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# El Editor

Week of Feb. 14 thru 20, 2013

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## Pope Benedict XVI Relinquishes Papacy



In a move that surprised millions of Catholics worldwide, Pope Benedict XVI announced that he would relinquish the papacy effective February 28, 2013.

In the announcement from the Vatican, the Pope cited health reasons for stepping aside. Here is the full text of Pope Benedict's statement:

Dear brothers,

I have convoked you to this consistory, not only for the three canonizations, but also to communicate to you a decision of great importance for the life of the church. After having repeatedly examined my conscience before God, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry, I am well

aware that this ministry, due to its essential spiritual nature, must be carried out not only with words and deeds, but no less with prayer and suffering.

However, in today's world, subject to so many rapid changes and shaken by questions of deep relevance for the life of faith, in order to govern the bark of Saint Peter and proclaim the gospel, both strength of mind and body are necessary, strength which in the last few months has deteriorated in me to the extent that I have had to recognize my incapacity to adequately fulfill my ministry entrusted to me.

For this reason, and well aware of the seriousness of this act, with full freedom I declare that I re-

lounce the ministry of bishop of Rome, successor of Saint Peter, entrusted to me by the cardinals on 19 April 2005, in such a way that as from 28 February 2013, at 20:00 hours, the See of Rome, the See of Saint Peter, will be vacant and a conclave to elect the new supreme pontiff will have to be convened by those whose competence it is.

Dear brothers, I thank you most sincerely for all the love and work with which you have supported me in my ministry and I ask pardon for all my defects. And now, let us entrust the holy church to the care of our supreme pastor, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and implore his holy Mother Mary, so that she may assist the cardinal fathers with her maternal solicitude, in electing a new supreme pontiff. With regard to myself, I wish to also devote myself to the service of the church of God in the future through a life dedicated to prayer.

From the Vatican, 10 February 2013  
Benedictus PP XVI

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If you live in the Jackson Neighborhood, there is no doubt that your neighborhood has undergone some dramatic changes over the past 10 years.

It started with the demolition of a large swath of area immediately north of 4th street, continued with the construction and completion of the Marsha Sharp Freeway and now rumors have been floating around the neighborhood that the city is planning to build a wall that might result in some street closures and limit access to the freeway from some or all intersecting streets.

While the final decisions have not been made according to District 1 Councilman Victor Hernandez, it is important for Jackson residents or anyone else who frequents the neighborhood for various reasons, to make their views known.

The talk or rumour of a wall being built has been circulating in the neighborhood for the past few weeks. El Editor was told by Hernandez that an individual had been telling residents that the city had already decided to build a wall the length of the freeway on the north side.

These types of walls are usually designed as sound barriers to lessen the noise impact on the residential

homes closest to a freeway. It also serves as a barrier to commercial traffic and noise from surrounding businesses.

But whatever changes are decided upon, they have the potential to create some difficult situations for some residents who have been used for years to easily access what was once called fourth street.

The Jackson Neighborhood Association along with Councilman Hernandez is hosting the meeting at Jackson Elementary School on Saturday February 16, starting at 10:00 AM.

According to a news release, "the purpose of the meeting is to gather neighborhood input regarding the City's proposed land use plan, including but not limited to, the future closure of streets that provide

access to the Marsha Sharp Freeway. Although the meeting will focus on the Jackson

neighborhood, Lubbock residents from any district are encouraged to attend the meeting and

provide their input."

Residents from Jackson, Arnett Benson and Guadalupe are encouraged to attend.

Email: [eleditor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eleditor@sbcglobal.net)

Before us and left footprints for us to follow," said Maria Lopez-Strong, Diversity Coordinator for SPC. This event reminds us of the struggles of our leaders and their sacrifice should never be forgotten."

The evening will feature musical entertainment by the King Sisters, a skit featuring the fourth grade class of Ruby Brumacs of Llano ISD and Ruby's keynote address by White.

White is a Lubbock native and a 1965

graduate of Lubbock High School. He attended Prairie View A&M University and Wenatchee Valley College. Hired by the Xerox Corporation in 1973, he spent 11 years with the company. In 1990, White returned to Lubbock where he began his public sector career. He served as Drug Elimination Program Coordinator and Executive Director of the Lubbock Housing Authority. Executive Director of the Lubbock Black Chamber of Commerce, Youth Services

Coordinator and Assistant Director Human Resources.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority named White its 2003 Man of the Year and the Lubbock Black Chamber of Commerce honored him for his commitment and involvement in the Lubbock community.

The annual presentation of the Spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Award will be given to Dr. Sharon Bogener, professor of History and Government at SPC, and

## El Editor's Week in Review

### Council Votes to Ban Synthetic Drug Sales

Last week, the Lubbock City Council voted to institute a ban on synthetic type drugs being sold in the city.

Although these types of drugs are relatively new and being changed and marketed in different ways, they have been around for about 10 years. They consist of man made products versus the organic type that is grown like marijuana.

One of the major concerns is that some recent research has shown synthetic marijuana to have serious medical side effects.

According to the website drugabuse.gov, "Some Spice products are sold as "incense," but they more closely resemble potpourri. Like marijuana, Spice is abused mainly by smoking it. Sometimes Spice is mixed with marijuana or is prepared as an herbal infusion for drinking."

Other products are sold as incense or potpourri and are marketed as "not for human consumption", thereby they don't have to meet certain government standards.

The council met while the Mayor was recuperating from his recent health problems; all other council members voted in favor of the ban.

### President Calls for Raising Minimum Wage

In his State of the Union Address, President Obama called for raising the minimum wage to \$9 per hour and suggested that the minimum wage should be tied to the cost of living. He said that "Corporate profits have rocketed to all-time highs, but for more than a decade, wages and incomes have barely budged."

In his address also called on Congress to avert another budget disaster by finding a way to avert the \$85 billion dollar of budget cuts, especially to the Department of Defense.

In his speech the President followed up on his inauguration speech by addressing the issues of gun control, climate change, immigration reform, and tax code changes that would impact some social security recipients.

He repeated his call for reduced payments to drug companies and suggested that "wealthier seniors should be asked to pay more".

Obama also called for a \$50 billion dollar program investment in infrastructure projects in an effort to create jobs and to stimulate the economy.

### What's Happening at State Capitol?

The Austin American Statesman is reporting that Austin school board trustees there have voted to open 3 single sex schools in school year 2014-15. Two schools will be converted to a boys only and girls only school, and a third will be set up as an all boys school.

### NRA "Hit" List

If you are against gun control, you might be interested to know that the National Rifle Association has an "anti gun" list of 497 people or organizations they deem to be anti gun.

Reports say that the list "consists of 141 organizations, 228 celebrities, 37 national figures" who are somehow different from celebrities, 37 journalists, 41 corporations and/or corporate CEOs, and 23 media outlets."

### Poll Shows Public Support for Path to Citizenship

A recent ABC News poll "showed that 53% of Americans favor a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, with 41% opposed". It seems that many anti-immigrant interest group and politicians, including District 19 Representative Congressman Randy Neugebauer, are in the 41%, since many have gone on record as saying that they oppose citizenship under any circumstances.

For example, the plan that is being put forth by Republican Florida Senator Marco Rubio has a pathway to citizenship component. But many critics of the plan point out that Rubio's plan would create many roadblocks on the way to citizenship.

Speaking at a Senate luncheon in January, media reported that Rubio told the gathering that "at some point in the future -- when the enforcement mechanisms are in place and some time has elapsed -- you'll (illegal immigrants) have the opportunity to apply for a green card through the regular process"

Critics argue that Rubio's plan is just a way to win votes and does not have real concrete solutions or even a definite time plan for individuals to obtain citizenship.

Interestingly enough, Rubio delivered the Republican response to the President's State of the Union address on February 12.

### Quote of the Week

"As the President said last night, the time for immigration reform is now, and LULAC will be at the table to ensure that the legislation meets the needs of our community."

LULAC National President Margaret Moran.

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## SPC to host Black History Month event on Feb. 26

Quincy White, Lubbock's assistant City Manager, will deliver the keynote address during South Plains College's Black History program, "Reaching Back and Moving Forward," slated for 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 26 (Tuesday) in the Sundown Room.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

"I think it's necessary to celebrate the legacy of those who have come

before us and left footprints for us to follow," said Maria Lopez-Strong, Diversity Coordinator for SPC. This event reminds us of the struggles of our leaders and their sacrifice should never be forgotten."

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Mary Nell Leaks of Workforce Solutions in Littlefield.

Bogener was born in Levelland and she attended Levelland public schools.

She graduated from South Plains College (Associate of Arts) and Texas Tech University where she received a Bachelor of Arts, Masters of Arts and Doctorate of Philosophy. She taught as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Texas Tech for two years prior to joining the faculty at South Plains where she has

taught for 16 years. Bogener serves as a sponsor for the Hispanic Student Organization.

Leaks is a graduate of Levelland High School and she received her Associate of Arts degree from South Plains College. She joined Workforce Solutions South Plains in 1998 as a Case Manager. She is currently the Director of the Littlefield Center.

For more information, contact Strong at (806) 716-2562.

# Comentarios - Opiniones

## SONIA SOTOMAYOR ABRE LAS PUERTAS EN SU LIBRO, "MI MUNDO ADORADO"

Por Tom Dunkel  
Hispanic Link News Service

Disputos distorsionados, hasta subreplicadas, entre las recientemente publicadas memorias de la juezas magistrada del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos, Sonia Sotomayor, libro que lleva el título, "Mi mundo adorado", se encuentran unos cuantos mensajes y algunas claves a sus inclinaciones y parte judiciales.

Tom Dunkel, crítico literario para Hispanic Link, ha logrado explorarlos para los que entran por primera vez en su jardín personal. Los llamas "ejemplos de Sonia".

Oscilar entre mantener el templo hasta

recorrer con éxito una cultura extraña y domi-  
nante.

¡Dudas a bote!

Sobre la actitud positiva siempre ante un mundo difícil [pág. 11]

"La adversidad tiene sus usos... Si bien se trata de una enfermedad grave, de dificultades económicas, o de las sencillas limitaciones de los padres que habían poco inglés, la adversidad puede llevar a fuentes insuperables de claridad. Que no significa función, he visto como la vida ha vencido a personas hasta poder levantarse. Pero ya me temía que enfocara nadie que pudiera oír las bendiciones que recibió de sentir un optimismo nativo y tener una perseverancia obstdada".

## SONIA SOTOMAYOR LE ABRE LAS PUERTAS ASU LIBRO, "MI MUNDO ADORADO"

Tom Dunkel  
Hispanic Link News Service

Rápido, ¿qué los magistrados del Tribunal Supremo se deleitó de niño presentando actuaciones con el humor disparatado del programa de televisión Los tres chiflados? [pág. 35] Se verá tentado a decir que Ruth Bader Ginsberg solo por la imagen que se presenta de ella torcidañola la maziza a algunos con un pie de pars.

No obstante, en realidad son Sonia Sotomayor, del Bronx en Nueva York, a quien le encantan los tres chiflados.

Este tipo de revelación de detalles del reloj o lo que saquita las páginas de "Mi mundo adorado", la autobiografía de Sotomayor escrita con claridad, con los pies en la tierra, y que ha subido casi cohete a la cima de la lista de los libros best-seller del New York Times.

Los adeptos a la justicia asimilados de encontrar lo que son sus sentimientos personales sobre el aborto, el matrimonio entre homosexuales y otros temas candentes que podrían acarrear ante el Tribunal Supremo, deben tomar nota. Esta autobiografía es impresionante, aunque esa información la respondió asistente la humana a la página 172, donde confiesa, "Lamento decepcionarlos, pero éso no es el propósito de este libro". Allí lo tienen. Objeciones rechazadas.

La única larga que ella permite tiene que ver con la afirmativa. Ambos padres de Sotomayor immigraron a la ciudad de Nueva York durante la segunda guerra mundial, en busca de la buena que les ayudó a crecer pobres con poca educación formal en el campo en Puerto Rico. Como mujer y latina, Sonia sintió el ardor del prejuicio doble al comenzar a abrirse camino por el mundo, haciendo frente entre dos culturas. Pero también recibió el toque de la buena fortuna. Estaba imbuida de una ética laboral puritana, lo cual le llevó a tener calificaciones estelares en la escuela secundaria de mujeres, rigurosamente católica, Cardinal Spellman High School.

Sotomayor se vio muy cotizada por las universidades renombradas de los Estados Unidos, una puerta abierta por la que probablemente no habría pasado si se hubiera quedado a la deriva por las calles difíciles de un barrio lleno de personas ejemplares. Su hermano menor, Juan Luis, de manera similar, se benefició de un programa que canibalizó a los estudiantes de cocina hacia la escuela de Yale de medicina.

Sotomayor puede afirmar por experiencia propia que una mano que ayuda no hay que confundirla con una mano que regala, no tanto demuestra su valentía en la trinchera bélica que es la universidad de Princeton y la Escuela de Derecho de la Universidad de Yale. Uno de los pasajes de "Mi mundo adorado" más oscuros ocurre cuando un socio insufriblemente arrogante de un bufete en Washington, D.C., va a reclutar abogados a New Haven, pueblo donde se localizó la universidad de Yale.

"Pensé que habían entrado a la Escuela de Derecho de Yale si no fueras puertorriqueña?" pregunta al entrevistador a Sotomayor. "¿Qué alguien le da un monólogo a ese señor para que pueda saber dónde correctamente por lo largo de la nariz?"

"Probablemente no me perdió", respondió, espontánea pero sin perder el temple. "Pero me imaginó que galardonaría sumamente la belleza de mi Beta Kappa de Princeton tanto tuvo algo que ver," bien dicho!

Después de consultar con algunos de sus padres, estudiantes de leyes latinos, Sotomayor presenta una queja ante la oficina de carrera de la universidad, una posición de principio pero bastante arrugada que tomó justo antes de graduarse. Comencé la escuela en el bufete en cuestión presentó disculpas formales [pág. 190, 191].

"Mi mundo adorado" es en gran parte constante de una mancha cronológica. Sigue a una mujer pragmática, de ferocia determinación y dispuesta a trabajar duro desde la niñez hasta subir consistentemente al éxito por la escalera del Sueño Americano; empezando de fiscal novata en la Ciudad de Nueva York, para seguir como socia en un bufete privado bien remunerado y en el desarrollo de la propulsión intelectual, optando por el servicio público y ofreciendo lo ofrecieron en su momento a la juezas en un Tribunal Distrital, para continuar adelante y llegar arriba al Supreme Court of Appeals de Connecticut, y en 2009, al Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos.

Pero el comienzo, y el final de la historia de la magistrada Sotomayor, son ambos penosamente conflictivos. Que lo llama "la penumbra del hogar" para ver la levantada. [pág. 41] Su padre, soldado y solitario, y alcohólico cuando Sonia tenía nueve años. Su legado fue boletas de madera pieza de Steagans' Seven ocultas en los armarios, debajo del colchón, en el fondo de su abrigo. [pág. 44] Aún así su hermano, sentido empático, pero prece, lo veía tal y como era. "Yo sabía que el mundo había hecho esto", sentía empática, el dolor de su hermano en él.

La hija de Jui Sotomayor era lo opuesto a él en términos de autoconfianza y motivación. Su hija de diez años, y en sus siete años, se había criado con su propia inyección diaria.

A comienzos de la década de los 60, la esperanza de vida de una persona blanca no pasaba mucho más allá de los 50 años. Sotomayor esto lo convirtió en una ventaja psicológica, diciendo que su enfermedad era "un don". Le educaron la resolución y le infundió con una urgencia por lograr el éxito. El rol de la mortalidad iba marcando el tiempo. No habrá que malgastar el tiempo precioso.

Celina Sotomayor – la piedra de toque emocionalmente distante de la familia – estableció el freno doméstico después de la muerte de su esposo, logrando criar a su familia con los ingresos modestos de una asistente de enfermería. Celina nunca tuvo una cuenta bancaria, nunca ganó más de \$5 mil [pág. 16]. Y apagó a su apartamento en un proyecto de vivienda pública, donde sólo los tentos se aventuraban por las escaleras, día o noche.

No obstante, encontró los medios para comprar la tercera entra de la Biblioteca Británica [pág. 71] y les tocó a tristes y bravas a sus hijos en su deseo duradero por el conocimiento y el esfuerzo máximo. [pág. 73] "No me importa si trabajan bajo. Lo importante es hacer bien".

Elenco de personajes de la familia extendida incluyó una abuela paterna reverenciada (Abelita) quien creía en el mundo de los espíritus y quemaba poemas épicos en las fiestas, una tía emotiva tan abrumada por la pena que intentó saltar dentro de la tubería de Jui Sotomayor durante su entierro, y un primo brillante quien se perdió por las calles y murrió joven.

Sotomayor y su colaboradora Zara Houshmand inician una narrativa que fluye. Hay un solo efecto negativo en la prosa que es la tics lingüística. Hay referencias demasiado frecuentes a la conciliación y la prudencia, sobre la necesidad de que el cambio y el progreso se den en "pequeños pasos" [pág. 301], "pasos pequeños y constantes" [pág. 299] o tal vez "pasos más pequeños y cautelosos". Sotomayor parece estar muy ansiosa de asegurarse a los críticos que no es una liberal abierta, como si, en vez de haberle otorgado un nombramiento de por vida al Tribunal Supremo, el Senado le hubiera puesto en un concurso de cuatro años que está por terminar.

Peró está en el Tribunal por un tiempo largo. A pesar de un desvío que ocurrió hace muchos años y su adicción a las horas de trabajo, Sotomayor es, en cierto modo y optimista. Sus 38 años considera que "mis historias que contar antes de poder elegirme" deben definirse igual que soy "mis historias que contar antes de poder elegirme".

[Tom Dunkel es escritor independiente en Washington, D.C. Su libro, Color Blind, sobre un equipo integrado de béisbol durante la Depresión, saldrá publicado en abril por Grove/Atlantic.]

Para ver más comentarios y noticias, visite [www.HispanicLink.org](http://www.HispanicLink.org)

On the Internet - www.eleditor.com

# Our Editorial Voice

## Make Your Voice Heard

As we note in a story on our front page this week, one our community's oldest areas, Jackson Neighborhood, is going through an inevitable transition that always follows new infrastructure improvements or projects.

And because of the proximity of two other "barrios", Amerit Benson and Guadalupe, chances are good that any changes will impact those 2 neighborhoods as well.

The current situation pertaining to Jackson though, follows the continuing commercial development of the north side of the freeway from about North University to Ave. Q. The most recent change was the approval of a zoning change for a Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in the 2200 block of the north side of the freeway.

Many residents have heard that the city is planning some zone changes, street closures, and possibly other projects like a sound barrier between the residences and businesses. But up until now, there have not been any definite decisions made according to Councilman Victor Hernandez.

As we look at the situation and after attending a meeting about the situation hosted by Councilman Hernandez, we have come away with some questions and observations.

Here are just a few:

1. Has city management sent letters out to residents to inform them of the possible changes?

2. Has city management conducted some sort of residents survey to determine how affected residents feel about possible changes?

3. Has city management conducted impact studies to see how any zoning changes will impact the neighborhood such as: how many residents, both renters and homeowners will be displaced if any; how will new traffic patterns impact in and out access for residents; how will new traffic patterns impact response times for emergency vehicles (911), medical services transport vehicles and other traffic related issues?

3. If some residents choose to move out of the neighborhood, will the area lose enough population for the LIND school board to consider closing Jackson Elementary School; how will the school be handled?

These are just a few. Those are the common complaints we hear from readers, many who live in our "barrios" goes something like, "the city is going to do what it wants to do anyway, so why bother to attend any meetings?"

We don't deny that sometimes that is too often the case, but residents need to allow the possibility that city management may view residents non involvement as a "they don't care what happens" attitude.

In the past, when Councilman Hernandez has held some neighborhood meetings, attendance has been sparse and that could be a reason for the low attendance.

But we have been assured by the Councilman that in this case, the final decisions have not been reached.

We strongly encourage residents to attend the meeting on Saturday (details on front page) so that whatever decisions are made, those decisions will take into consideration the needs of the Jackson Neighborhood residents.

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**LULAC Applauds President Obama's Call for Bipartisan Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

In Wednesday night's State of the Union Address, LULAC was encouraged to see that the President's call for comprehensive immigration reform received support from both Republicans and Democrats. The President laid out a bold proposal for immigration reform that included stronger enforcement, a pathway to citizenship, and a streamlined immigration process. LULAC's civic engagement efforts have included working with business, labor, and faith communities to pass comprehensive immigration reform in order to fix our broken immigration system.

In addition, LULAC presented the President with a "Voting Rights Commission" recommendation that will offer comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship, and a streamlined immigration process. LULAC's civic engagement efforts have included working with business, labor, and faith communities to pass comprehensive immigration reform in order to fix our broken immigration system.

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At the present time, LULAC is pushing for the House of Representatives and the Senate to work together to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will include a pathway to citizenship, and a streamlined immigration process. For additional information, visit [www.LULAC.org](http://www.LULAC.org).

**NCL Applauds President Obama's State of the Union Push to Protect Families**

Emphasizing the ongoing unemployment crisis and drowning resources in vital programs that serve Latino children and families, Janet Murguía, President and CEO of NCLR (National Council of La Raza), commended President Obama's call in Wednesday night's State of the Union to stop the automatic budget cuts that are scheduled to take effect on March 1, 2013. Preventing cuts to job training, child care and education is critical to meeting the unique needs of Latino families and cannot be done in a way that removes the middle class even further out of reach for Latino families.

As part of the 16th Annual Legislative Conference which takes place during LULAC Week, our members gather in Washington, D.C. to meet with members of Congress and agency leaders to discuss the issues of critical impact to our community. In the last couple of months, LULAC has collected over 10,000 petitions from its membership urging congressional support for critical immigration reform and will be meeting with Members of Congress tomorrow advocating for passage of the Dream Act.

As the President said last night, the time is now. LULAC will be at the table to ensure that the legislation meets the needs of our community," said Janet Murguía, President and CEO of NCLR.

At the present time, LULAC is pushing for the House of Representatives and the Senate to work together to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will include a pathway to citizenship, and a streamlined immigration process. For additional information, visit [www.LULAC.org](http://www.LULAC.org).

**Hardworking Latinos already face a number of barriers to climbing the ladder to basic economic security, which law-makers must push to strengthen and expand**

the middle class. We can do that by investing in our economy and creating vibrant, healthy and stable communities. By doing so, we can attract and retain the best and brightest minds, and create opportunities for our families to succeed.

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**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RELEASES COLLEGE SCORECARD TO HELP STUDENTS CHOOSE BEST COLLEGES FOR THEM**

Following President Obama's State of the Union address, today the U.S. Department of Education released an interactive College Scorecard, which provides students and families the critical information they need to make smart decisions about where to enroll for higher education. The College Scorecard – as part of President Obama's continued efforts to hold colleges accountable for cost, value and quality – highlights key indicators about the cost and value of institutions across the country to help students choose a school that is well-suited to meet their needs, priced

affordably, and is consistent with their educational and career goals.

With tuition rates on the rise, grants and better loans, we've made college more affordable for millions of students and families over the last few years. But taxpayers can't keep paying for higher and higher costs for higher education. Colleges must do their part to keep costs down, and it's our job to make sure that they do." President Obama said in his State of the Union Address last night.

"...My Administration will release a College Scorecard that students and parents can use to compare schools based on a simple criteria: where you get the most bang for your buck online."

"We know students and families are often overwhelmed by the collection of programs available for them, but they lack the tools to weigh the information and decide which school is right for them," said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. "The College Scorecard provides a snapshot about an institution's cost and value to help families make smart decisions about where to enroll."

The College Scorecard provides students and families with clear information through an interactive tool that lets them choose among any number of options based on their individual needs – including location, size, campus setting, and degree and major programs.

The College Scorecard includes five key pieces of data about a college: cost, graduation rate, net price, default rate, average amount borrowed, and average loan repayment.

This data will be updated periodically, and the Department plans to publish information on earning patterns in the coming year.

The launch of the College Scorecard illustrates President Obama's commitment to provide consumers with information about college costs and values in an easy-to-read format. After receiving comments on the prototype of the College Scorecard – and following many conversations with leaders of higher education institutions, college counselors, students and parents – the Department updated this tool to better meet families' needs and provide them with the information they were most interested in making decisions about where to enroll.

Comments on the College Scorecard for every degree-granting institution starting today will be available on [www.ed.gov/scorecard](http://www.ed.gov/scorecard).

For more information, visit [www.ed.gov/scorecard](http://www.ed.gov/scorecard) or ed.gov.

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# Reforma migratoria: Senado protagoniza acalorado debate

"Paren las deportaciones!", "nuestras familias sufren todos los días!" gritaron manifestantes, ayer, en plena audiencia sobre una reforma migratoria en el Senado. Una señal más, de la impaciencia entre grupos indocumentados, cuando el progreso en el Capitolio, muestra la fragilidad del debate.

Cerca de las 9:30 a.m. la Secretaria de Seguridad Interna, Janet Napolitano, llegaba al Comité Judicial. Le esperaba una jornada de más de dos horas, con preguntas, críticas y protestas, en contra de las deportaciones.

## Activistas muestran su descontento

Napolitano parecía inmutable, al igual que los senadores, mientras la policía del Capitolio tomaba en su custodia, a quienes se rehusaron a guardar silencio. Los últimos en ser removidos de la sala, eran parte de la organización Justicia Migrante, quienes viajaron especialmente desde Vermont.

Carlos Diaz, integrante del grupo, explicó a La Opinión, el motivo de la molestia general. "Nosotros queremos una reforma migratoria. Nuestra vida allá es muy difícil. Yo ordeno vacas, todos lo hacemos. Algunos laboran en agricultura también. A veces trabajamos 60 e incluso hasta 90 horas. Nos gustaría que se den cuenta, que queremos ser algo acá en Estados Unidos y no podemos esperar más", dijo.

Justicia Migrante no estaba sola. En el salón 216 del edificio Hart, se encontraban activistas, jorunalistas, representantes de grupos nacionales, sindicatos, entre otros. La ocasión lo ameritaba.

Era la primera de lo que se espera serán varias audiencias, para debatir una reforma migratoria integral. Cuatro de los ocho senadores que actualmente negocian un acuerdo bipartidista, se sientan en el Comité Judicial.

## Latin American Catholics hope for a Hispanic pope

Nearly half of the world's Catholics live in Latin America. Some speculate the church will embrace this growing population and give the world its first Hispanic pope.

"There's a sense this is the time a pope will come from this whole growing area of the church," said local Catholic leader Father David Garcia.

When the cardinals meet to elect the next pope, many will be praying he comes from Latin America.

"I think I'm excited that our next pope might be from outside of Europe," said local parishioner Brian Przybyla.

For the first time in centuries, cardinals will have time to discuss candidates ahead of time and perhaps listen to others.

"I think they will take into con-

## Seguridad fronteriza

Sus declaraciones e incluso la cautela con que las realizaron, mostraron la fragilidad del debate migratorio y también los puntos más controversiales del diálogo interno. El senador Jeff Flake (R-AZ), por ejemplo, enfatizó las dificultades para medir el nivel de seguridad en la frontera e incluso sugirió volver al estándar de "control operacional".

Entre los principios bipartidistas presentados por el "grupo de los ocho", se mencionó cumplir ciertas metas en seguridad fronteriza, antes de permitir el acceso a ciudadanos.

En respuesta, Napolitano explicó que no favorece el uso de condiciones. "Todo tiene que ser visto de manera simultánea", afirmó.

Charles Schumer (D-NY), dejó claro que la "única esperanza" en el Congreso, para una reforma, "es una propuesta bipartidista" y describió los avances con optimismo. Esto a pesar que el presidente Barack Obama, dijo que presentaría un proyecto de ley, si las conversaciones no conducen a un resultado.

## Apostean por proyectos de ley para menor envergadura

Aunque no es parte del grupo de los ocho, la senadora de California, Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), está inmersa en negociaciones entre agricultores y jorunaleros, en el contexto de una reforma integral.

Un trabajo que realiza a la par con el senador Marco Rubio (R-FL), de acuerdo a fuentes en el Senado.

Feinstein se mostró optimista en un punto acordado. Por otra parte, Senadores como Mike Lee (R-UT) enfatizaron que la forma de trabajar en inmigración, es con proyectos de ley de menor envergadura.

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Un claro ejemplo de los extremos en el debate migratorio y sólo en inicio de un largo camino en el Congreso 113.

"La gente que habla de proyectos de ley de menor envergadura, no entiende que esta vía no satisfacerá el apetito del público por soluciones", resaltó Marshal Fitz, director de política migratoria del Centro para el Progreso Americano.

Por otra parte, legisladores republicanos como Jeff Sessions (R-AL) y John Cornyn (R-TX) dejaron claro que los esfuerzos para asegurar la frontera, les parecen insuficientes. Napolitano defendió la política a capa y espada. "La frontera está más protegida que nunca".

Al ser consultada respecto a las quejas por parte del sindicato de ICE, la secretaria, dijo que no estaba sorprendida, ya que los agentes son criticados cuando actúan y cuando no lo hacen.

Del segundo panel, durante la audiencia, estuvo protagonizado por José Antonio Vargas, fundador de Define American, Jessica Vaughan del Center for Immigration Studies, Steve Case director ejecutivo de Revolution, Chris Crane presidente del sindicato de ICE y Janet Murguía, presidenta del Consejo Nacional de La Raza.

"Los comentaristas que escuchamos por parte de la derecha y la izquierda, muestran lo difícil que es este debate, pero creo que vimos señales muy positivas hoy", aseguró Murguía a La Opinión.

Vargas, quien es el primer indocumentado en testificar ante el Comité Judicial del Senado, describió la experiencia como "surreal"; sobre todo, porque personajes como Crane han clamado por su deportación y ayer, estaban sentados en la misma mesa.

Un claro ejemplo de los extremos en el debate migratorio y sólo en inicio de un largo camino en el Congreso 113.

sideration someone younger and maybe Hispanic would be great."

said local parishioner Theresa Cuellar.

In the past, the cardinals would not gather until the pope had passed away, leaving immediately for the funeral and to elect a new pontiff.

"But now we have a few weeks before the cardinals go to Rome so the cardinals may get a lot of advice this time," Garcia said.

Already there is speculation

about the Hispanic who could be pope. Archbishop Odilo Pedro Scherer of Brazil, the largest Catholic country in Latin America, is seen as the frontrunner.

Also mentioned is Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Before the election of Pope Benedict XVI, Rodriguez said, "It would be a great hope for many of the young Catholics to have a pope who could come from Latin America."

Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera of Mexico City is another Hispanic papal contender along with Cardinal Rubén Salazar Gomez from Colombia.

A third of American Catholics are Hispanic. That number is expected to grow, especially in Texas.

Children and teens can play chess at the Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street, on Monday, February 18 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. For more information, please call the library at 775-2838.

Health Department Immunizations at Groves Branch Library

The City of Lubbock Health Department will hold an immunization clinic at the Groves

Branch Library, 5520 19th Street, from 1 to 3 p.m. on Monday, February 18. Vaccines are available for children and adults. Call 775-3090 for more information.

Jazz Storytime at Patterson Branch Library

The Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, is having a jazz themed storyhour on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m. There will be stories, a craft, and a demonstration on the trumpet and guitar. All ages welcome. For more information, call 767-3300.

Learn to Knit at Groves Branch Library

Come to the Groves Branch Library, 5520 19th Street, and learn the basics of Continental

style knitting on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m. Bring size 8 knitting needles and worsted weight yarn. For more information, please call the library at 767-3733.

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The City of Lubbock Health Department will hold an immunization clinic at the Godeke

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Covenant Health to Focus on Chest Pain at Heart Matters Seminar

Covenant Health is hosting the February Heart Matters free seminar to focus on chest pain.

The chest pain presentation will be on Friday, February 22. The seminar will be from 9-10 a.m.

at the Knippling Education Conference Center. Join Larry Pierce, director of cardiac services at Covenant Health as he discusses all things dealing with chest pain.

To R.S.V.P. for the seminar, please call 1-866-4COVENANT (1-866-426-8362). A continental breakfast will be served and free parking will be provided. The Knippling Education Conference Center is located on the sixth floor of the west parking garage at the corner of 21st Street and Louisville Avenue. Covenant Health's website at <http://cson.covenanthhealth.org>, call the Admission Office at 806-725-8902 or email inquiries to [jonesd3@covhs.org](mailto:jonesd3@covhs.org).

## COVENANT HEALTH OFFERS MENDED LITTLE HEARTS SEMINAR

Mended Little Hearts is a free seminar for family members and/or caregivers of children affected with congenital and acquired cardiovascular disease. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 26. It will be from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Knippling Education Conference Center.

The American Heart Association suggests that family education is an important part of successful coping.

For more information on this support group, contact Sasha Smith Downing at 806.317.4659. The Knippling Education Conference Center is located on the sixth floor of the West parking garage at the corner of 21st Street and Louisville Avenue.

## COVENANT COMMUNITY OUTREACH CONTINUES TO OFFER A SERIES OF FREE DIABETES EDUCATIONAL CLASSES

Learn how to live well with diabetes by attending a series of free educational classes offered by Covenant Community Outreach. The four-week series is free for those who are uninsured or financially in need. The class will meet once a week for four weeks beginning on Thursday, February 21. Other class dates for the series are Thursday, February 28, Thursday, March 7, and Thursday, March 14. Each class is from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Lubbock Diagnostic Clinic (LDC). A registered dietitian and certified diabetic educator for Covenant Community Outreach, will teach participants basic nutrition guidelines, the importance of carbohydrate counting, and more. Throughout the course, participants will receive a lot of handouts and brochures with tips and health education regarding diabetes management. Those who attend at least three of the four classes will receive a free glucometer, a medical device used to determine the approximate concentration of glucose in the blood. Participants will receive a voucher to purchase five glucose strips for \$5 or 100 strips for \$10. To register or see if you qualify for the free four-week course, call 806.725.5218. The LDC is located at 5201 21st Street in Suite 103.

## COVENANT HEALTH TO HOST SECOND ONCOLOGY CARE-GIVERS SUPPORT HOUR OF FEBRUARY

Covenant Health will host an oncology support hour for caregivers. The second support hour of the month will be Wednesday, February 27 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Covenant Women's and Children's. The support hour is meant for caregivers to come and share experiences with each other all while finding ways to cope while caring for a loved one. For more information, call 806.725.8902. The support hour will be held in the North Family Room on the fifth floor. Access to the room requires using the North elevators.

## HOSPICE OF LUBBOCK TO HOST 24TH ANNUAL MAYORS' BEANS & CORNBREAD LUNCHEON

The 24th Annual Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon, Hospice of Lubbock's largest fundraiser of the year, will take place on Friday, March 1st at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Banquet Hall. The luncheon is hosted from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. by masons from all over the region. Beans, cornbread, dessert and drinks, catered by Riversides, will be served at the luncheon. Add a Klemke's Raider - Alley Sausage link to your plate for \$2. While you're eating, enjoy live music from the Lubbock Texas Rhythm Machine and the Stars of the Cactus Theater.

"A Tip Your Waiter Contest" will also take place during luncheon, with all proceeds going to Hospice of Lubbock. Waiters are comprised of local celebrities and community leaders. The waiter with the most tips will win a traveling "Golden Apron" trophy at a special presentation after the luncheon. Luncheon tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door or by calling Hospice of Lubbock, 806.795.2751. Tickets are also available online at [www.hospiceoflubbock.org](http://www.hospiceoflubbock.org). This fundraising event helps raise money for Hospice of Lubbock's non-funded and under-funded hospice patient and families. Grief Recovery Center and Children's Grief Camp each summer. Hospice of Lubbock is the region's only nonprofit adult and pediatric hospice since 1987.

## LUBBOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

### Lubbock Chess Club at Mahon Library

The Lubbock Chess Club will meet at the Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street, on Sunday, February 17 from 2 to 4:45 p.m. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Contact cmw02b@gmail.com for more information.

### Kids & Teens Chess Club at Mahon Library

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## El Editor Newspaper



# Kevin Garnett cryptically says this is his last All-Star Game

Kevin Garnett came back this summer for one more run with the gang. He thought about retirement, but ultimately re-signed for a three-year deal which gets pretty expensive towards the end as his age takes its toll. Instead of another run with the Big 3, Ray Allen left for Miami, the Celtics spiraled into mediocrity for three months, and just when things seemed to be picking up, Rajon Rondo was lost for the year.

Whether the events of this year have affected his thinking or not, Garnett made a comment that's sure to raise some eyebrows in Boston and around the country Wednesday night after the Celts' win over the Bulls.

...that's weird.

That could mean he won't play in future All-Star Games if select-



ed. It could mean he knows he won't play well enough to admit the team and he's able to admit the drag of time on his game.

Or it could mean Garnett is once again considering retirement rather than face the prospect of uprooting his life from

Boston to stay in title contention, which is a very high probability. Eventually, Danny Ainge will have to move on with this team and look to the future, and with Rondo out to the year, can he really rely on Paul Pierce and KG to make it until he returns?

This team has played phenomenally well for the past three weeks, but there's an overriding sense that there's a definite ceiling on this team, especially after losing both Jared Sullinger and Leandro Barbosa to injury for the year. Decisions will have to be made. Ainge seems set on trusting this team and its emotional response to carry them through this year, but there's always a limit.

The other thing that could be hinted here is a possible trade coming for Boston which could lead Garnett to retire, but that seems highly unlikely given both Ainge and Doc Rivers' insistence that no big changes are coming. Either way, that's going to be a major story over All-Star Weekend.

## Emotional King Felix vows I will not disappoint anybody'

Fighting back tears while his hands trembled, Felix Hernandez signed a seven-year contract with the Seattle Mariners on Wednesday that made him the highest-paid pitcher in baseball.

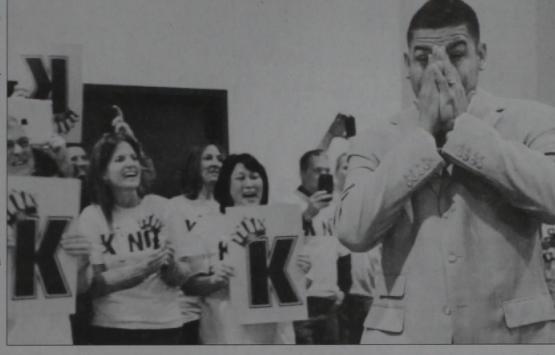
Hernandez officially completed his new deal during a news conference. The \$17.5 million pact covered the final two years of his existing deal that was scheduled to run through the 2014 season and added five additional years through the 2019 season.

The contract is fully guaranteed, Mariners general manager Jack Zduriencik said. Hernandez also got a full no-trade clause, the first one ever given by the franchise.

Hernandez's representative, Scotty Puccio, said the no-trade was among the most important aspects of the contract.

"To the people in Seattle, to all the people in Seattle that trust me, that believe in me I will not disappoint anybody," Hernandez said, his voice cracking.

Hernandez was greeted by Mariners front-office staff all



wearing yellow "Kings Court" t-shirts that have become a special section of the stadium for all of his stars. The 26-year-old ace immediately got choked up and repeatedly said he didn't want to let down the only organization he's ever played for.

Word of Hernandez and the Mariners' new mega-contract first leaked late last week. Reportedly, a medical exam revealed some concerns about Hernandez's elbow in the future, but Zduriencik said Hernandez got a "clear bill of health" from Mariners physi-

cians before finalizing the deal. "When you invest your cash yourself? What are you investing in?" Zduriencik said. "This is our guy, we know him better than anybody. When you have that right in front of you, those are the types of marriages you want to have."

Hernandez's total dollars would top CC Sabathia's original \$161 million, seven-year contract with the New York Yankees. The \$25 million-a-year average would surpass Zack Greinke's \$24.5 million under his new contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers and tie

him for the second-highest contract overall in baseball with Josh Hamilton and Ryan Howard behind Alex Rodriguez (\$27.5 million). Hernandez's new money would average \$26.9 million over five years.

It's long been debated whether the Mariners would be better off trading Hernandez at his peak and getting a bounty in return from other teams. Both Zduriencik and Hernandez have stayed steadfast that the intent was on keeping the ace in Seattle.

"I think this officially quiets the whispers," Zduriencik said.

## Bonds seeks dismissal of felony obstruction of justice conviction

A lawyer for Barry Bonds urged a federal appeals court on Wednesday to toss out the slugger's obstruction of justice conviction, saying a rambling answer he gave while testifying before a grand jury was not a crime.

Appellate specialist Dennis Riordan argued that Bonds was not formally or specifically charged with the felony that he was convicted of committing. A federal jury in April 2011 found baseball's all-time home runs leader guilty of obstruction for saying he was a "celebrity child" when asked about injecting steroids.

Prosecutors asked Bonds during his December 2003 grand jury appearance whether Greg Anderson, his personal trainer, ever gave him "anything that required a syringe to inject your steroid?"

Bonds referred to his father, former major leaguer Bobby Bonds, when he responded "that's what keeps our friendship. You know, I am sorry, but that — you know, that — I was a celebrity child, not just in baseball by my own instincts. I became a celebrity child with a famous father. I just don't get into other people's business because of my father's situation, you see..."

That particular exchange wasn't included in the indictment

originally released in November 2007. The omission is "the dagger in the heart of this conviction," Riordan argued.

Further, Riordan said Bonds ultimately answered the question when put to him again and denied receiving any substance to inject.

Judge Michael Daley Hawkins wondered aloud if Bonds' direct denial undercut the government's argument that Bonds intentionally misled the grand jury.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jerry Chan countered that the denial was a lie because Bonds' former personal assistant, Cathy Hoskins, testified that she witnessed Anderson inject Bonds. Chan said Bonds' denial and other rambling answers to the same question throughout his grand jury appearance added up to obstruction.

"He answered the question falsely each time," she said.

Bonds and his legal team are asking a three-judge panel of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to dismiss the lone felony conviction stemming from Bonds' 2½ hours of testimony in December 2003 before a grand jury investigating performance-enhancing drug use and sales among elite athletes. Bonds, who was rejected by voters last month in his first year eligible for the Hall of Fame, wasn't

required to attend Wednesday's highly technical hearing, though Riordan said his client expressed a desire to watch the proceedings in person.

Riordan said outside court that he advised Bonds to watch from afar rather than personally attending the 35-minute session San Francisco. A local television station was given permission to show the hearing live and streamed at least a couple of segments on the Internet.

"His presence would have been a distraction," Riordan said.

Legal experts who have followed the case closely since his grand jury appearance in December 2003 are divided over Bonds' chances before Daley Hawkins and Judges Mary Schroeder and Mary Murguia, each of whom was appointed by a different Democrat president and all of whom are based in Phoenix, home of San Francisco's division rival Diamondbacks and about a 20-minute drive from the Giants' Scottsdale spring training facility.

One set of analysts argue that appellate courts are reluctant to overturn jury verdicts absent an overwhelmingly obvious mistake. They say that such a U.S. District Judge Susan Illston, who ran the trial, is a respected jurist who has few of her cases overturned.

"There is a definite overriding respect of a jury's verdict," said Howard Wasserman, a Florida International University law professor. "Typically, it's pretty hard to get a jury's verdict reversed."

On the other hand, there are those lawyers who argue that Bonds stands a good chance to clear his name.

"The government's biggest hurdle is that testimony obstruction cases are usually based on blatant, undeniable lies to questions at the heart of an investigation," said William Keane, a San Francisco criminal defense attorney. "Here the prosecution limp in with only a single rambling, unresponsive, unimportant answer that is literally true."

Regardless of the outcome, University of New Hampshire law professor Michael McCann contends that the case was ultimately a loss of the U.S. Department of Justice. In a case that put a superstar athlete at the defendant's table, the jury deadlocked on three charges of making false statements.

"The main thrust of the government's original case was that he lied when he denied taking steroids," said McCann, who also edits the popular Sports Law Blog. "That's not what he was convicted of. Obstruction was not the main charge."

If Bonds' conviction is upheld, he will have to serve 30 days house arrest.

### Public Housing Waiting List Opening

Lubbock Housing Authority will open the following waiting list on February 25, 2013 and close the waiting lists on March 13, 2013:

#### 2, 3, 4, and 5 Bedroom units; and elderly 1 Bedroom (62 years and above).

##### Application Process is required!!!

**Application packets** may be picked up at the Lubbock Housing Authority Central Office located at 1708 Crickets, Lubbock TX, 79401, during regular business hours!

Completed applications may be returned to the above address, Monday-Wednesday between the hours of 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This is a walk in interview and you will be seen in the order that you come in. Applications outside of these dates will not be accepted. The following documents will be required at the time of interview:

All information is required at the time of the interview, we must have original documents no copies will be accepted.

##### Make sure you bring:

- Make sure that you bring your application completed and signed. (No Blanks)
- Birth certificates for all children (Birth facts will not be accepted!)
- Social security cards for everyone in household.
- Current picture ID/DL for all adults in household are required at the time of the interview,
- All adults must attend this appointment, unless working or attending school, contact the Intake department to see if accommodations can be made! Failure to attend could result in your appointment being rescheduled.

If you require a reasonable accommodation in order to access any of our programs, due to a handicap or disability, please call the intake department at (806) 762-1191. For the hearing impaired call TTY Relay Texas 1-800-735-2989.



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# Hispanos desatienden cáncer de colon

Las minorías, entre éstas los hispanos, tienen menores probabilidades que los blancos de realizar pruebas de detección de cáncer de colon en Estados Unidos, de acuerdo con un estudio reciente.

El informe, publicado en la última edición de la revista Health Affairs, encontró que los hispanos son el grupo minoritario con menores probabilidades de realizar una prueba de detección de cáncer colorectal.

"Los hallazgos del estudio sugieren que algo más que el nivel de pobreza o el acceso a cuidado de salud es responsable de los niveles más bajos de pruebas para detectar el cáncer de colon entre los hispanos," declaró en entrevista Jim Stimpson, autor del estudio y director del Centro de Políticas de Salud del Centro Médico de la Universidad de Nebraska.

De todos los tipos de cáncer que afectan a hombres y mujeres, el colorectal (colon y recto) es el segundo que causa más muertes en el país, según datos de los Centros de Control y Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC).

Los investigadores analizaron

datos a nivel nacional de 2000 a 2005 y hallaron que el 42% de las personas blancas se hicieron las pruebas de cáncer colorectal, en comparación con un 36% de los afroamericanos y un 29% entre los hispanos.

"Examinamos numerosos características sociales y económicas de individuos y comunidades con respecto al acceso a servicios para pruebas y encontramos evidencia que sugiere que existen otras barreras que están disminuyendo los índices de pruebas en los hispanos como el miedo a ir al médico, estigma en torno al cáncer de colon y poco entendimiento de términos médicos," indicó el autor.

La investigación encontró que existen además otros obstáculos que afectan a los pacientes de minorías, como los problemas de transporte, dificultad para que paguen el tiempo que no trabajan y el poco conocimiento en cuestiones de salud, lo que supone leer, comprender y usar la información disponible.

"Las minorías raciales y étnicas se encuentran con dificultades únicas al moverse por el sistema de atención de salud, en algunos

casos porque son inmigrantes y tienen problemas con el idioma, o porque viven en zonas con altos niveles de inseuridad o con pocos gastroenterólogos", explicó Stimpson.

El estudio indica que otros factores culturales entre esta población, como la noción de "fatalismo" o la idea de que contrar una enfermedad es una "cuestión de suerte o del destino", pueden tener también cierta influencia al momento de decidir si realizarse el examen o no.

El galeno indicó que mejorar el acceso a cuidado médico y aumentar el número de especialistas disponibles puede ser suficiente en el caso de las otras minorías, en el caso de los hispanos puede requerir de "pasos adicionales" para disminuir el temor y estigma que enfrentan al realizar una prueba de detección.

De acuerdo con el investigador, es necesario estudiar estos factores de forma más extensa para determinar si pueden mejorarse los índices de pruebas entre los hispanos.

Stimpson reconoce además la necesidad de crear alternativas

que faciliten el acceso a estas pruebas a grupos minoritarios para eliminar o disminuir las disparidades existentes.

El especialista sugiere la posibilidad de incentivar a los médicos para que realicen colonoscopias en áreas con carencias de atención médica o proporcionar a los pacientes medios de transporte que los lleven a la clínica.

Asimismo, el autor señala la necesidad de formar a otros especialistas en la realización de las pruebas, siempre bajo la supervisión de un gastroenterólogo con el uso de la telemedicina, como otra alternativa a para aumentar el acceso.

"Necesitamos aumentar el número de personas que se hacen las pruebas, y sobre todo centrarnos en dar soluciones que reduzcan la desigualdad en las pruebas de las minorías raciales o étnicas," aseveró el galeno.

Las autoridades sanitarias recomiendan pruebas de detección del cáncer colorectal para hombres y mujeres de 50 a 75 años de edad mediante el uso de una prueba de sangre oculta en heces de alta sensibilidad, una sigmoidoscopia o una colonoscopia.

## Indocumentados cuentan sus historias a los legisladores en el Congreso

Un grupo formado por abogados de un centro de inmigrantes indocumentados o familiares de indocumentados se reunió hoy con legisladores hispanos en el Congreso para hablarles de sus vivencias y pedir la aprobación de una reforma migratoria integral. En una sala del Capitolio en la que la lengua española jugó un papel protagonista, los representantes demócratas por el distrito 5 de California Juan Vargas y por el distrito número cuatro de Illinois Luis Gutiérrez escucharon atentos las historias personales de la decena de inmigrantes que pasaron por el atril.

"Me llamo Tomás Martínez, vengo del estado de Georgia, soy indocumentado y no tengo niñito", encendió la mecha uno de los primeros ponentes, quien denunció vivir en una situación en la que no puede estar en la calle "sin temor de que me pare una patrulla policial y juzguen a ver a mi familia".

"Mi mundo fue un sueño herido, mi sueño era ser un policía, mi sueño era ser una persona útil para la sociedad", recordó Josefina Mora, vecina de Chicago Illinois, que llevó de treinta pesos pequeños, para aclarar luego que "las familias juegan son la mayor manera para luchar contra la criminalidad".

"Si los padres son detenidos, ¿qué ocurre con los niños?", se preguntó.

Entre los relatos de los inmigrantes los jóvenes latinos interrumpían acompañados por sendas guitaras una ranchera compuesta especialmente para la ocasión, en la que recordaron las promesas incumplidas del presidente Obama y le urgieron a cewardas.

"Se llevaron a mi padre, se lo llevó la inmigración, y tristes nos quedamos mi madre y mis hermanos. No sabemos qué hacer en esa situación, pues era nuestro sustento y nuestra adoración", rezaba la letra de la canción, que terminó con un mensaje directo para el presidente. "Obama, apádite de mi padre, te prometí una reforma y no siquiera la has empezado, a todos los que votaron por ti, a todos los que has defraudado", concluyó.

Además de los inmigrantes, también tuvieron su parte los políticos presentes en el acto, como el representante por el distrito 17 de Illinois Luis Gutiérrez, quien recordó que "el acto de la inmigración es de '¡Sí!, se puede!' o 'Legalización, no deportación!', que demandamos hace ya más de 20 años".

"Su sacrificio y el hecho de que ustedes no tengan temor serán tremedalmente significativos para que llegue la victoria", agradeció el representante por el distrito 5 de Illinois Luis Gutiérrez. "Deben garantizar la queja que se pasa el día limpando y cuidando de los hijos de un ciudadano estadounidense, por la noche pueda volver a su casa a cuidar de sus propios hijos sin temor al Gobierno", sentenció el político demócrata.

Aunque todos los legisladores presentes en el acto fueron miembros del Partido Demócrata, Gutiérrez recordó el "impresionante" apoyo de los republicanos: "Cada día tenemos más amigos dentro del Partido Republicano y, por ello, debemos estar contentos. No me importa lo que opinas ayer, me importa lo que opinas hoy", concluyó.

El legislador demócrata de Illinois, Luis Gutiérrez, escuchó atento las historias personales de docenas de inmigrantes que pasaron por el atril.

# Consiguen curar la diabetes tipo 1 en perros

Un grupo de investigación de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB), liderado por la profesora Fátima Bosch, ha demostrado por primera vez que es posible curar la diabetes en animales grandes con un solo tratamiento mediante terapia génica.

Según publican esta semana la revista Diabetes, después de un solo tratamiento de terapia génica los perros recuperan su estado de salud y dejan de padecer los síntomas de la diabetes. El seguimiento se ha realizado durante más de cuatro años en algunos ejemplares, y en ninguno han reaparecido los síntomas de la enfermedad.

"La terapia es muy poco invasiva.

Consiste en una sola sesión de diversas inyecciones en las patas traseras del animal mediante agujas sencillas, utilizadas comúnmente en tratamientos de estética," aseguran los expertos.

Muchos estudiantes de medicina introducen vectores de terapia génica con un doble objetivo: expresar el gen de la insulina, por un lado, y de la glucocinasa, por otro. La glucocinasa, una enzima, actúa como un regulador de la captación de glucosa de la sangre. Cuando ambos genes actúan simultáneamente hacen la función de un "sensor de glucosa", consiguiendo una regulación automática de la captación de la glucosa de la sangre y reduciendo así la hiperglucemia diabética.

abética (el exceso de glucosa asociado a la enfermedad).

ORÍMERA VIEZ EN ANIMALES GRANDES

Según destaca Bosch, "el estudio representa la primera demostración de curación de diabetes a largo plazo en un modelo animal grande utilizando terapia génica".

Este tipo de terapia ya había sido ensayada en ratones con anterioridad por el mismo grupo de investigadores, pero los resultados obtenidos esto vez con animales grandes permiten una extrapolación más amplia a la transferencia de los genes al músculo de animales adultos usando una nueva generación de vectores muy seguros denominados vectores adensados.

Estos vectores derivan de virus no patógenos, son ampliamente usados en terapia génica, y han demostrado éxito en el tratamiento varias enfermedades.

De hecho, el primer medicamento

de terapia génica aprobado por la agencia europea del medicamento, denominado Glybera, se basa en vectores adensados para tratar una enfermedad metabólica, causada por la deficiencia de lipoproteinlipasa y el consiguiente acumulo de triglicéridos en la sangre.

CONTROL DE LA ENFERMEDAD A LARGO PLAZO

Los perros tratados con una única administración de terapia génica mostraron en todo momento un buen control glucémico, tanto en ayunas como en alimentación, mejor que los perros tratados con inyecciones diarias de insulina y sin la aparición de episodios de hipoglucemias, ni siquiera después de realizar ejercicio.

Además, los perros tratados con vectores adensados normalizan el peso corporal y no desarrollan complicaciones secundarias después de cuatro años desde el tratamiento.

Se sirten las bases para la transferencia clínica de esta aproximación de terapia génica a la medicina veterinaria, y en un futuro, en pacientes diabéticos.

Se trata de la primera publicación que describe una única administración de genes a perros diabéticos capaz de conseguir el mantenimiento de la normoglucemia a largo plazo (más de 4 años). Además de conseguir la normoglucemia, los perros presentan niveles normales de proteínas glucosiladas y no desarrollan complicaciones secundarias de la diabetes tras más de 4 años de evolución de su diabetes.

APLICACIÓN EN PACIENTES DIABÉTICOS

Hasta el momento, se han llevado a cabo múltiples ensayos clínicos con vectores AAV administrados directamente al músculo esquelético

que describen una única administración de genes a perros diabéticos capaz de conseguir el mantenimiento de la normoglucemia a largo plazo (más de 4 años). Además de conseguir la normoglucemia, los perros presentan niveles normales de proteínas glucosiladas y no desarrollan complicaciones secundarias de la diabetes tras más de 4 años de evolución de su diabetes.

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para el tratamiento de otras enfermedades, por lo que la estrategia descrita en este trabajo puede ser transferida a la clínica.

Futuros estudios de seguridad y eficacia proporcionarán las bases para la iniciación de un ensayo clínico veterinario para el tratamiento de la diabetes en animales de compañía, lo cual proporcionará información clave para el posible ensayo de esta estrategia en humanos.

Además, para conseguir un buen control glucémico, la insulina debe inyectarse dos o tres veces al día, lo que comporta un riesgo de padecer hipoglucemias (bajadas del azúcar en sangre); un problema atípico a la propia incomodidad del tratamiento.

La diabetes mellitus es la enfermedad metabólica más común, y un gran número de pacientes requieren tratamiento con insulina para sobrevivir.

A pesar del control de la enfermedad mediante las inyecciones de insulina, éstos pacientes suelen desarrollar graves complicaciones secundarias como por ejemplo ceguera, daño renal o amputación de extremidades.

Además, para conseguir un buen control glucémico, la insulina debe inyectarse dos o tres veces al día, lo que comporta un riesgo de padecer hipoglucemias (bajadas del azúcar en sangre); un problema atípico a la propia incomodidad del tratamiento.



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