "Ugly" To "True Blue"; Cross-Cultural Weddings

THE SHAME & THE PITTY...

This year's Academy Awards celebration, broadcast Sunday March 7, gave its annual "In Memoriam" salute to film industry professionals who had passed away in 2009. In one of the more egregious omissions in Oscar telecast history, the Academy ignored the passing of probably the most iconic Latino leading men in film history, Ricardo Montalban (Nov. 25, 1920 - Jan. 14, 2009). Maybe he was honored in last year's telecast since his passing came before the Oscar broadcast date. But the script read "passings in 2009." It certainly would have been correct to further emphasize the importance of this legendary gentleman of film.

ORTIZ SURVIVES THE DEMISE OF 'UGLY'... Despite ABC unceremoniously booting Ugly Betty off the air this Spring, the network is not casting off Ana Ortiz, who is staying on ABC, starring in the network's cop drama pilot, True Blue. The cop show centers on a group of San Francisco homicide detectives reunited to solve the murder of one of their own.

Ortiz plays a civilian secretary at the precinct. Poppy Montgomery co-stars. Exec: producing are Jon Feldman, Chris Brancato and Bert Salke; Peter Horton is directing the pilot. There are a lot of pilots hatched during the Spring with no guarantee of finding a nesting place in the Fall primetime lineup. Ortiz has proven she has the star quality

to make memorable any show she is in.

Other pilot castings include Oswaldo Castillo being nabbed for NBC's untitled Adam Carolla comedy pilot. The pilot stars the comedian as a divorced contractor rebuilding his life. Castillo, a frequent collaborator of Carolla, will play his roommate and co-worker. Also in the works, Carmen Ejogo has taken a role in CBS drama pilot, Chaos.

THE COLORFUL POLITICS OF 'I DO'... With Quiero Mi Boda, MTV Tr3s takes an inside look at cross-cultural weddings and the hustle and bustle surrounding them. Producer Jorge Talon affirms, "Weddings are a special event in the life of a couple, a day where not only two people join in matrimony but also a day when



two families unite. Now imagine these two families being from completely different cultural backgrounds, tastes, traditions, religion and sometimes even different languages." Having premiered in on January 18 (10pm EST), Quiero Mi Boda shows what happens when you intermingle Mexicans with Cubans, Dominicans with Gringos, or even Puerto Ricans with Chinese! The final two Monday episodes air March 15 and 22 (9pm, EST).

Ricky Martin podría ser el Che de "Evita"

El cantante puertorriqueño podría formar parte de la nueva versión del musical Evita que se montará en Broadway.

El astor boricua Ricky Martin podría hacer el papel del Che en el restreño del musical Evita, de Andrew Lloyd Webber, que se estrenará entre el 2011 y el 2012 en el teatro Nederlander en Broadway.

El diario The New York Post dio a conocer que el montaje será protagonizado por la actriz argentina Elena Roger, quien ya interpretó el rol de Eva Perón en la producción que se realizó en el teatro Adelphi en Londres, bajo la dirección de Michael Grandage.

El actor Elena Roger se supone que trabajará Ricky Martin, aunque PeopleEnEspañol.com se comunicó con Rondine Alcalá, publicista del intérprete de "Vuelve", de 38 años, quien manifestó que "todavía no hay



ningún tipo de información oficial al respecto." Esta no sería la primera vez que Ricky Martin participa en un montaje en Broadway, donde debutó en 1994, cuando participó en la obra Les Misérables. El rol del Che, que oficialmente

no tiene nada que ver con el Che Guevara aunque siempre se ha especulado que a él se refiere, representa la infancia de Eva Perón. En la versión filmica, protagonizada por Madonna, Antonio Banderas representó el papel.

¿QUE PASA? Let us know! EMAIL your events & pictures to: eleditor@sbcglobal.net We can't wait to hear from you!

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Julieta Venegas frustrada con violencia en México

El gobierno mexicano debe cambiar su estrategia para combatir la impactante ola de violencia que afecta varios estados del país, dijo el martes la cantante Julieta Venegas al presentarse en México su nuevo disco, "Otra cosa".

La cantautora de Tijuana, una de las zonas de mayor incidencia criminal, dijo que ya es momento de explicar y resolver la violencia, la corrupción y la impunidad que afectan a la nación.

"A mí me duele mucho más que una cantidad tan grande de jóvenes están muriendo... es frustrante", declaró en rueda de prensa. "Todavía no veo esa luz al final del túnel... pero es una obligación del gobierno buscar una solución".

Tan solo el fin de semana casi 50 personas fueron asesinadas, la mayoría torturadas, en hechos aparentemente vinculados con el narcotráfico.

Venegas recordó que al principio de su gestión, en diciembre de 2009, el presidente Felipe Calderón anunció el despliegue del ejército en las zonas con mayor narcotráfico y cinco meses, tres años después, no se ven los resultados. "Ellos empujaron a bombardearnos con lo que estaban haciendo, con su estrategia... pero la búsqueda de soluciones hay que seguir porque no va por donde debería", afirmó la artista.

También criticó la inversión millonaria de dinero para celebrar el Bicentenario de Independencia de México por entender que se puede usar para cosas más apremiantes, como ayudar a los damnificados por

las inundaciones en el municipio de Chalco, Estado de México, que afectó a unas 11,000 familias.

"Me da cosa lo que se está levantando para invertir" en la efemérides, afirmó Venegas desatando aplausos de los asistentes, cosa que rara vez ocurre.

Ya sobre su nuevo disco dijo que con el mismo básicamente conectarse con su lado femenino, pero no el "superficial" o "popero", sino más bien enfocado "en la cosa intuitiva... más pegado a la tierra", por lo que carece de metales y abundan instrumentos más acústicos.

Esa dualidad de lo femenino fue inspiración para el video del sencillo en promoción, "Bien o mal" en que un grupo de chicas no observa las flores, sino que se las comen y no tienen miedo de tirarse gases, que se convierten en mariposas.

Con una chaqueta hasta las rodillas en color rosa sobre un amplio vestido negro y medias y botines del mismo tono, Venegas dijo entre risas que le "gusta que eso cause reacciones encontradas" para luego explicar que se trata del lado más "salvaje o no definible de la femineidad".

Toreando las preguntas sobre su embarazo, que casi no se le nota aún, se limitó a confesar que para ella "también fue sorpresivo", al tiempo que "en tono de burla" contestó "ja, ja, ja, no creo" a una pregunta sobre si tenía en planes casarse.

Sobre la posibilidad de componer canciones infantiles o dedicadas a su futuro retoño, se rió la cabeca

antes de concluir que no sabía. También se mostró esperanzada que en una vez naciera su bebé los paparazzi no comencen a acosarla.

"Otra cosa", que incluye 12 temas de su autoría o en colaboración con amigos, es el resultado de cuatro meses de trabajo en su casa, sin la presión del estudio donde asegura se cobija para experimentar.

La cantante luego pasó cuatro meses en Buenos Aires, donde se involucró en la producción junto con Cachorro López.

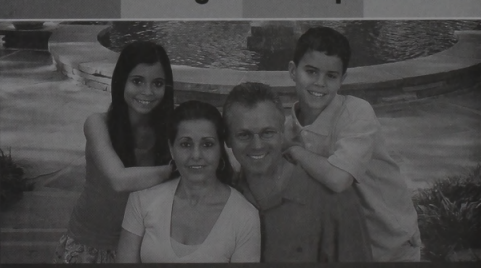
"Me gustó mucho la experiencia (de producir). Para mí es un paso natural porque llevo muchos años arreglando así que era un paso más de crecimiento", indicó.

La cantautora relató que en medio del proceso decidió a crear la canción para la película "Abel" dirigida por Diego Luna, porque al leer el guión le pareció una historia "super bonita" sobre la necesidad de atención que tienen un niño de 8 años, cuyo padre abandonó la familia. La cinta aún no tiene fecha de estreno.

Venegas aprovechó el encuentro con la prensa para interpretar en vivo cuatro de los temas del disco, tocando la guitarra acústica el piano y delegando el acordeón a uno de sus coristas.

Ganadora de un Grammy y una Latin Grammy y embajadora de buena voluntad para UNICEF en México, Venegas tendrá varias presentaciones en su país y Estados Unidos, pero la gira internacional tendrá que esperar al próximo año.

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Latino culture a key to childhood obesity

Michelle Obama's launch last month of the Let's Move campaign, aimed at slimming down the nation's obese children, is admirable in its ambition.

How can it fail with the creation of the first-ever task force on childhood obesity? Or establishing partner initiatives to provide healthier options in school cafeterias? Or working to earmark federal money to build grocery stores in urban areas?

Yet, if this campaign doesn't drill down to deal with the cultural nuances that still influence the lives of many Latino families (and from a quick review of the Let's Move website, it doesn't), then it's going to be an uphill battle in a community that is among the nation's most obese.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that in 2008, low-income, preschool Hispanic children had the second highest obesity rates (18.5%) in the nation, after American Indian/Alaska Native preschoolers (21.2%). And the most recent National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey data, which cover 2003-06, found that for boys ages 12-19, the obesity rate was highest among adolescent Mexican-American boys (22.1%) vs. non-Hispanic white boys (17.3%) and black boys (18.5%).

The Latino community, in general, too often does not

view obesity as a physical flaw but rather an endearing characteristic. For many, feeding is equated with love. So the first lady's program needs to find ways to reach Hispanics and educate the community on the health risks that come with obesity.

For starters, Let's Move needs to be available in Spanish as well. An analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data by the Pew Hispanic Center found that 52% of Hispanic children



are second generation, which is less likely than later generation Latinos to be fluent in English. More challenging is how to deal with the cultural differences. Here, Salud America! deserves a role in any task force. Salud America! is a network of more than 1,500 researchers, community leaders and policymakers working to create obesity prevention programs for Latino children. It funds pilot projects such as studying the impact of community gardens in Latino neighborhoods and examining how Latinos view body image. Each project adds to a fuller understanding of how best to communicate with Latinos.

The key to success for Let's Move is in combating obesity where it is most prevalent. To do that, the first lady's program will need to reach and teach Hispanics how to show a different kind of love — smaller portions and good long-term health for their children.

Minorities at Greater Risk for Kidney Disease

Certain ethnic minorities, including African Americans and Hispanics, are at a higher risk than the general population for developing potentially life-threatening chronic kidney disease (CKD), which has been linked to higher rates of diabetes and high blood pressure, according to the National Kidney Foundation (NKF).

During National Kidney Month in March, Fresenius Medical Care North America (FMCNA), the world's largest integrated provider of products and services for individuals undergoing dialysis because of chronic kidney failure, is encouraging people to pay attention to their risk factors and become educated about kidney disease.

Chronic kidney disease is a progressive, usually permanent loss of kidney function that affects

more than 26 million Americans, according to the NKF. When CKD leads to kidney failure, or end stage renal disease (ESRD), the only treatments are a kidney transplant or dialysis.

African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans are at higher risk than the general population

of developing kidney disease because they also tend to have higher rates of diabetes and high blood pressure, the top two causes

of kidney disease, according to the NKF.

Some facts (Source: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIDDK):

- African Americans are nearly four times more likely to develop kidney failure than white Americans.

- Native Americans have nearly three times the risk of kidney failure compared to white Americans.

- Hispanic Americans have nearly twice the risk of kidney failure compared to non-Hispanic white Americans.

"People with kidney disease may not have symptoms until the disease is at an advanced stage and they are close to requiring

treatment with either dialysis or a kidney transplant," says Franklin W. Maddux, M.D., FACP, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Information Officer at Fresenius Medical Care North America. "We encourage anyone with risk factors for kidney disease to educate themselves about chronic kidney disease and take steps to control the conditions that can lead to kidney failure."

Early detection and treatment can help prevent further kidney damage and slow the progression of kidney disease, according to the NIDDK's National Kidney Disease Education Program. FMCNA recommends that people in these at-risk groups get regular screenings for high blood pressure and diabetes plus make changes to diet and exercise to help reduce their risk of progressive kidney disease.



La diabetes juvenil y cómo vivir con ella

El diagnóstico de un caso de diabetes juvenil en la familia puede resultar abrumador. El día a día de una persona con diabetes y la múltiples inyecciones de insulina que tiene que recibir son 100 el comienzo de una enfermedad que a largo plazo puede presentar complicaciones.

Cada año, más de 30,000 nuevos casos de diabetes tipo 1, la forma más severa, son diagnosticados en Estados Unidos, de acuerdo con la Juvenil Diabetes Research Foundation. Y los números van en aumento.

En términos generales, la diabetes comprende varios subtipos en los que el cuerpo presenta dificultad para regular la glucosa o niveles de azúcar en la sangre.

Existen dos tipos principales de diabetes: la tipo 1 y la tipo 2.

La tipo 1, llamada diabetes juvenil o dependiente de la insulina, "ocurre cuando el sistema inmune del cuerpo ataca y destruye ciertas células en el páncreas", explica la doctora Janice Sánchez, endocrinóloga pediátrica y profesora

asistente en la Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine de la Universidad de Miami.

Mientras que la obesidad ha sido identificada como uno de los factores de incidencia en el desarrollo de la diabetes tipo 2, en el caso de la tipo 1 no tiene ninguna relación.

"En este tipo de diabetes la dieta y el alto consumo de dulces no tienen ninguna incidencia en su desarrollo", señala la especialista. "Tampoco se puede prevenir", agrega.

Los científicos aún desconocen su causa, pero consideran que existe una mezcla de factores autoinmunes, genéticos y ambientales que intervienen en su desarrollo.

No obstante, una vez los pacientes son diagnosticados con diabetes tipo 1 tienen que monitorear cuidadosamente el balance entre los alimentos que consumen, el ejercicio y las dosis de insulina que deben suministrarse.

Esa es la única manera de regular los niveles de azúcar en la sangre y evitar las

reacciones hipoglucémicas o hiperglucémicas, es decir, cuando el nivel de azúcar bajo o sube de manera anormal, alteraciones que pueden poner en riesgo la vida del paciente.

Aunque un balance entre dieta, ejercicio e insulina puede ser efectivo en el manejo de la enfermedad, para algunos pacientes no es suficiente. Los científicos observan que factores como el estrés, cambios hormonales y períodos de crecimiento, entre otros, pueden hacerlo aún más difícil.

También es cierto que los parámetros de la dieta de las personas con diabetes tipo 1 han cambiado en los últimos años. Antes, los niños con la enfermedad tenían que sufrir mayores privaciones de sus golosinas favoritas, en especial en las fiestas con amigos de su edad.

"El límite del consumo de dulces en la dieta puede ayudar en el cuidado de la enfermedad, pero con la guía del nutricionista y el endocrinólogo los dulces son permitidos en la dieta, siempre que

haya un equilibrio con el suministro de una inyección extra de insulina", cita la endocrinóloga.

El manejo de la enfermedad requiere además realizar varias pruebas de sangre al día, lo que implica constantes picaduras, ya sea en los dedos o en otras áreas del cuerpo.

"Una vez establecida la dosis necesaria a través de las pruebas de sangre, la insulina se puede suministrar a través de inyecciones o con la llamada bomba de insulina, que se adhiere de manera externa al cuerpo y que, a través de un sistema de control, inyecta en la piel las dosis necesarias", explica Sánchez.

La bomba de insulina suele colocarse a nivel del estómago y se recarga cada tres días. De acuerdo con la especialista, puede resultar muy acertada en el suministro de las dosis.

La diabetes tipo 1 es generalmente diagnosticada en niños, adolescentes y adultos jóvenes. Sin embargo, se puede desarrollar a cualquier edad.

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