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Lubbock/West Texas Region

Former State Senator Barrientos to Charter Lubbock Tejano Democrats

With many chapters already chartered throughout the state, a group of Lubbock residents will join the statewide network known as Tejano Democrats with their own Lubbock chapter.

According to organizers, the group's purpose is to "develop a broader-based and more effective 'Voz del Pueblo,' and to seek full representation of Hispanics at all levels and in all activities of the Democratic Party."

With that in mind, local organizers will welcome former Texas State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos Jr., who currently presides as state chair of the group. Barrientos is a former Democratic member of the Texas Senate representing the 14th District from 1985 to 2007. He was also a member of the Texas House of Representatives from Austin from 1975 to 1985.

On Friday, March 25, a reception and membership drive will be held at the law firm of Glaeschen, Valles & Inderman, located at 1302 Texas Avenue. The event will take place from 7PM - 9PM.

According to Olga Agüero, one of the primary organizers, "we would like to invite everyone who is interested in making a difference in the

political process that shapes social and legal policy. Only by getting involved at this grassroots level can we expect to make a difference."



Tejano Democrats is a statewide organization with chapters in several Texas cities and regions. Some of

the larger chapters are in Houston, Ft. Worth, North Texas, Austin and South Texas among others.

The group also hopes "to develop

Party mission and to protect the future of the children and youth in our Lubbock community."

The Friday night event will be followed by the official charter ceremony on Saturday morning beginning at 9AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church conference hall. The hall is located at 102 N. Ave P. The group of officers will be installed and members will get deputized for the purpose of voter registration.

With Republicans holding a majority in both the Texas House and Senate, many Democratic voters and constituents feel that their views are not being fairly represented in Austin. And many feel they are being unfairly targeted in funding cuts in education, immigration reform, and that Republicans are expressing an overall disregard for services which support social and basic human needs.

Agüero says, "It is time for all Democrats to work together. We can be a strong political force; but it takes work. We cannot continue to sit by and watch our education, jobs, and health care be destroyed by the Republican Party."

Email: editor@sbcbglobal.net

Tough talk on immigration comes with huge credit card bill

Our national failure to fix the broken immigration system has led to record and wasteful government spending on immigration enforcement. Billions of dollars could be saved if Congress terminated wasteful or duplicative programs and re-focused our enforcement priorities on real threats. Instead, in the interest of political expediency, some members prefer to spend lavishly - adding to our already out-of-control debt - to enforce outdated rules that haven't changed in more than twenty years and no longer make sense.

Like shopaholics with a wallet full of credit cards, they buy things we don't need with money we don't have. While Congress may have champagne tastes when it comes to enforcement spending, the American people know we're working with a beer budget. It's time for Congress to take a serious look at bloated enforcement spending, trim some fat, and fix our broken immigration system.

In just the last four years, spending on border security has ballooned to more than \$50 billion - an unprecedented amount billed to the American taxpayers that is neither justified nor properly accounted for. Annual spending by Customs and Border Protection has more than doubled since 2005, from \$5.4 billion to more than \$11 billion this year. The Border Patrol's budget alone is now more than \$3.5 billion - nearly ten times what it was in the mid-1990s - even though illegal crossings have dipped below 1972 levels due, in large part, to a falling economy.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement's annual budget has grown exponentially and it is now a \$5.4 billion agency with an Enron-league accountability problem - it has repeatedly failed to adhere to its publicly stated policy of focusing resources on deporting criminals and dangerous threats. As a result, enormous sums of money are spent detaining and deporting immigrants who pose no threat. Last year, more non-citizens were deported than ever before and more than half of them had no criminal history. This is not cheap. For every immigrant it departs, the federal government charges taxpayers \$2,100.

Just to hold immigrants in detention now costs the taxpayers an average of \$122 per detainee per day, for a grand total of \$2 billion a year - and this money is feeding a growing for-profit detention industry that lobbies local governments and Congress to adopt policies that will send even more people to jail to pad its bottom line at the expense of the American taxpayer. As the price rises every year, tax-

payees get stuck with a bad investment. For example, apprehensions at the border, a gauge of how many people are trying to cross illegally, have been declining for years - yet some politicians in Washington demand ever spending on border enforcement. As a result, the average cost per apprehension on the border has increased 500% in just five years. This is unjustifiable.

Some in Congress claim that the Obama Administration has done little to enforce our immigration laws and that our borders are "out of control." The fact is, in 2010, the government deployed more enforcement agents to the border than at any time in our history and carried out more deportations than ever before. The insistence that we continue to enforce the same dysfunctional rules comes with a big price tag - paid for by adding to our debt.

It is time to fix the underlying problem - the absurd, outdated, and nonsensical laws that masquerade as an immigration "system." The last Congress - like the Congress before it and the one before that - failed to successfully grapple with the problem of our broken immigration system. If this Congress is serious about trimming the deficit, they'll take a different approach.

If immigrants had a functional system to enter our country legally, more would go through the system rather than around it. We could then reexamine the need to spend \$11 billion more, year after year, on border enforcement. By fixing the immigration system, Congress could save taxpayers more than \$4.5 billion per year if we stopped deporting immigrants who would otherwise be law-abiding taxpayers themselves if allowed to stay.

As a bonus, these new taxpayers would add an estimated \$1.5 trillion over the life of the economy over a ten-year period. Small businesses would be able to focus on creating jobs and rebuilding our economy, not be forced to act as unfunded immigration enforcement agents. If the immigration system were fixed, our enforcement agents and supporting technological resources could focus on our weapons, human trafficking and security risks. A national immigration strategy that made taxpayers out of everyone would lead to smarter enforcement targeting and smarter spending.

A fiscally responsible Congress must take two steps: eliminate waste and duplication in the enforcement system, and generate new revenue by making sure all immigrants and all employers are added to taxpayers.

Obama impulsa a Centroamérica Donará \$200 millones para seguridad; llama a El Salvador su 'aliado estratégico'

El presidente de Estados Unidos, Barack Obama, anunció la donación de 200 millones de dólares para fortalecer la seguridad y la lucha contra el narcotráfico en Centroamérica y aseguró que El Salvador es el aliado estratégico de Estados Unidos en la región.

Con estrictas medidas de seguridad, el presidente Obama llegó a la capital salvadoreña para reunirse con su homólogo Mauricio Funes.

Las calles de San Salvador estuvieron en control del ejército, y la seguridad personal del mandatario estadounidense estuvo a cargo del Estado Secreto de Estados Unidos.

"Quiero dejar claro hoy que Estados Unidos quiere ser un socio en el éxito de El Salvador en este proceso. Queremos que El Salvador tenga éxito", manifestó el presidente Obama durante la oficialidad que realiza desde ayer y que finaliza hoy con la visita a las ruinas mayas de San Andrés.

Obama dijo que El Salvador es

uno de los cuatro países en el mundo que realiza un estudio y recibe asesoría de Estados Unidos para identificar y eliminar los obstáculos que impiden que el país salga de la pobreza.

"Yo no quiero que las mujeres y los hombres jóvenes en El Salvador sientan que el único camino para tener mejores ingresos es emigrar al norte o unirse al crimen organizado", subrayó Obama, agregando que Estados Unidos brindará consultoría para ayudarle a los países centroamericanos a crear oportunidades de trabajo a través de la expansión comercial y la educación.

"Ambos países tenemos mucho que ganar cuando a los salvadoreños se les saca de la pobreza", subrayó Obama. Funes, por su parte, señaló que ha solicitado ayuda al gobierno de Estados Unidos para modernizar la Policía y el ministerio público, a fin de perseguir delitos de índole financiero.

El mandatario salvadoreño le agradeció públicamente la visita a su homólogo estadounidense y aseguró que él está en la disposición de liderar los esfuerzos de seguridad en Centroamérica.

"Aprovechamos también para hablar del tema de seguridad. Este ha sido un tema central en nuestro encuentro... la disposición de mi gobierno de continuar liderando los esfuerzos centroamericanos. El crimen organizado y la narcotráfico es un tema que nos ocupa como región y estamos trabajando para evitar que encuentre tierra fértil en los jóvenes sin oportunidades", declaró Funes.

Sobre la narcotráfico, Funes agregó que no solo hay que atacar el problema de la oferta, sino también la creciente demanda en Estados Unidos.

Además, el presidente salvadoreño dijo que aunque Obama reconoce la importancia y la contribución de los salvadoreños en

Estados Unidos, es necesario parar el flujo migratorio.

"La migración, desafortunadamente, es una expresión dolorosa del atraso y el subdesarrollo de un mundo que no ha logrado establecer parámetros adecuados de justicia e inclusión", aseveró Funes.

También, el presidente Funes le agradeció al mandatario estadounidense su decisión de visitar la ermita de Monseñor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, a quien consideró el guía espiritual de la nación.

"La visita implica un acto de reconocimiento de un estadista al mensaje profético y la validez universal de su mensaje", subrayó. Se tiene previsto que el presidente Obama y su familia visiten hoy las ruinas mayas en San Andrés, antes de partir rumbo a Washington alrededor de las 11:00 a.m. hora local, según el último anuncio del secretario de Comunicaciones de Casa Presidencial.



A special recognition to the Guadalupe Neighborhood Association was given during Tuesday's morning Lubbock City Council meeting. Mayor Tom Martin along with District 1 Lubbock City Councilman Victor Hernandez recognized individuals that helped the clean up efforts toward the canyon #3, better known as the "Arroyo" that took place on early in March. Another clean up effort will be done on April 2 and volunteers are being urged to come out and support again.

Sponsors and volunteers were given a certification of appreciation on behalf of the City of Lubbock.

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Nurturing Center to dedicate new facility with ribbon cutting, open house

LUBBOCK- Most Rev. Plácido Rodríguez, Bishop of Lubbock will bless the new facilities at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Nurturing Center at 3303 66th Street, Lubbock, Saturday, March 26, at 10 a.m. The event will include, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the grand opening ceremony, an open house, and tours of the new facility. All are welcome to attend, and as part of an ongoing initiative, Knights of Columbus Council #3008 will accept monetary donations for the purchase of an ultrasound machine.

The Nurturing Center provides clients with practical and individually tailored assistance that can include financial aid, professional counseling, medical assistance, infant supplies, and other resources - and the new office location serves the ministry's mission. It is located next to the abortion clinic on Pinedale Parendow.

"How did we get here? It was like a miracle. This building had been vacant for about two years," Lawrence D'Souza, founder and Executive Director of The Nurturing Center, said. "Last fall, while praying and counseling with a client, we saw a couple walking into the small courtyard of this building. They were looking to have an abortion (and went to the "wrong" building). We prayed with them and spent a lot of time with them and then the Lord answered our prayer. They decided not to have an abortion."

The Nurturing Center is thriving because of the generosity of donors. Fourteen generous donors helped purchase the new building. To donate, contact The Nurturing Center at (806) 780-6853.

One of the rooms will be a prayer room and another room will house the ultrasound machine we hope to acquire," D'Souza said. "Our main goal is to improve our facilities as we continue providing the services of the Nurturing Center - prayerful counseling, access to resources, and the networking needed to provide what the ladies need to rescue their babies."

Commentaries - Opinions

LATIN AMERICA MEETS OBAMA: A SUCCESSFUL INTRODUCTION

By Bianca Fortis and Melissa Macaya
Midway through his first official visit to Latin America, President Barack Obama joined with Chilean President Sebastián Piñera March 21 in Santiago, that country's capital, in a joint press conference, heaping praise on Chile for its successful shift to democratic rule.

"At a time when people around the world are reaching for their freedoms, Chile shows that, yes, it is possible to transition from dictatorship to democracy, and to do so peacefully," Obama said.

With First Lady Michelle and their daughters Sasha and Malia, he visited Brazil March 19-20 and concludes in El Salvador March 22-23. Throughout his visits, he emphasized forging new economic and political partnerships.

While in Santiago, Obama announced the development of the United States-Chile Energy Business Council, a new green energy partnership focused on electric infrastructure, and discussed expanding student exchanges between the two countries.

He also stressed the need for more coordinated efforts to combat drug trafficking throughout the Americas.

"We have the example of Colombia that has made great strides in a region that has been ravaged by drug lords," he said. "What lessons can we take and apply them to smaller countries in Latin America that are going through these same struggles?"

He called hemispheric collaboration key in this and other matters, stressing that the United States can benefit as much from Chile as Chile can from the United States.

"What will characterize this partnership is that it's a two-way street," he said. "It's not a situation where a highly developed country is helping an impoverished country."

GUERRA Y RENUNCIA, OBAMA DE RECESO PRIMAVERAL

Cuando el presidente de México, Felipe Calderón, va a visitar al presidente Obama el 3 de marzo, el establecimiento en Washington no lo consideró de particular interés. Apareció apenas en la página 9 del Washington Post. Después de todo, Calderón había hecho una visita gubernamental en mayo del 2010, sólo nueve meses antes.

Desde entonces, el ánimo se ha transformado. Cables internos de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos hechos públicos en diciembre por WikiLeaks revelaron que funcionarios estadounidenses en la Ciudad de México hablaban de un "nivel distorsionalmente bajo de colaboración" y "operación generalizada" entre las agencias de seguridad mexicanas, así como cables que la guerra contra el narcotráfico. Un cable descubierto al ejército mexicano como leno y con "avención al riesgo".

Cuando esta vez llegó a Washington para reunirse con Obama, Calderón se dirigió a los temas de la inmigración y el comercio además de la guerra contra el crimen organizado. Dijo que más en claro que estaba molesto con el embajador estadounidense en Washington Post. Se lo dijo así al El Editor, días después de haber estado en la Universidad de la Ciudad de México.

Independientemente de la conferencia entre los dos presidentes el 3 de marzo, Obama los dijo a los reporteros en una mesa de prensa conjunta que ambos países han a profundizar su cooperación contra la producción de drogas y que EEUU, era "socio por error" en la lucha de México contra los narcotraficantes. No sólo eso, sino que acordamos "una responsabilidad compartida por la violencia de los cárteles", haciendo alusión a los líderes que se enmarcan ilícitos desde los Estados Unidos.

También elogió el liderazgo internacional de Calderón, reconociendo que el año que viene el G20 se reunirá en México, y que el progreso logrado en la conferencia

WAR AND RESIGNATION, OBAMA AND SPRING BREAK !!!

By Jose de la Isla

When Mexico President Felipe Calderón went to see President Obama on March 3, the Washington establishment didn't consider it of particular interest. It only made page A9 of The Washington Post. After all, Calderón had made an official state visit in May 2010, just nine months earlier.

Since then, the mood had changed. Internal U.S. Embassy cables made public in December by WikiLeaks revealed U.S. officials in Mexico City talking about a "dysfunctional low level of collaboration" and "widespread corruption" among Mexican security agencies that were hurting the war against narco-traffickers. One cable described the Mexican army as slow and "at risk."

When he arrived in Washington for the meeting with Obama this time, Calderón addressed immigration and commerce in addition to fighting organized crime. He made no secret that he was miffed at U.S. Ambassador Carlos Pascual. He told Mexico City's El Universal as follows:

"Right after the two presidents conferred on March 3, Obama told reporters at a joint press conference that the two countries were deepening their cooperation against the drug cartels and the U.S. was a "full partner" in Mexico's fight with the narcos. Not only that, but he accepted "shared responsibility for the drug violence," alluding to U.S.-based arms, drug demand and factors that find their way to illicit hands."

He also praised Calderón's international leadership, recognizing Mexico will host the G20 next year, and for progress made at the Cancun global warming conference, which Calderón had crafted a Green Fund to help developing countries. Obama also acknowledged that Mexico had spoken out forcefully for Libyan human rights and had played a leading role at the United Nations to suspend the Libyan regime from the Human Rights Council.

Obama seemed to recognize, as Mexico and other Latin American presidents have already, that a new space for dialogue and collaboration — for trade and security — is at hand when it comes to hemispheric relations.

Calderón reciprocated and thanked Obama for his planned spring-break visit to Brazil, Chile and El Salvador, saying greater dialogue "will always be beneficial...not just for Latin American countries but also for the United States." He saved zingers for other venues.

For instance, he told The Washington Post editorial board the same morning that the State Department cables released by WikiLeaks criticizing Mexico's handling of the drug war had caused "severe damage" to the relationship between the two countries. He commented that relations were so tense he could no longer work with the U.S. ambassador.

In a speech at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in the afternoon following the news conference, Calderón emphasized other aspects of his policies. He said Mexico was working to become a more competitive country through education, reduced tariffs, entrepreneurship and infrastructure investments.

By becoming more competitive, he said, a refrigerator produced in Mexico is eight percent cheaper than one made in China. "While Mexico had ranked 73 in 2006 among nations in which to do business, the World Bank now puts it at 35." He said 9,000 new Mexican engineers and technicians graduate each year, more than in Germany, Brazil and Canada.

He used those statistics as evidence that his country and Latin America were bigger stories than one-dimensional issues about violence, guns, drugs and immigration that dominate the news and many people's way of thinking.

By the time President Obama's spring trip to Latin America began, Calderón's purpose in Washington may have been taking hold. The United Nations' no-fly-zone mission intervention had begun with the U.S. in the initial lead role, by his first day in The White. The next day, Ambassador Pascual announced his resignation, as Calderón had wanted all along.

While Libya began to preempt reporters' questions after Obama met with President Piñera March 21, the U.S. head of state was partly back on-message, saying that his trip was not so much to impose an agenda but to find out "what Chile can offer us." He referred to clean energy, education, security cooperation and regional trade in the laboratory of countries that are increasingly becoming world players.

Evidently, while in Washington Calderón may have filled in some of the administration's international playbook pages for the U.S. president which Obama's Latin America advisers had left blank.

fábrica en la China. "Mientras que México era número 73 en el 2006 entre las naciones en las que hacer negocios, el Banco Mundial ahora lo pone como 35". Dijo que se gradúan cada año nueve mil nuevos ingenieros y técnicos mexicanos, más que en Alemania, Brasil y Canadá. Usó estos hechos como evidencia que su país y América Latina eran de mayor interés noticioso que sólo por temas mundiales sobre la violencia, las armas, las drogas y la inmigración que dominan los noticieros y la manera de pensar de muchas personas.

Para cuando se inicia el viaje de receso primaveral del presidente Obama a América Latina, es posible que lo propuesto por Calderón en Washington comenzara a pegar. Había comenzado la intervención militar de EEUU en el área de la ONU en Libia, con los EE.UU. en un papel principal. Así, el primer día que estuvo en el Brasil. Al día siguiente,

el embajador Pascual entregó su renuncia, como había quedado siempre Calderón. Mientras que el estado de Libia comenzó a tomar presidencia frente a las preguntas de reporteros después de que se reuniera Obama con el presidente Piñera el 21 de marzo, el primer mandatario estadounidense había respondido su mensaje, indicando que su viaje no era tanto para imponer su agenda sino para aprender "qué nos podía ofrecer Chile a nosotros". Se refirió a la energía limpia, la educación, la cooperación en cuanto a la seguridad, y la colaboración regional entre países que cada vez más se hacen importantes a nivel global.

Evidentemente, mientras que estuvo de visita en Washington, es posible que Calderón le haya llenado algunos párrafos de los cuales el gobierno estadounidense, desde guiles le habían dado en blanco sus consejos sobre temas latinoamericanos al presidente Obama.

This is where the nativist rhetoric has taken us

By Gregory Tjeldra

I will give Kansas state Rep. Virgil Peck, R-Tyro, one bit of credit — he didn't them and hand and take a day and forever before issuing what purports to be an apology for his ignorant rhetoric during debate in a Kansas House committee.

PECK: He apologizes

His one-line statement ("My statements were regrettable. Please accept my apology") came Tuesday, one day after the legislator from a rural town of 219 people (only one of whom admits to being "Hispanic") managed to put his foot in his mouth on a national scale.

MONDAY IS WHEN he suggested that the solution to the problem of wild hogs roaming about be applied to the immigration policy and the numbers of people living here without a valid visa.

That solution involves game control officials shooting the hogs to keep their numbers under control, which sounds more like something you'd see in a grotesque video game than in real life.

I'm going to give Peck the benefit of the doubt and believe what he says when he claims it was meant as a joke — a lousy one, albeit — and that he never meant to advocate the shooting of people as a serious public policy initiative.

The very idea of immigration officials flying around in helicopters with high-powered rifles, acting as snipers and picking people off because someone believes they don't look like they should belong in this country is just too ridiculous to take seriously.

THE PROBLEM WITH this type of rhetoric is that there are unbalanced types in our society who usually are the very ones who want to believe that all their problems in life are someone else's fault — most likely someone who doesn't deserve to be here in the first place.

So could I have seen someone take Peck too literally? Of course. There are some people who like to send me anonymous messages who I could easily envision taking Peck's talk seriously; and who are probably seriously upset now that he issued an apology.

This is the ugly mood that our society has sunk to in the past couple of years, and the mood to which some politicians are more than willing to pander with their political rhetoric when it comes to the upcoming election cycle.

In short, the problem isn't that Peck made a tacky joke (I make grotesque comments all the time myself, sometimes even in my copy published by this weblog). It's that some people are more than eager to accept such humor with a straight-face.

WHICH IS WHY I was pleased to see among the people jumping all over Peck for his comments none other than Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, who said that while he is sympathetic to the view of people who want fewer foreigners in this country, he called Peck's rhetoric, "completely inappropriate."

Brownback is harder for the nativists to denounce or ignore than the statements that came from the chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus or the National Council of La Raza, which are equally valid but feed into the nativist viewpoint that it is their close-minded view that is somehow being picked upon and that THEY are the true victims.

So when I look back upon this whole affair, I see something to be pleased with. A politician said something stupid (which is nothing new, it will happen again), and an outspoken majority criticized him for such nitwit comments.

Peck probably will be more careful in the future when he speaks. That is, if anyone will seriously care what the legislator from a southeast Kansas rural town (located near the communities of Havana and Peru, ironically enough) thinks about anything else in the future.

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E-Verify no está listo para ampliarlo a gran escala

Mientras la mayoría republicana del subcomité de inmigración de la Cámara de Representantes ha dejado claro que liderarán iniciativas para que se implemente el uso obligatorio del programa E-Verify, el gobierno específicamente ayer, que no está en condiciones de cumplir con esta disposición de inmediato.

Así lo detalló a La Opinión, el director de la Oficina de Inmigración y Ciudadanía (USCIS) Alejandro Mayorkas, quien aseguró que en el caso de que el Congreso lo hiciera obligatorio, estarían preparados para eso en un tiempo. "Claramente necesitaríamos un período para tener la capacidad de implementarlo. No podríamos concretar esto de inmediato. Actualmente estamos analizando cuánto tiempo requeriríamos, además de cuánto dinero", dijo. E-Verify es una base de datos a la que se accede por Internet, usada de manera voluntaria por empresas para comprobar el estatus migratorio de los empleados. El gobierno, en cambio, lo aplica para todas sus contrataciones de personal. De acuerdo a datos de USCIS, el número total de emple-

adores registrados en E-Verify llega a 255 021 lo que representa 868 445 lugares de trabajo. Hasta



además, durante el año fiscal 2011 se han generado cerca de 7 millones de consultas a través del sistema.

"No tenemos los recursos que se necesitarían para administrar E-Verify de manera obligatoria en el país, se tendría que realizar con fondos apropiados por el Capitolio", agregó. No obstante, Mayorkas señaló que actualmente su agencia se encuentra en el proceso de evaluar estos dos variables. Al mismo tiempo, enfatizó que la postura de la Administración es que en el caso de tener un programa E-Verify obligatorio, debe ser dentro de una reforma migratoria

y que el gobierno está enfocado en seguir mejorando el programa y "continuando su expansión".

En un reporte realizado en 2008, la Oficina de Responsabilidad Gubernamental, especificó que la implementación obligatoria del programa a nivel nacional requeriría cambios importantes para USCIS y la Administración de Seguro Social. Para USCIS este esfuerzo tendría un costo de cerca de 765 millones de dólares en cinco años, en caso de acomodar sólo a los nuevos empleados, y de 838 millones, considerando el procesamiento de trabajadores nuevos y antiguos.

Mientras que para SSA, estimó un costo de 281 millones de dólares y un aumento de personal en 700 personas. USCIS anunció el inicio de un nuevo servicio de auto registro para E-Verify, que permitirá a los trabajadores verificar su estatus. El esfuerzo ya se ha puesto en marcha en 6 estados y planea expandirse a nivel nacional en el 2012.

¿Que Pasa?

MARCH 28 SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE FOR TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Texas high school seniors have until March 28 to apply for the Don't Mess with Texas scholarship. The 8th annual scholarship is sponsored by Dover Chemical Company in partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful. The first-place winner will receive \$3,000. The second- and third-place winners will receive \$1,000 each. Don't Mess with Texas is the litter prevention campaign of the Texas Department of Transportation.

The scholarship is one of TxDOT's efforts to generate more youth involvement in Don't Mess with Texas, since research shows that age is the number-one predictor of littering behavior, with Texans ages 16-34 littering the most.

Any Texas high school senior who will attend a two- or four-year Texas college or university can apply. For the essay prompt, application, rules, and background information, visit <http://dontmesswithtexas.org/programs/scholarship/>. Winners will be notified in April.

2011 marks the 25th anniversary of the Don't Mess with Texas campaign.

COVENANT HEALTH SYSTEM TO OFFER FREE CAR SAFETY SEAT AND BIKE HELMET SAFETY CHECKS

Following child safety seat laws is essential to keep children safe while out on the road. Make sure you are obeying law by attending a free car safety seat check on Saturday, March 26 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Second Baptist Church, 6109 Chicago Ave. Certified inspectors will be available to check if car seats are properly installed. While 96 percent of parents and caregivers believe their child safety seats are properly secured, research shows even out of 10 children are improperly restrained according to www.seatcheck.org. The event will also include bike safety demonstrations. People who want to participate are asked to bring their bike or tricycle and their bike helmet. Children will wear proper hand signals to be used when riding a bike and will participate in a short safety course. In 2009, 17 percent of bike riders injured in an accident with a motor vehicle were 16 years old or younger according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. The car safety seat and bike helmet safety checks are free and open to the community. The event is sponsored by Covenant Health System, Second Baptist Church and B-Regional Advisory Council.

COVENANT HEALTH SYSTEM TO HOST BOY TALK

Covenant Health System will host a free event called Boy Talk. Boy Talk is for boys between the ages of 10-13 and their parent or guardian. The event focuses on topics such as physical and emotional changes to communication and self-esteem issues and about "Boy Talk and Guy Stuff". It will start at 6-8:30 p.m., Monday, March 28, 2011. Dinner will be provided. Due to limited seating, please R.S.V.P. by Thursday, March 24, to reserve a spot, call 1.866.ACOV-ENANT (1.866.426.8362). Event will be at Knipping Education Conference Center, Covenant Medical Center at the West Parking Garage, sixth floor, on 21st Street and Louisville Avenue.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Enjoy an evening out without worry, as St John Neumann Venture Crew #159 provides an evening of activities for kids - potty trained through 12 years old. Crew is Red Cross certified. Rates vary depending on number of children. St John Neumann youth, 6-11 p.m. on Fridays: April 15 & May 20. For more information just pick up activity/rate sheet at SJN or beatriceprez@gmail.com

ARNETT-BENSON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Arnett-Benson Neighborhood Association urges all to come out to its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 24 starting at 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Maggie Trejo Super Center which is located on 3200 Amberline. City Councilman Victor Hernandez will cover the topics of Intermodal shipping container homes to be built in Arnett-Benson. Also to attend will be David Smith code enforcement and Roll off containers neighborhood clean up April 16th at Maggie Trejo Supercenter. The neighborhood association and friends invite everyone to come out and help voice your opinions about these issues.

DO YOU WANT TO COMMUNICATE IN SPANISH?

Come to Copper Rawlings Community Center and improve your communication skills in Spanish. Learn as children learn with no grammar, no rules, in a nonstressful environment. April 2, 16, 23 & 30 all Saturdays; and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 all Saturdays for youth 13-18 yrs old and adults 19 yrs and older. The time for youth are 10-11 a.m. and adults 9-11 a.m. The cost for this is \$10 per month and the sessions will be held at 213 40th Street.

DO YOU WANT TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH?

Come to Copper Rawlings Community Center and improve your communication skills in English. Learn as children learn with no grammar, no rules, in a nonstressful environment. April 2, 16, 23 & 30 all Saturdays; and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 all Saturdays for adults 19 yrs and older. The session for adults 9-11 a.m. The cost for this is \$10 per month and the sessions will be held at 213 40th Street.

LOCAL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION IN PROGRESS

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 2011/2012 fiscal year (October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012).

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. Catering fees, and Select-A-Seat fees.

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 Friday, April 1, 2011.

COVENANT HEALTH SYSTEM TO HOST FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH SCREENING

Covenant Health System will host a free community health screening on Saturday, April 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The screening will take place at the Knipping Education Conference Center located at 21st Street and Louisville Avenue on the sixth floor of the West parking garage. Those who attend will be able to take part in a variety of screenings that help ensure good health. Both men's and women's health screenings will be offered. Men's health screenings include digital rectal exams/PSAs and testicular exams. Health screenings offered to women include pap smears/HPV testing and clinical breast exams. In addition, the screening will also include a complete metabolic panel, blood pressure testing, mental health screening, a lipid profile, height/weight & BMI measurements and health education materials. All screenings are subject to change and are available on a first-come, first-served basis for attendees ages 18 and older. For more information about the free health screening, call 1.866.4COVENANT (1.866.426.8362).

MEET AND GREET AND TOWN HALL

District 1 City Councilman Victor Hernandez will be hosting a Meet and Greet and Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, March 29. The Meet & Greet is with newly appointed Chief of Police Roger Ellis at 100 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The town hall meeting is at 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The events will be held at City Hall, 1625 13th Street.

The Town Hall guest speaker is Chief Roger Ellis. The discussion will be the impounding of uninsured vehicles, 2010 annual Lubbock police department report, neighborhood crime statistics, the police academy and recruitment.

Obama's Plan Lost in Glare of Global Crises

President Obama returns to the White House today after a six-day trip to Latin America that was intended to focus on jobs, trade and the economy - but the world just wouldn't cooperate.

A partial nuclear meltdown in Japan, a U.S. military operation in Libya, a bombing badge showdown in Washington and more have overwhelmed Obama's agenda, raised risks for the nation's fragile economic recovery and opened him to criticism from not only the emerging Republican presidential field but also from liberal establishment Democrats.

Welcome home, Mr. President. "I didn't think anything could take the cameras off the Middle East, and then Japan has a triple disaster, an earthquake and tsunami that damaged nuclear plants, says Steven Clemens of the centrist New America Foundation. "It's like you of a Godzilla movie. You have to wonder, what's the next thing?"

"I have spent the bulk of the last month virtually in the Situation Room," President Biden told a reception for major Democratic donors in Boston on Monday.

Just eight weeks ago, Obama outlined in his State of the Union address his priorities for the year. He coined the phrase "winning the future." President Biden told a reception for major Democratic donors in Boston on Monday. Obama outlined in his State of the Union address his priorities for the year. He coined the phrase "winning the future." President Biden told a reception for major Democratic donors in Boston on Monday.

Since then, the administration's efforts to spotlight those initiatives through presidential trips, events by Cabinet members, conference calls with reporters and op-eds in newspapers have been swamped by an unrelenting crush of news,

from public employees protesting at the Wisconsin state Capitol to pro-democracy demonstrators marching in the streets of Cairo.

In a sign of how quickly things have changed, consider this: Obama's State of the Union speech didn't mention Egypt - then ruled by Hosni Mubarak, a U.S. ally for decades who has since been ousted - or refer to the safety concerns over nuclear power that are sparking headlines around the world.

There wasn't a word about Libya or collective-bargaining rights, issues now front and center.

"I can't remember seeing anything like this in terms of the sweep of the different things going on," says Norman Ornstein, a veteran congressional scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. "It makes it very tough for a president who tries to use a foreign trip to help frame an agenda and use his presence and the bully pulpit to get a message across."

At a news conference Tuesday in El Salvador, he questioned for Obama from U.S. reporters were about Libya. He acknowledged the press of the unexpected. "Events happen around the world in which the United States, with our unique capabilities, has to respond."

Presidential historian Robert Dallek cartoons against the decline of the current rush of challenges unprecedented, but he has to reach back seven decades to cite a more dramatic example. "Think of the Franklin Roosevelt period of 1939 to 1941, when he confronted intensely conflicting sentiment in the country and the dangers from Nazism and Japanese militarism," he says.

Global turmoil has tested Obama's leadership and upended his promise to sharpen his focus on reducing the nation's stubbornly high jobless rate. It also has

unsettled some Americans.

Confidence in the economy has fallen to its lowest level of the year, according to a Gallup Poll released Tuesday. Now, 32% of Americans believe the economy is getting better, a year ago, when optimism that the recession was over was beginning to take hold, 35% did.

And unlike in FDR's day, the instantaneous nature of modern communications can amplify the clamor.

"It does create a sense of immediacy and urgency... to have this 24/7 news cycle with people on television yammering away constantly about 'Look what's going on,'" Dallek says. "It does heighten the sense of crisis and danger."

Crisis has defined Obama's presidency from the start. At his inauguration, he faced the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. After a bailout for automakers and a stimulus package, he pushed a health care overhaul through Congress - the one-year anniversary of its signing is today - that continues to split the public and energize his opposition.

Now Obama's decision to use U.S. military forces to impose a "no-fly zone" over Libya has prompted criticism from Republican presidential hopefuls, including one drafted before agreeing to act. Former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney called Obama "tentative, indecisive, timid and naive." Former House speaker Newt Gingrich dubbed him "speculator in chief."

Lawsuits from both parties, including such Democratic stalwarts as House Caucus Chairman John Larson of Connecticut, complain that Obama failed to fully consult with Congress before ordering U.S. forces into combat.

Funding for the federal government? It expires April 8.

FREE BUS RIDES SAVE LUBBOCK RESIDENTS MONEY WHILE HELPING ENVIRONMENT

Lubbock, Texas (March 1, 2011) - For four consecutive Fridays starting March 11 through April 1, Lubbock residents can get a free ride on each of the two ClearTalk denim-wrapped CityBuses, compliments of ClearTalk Wireless's "Free Ride Fridays" promotion.

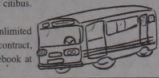
"In this tough economy, we're all looking for ways to save a little money," said Kevin Beischer, CEO of ClearTalk. "With a ClearTalk unlimited wireless plan, customers will see significant savings on their monthly mobile bill. In addition to saving with ClearTalk, we want to offer Lubbock residents another way to save with our Free Ride Fridays promotion."

ClearTalk's free-ride announcement is being supported by Citibus's "Good Citizen" campaign, which encourages residents to ride the bus to and from work to save money, eliminate carbon dioxide emissions and reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. According to Citibus, averaging 150 miles per driver every week eliminates about 3,200 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions per year in Lubbock.

"And if we're not riding the Free Ride Fridays, we also lets residents give the time normally stuck behind a wheel more constructively," said Beischer. "Use the time to read a book, listen to your iPod, plan your day, talk on your new ClearTalk mobile phone or converse with other commuters that are also leaving their cars at home."

The Free Ride Fridays promotion starts on Friday, March 11, and will run through Friday, April 1, on the two Citibuses wrapped in ClearTalk blue jeans with the "Talk More for Less" slogan (bus #9629 and #9621). Bus operators will not collect fares, and service will be free for all riders from the first ride in the morning to the last ride in the evening. For more transit information, and to find out which route each bus will be on, visit citibus.com or call 806-712-2000.

To learn more about ClearTalk, the mobile company that gives consumers' unlimited nationwide talk, text, long distance, web and picture mail for only \$45 with no contract, no credit check and no deposit, visit MyClearTalk.com, "like" them on Facebook at Facebook.com/ClearTalk, or call 877-797-1696.



¿QUE PASA? Let us know!

EMAIL your events & pictures to eleditor@sbcglobal.net

The Spanish-Language Films That Defined the 2000s

The 2000s were a particularly good period for Spanish-language films. Why would that be? Because we were seduced via screen by Gael García Bernal and/or Penelope Cruz? Because the films got better, or because audiences came around to finally noticing them? Whatever the case, the truth is that the past decade was a time to shine for films from Spanish-speaking countries.

Below are five films in this category that I believe made the most impact on audiences throughout the Aughts. Whether you speak Spanish or are cool with reading the subtitles (as it is cool to do so in order to discover the world of foreign cinema), these are the ones to check off on your list of "To See," or "To Watch Again and Buy on DVD."

Amores perros
(2000, Mexico) Director Alejandro González Iñárritu kicked off the millennium with the first of his "hyperlink" trilogy (preceding 21 Grams, Babel). In the film, three separate stories come together with one car crash providing the link. Dogs are a recurring theme to this movie.



as well as destructive, abusive human relationships. To say that Amores perros is difficult to watch is an understatement — especially considering the dog fighting and animal cruelty. But Iñárritu's way of making the audience uncomfortable also provides an opportunity for observing human destruction and redemption; and for this reason, Amores perros made quite an impression.

Y tu mamá también
(2001, Mexico) This Mexican film by the brilliant Alfonso Cuarón turned the "road trip" movie on its head by exploring issues of sexuality between two teenage

boys (Gael García Bernal, Diego Luna) and a married woman (Maribel Verdú) in her twenties. What appears to be a light-hearted story about sexual awakening becomes something much deeper when we find that the woman, Luisa, is hiding a dark secret. By using the country's landscape as the physical background for the story, Cuarón also poignantly underlines the socioeconomic conditions of rural Mexico as these three travelers drive on past.

In the end, all of these hardships are beautifully heartfelt, life-changing, and impossible to escape in Y tu mamá también.
Mar adentro
(2004, Spain) Directed by Alejandro Amenábar, this film is what made seasoned Spanish actor Javier Bardem really stand out. Bardem seems to be drawn towards films that explore the many meanings and complications behind death

(like his most recent, Biutiful), and The Sea Inside is one that dug into the issue bravely with a story based on the real life of Ramón Sampedro. Bardem portrays a quadriplegic man fighting to end his life through euthanasia. His determined, 29-year-long fight and the ways in which this affects his family members and loved ones is altogether true to life, painful, and moving to watch.

Maria llena eres de gracia
(2004, Colombia/USA) A Colombian and American production directed by Joshua Marston, Maria Full of Grace is a gritty film about

the equally (if not more so) gritty and dangerous world of drug smuggling. Maria (played subtly and effectively by Catalina Sandino Moreno) is not as soft as she seems, especially when she comes across an offer that could seemingly help her out of her desperate, jobless situation. Newly pregnant and the main source of income for her family, she is willing to swallow huge pellets of



cocaine and board a flight to New York. The film unfolds naturally and realistically as Maria enters the drug world as a mule, making it that much more disturbing. Her desperation for the opportunity of a better life is heart-breaking and frightening, but it's a story that will leave an imprint on your mind for years to come.

Volver
(2006, Spain) Oh, Almodóvar. Oh, Penelope. Anytime you put the two together, divine things occur. (And indeed, the two have collaborated several times in the past.) Known for his fascinating and powerful representations of female characters, Almodóvar strikes yet again with this movie about generations of women in Madrid, Spain. Themes of death and sexual abuse are presented in a profoundly emotional way, and yet the women are strong characters exhibiting many comedic elements as well, setting this movie apart from anything you've ever seen. Penelope Cruz is at the center of this almost entirely female cast, and she is absolutely stunning — physically and performing many comedic elements as well, setting this movie apart from anything you've ever seen. Penelope Cruz is at the center of this almost entirely female cast, and she is absolutely stunning — physically and performing many comedic elements as well, setting this movie apart from anything that anyone can appreciate.

Hollywood de luto por muerte de Elizabeth Taylor

Murió Elizabeth Taylor, la legendaria estrella del cine cuya seductora trayectoria en la gran pantalla fue con frecuencia eclipsada por su tumultuosa vida personal. Tenía 79 años.

La actriz falleció debido a una insuficiencia cardíaca congestiva esta mañana en el Centro Médico Cedars-Sinai de Los Angeles, donde había estado hospitalizada por unas seis semanas, dijo la publicista Sally Morrison.

"Mi madre fue una mujer extraordinaria que vivió al máximo, con gran pasión, humor y amor", dijo su hijo Michael Wilding en un comunicado.

"Sabemos, simplemente, que el mundo es un lugar mejor porque mi madre vivió en él. Su legado nunca desaparecerá, su espíritu siempre estará con nosotros, y su amor vivirá por siempre en nuestros corazones".

Welding y los otros tres hijos de Taylor estaban a su lado. La actriz también dejó 10 nietos y cuatro bisnietos.

Taylor tuvo una gran gracia, fama y fortuna. Ganó tres premios Oscar, uno de ellos por su trabajo humanitario. Sin embargo, padeció de una serie de problemas de salud, romances fallidos y tragedias personales.

"Creo que me estoy volviendo fatalista", dijo en 1989. "Demasiado

ha pasado en mi vida para que no sea fatalista".

Sus ocho matrimonios, que incluyen dos con el actor Richard Burton, y sus batallas contra distintas adicciones, dolencias físicas y la gordura hicieron de Taylor una figura tan popular en los diarios sensacionalistas como en los grandes festivales de cine.

Taylor reveló en noviembre de 2004 que padecía de un edema pulmonar. Pero aun así desmintió periódicamente reportes de que la muerte estuviera llamando a su puerta diciendo que usaba una silla de ruedas sólo por problemas crónicos de la espalda, que comenzaron cuando a los 12

años de edad se cayó de un caballo.

"Anda, vamos, ¿luzco como que estoy muriendo?", dijo en mayo de 2006 en una entrevista televisiva para el programa "Larry King Live" de CNN. "¿Luzco o sueno como si tuviera Alzheimer?", señaló. Los tabloides reportan esas cosas "porque no tienen más basura que escribir". Cuando al año siguiente cumplió 75 años, dijo que el secreto de su longevidad era "no entregarse".

La actriz nacida en Londres era una estrella a los 12 años, una divorciada a los 18, dos de cine a los 19 y viuda a los 26.

Apareció en más de 50 películas y ganó premios Oscar por su trabajo en "Una venus en visón" ("Butterfield 8", de 1960) y "¿Quién le teme a Virginia Woolf?" (1966), en la que actuó junto a Burton.

En los últimos años, fue vicede de varias causas, principalmente de la investigación del sida. Su labor le mereció



un Oscar especial, el Premio Jean Hersholt Humanitario, en 1993.

Al aceptar el reconocimiento dijo: "Apelo a ustedes para que busquen en la profundidad de su ser, para demostrar que somos una raza humana, para demostrar que nuestro amor supera nuestra necesidad de odiar, que nuestra compasión es más convincente que nuestra necesidad de culpar".

Asumió sus problemas de salud con una actitud estoica.

"Mi cuerpo es un verdadero desastre", dijo Taylor a la revista W en el 2004. "Si lo ves en el espejo, está completamente convexo y cóncavo".

Eva Longoria: I Have No Regrets



Eva Longoria is anything but desperate. In fact, her life is pretty ideal these days.

"Everything in my life is perfect," she said Friday in Las Vegas at her 36th birthday bash at Eve Nightclub.

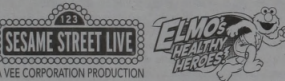
Joined by her new beau Eduardo Cruz and a large posse of friends, including Mario Lopez and David Spade, Longoria capped off a week of birthday celebrations in a white sparkling cocktail dress with dinner at her Beso restaurant, followed by a night of dancing at Eve, which was decked out in balloons for the celebration. Sipping Novo sparkling liqueur, the Desperate Housewives star cuddled up to Cruz in the VIP section, sneaking a few kisses throughout the night.

Later, she stood atop a catwalk in view of the club to listen to singer Tino Cruz perform as a large birthday cake was delivered. The birthday, she said earlier in the night, begins a "new year" for her while acknowledging the "big changes" in her life.

"I embrace everything that's happening," she told PEOPLE. "I hold dearly every experience that I have in my life. I regret nothing so, you know, [I'm] moving on."

Questions? Comments?
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or call us 806-763-3841

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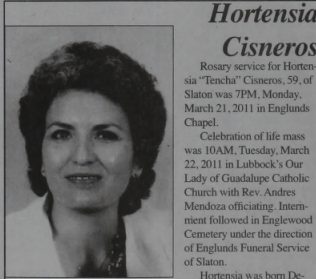
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Hortensia Cisneros

Rotary service for Hortensia "Tench" Cisneros, 59, of Slaton was 7PM, Monday, March 21, 2011 in Englands Chapel.

Celebration of life mass was 10AM, Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in Lubbock's Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Rev. Andres Mendoza officiating. Interment followed in Englewood Cemetery under the direction of Englands Funeral Service of Slaton.

Hortensia was born December 30, 1951 in Slaton.

She passed from her life surrounded by her family March 18, 2011 in Lubbock.

She grew up in Southland and graduated from Southland High School 1970. Hortensia married Frank Hernandez in July 1971. He preceded her in death on June 15, 2009.

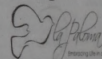
Brothers, Roman Cisneros, Francisco Cisneros, Benito Cisneros, Juan Cisneros, Pascual Cisneros and Nativilio Cisneros along with sisters, Eusebia Diaz and Martina Valderaz have also preceded in death.

She was a homemaker. Her survivors include her son, Sebastian "Sal" Hernandez and daughter Franchesca and husband, Johnny Peralez all of Slaton, brothers, Macario and wife, Carmen Cisneros of Lubbock, Steven and wife, Lucy Valderaz, sisters, Mary Hincheta, Julia Arguello, Lilia Cisneros all of Southland, Phyllis Parnes of Post, and John and husband, Matt Kuzia of Dallas, along with grandchildren, Johnny Angel and Samantha Peralez and Ambriel Hernandez.



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Texas Rangers Baseball Report

The Rangers came to spring with a tough chore. They were trying to begin the offense of the AL pennant with two holes in the rotation. Those really were the only holes on the roster, but a lack of starting pitching is a pretty significant hole.

Through the first four weeks of camp, they made precious little progress on that front.

The Rangers lost Cliff Lee to free agency in December and failed to land either Matt Garza or Zack Greinke to front their rotation and instead added only rehab project Brandon Webb. Webb quickly showed in spring training that he wasn't ready to open the season after missing most of the last two seasons because of shoulder surgery.

The team cast an all-points bulletin for starting candidates for the final two spots in the rotation behind left-hander C.J. Wilson, righty Colby Lewis and righty Tommy Hunter (who also has struggled this spring).

The candidates included closer Nefeli Feliz and setup man Alexi Ogando, neither of whom was out of the mix with 10 days left in camp. The only strikes against them were that if the Rangers moved one to the rotation they have nobody ready to step into their key roles in the bullpen.

Right-hander Eric Hurley probably pitched better than any of the candidates, but Hurley hasn't pitched in the majors in the last two years because of shoulder and wrist problems. He was expected to open the season in the minors to continue working back into the routine of starting.

That left three lefties fighting for two spots. For the first two turns through the rotation, lefties Matt Harrison, Derek Holland and Michael Kirkman were dead even in performance. All three were having strong springs. But as it came time to pitch four innings and five innings -- and face opposing lineups more than once -- all three struggled badly.

The rotation saga could be what makes or breaks the Rangers as they attempt to repeat as AL champions. At this juncture, they have more questions than answers.

—RHP Nefeli Feliz continued to look strong as a starter. He allowed two runs in five innings March 19 in what amounted to his worst game of the spring. He raised his ERA to a still excellent 1.93. "He looked more like a starter to me today than any other time," Rangers president Nolan Ryan told ESPN Dallas after the game. However, making Feliz a starter isn't a snap decision. The Rangers' bullpen has had problems without its closer this spring.

—RHP Brandon Webb continued to throw live batting practice and was much happier with his second and third sessions of the exercise, but he acknowledged he wouldn't open the season on the active roster. Webb was expected to break camp with the Rangers and continue his throwing program with the club and then likely head off on individual days to make some rehab starts for Double-A Frisco and Triple-A Round Rock.

—RHP Brett Tomko was promoted from minor league camp to major league camp. The 37-year-old, coming back from Thoracic Outlet Syndrome surgery, which sidelined him for all of 2010

impressed the Rangers and put himself into the running for the long relief spot in the bullpen.

—INF Chris Davis was hitting .410 through St. Patrick's Day and was impressive at both first and third base, but there simply wasn't room

situation into the season.

- ROTATION:**
 1. LHP C.J. Wilson
 2. RHP Colby Lewis
 3. RHP Tommy Hunter
 4. LHP Derek Holland
 5. LHP Matt Harrison
 The Rangers went to camp with three openings in the

rotation and, with 10 days before leaving Arizona, it wasn't clear if any of those three spots had been decided. The pitching had been great through the first two trips in the rotation, but

the young pitchers had trouble when they started facing line-ups a second and third time.

The Rangers will go with the most experience in the rotation and LHP Michael Kirkman will either open in the bullpen as the long man or start at Triple-A Round Rock. RHP Nefeli Feliz and Alexi Ogando both auditioned for the rotation and, based on effectiveness this spring, could continue to receive consideration, but they are likely more valuable in the bullpen. And RHP Brandon Webb, who has missed the last two seasons with shoulder problems, is still building up arm strength. RHP Eric Hurley has also pitched well, but has missed the last two years with shoulder issues and is likely going to go to the minors to get back in the starting routine before the Rangers give him a chance.

Stay tuned. The rotation could continue to rotate right up until the start of the regular season.

BULLPEN:
 RHP Nefeli Feliz (closer)
 RHP Darren O'Day
 RHP Alexi Ogando
 LHP Darren Oliver
 LHP Arthur Rhodes
 RHP Mark Lowe
 RHP Brett Tomko

Perhaps the biggest thing keeping the Rangers from moving Feliz into the rotation is the havoc it might cause on the bullpen. The club does not think Ogando is ready to close because he is wild in the strike zone, leaving too many balls in the hitting zone. Lowe would be the other in-house candidate to close, but he's had a rough spring. Rangers manager Ron Washington said two weeks before the season that if the club elected to move Feliz into the rotation, he expected GM Jon Daniels would go out and get an experienced closer. Easier said than done.

Ranking the Sweet 16 matchups

The Sweet 16 is filled with double-digit seeds and upset-minded Cinderellas looking to continue a surprising run to the Final Four. More often than not, though, the national semifinals are going to be filled with the heavy-hitters of the bracket, the top few seeds.

Despite all the upsets, three No. 1 seeds, three No. 2 seeds, two No. 3 seeds and three No. 4 seeds still remain. That makes for some intriguing Sweet 16 matchups on Thursday and Friday -- which is the best?

1. No. 1 Ohio State vs. No. 4 Kentucky: Two of the most talented teams left in the field, this could easily be a Final Four match-up. The key for Kentucky will be keeping Josh Harrison out of foul trouble and guarding the perimeter. Ohio State is too good when it is knocking down its shots and facing a depleted interior group.
2. No. 2 Florida vs. No. 3 BYU: A rematch of last year's classic first-round game that BYU won in two overtimes, 99-92. Butler needs someone to step out and defend Jon Leuer.
5. No. 10 Florida State vs. No. 11 VCU: If you like outstanding half-court defense, this is the game for you. Florida State has the size and athleticism to force

3. No. 2 San Diego State vs. No. 3 Connecticut: Kemba Walker vs. one of the best frontcourts in the country. It's difficult to bet against Kemba right now, but the Aztecs'

teams into difficult shots all over the court, while VCU pressures the ball and forces turnovers. Both teams guard the perimeter extremely well, but VCU is more reliant on the three.

6. No. 1 Duke vs. No. 5 Arizona: Arizona's Derrick Williams needs a superhuman effort for the Wildcats to win this game. Duke has the size to defend him, and it remains to be seen if Arizona has the firepower to hang with the Blue Devils. Momo Jones will be a key in the backcourt against Nolan Smith and Kyrie Irving.

frontcourt is capable of dominating a Huskies frontcourt that has struggled on the boards this year. Who will guard Kemba for SDSU? Billy White guarded Jimmy Fredette this season.

4. No. 4 Wisconsin vs. No. 8 Butler: Butler is two wins from making a second straight improbable run to the Final Four, but the door is open for Wisconsin as well. The guard match-up of Shelvin Mack and Jordan Taylor will be tremendous, although Butler needs someone to step out and defend Jon Leuer.

8. No. 1 Kansas vs. No. 12 Richmond: Richmond has one of the best inside-outside tandems in the country in Kevin Anderson and Justin Harper, but that might not be enough against a supremely talented and deep Kansas team. Marcus Morris is one of the few players in the country that can guard Harper both inside and outside.



Floyd "Money" Mayweather Asking for \$100 Million to Fight Manny Pacquiao

That's right folks, in the latest talks between Floyd Mayweather's and Manny Pacquiao's camps as reported by GMA NEWS TV (a Filipino news website),

"Money" Mayweather is insisting for a pay day of \$100 million to fight Pacquiao. Talks for the super fight resurfaced recently when Mayweather agreed to have Don King talk to Pacquiao's promoter, Bob Arum, of Top Rank, on his behalf. Arum, who is in the Philippines with Pacquiao, noted that, "We (King) went through with the negotiations and nobody really knew about it, then some group

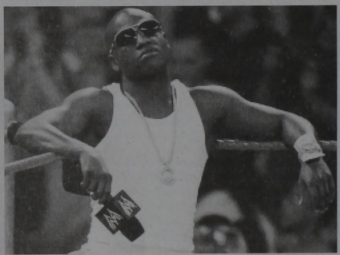
came in saying they plan to have it in a particular country, and Mayweather asked for a figure that was so high it was practically

for nothing, how can you do the fight?"

Arum, who is 79, feels "that Manny is not asking for the moon,

he (Mayweather) just can't say no, he doesn't want to fight, so you price your way out of it."

First the Olympic-style drug testing that Mayweather insisted on and now this, one has to think that Arum may be right. That Mayweather doesn't want any part of Pacquiao, that



an indication that he didn't want to fight," stated Arum.

An upset Arum countered upon Mayweather's request for \$100 million by saying, "Pay him \$100 million? Unless Manny fights

he keeps coming up with excuses.

This fight better take place sooner than later as Mayweather and Pacquiao are not getting any younger. Mayweather is 34, while Pacquiao is 32.

Questions? Comments?

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The Guadalupe Neighborhood Association Arroyo Clean-up Phase II

Volunteers Needed! Everyone welcome

Saturday, April 2 8am-12pm



Breakfast & Lunch will be served to all volunteers who work 8a-12p

The Guadalupe Neighborhood Association invites you to volunteer on Sat., April 2, 2011 in a community effort to clean-up Canyon Lakes #3, known by Guadalupe Barrios residents as "El Arroyo". For almost 4 years Barrio residents and volunteers have worked hard to clear the area to the North of Aztlan Park. We are now ready to undertake Phase II of this effort from Avenue Q to the railroad truss bridge at Avenue J. Everyone is welcome! We will be trimming trees, cutting weeds, picking up debris, and doing anything to make this area more beautiful and safe for all to enjoy. Please bring rakes, shovels, bow saws, chainsaws, and any gardening tools you think you might need. For more information contact Carlos & Lila Quirino at 747-3732

Sincere appreciation is given to Atmos Energy, Amigos United Supermarkets, Wal-Mart Stores, and EL EDITOR newspapers for their sponsorship of this community event.

In 2010, approximately 17.7 million Hispanic-Americans have either diabetes or pre-diabetes

A new study conducted by the Institute for Alternative Futures (IAF) identified California, Texas, Florida, New York, Ohio, Illinois, Georgia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Michigan as "diabetes hot spots," where the burden of diabetes will be greatest in the next 15 years. "United States' Diabetes Crisis: Today and Future Trends," is the first study to provide detailed diabetes prevalence and cost forecasts individually for all 50 states. The study was commissioned and funded by Novo Nordisk to provide insights into how the growing diabetes epidemic will spread geographically in the United States and how this demographic shift might affect local economies.

million (1) This equates to 1 in 7 Americans. The resulting medical and societal cost of diabetes will be almost \$514 billion – a 72 percent increase from 2010 (1) and comparable

States today. The breakdown of Americans with diabetes in 2025 within Texas is predicted to be as follows: Texas: Projected cost of \$52.17 billion. 5.5 million people with diabetes (1)

it is imperative that public and private agencies work together on national, as well as state and local levels."

The study includes state specific data on minority populations and seniors, providing a focus on vulnerable communities often affected disproportionately by diabetes. Nearly one quarter of senior citizens living in the United States in 2010, or approximately 10.8 million (1) have diabetes. Of these, 7.9 million had diagnosed diabetes and another 2.9 million had diabetes that had not been yet diagnosed (1)

Mawby, Chief Government Affairs Officer at Novo Nordisk. "By sponsoring projections and cost studies that drill down locally, our goal is to provide hard evidence that can spur action to address the need for better preventative and management programs across the country."

Novo Nordisk is working with a variety of public and private partners to help change the current course of the diabetes

diabetes in the United States.

"It is clear that diabetes is a growing threat to the public's health. The projections in this study provide another compelling case for the need to aggressively prevent the spread of diabetes," said Jonathan Lever, Vice President for Health Strategy and Innovation at YMCA of the USA. "The good news is that there are programs that can help prevent the frightening future presented in this report, such as the YMCA's Diabetes Prevention Program, a group-based program that supports people in their struggle to eat healthier and get more physical activity. We all have to do more to get people into these programs and help them stay healthy."

The YMCA's Diabetes Prevention Program is designed especially for people at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes and is based on the landmark Diabetes Prevention Program funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

to the total budget for Medicare in 2010, (2) Currently, the ten states identified as diabetes hot spots shoulder nearly 60 percent of the cost from diabetes, or approximately \$176 billion (1) of the total \$299 billion. (1) In fifteen years, the cost of diabetes in these ten states is projected to jump to \$297 billion (1) or nearly the cost of diabetes to the entire United

"This research maps the alarming demographic realities of diabetes through 2025 if we don't make fundamental changes, particularly in our lifestyles and health system," said William Robert Rowley, M.D., Senior Fellow at the Institute for Alternative Futures and lead author of the study. "The burden of diabetes will not fall equally. To change this tragic trajectory,

Medicare currently covers diabetes screening, but the utilization rate is low (3). In 2010, approximately 15.9 million (39 percent) African-Americans and 17.7 million (36 percent) Hispanic-Americans have either diabetes or pre-diabetes (1). "There are very few sources projecting the future burden of diabetes at the state and metropolitan level," said Mike

epidemic, in particular through initiatives that focus on targeted screening of people with known risk factors for diabetes and prevention programs that promote positive lifestyle changes. This is urgently needed to help reduce the future burden of



Nuestros niños son lo que comen

El porcentaje de niños con sobrepeso en Estados Unidos ha llegado a números epidémicos. De hecho, un tercio de los niños de nuestra nación llevan demasiado peso como resultado de una mala dieta alta en grasas insalubres y azúcares simples, así como un estilo de vida sedentario. Además de estas causas, los expertos creen que podrían haber otros factores menos obvios que influyen en el desarrollo de la obesidad, pero también de la diabetes, el colesterol y la presión arterial alta.

Aunque se están llevando a cabo más investigaciones para obtener una mejor comprensión sobre estas enfermedades, mejorar la dieta de nuestros hijos y ayudarles aumentar la actividad física reducirá significativamente sus posibilidades de convertirse en obesos y, si el índice de su masa corporal (BMI, por sus siglas en inglés) ya es alto, les ayudará a alcanzar un peso saludable.

Una de las mejores formas de mejorar la dieta de nuestros niños es siguiendo la dieta mediterránea, la cual consiste en el consumo de grasas saludables como el aceite de oliva y frutas secas (nueces, almendras), carne magra, pescado, granos integrales y frutas y verduras en abundancia.

Aunque estas directrices son ampliamente conocidas, la mayoría de los padres saben lo difícil que es convencer a sus niños para que consuman estos productos porque no son tan populares entre sus compañeros y los padres no siempre tienen las herramientas para preparar alimentos frescos y sabrosos. Sin embargo, hay muchas maneras de utilizar estos nutritivos ingredientes para crear comidas deliciosas y rápidas, así como refrigerios que los más pequeños disfrutarán.

Algunos consejos:
 Anima a los niños a comer fruta fresca en lugar de beber jugo de fruta para una mejor fuente de fibra, que a menudo falta en sus dietas. Corta el melón, las uvas y otras frutas en dados para tenerlos fácilmente disponibles para cuando los niños regresan a casa de la escuela y quieren tomar un refrigerio. En el verano, coloca los dados de fruta en el congelador para un refrescante refrigerio para después de la escuela o algunas frutas congeladas como helados. También puedes intentar dar a los niños "cruditéts", que son verduras cortadas que se consumen crudas. No sólo suena bien el nombre, sino que cuando los sirvas con una crema de frutas, tendrás un refrigerio nutritivo y saludable que tus hijos querrán repetir. Buenas opciones: tomates o zanahorias.
 Alienta a los niños a que participen en lo que comen

y hagan su propia mezcla de frutas secas. Pide a los niños que elijan sus nueces, semillas y frutos secos favoritos en el supermercado la próxima vez que vayan. Las mezclas de frutos secos caseros resultan estupendas para almuerzos y meriendas y contienen ácidos grasos omega-3, los cuales son muy saludables y excelentes para una función cerebral correcta, así como para que realicen sus deberes más rápidamente.

El pescado es el alimento del cerebro. Intenta incluir pescado como parte de una cena familiar sana al menos dos veces por semana. Pescado como mullí, bacalao o de filetes son excelentes opciones. Experimenta con sabrosos mariscos mediterráneos — como albahaca, ajo, jugo fresco de limón— o con tus condimentos de siempre. También puedes cortar el pescado en palitos, rebajarlo en pan y cocinarlo al horno — en lugar de freírlo— para un plato más saludable.

Los bocadillos son fáciles de preparar y llevar a la escuela, pero pueden resultar aburridos. Aumenta su sabor e interés untando pan tostado con pesto casero en lugar de mayonesa. También puedes sustituir el pan por las tortillas que usas en tus platos. Por último, corta finalmente las pechugas de pollo o pavo, marinadas y cocinadas a la parrilla para una alternativa sabrosa a la carne fría.

¿Quién necesita pasteltitos para el cumpleaños en la escuela? Sorprende a los niños haciendo brochetas de fruta deliciosa utilizando frutas diferentes. Y sí, puedes darles fresas bañadas en chocolate! Si tus hijos no pueden pasar sin pasteltitos u otros dulces, busca opciones más saludables, o una receta baja en grasas y azúcar y hornéala en una cantidad limitada. Comer o cenar en familia ofrece la oportunidad a los niños de aprender buenos hábitos que nunca olvidarán.

Recuerda que el objetivo no es eliminar todas las golosinas y alimentos favoritos de la dieta de los niños, sino enseñarles hábitos saludables, incluyendo la moderación. Si tiene una apretada agenda que no le permite cocinar, la mayoría de los supermercados cuentan con una amplia variedad de opciones saludables, tales como verduras y frutas ya cortadas y listas para consumir o arroz ya cocinado, que te ayudarán a ahorrar tiempo en la cocina. Para recursos adicionales e ideas, pide consejo a tu dietista pediatra y visita un sitio oficial de alimentación saludable (por ejemplo, www.eatright.org).

Senior Softball League Raffle

Baseball Chair & Ottoman will be raffled April 15

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