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Lic Benito Juarez

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Lubbock, TX USA

Immigration marches energize Hispanic power

Jeff Franks
Massive street marches to protest a proposed crackdown on illegal immigration have energized U.S. Hispanics and may signal a new day of Hispanic political involvement.

The demonstrations, which attracted both legal and illegal residents across the country, mean politicians may face an angry Hispanic electorate in which Republicans would be the biggest losers, activists said on Monday.

Half a million people marched in Los Angeles two weeks ago, and another half a million protested in Dallas on Sunday. On Monday, there were smaller marches in more than 60 cities, all to express displeasure with proposed legislation in Washington aimed at clamping down on illegal immigration.

As happened in Los Angeles, the Dallas march stunned the organizers, who expected only 20,000 people in politically conservative Texas.

"Never in our wildest dreams did we imagine half a million people marching in a city that has 1.2 million people," said Lydia Gonzalez Welch, a board member with the League of United Latin American Citizens, or LULAC, which promoted the so-called Mega March.

"The feeling of celebration and amazement yesterday was powerful and we will make sure that power continues to be demonstrated and the local leaders will feel it," she said.

"This is the first real social movement, bottom-up, grass-roots movement of the 21st century," longtime Hispanic activist and university professor Jose Angel Gutierrez told the Dallas Morning

News.

Flexing what it hopes is new political muscle, LULAC, the largest U.S. Hispanic organization, called for supporters to boycott stores Monday and not go to work, but the results were not clear.

Organizers at all the marches, with an eye to future elections, encouraged protesters who are citizens to register to vote. They urged illegal immigrants, who cannot vote, to push those who can to exercise their right.

"We will see this transfer into political power. If we cannot change their minds, we will change them (politicians)," said Elias Bermudez, head of advocacy group Immigrants Without Borders, at a march in Phoenix, Arizona.

40 MILLION HISPANICS
There are 40 million Hispanics in the United States, although due to age and legal status, just 13 million are eligible to vote.

Of those, only 60 percent are registered to vote and turnout at the polls is usually lower than among whites and blacks, experts say.

But they are concentrated in key states such as California, Texas and Florida and, by 2020, the number of Hispanic voters nationally is expected to top 20 million.

Democrats stand to gain most from new Hispanic involvement because political analysts say that, typically, two-thirds of Hispanics vote for their party.

Despite exuberance among activists, greater Hispanic political activism is not assured because the Hispanic population is not a political monolith, experts say.

While U.S.-born Hispanics are largely sympathetic to illegal immigrants, a Pew Hispanic Center survey found that a third of them feel illegal immigrants drive wages down.

Republicans have made gains in attracting Hispanics, but could lose ground by pushing a harder line



Desde el mas anciano hasta el mas joven salieron a las calles en la ciudad de Amarillo para protestar el proyecto de ley que se esta considerando en el Congreso. Más de 4000 personas participaron en la protesta que se llevo a cabo el domingo. La protesta fue organizada por varios líderes de Amarillo incluyendo el Padre Arturo Mesa de la Iglesia Sagrado Sacramento. Segun informes, además de el periódico El Bilingue, las estación de radio La Mejor tambien tuvieron parte en animar a la gente de Amarillo en participar en la protesta y que tuviera éxito.

foto corgesia El Bilingüe por Sylvia Rendon

Commentary

Lubbock: The Giant Side of Silence

From the east to the west coast and places in between, the mall in Washington, DC to LA; from Dallas to Austin, Houston to San Antonio, El Paso and even Amarillo, the mostly Hispanic voices rose to a deafening roar heard round the country. It was as if we were witnessing a mass cry of civil disobedience. Could it be that the proverbial "sleeping giant" had finally awakened?

Over this past weekend and on Monday, April 10, a day billed as a **Day of Action for Immigrant Justice**, Hispanics, Latinos, people of all ethnicities; shouted in unison: **"Latinos Unidos; jamás serán vencidos"**.

And this other ominous refrain which is sure to raise the anger level of those in this country whose greatest fear may one day be realized: **"Today we march, tomorrow we vote"**; but not on the giant side.

Organized rallies or demonstrations even took place in the least likely of cities. In Atlanta, 50,000 people gathered in protest and in the farming community of Garden City, Kansas, population 30,000, about 3,000 people gathered in a show of support.

But what about in this city; a city whose large Hispanic population is nearing 30%, what was heard here?

From all accounts, nothing but a silence that was deafening to some not so much by its volume, by what it said about this city's Hispanic community.

In this area, no demonstrations, no student rallies organized at Texas Tech like the ones at UT San Antonio or The University of Texas in Austin; no voices heard from local civic or civil rights organizations. No voices of solidarity from local churches; no voice of support from Lubbock's Catholic Diocese Bishop, Placido Rodriguez, echoing the comments of Catholic Archbishop Roger Cardinal Mahony of Los Angeles who has been very vocal in support of immigrants. And where were the social service organizations that traditionally help people who find themselves needing help after arriving in the area illegally.

Aside from a 2-3 minute news story which aired Monday on the local Fox Channel and on Telemundo, regarding why there were no demonstrations staged here, silence ruled the day. The local paper carried their usual AP wire stories about the national and statewide demonstrations and perhaps the other 3 network television stations might have made mention of the story; but local coverage was at the very best minimal.

The fact is that when this issue is studied and viewed in historical terms of what impact the marchers, who collectively numbered in the millions, had on Congress, on national politics, on the immigration legislation pending in the Senate, and on the very social and moral fabric of this country, will Hispanics in this city be judged or criticized for their non participation?

The question becomes; why is the Lubbock community, which enjoys a larger Hispanic population percentage than some of the other cities where demonstrations were held, so out of step with a large number of this country's Hispanic population? Have we become as conservative as the city that we live in? Do issues such as these represent a philosophical place where we choose not to go?

Perhaps there are a number of reasons why local civic organizations and even civil rights organizations like the local LULAC Council have not taken steps to be more of a vocal influence. By contrast, the National LULAC Organization led by its national president Hector Flores, was responsible for organizing the marches in Los Angeles and just this past Sunday in Dallas; where marchers numbered between 350,000 and 500,000. Whatever the reason the legislation pending in Congress will have a direct impact on this community both in terms of families being directly affected and in economic terms. According to former District 1 city council member Victor Hernandez, and current candidate for the District 1 city council seat presently held by Linda DeLeon, "Of course it will! Depending on the legislation, it will have the impact of continuing to further push Mexican Nationals into the shadows of our city or of mainstreaming this group into the light of day."

So if Mr. Hernandez is correct in his assessment, why didn't Lubbock see any similar demonstrations?

According to Bill Brooks who is Public Information Officer for the Border Patrol in Marfa, Texas which has jurisdiction for the Lubbock region, they do not have any numbers or clear estimates of how many people are here illegally in this region. Perhaps a number cannot be agreed on, but most people would agree that illegal immigrants do live here and that the number is probably in the thousands; otherwise, why would a regional office be needed here? Mr. Brooks went on to say that their (Border Patrol) "job is to catch them, and (they) would if they knew where they (the people here illegally) were". He also speculated that people in this region may be afraid to come out of the shadows for fear of being caught.

Another group that demonstrated their support were students on university campuses across the country; but not here. Minerva Alaniz, who is a librarian at Tech and who has her Masters in Library Science and is treasurer of the Tech Latino/Hispanic and Staff Association thinks that it is because "there is no unity between the various Hispanic organizations on campus". She also speculates that "there might be a sense that students might see opposition from the administration or possibly suffer repercussions of some sort".

Consequently, all we are left with is speculation as to why Lubbock Hispanics, so far, have decided to keep silent on this issue while other cities witness demonstrations and rallies of historical proportions.

Perhaps the issue of illegal immigration along with all the effects that people who are here illegally have on this area has not been realized yet? Or perhaps, no one organization or individual is willing to stand up as that lone voice of dissent which only grows louder as the number of voices grows? For now we are left wondering.

But as we wonder, we might consider the words of a relatively unknown German Lutheran pastor, Martin Niemoller, who is quoted as saying in 1945:

"First they came for the Jews. I was silent. I was not a Jew. Then they came for the Communists. I was silent. I was not a Communist. Then they came for the trade unionists. I was silent. I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I was Protestant, Then they came for me. There was no one left to speak for me."

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against illegal immigrants, said Southern Methodist University political scientist Cal Jillson in Dallas. They "should take a deep breath here, and ask themselves what a failure to deal with the concerns of immigrants both legal and illegal will mean for the Republican Par-

ty," he said.

Republican political consultant Bill Miller in Austin agreed the party is in a difficult position.

"It's a real high risk situation for Republicans, and it's almost all down side," he said. "There is no more sacred issue to His

COMMUNITY VOICES

Immigration issues and a local county election: three readers weigh in.

I think we saw the Good the Bad and the Ugly.

The Good was young students coming out in large numbers all over the country to speak out loudly on behalf of friends and family and fellow human beings who have no voice. It was good that all the marchers protested peacefully. They wore white shirts to indicate peaceful protest. It was good that this happened spontaneously at the grass roots level. It is good that we are a free country with protected and guaranteed rights. American citizens still have the right to assemble peacefully and the right to free speech, and the right to petition the government. This is America at its best. It is good that this will change America.

The bad was the absence of activity in Lubbock. There is a great need for local Hispanics to unite and this was a great opportunity to do so. But we missed the chance. However Lubbock Hispanics still have the opportunity to show solidarity during the national economic boycott on May 2, 2006. All we have to do is buy nothing on this day. We need to stand in solidarity with the young students who have shown courage. Hopefully the profiles of courage of the young students will motivate us to stand in solidarity with them.

The Ugly was the extreme right wing TV and Radio Talk Show hosts, such as Lou Dobbs and Rush Limbaugh who spoke venomously against the free speech of the young American protesters. If it was up to them they would allow free speech only for people who share their political philosophy. The Ugliest of all was the Republican Politicians in the US House of Representatives who wrote and pushed and voted in favor of a HB4437. It is a cruel bill. It lacks compassion and is unworkable. 203 Republican votes passed the bill. This is truly UGLY.

Ysidro Gutierrez via email

From Jerry Perez

I am pleased to see the Hispanic people united together in the pursuit of equality and liberty. I hope from this experience, more Hispanics will show up to the polls and vote. If Hispanic votes do not increase as a result of the demonstrations then these demonstrations would simply illustrate a "herd" mentality often shared by uneducated masses easily manipulated by vile puppet masters who have an agenda, often anti-American, and use culture and ignorance as a means to manipulate the masses. I hope I am proved wrong in this case; however evidence has been found that many were told to protest through Spanish speaking media outlets. According to several news interviews, many of the protesters did not know why they were protesting.

The manipulation of the masses has been going on for a long time in the Islamic world as radical Mullahs incite class and religious hatreds among their populations through the use of mosques and Al Jazeera media outlets.

Now, as a result of these demonstrations, Democrats and Republicans will be watching the voting habits of Hispanics closely because of the upcoming presidential elections. Hispanics are going to choose the next president of the United States. This is a reality.

Local Hispanic leaders in Lubbock met and spoke about the legislation in order to understand it. It was decided that demonstrations in Lubbock were not necessary. The Hispanic leadership in Lubbock is not controlled by the media. Another interesting observation and reason why we had no demonstrations: there were no Hispanic radio stations inciting anyone to demonstrate in West Texas; however the FCC, FBI, and Department of Homeland Security are currently investigating Entravision radio stations. According to their website, "Entravision Communications Corporation (NYSE: EVC) is a diversified Spanish-language media company with a unique group of media assets including television stations, radio stations and outdoor billboard faces. In total, our media assets reach approximately 70% of all U.S.

Hispanics and are strategically located in fast-growing and high-density U.S. Hispanic markets where the Hispanic consumer base accounts for approximately \$425 billion in consumer spending."

The majority of the demonstrations took place in the broadcast areas of Entravision radio stations. It was also noted that logistical and tactical information for the protests was broadcast from these stations to their Spanish speaking listeners. So, it was the Spanish speaking radio stations and their financial backers who were planning and coordinating the protests.

The Hispanic media needs to be careful to not incite a race war. Many in the Anglo community felt betrayed by the first round of protests. According to New York Post Columnist, John Podhoretz, "The rapidly rising concern about the issue is a clear indication that the first round of demonstrations a few weeks ago, featuring Mexican flags dominating American flags and wild talk about American imperialism, were self-defeating."

If we want pro-Hispanic laws, we need to cool down the rhetoric and begin to calmly discuss options. The issue isn't all about immigration, it is also about mass migration and who is going to pay for it or who is going to control its growth. We should encourage our Mexican national cousins to respect living here or leave the way they came in; else Mexican Americans will pay the price of complicity in fear and blood. We may be too late for discussions about immigration, but not too late for equal rights for Mexican Americans.

I disagree with Mexican President Vicente Fox. According to him I am a Mexican national because of my Mexican racial heritage. I am an American always and forever! There was a reason why my ancestors left that rat-hole of a country and it was because of people like Vicente Fox, Karl Marx, Joseph Stalin, Mao, Hitler, Pol Pot, and Vladimir Lenin who believed not in God or freedom but in the erroneous belief that the only God man needs is the Communist State looking after the spirit and minds of men with an ungodly lust for power. What Fox is doing to our people is ungodly. He is very responsible for the immigration crisis here in America. He has committed an act of war and the weapons he used are the spirit and minds of migrant workers and Mexican Americans. The gods of Communism must be happy with Vicente Fox. In America, we need new national Hispanic leadership.

We need to retire the old ideologies from the 60's and promote new ideas with fresh young leadership! The Anglos don't like the idea of reconquistadores nor do they appreciate being told to move back to England. The Raza deserves a better message and better leadership who will promote better job and education opportunities for Chicanos. In the Spirit of Cesar Chavez and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I say "We should unite in peace not in civil war."

Viva America! Jerry Perez, Lubbock via Email

From Vicente Soto:

All I can say is perhaps Lubbock leaders lacked a little intestinal fortitude. But next time there is a banquet, watch them all line up!

Vicente Soto via email Amarillo

"Community Voices" would like to hear from you, the readers. You may remain anonymous, but El Editor reserves the right to edit all comments for offensive language, offensive or distasteful content, or personal attacks, and for space. Mail your comments to Community Voices, 1502 Ave M, Lubbock, 79401, or email your comments to acruzts@aol.com

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In Their Own Words

Editors Note: El Editor invited two local Hispanic Leaders to register their views on the immigration issue. Here's what they said:
Linda DeLeon

I believe that the immigration bashing that is taking place is because of the great numbers of Hispanic citizens. I think that the majority is uncomfortable looking towards the near future and seeing us as the majority race in the United States. Some in society believe that if they place a wall and keep them from crossing into the United States that will keep the numbers down.

My Dad, born in Mexico, passed across into the United States in 1949 legally; I still have his green card in my bank safe. Many of us would not be here today making a positive difference if our parents had not crossed and made their home in the United States.

I got a call just today inviting me to attend an organizational meeting in Levelland on Monday to place in motion a march to protest the immigration legislation proposals. Manuel Mendez says he has about 100 persons attending this initial meeting. Manuel called to invite me because of my involvement in the community and as a member of the city council. I plan to attend the meeting.

So in the near future we will plan a march in Lubbock, TX.
Lubbock City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon

Victor Hernandez

I am addressing this question solely from the perspective of a person who is of Mexican heritage. I do not purport to understand the nuances of being Cuban or Puerto Rican descent or a descendant of the many other Hispanic cultures.

In order to give my thoughts concerning the immigration issue, I think it important that (people) you know a bit more about my background. As (people) know, I was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. I have been living in Lubbock for the last (approximately) 22 years. My mother was born in Mexico and continues to be a Mexican national although she received permanent resident status here in the United States over 50 - 60 years ago (she's over 80 years old now). My mom was born in Chihuahua. My dad was born in Fort Worth although his parents were born in Mexico. His family hails from Durango. Obviously, my dad is a U.S. citizen (WW II veteran) and my mom not only came here legally, but holds permanent legal residency status.

My mother had never wanted to become a United States citizen because she was mistreated on a regular, routine basis as she grew up in El Paso by the U.S. Border Patrol and other law enforcement agencies simply for being "Mexican". My mom, however, was willing to become a U.S. citizen when I asked her if she would, in order for me to be commissioned as an officer in the United States Army. As it turned out, that was not necessary and so she did not become a U.S. citizen. To this day, she is not a U.S. citizen but has worked all her life, paid taxes, purchased a home, and raised eight children.

Although my dad worked for Phelps Dodge (a steel production plant) in El Paso for over thirty years, every four years or so the United Steel Workers of America members (of which my dad was a member) would go on strike. For many of those strikes my dad would pack up the family and we would head to Watsonville, California to pick peaches until the strike was over. Even though I've experienced being a migrant farm worker, there really is no comparison to what we did and what thousands of families did and continue to do on a year in and year out basis. Nonetheless, I did get a taste of the life of a migrant farm worker.

I am extremely proud of both of my parents.

No question it is a complex issue. Looking at it from the Mexican National and first, Mexican-American generation perspective: I truly believe that folks from Mexico come here because of the depressed state of affairs in Mexico and because of the self-portrayal America exhibits of being the land of opportunity. Also, I believe that there are two qualities that Mexican Nationals, in particular, have that make them so attractive to American employers and public officials, they are: 1) their work ethic; and 2) the fact that owning their own business has been instilled into them as a cultural aspect by the Mexican government. (This is true even though the majorities are micro-business owners in Mexico from the person selling gum and newspapers in the street to food vendors and curio shop vendors in the market place.)

As a result, the federal government has looked away from employers hiring illegal Mexican Nationals across the United States. Local and state law enforcement officials look away because they consider this a federal issue. Many people in general look away because of the human suffering that goes along with being here illegally.

Looking at it from the second+, Mexican-American generation perspective: It seems a lot of Mexican-Americans start forgetting, or at least distancing themselves, from their origins, whether illegal or not. The anti-Mexican, illegal, immigrant sentiment seems to grow stronger as the number of generations' increases.

Looking at it from the Anglo perspective: Although I am not Anglo, it seems that the sensitivity and compassion given to African Americans; as a result of slavery and other past and current injustices, doesn't translate to other immigrants, including Hispanics and Asians. It seems second class status is perfectly acceptable.

Looking at it from the African American perspective: Although I am not African American, it seems that many African Americans feel threatened by the growth of the Hispanic populous: this seems to be in terms of political power and position.

Parson D.A. Smith who writes on a weekly basis for local newspaper The Southwest Digest continually attacks Hispanics. In a recent edition, 1 or 2 weeks ago, Smith writes, "...English used to be the conventional language of America... Recently, some of the large chain stores started playing Spanish programs for the customers - not English...if they come to America; I think they should speak the English language. This is still America even though our stands [sic] are declining rapidly...if they choose to come to America they should abide and conform with our customs instead of us giving in to their desires. We are rapidly becoming the minority all the time. ...Americans need to stand up and be counted instead of conforming to other countries' desires and demand God bless America while it is still ours...Privately, many Black Americans believe and concur with Ms. Mitchell [that English should be the official language of the United States of America and] that our standards are declining at such a pace that if there is not a change in the immigration policy, all of the great Anglo and Black American males will become subservient to a deceptive Hispanic culture and fiscal policy..."

Smith goes on and on ad nauseum. I wish people knew how Smith feels, and I wish people knew that Smith works for Legal Aid of North West Texas. And yet, I wonder how many people Smith has turned away from obtaining free legal services because they do not speak English or simply because they are Hispanic. I wish people knew that Smith is a board member of Victim's Assistance, a non-profit organization created to help victims of crime. I know I brought this venomous attitude of Smith to Victim's Assistance's attention and their Executive Director's response was that Smith was entitled to his opinion. I wonder how many victims of crime have been turned away because they do not speak English or simply because they are Hispanic.

T.J. Patterson (co-owner of The Southwest Digest) many years ago, made a remark to me that put the illegal immigrant issue in perspective. He said, and I paraphrase, "the illegal immigrant is a modern day slave".

It seems Republicans and Democrats agree on one thing and that is, that America cannot do without the labor, productivity, and economic impact that illegal immigrants provide and initiate in this country. To require that all illegal immigrants who are present in this country at this time to leave, would be disastrous to our economy. Finding a solution which does not hinder our economic growth is one thing but to find a humane solution need not be necessarily another. Illegal immigrants have legal rights even if they are here illegally but more importantly, they are humans who should be treated with dignity and respect as well. Second class status is something that they experience first hand in Mexico, as a result of a culture which is based on a caste system. But this is not Mexico, and illegal immigrants should not be modern day slaves nor should they be second class citizens.

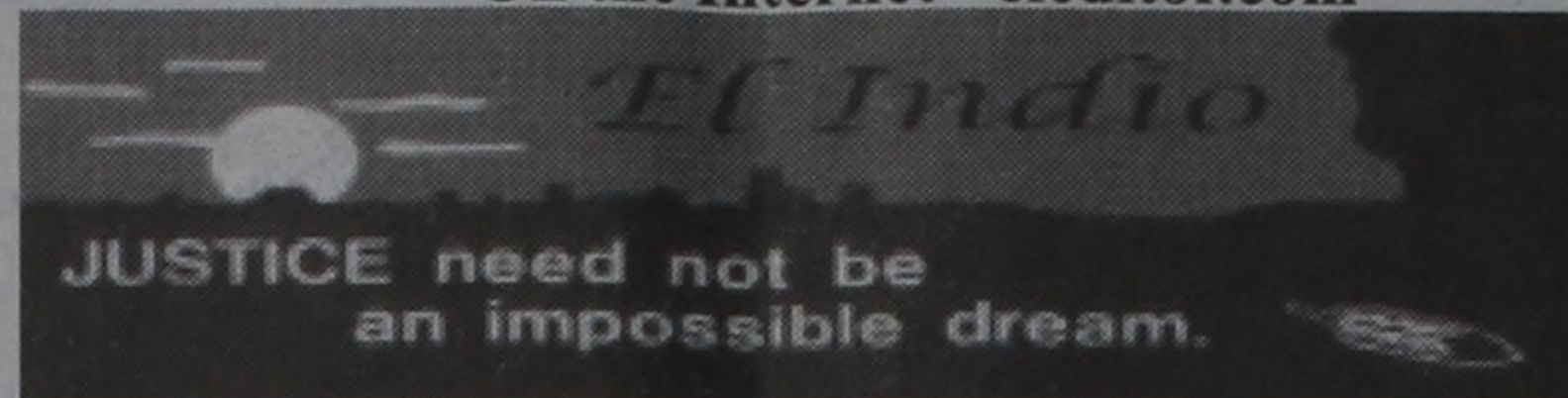
Finally, you also ask whether any legislation will have an impact locally. Of course it will! Depending on the legislation, it will have the impact of continuing to further push Mexican Nationals into the shadows of our city or of mainstreaming this group into the light of day.

Why do I think there were no demonstrations held here?

Probably for the same reason there were no demonstrations in a lot of other smaller cities and that is, there is comfort in being anonymous in a crowd of thousands. More specifically, illegal immigrants do not like to bring attention to themselves.

As to why our locally elected Hispanic officials in the region, did not latch onto this and demonstrate? I guess you had better ask them.

Victor Hernandez, Attorney at Law



SHAME ON LUBBOCK! SHAME ON US!

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

"ALL THAT IS NEEDED FOR THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL IS FOR GOOD MEN [PEOPLE] TO DO NOTHING!" - Edmund Burke

During the last two weeks, I have followed the press coverage of the Immigration Rights rallies throughout the nation...500,000 to 1,000,000 in Los Angeles, many thousands in Washington, D.C. and even 3,000 in Garden City, Kansas, a community of 28,000 folks...over one in ten! When I saw the map of the USA on TV, I noticed dozens of cities which had demonstrations, apparently including Midland-Odessa and Amarillo...BUT NOT LUBBOCK!

I am excited to see SO MANY people get riled up about the shameful proposal before Congress to criminalize [actually, we should say further criminalize] illegal residency...it has been a wistful, soul-searching time for me...but I also feel SHAME...SHAME that a Congress we have elected would do such a thing, and SHAME that my home town, a city of 200,000 people, 27% {or more} of whom are of Hispanic heritage, didn't have a rally. That's right, DIDN'T HAVE A RALLY...while the rest of the nation rose up in arms, docile Lubbock people sat on their hands...and NOTHING HAPPENED...as usual.

Oh yes, on the first of April, we had a nice march to honour Cesar Chavez, as we should have...and had a better than usual turnout, which is good...but this was a commemorative march, not a protest march...and Cesar himself would be saying, were he still here...why are you guys not out on the streets protesting this travesty, this atrocity?

11 million illegals? If this INSULT passes Congress, how much is it going to cost to jail all of these people? Are we going to drag elderly Chicanos out of their houses and put them in prison? Is there no end to the shame that this country is willing to stoop to? Isn't Iraq enough...do we have to BUILD A WALL on our southern border to disgrace ourselves? The Germans tore down the Berlin Wall...now we are going to BUILD one?

Perhaps Lubbock people are docile because they are uninformed, lazy or uncaring...perhaps they are docile because they are afraid...but whichever is the case, Lubbock cannot sit idly by and watch our sister cities protest while we go on about our business...telling the world that Lubbock, and the Lubbock Barrio, DO NOT CARE...

SI SE PUEDE, brothers and sisters...ORGANIZE A RALLY!
As Victor Hugo once said, "THERE IS NOTHING SO POWERFUL IN ALL THE WORLD AS AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME."

Immigration Reform ???

Several friends have asked my opinion about the "so-called" Immigration Reform Bill that brought out tens of thousands over the last few weeks and over 1 million on April 10, 2006 alone, to march peacefully in opposition.

My opinion is six fold in order of importance to me:

First: Any immigration reform bill "Must" provide for the Safety and Security of the American people. All sovereign nations have a duty and a right to secure their borders.

Second: Any immigration reform bill must NOT separate families. We must preserve the one institution in our society that truly produces stability and economic prosperity. Families are the strength of any nation. Families are the very fabric of any Christian nation. The family is, as Pope John Paul II called it, the domestic church where young people receive morals, virtues, character, and ethics: especially work ethics.

Third: Any immigration reform bill must assure "Economic Prosperity" for our nation. We need a supply of workers large enough and skilled enough to provide services and products that our economy demands. This is Economics 101.

Fourth: Any immigration reform bill must "NOT" be laced with "Stupidity." Stupidity occurs when a person has knowledge and understanding of the facts yet is unwavering in the face of the facts.

- It is stupid to criminalize workers that are so badly needed in our society.

- It is stupid to build a 700 mile long fence along the Mexico Border. Plus it may be racist if its advocates ignore the northern border with Canada since all the arguments made in favor of a southern fence apply equally to the north.

- It is stupid to think you can deport 12 million people. It would take tens of thousands of police to round them up, and tens of thousands of buses and thousands of airplanes and hundreds of ships and would cost billions and would take years.

- It is stupid to argue against Mexican immigrants while ignoring undocumented workers from China, Russia, Europe and a hundred other nations.

Fifth: Any immigration bill must be compassionate. The inscription on the Statue of Liberty speaks clearly of a compassionate nation that is welcoming. These things we value as a Christian nation.

Sixth: If the current laws were enforced; new laws would not be needed.

Ysidro Gutierrez
Lubbock County Commissioner, Pct 3

Immigration/ Migration Teach- In at Texas Tech

Immigration/Migration Teach-
In, 3-5 PM, Wednesday April 19th
Mataador Room, Student Union.

This event is co-sponsored by the College of Education and the Honors College. A panel of experts representing law, political science/public administration, education, history, economics, linguistics, as well as individuals from the community will present brief Point Papers (which will be available electronically soon). This will be followed by question and answer periods and opportunity to

participate in multiple topic centered break out groups. We encourage faculty, students, and interested individuals to participate in this relevant, unique, informative and teachable moment. If you have queries or suggestions, please contact Dr. Rosa Hernandez Sheets via e-mail: rosahernandez.sheets@ttu.edu

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A Spiritual Journey

By Abel Cruz

For millions of Christians around the world, Easter Sunday symbolizes a day of Christ's resurrection and one in which spiritual life within us is renewed.

For me it is no different.

As a Catholic, my beliefs are grounded in my Catholic Faith and they allow me to believe that the teachings about the life of Christ, His death and consequent Resurrection, are an important element in my life.

It does not mean that I dismiss other people's religious views and beliefs; I truly respect them. It's just that Catholicism is what I was taught as a child and it still works for me.

I was lucky, I like to believe, that I had parents who not only preoccupied themselves with my worldly needs like food and clothing and education, but also with my spiritual needs as well.

I was taught at an early age, that the Catholic Faith would be the guiding light in my life, and that that was the light that I should follow for the rest of my life.

As I have gone through my life, my spiritual faith has been continuously challenged. There have been times when I have been tempted to forget what I was taught and pursue other worldly things; sometimes I lost that battle.

And at other times I failed miserably to live up to the covenant that I made with God as a child and consequently as a young adult when I was confirmed at the age of 15. For those failures I have sought out the sacrament of reconciliation and tried to atone for my sins.

But by virtue of what my parents taught me and by how they lived their lives, I have always been brought back to the path that had been set out for me.

Many times, the very fundamental nature of our lives seems to get in the way of our spiritual journey. We seem to get sidetracked by false promises of happiness and success whose basic roots are not grounded in a spiritual faith; but rather an earthly way of life.

And if that is the path that some people choose for themselves, then who am I to judge?

As you celebrate this Easter Sunday, if indeed you do, I hope that your life will be filled with the promises that you have based your spiritual life on.

As for me, I will thank God for my parents whom I miss very much, Florentino and Margarita; that they had the foresight and the wisdom to guide me on the path that I continue to follow as an adult.

And one that I believe will ultimately lead to the reason that Christ died on the Cross; everlasting life.

May each one of you and your families have a Happy Easter Sunday.

Email: acruztc@aol.com

Community Voices Continued

Henry Martinez

When The House passed its own bill in December that has been described as the most repressive immigration bill in 70 years, HR 4437 would, among other things, turn every undocumented immigrant into a felon and make it a crime to offer help to undocumented immigrants. It's no wonder to me that

Across the United States, hundreds of thousands of undocumented workers, legal immigrants, labor unions, immigrant rights advocates and their supporters demonstrated in what was billed as the National Day of Action for Immigrant Justice.

In New York, over 100,000 demonstrators converged in lower Manhattan for a rally near City Hall. In Atlanta, as many as 80,000 people flooded the streets. In Phoenix, an estimated 100,000 rallied at the Arizona Capitol. 50,000 marched in Houston. 25,000 in Madison, Wisconsin. 10,000 in Boston. 8,000 in Omaha, Nebraska. In Fresno, California 10,000 people turned out in what a police spokesman called "by far the largest event we have ever had in the city." Even in the tiny farming town of Garden City, Kansas, 3,000 people took to the streets - more than 10 percent of the local population.

The rallies Monday followed a day of demonstrations in San Diego, Miami, Birmingham, Alabama, Utah, Idaho and Iowa. A Sunday rally in Dallas drew half a million people, the largest protest in the city's history.

Real comprehensive immigration reform must have the following. We need a process that allows immigrants who come to this country to work, that protects their wages, their working conditions, and for them to be able to come to this country in a legalized way. They do not want to come here undocumented. But the current system is broken, it's not working. Second, we need a sensible way for immigrants who are already in this country undocumented to earn citizenship. These are workers who work hard, pay taxes. They would also be more than willing to follow our laws, learn English if given the

opportunity and a chance to become legalized and become a U.S. citizens in this country. Everyone here should think long and hard about what is happening in America today. We have a government that creates immigrants by the millions and then mistreats them. I say the U.S. creates immigrants the old-fashioned way. If you have tyranny and oppression and famine and poverty around the world, you are going to have immigrants coming to the U.S. they have no choice No wall is going to stop them. No fence with barbed wire on the Mexican border border is going to stop them. It will just make it easier to arrest and brutalize them. We don't need a wall. We need a new foreign policy, so people can make a decent living and live in harmony and peace in our country and in their their home countries.

Finally The Sleeping Giant has Awaken!

E. Omega Cantu

At a time when we are questioned as to our Americanism, now is the time to embrace all that we are and our people can be, forever seizing our Citizenship as Americans, such as the Euro-American do and have been able to do successfully.† We too can't succeed in the citizen theater of Americanism. At a time when we are questioned as to our Americanism, now is the time to embrace all that we are and our people can be.† Too often denied or our Citizenship questioned, as Americans, (due in part to media "labeling,"), we must more than ever hold our culture close.† We too can't succeed in the same theater of citizenship, through pride, supporting one another in this field of "challenges and doubt." We need to be there as we have proven we care for our fellow citizens, till the "best decision" for America is resolved. "Viva Los Estados Unidos! Y Que Dios siempre nos que nuestros aciones.

Ms. E. Omega Cantu

Read El Editor
First on the Web
www.eleditor.com



HAW Recognizes Outstanding Hispanas

The Hispanic Association of Women is an organization with the mission of promoting education, defining issues of concern, forming coalitions, resolving problems, developing leadership skills, and empowering women and youth.

Each year, the Hispanic Association of Women, chooses outstanding women in the community that have gone above and beyond to contribute to our mission. Hispania's of the year are honored in seven categories:

- * Education
- * Medical/Health
- * Legal
- * Civic/Church
- * Media/Public Relations
- * Business/Professional
- * Youth.

The ladies were recognized during the HAW annual banquet that was held at the Baker Conference Center at the Lubbock Christian University campus.



Ernestine Omega Cantu

The First category was EDUCATION. This recipient prides herself on being a teacher, and making the educational experience of her students her priority. She is a secondary education teacher at OL Slaton Junior High School, teaching Spanish, History, and XL Math. She has received the Who's Who Among American Teachers Award and has been named teacher of the week five times. She was named Newspaper-in-Education Teacher of the Year in 2004 and received the South Plains Outstanding Teacher Award.

This nominee believes that each student's transformative learning is most likely to occur when students become personally engaged with the material,

thus, perceiving the subject matter to be directly relevant to their own lives. This teacher also believes that understanding the diversity of learning styles and student experiences is key to enhancing this engagement.

Her nominator states, "While she is aware that students must ultimately take responsibility for their own learning, she believes that a teacher can often inspire their desire to learn." Her philosophy on teaching is: understanding that she receives as much as she gives by seeing her students learn and succeed. She embraces teaching as an opportunity to inspire and empower. Ideally she wants students to feel personally changed by their participation in a course she teaches.

This honoree continues to support education through community involvement with Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education and as the AATSP Local Chapter President.



Daniela Hernandez-Salas

The Second category is MEDICAL/HEALTH. This recipient is one of 15 volunteers in our great nation who has been selected as a trainer for the Look Good... Feel Better program. This is a national public service program created from the concept that if someone with cancer can be helped to look good, their improved self-esteem will help them to approach their disease and treatment with greater confidence. This program is offered through a partnership of the American Cancer Society and the National Cosmetology Association.

As Lubbock's Look Good... Feel Better coordinator-facilitator, she provides patients who are undergoing radiation or chemotherapy treatment with education through group or individual sessions. She provides free program materials including video, pamphlets, and free makeup kits for each patient participating in a group class.

The recipient, her husband Jerry, and parents Anna and Ismael Hernandez are founders of Wig Trend Salons and are celebrating their 38th year. Wig Trend Salons have the reputation of giving back to the community. They are known city-wide for continually raising money for various charities focused solely on Medical issues or for Church organizations. Aside from this full-time volunteer position, she is a Sunday School teacher at St. John Neumann. She is a recipient of the American Cancer Society Unsung Hero's Award 2004-2005.



Rosa Cox

The Third Category was LEGAL. This recipient is a living example of perseverance. After her husband became a police officer in 1992, she developed a passion for policing. Therefore, in 1997, she decided to pursue her calling as a police officer. Despite the lack of time to study, she took the police entrance exam. Much to her dismay, she did not pass. But -- she did not give up! The next time around, she began to study between working, taking care of her children, and maintaining her home. The second time she completed the exam she scored a 69, which unfortunately did not allow her to enter the academy.

In 1998, after a third round of testing, she scored well and was accepted into the Lubbock Police Academy. Her nominator states, "She can clearly recall the first day she entered the academy, July 20th 1998. She can also clearly recall the disappointment, when soon thereafter, she was injured during physical training, requiring her to resign.

This woman, with a wealth of tenacity refused to give up her dream and vowed she would be back. She re-tested a fourth time and passed the test, nevertheless, was not accepted into the academy.

With a fierce determination, she tested a fifth time. Once again she was accepted, and started the academy.

Today she is a member of the Negotiating Team, Honor Guard, and a Crime Scene Officer. More importantly, she has demonstrated to her three children as well as others that anything worthwhile requires determination and belief in oneself.



Linda Deleon

The Fourth category was CIVIC/CHURCH. This recipient is a true champion of civil rights and a true champion for the people.

This Hispania has a wealth of experience of working with a worldwide range of cultures. She is an expert in linking diverse groups with varying interest.

This recipient served the interest of the underserved populous of Lubbock nobly as a Lubbock Independent School Board Trustee from 1986 - 2004. A graduate of Estacado High School and a long term resident of East Lubbock, she, along with a cross cultural group of individuals including many African American leaders, was instrumental in

helping to stop the total demise of Dunbar High School in that in stead of being totally closed, it is now a Junior High school. She is widely know as the leader of the movement and legal battle to insure that North Lubbock receive quality education for all students by insisting that a new showcase magnet school be built in the area. This resulted in the construction and ultimate success of Cavazos Junior High School.

Over 30 years ago, this amazing lady was selected to serve in a non-traditional career position, and served as the first Woman and first Hispanic customer service technician at South Western Bell.

Eighteen months ago, in an effort to reach the American dream of owning a business and creating jobs for local residents, she and her husband Portfierro took their entire 401K retirement accounts and started All Am Concrete. She is the President and Co-Founder.

Just a few of the awards that she has received includes the NAACP Civil Rights Award; Texas Association of bi-lingual

education award; GI Forum Award, LULAC Dist. 1 Woman of the Year; Women who make things happen Award presented by Zeta Phi Beta. And, she was very recently recognized by LULAC Council 263 as the Community Leader of the Year for 2006

For the past two years, she has served as a member of the Lubbock City Council where she has worked and fought tirelessly for the interests and public safety of the citizens of Lubbock.



Olga Riojas-Aguero

The Fifth category was MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS. This recipient is a prime example of involvement. She has and

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Hundreds expected to turn out for 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains, in cooperation with the Heart of Lubbock Neighborhood Association, will conduct the 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in Stumpy Hamilton Park (22nd Street and Avenue X).

The event, which traditionally draws hundreds of neighborhood youngsters and their families, will include an egg hunt, face painting and other child-oriented activities. In addition to Easter candy, participating children will receive activity pages, tips about safety and other informative materials.

The Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains conducts the event each year in an effort to serve the community while raising awareness about the CAC mission: to bring together community resources to speed the healing of child victims of abuse and trauma. The Heart of Lubbock Neighbor-

hood Association provides funds for the purchase of the candy. Prior to the egg hunt, members of the United Way's Youth Division will be at the park helping CAC officials hide the Easter candy.

The Children's Advocacy Center of the South Plains, or CAC, is a cooperative effort among city, county and state entities interested in maintaining a cooperative, multi-disciplinary approach to investigating child abuse. The goal is to lessen the trauma to the child by reducing the number of investigative interviews. CAC provides an environment that emphasizes the best interest of the child and provides investigatory and rehabilitative services.

CAC, a nonprofit agency, serves child victims of physical abuse, child victims of sexual abuse and non-offending family members in Lubbock, Hale, Hockley, Cochran, Lamb, Terry and Yoakum counties.

Join us for Fun and Music at the South Plains Fair Grounds 2 Full Days of

Fun

Featuring:

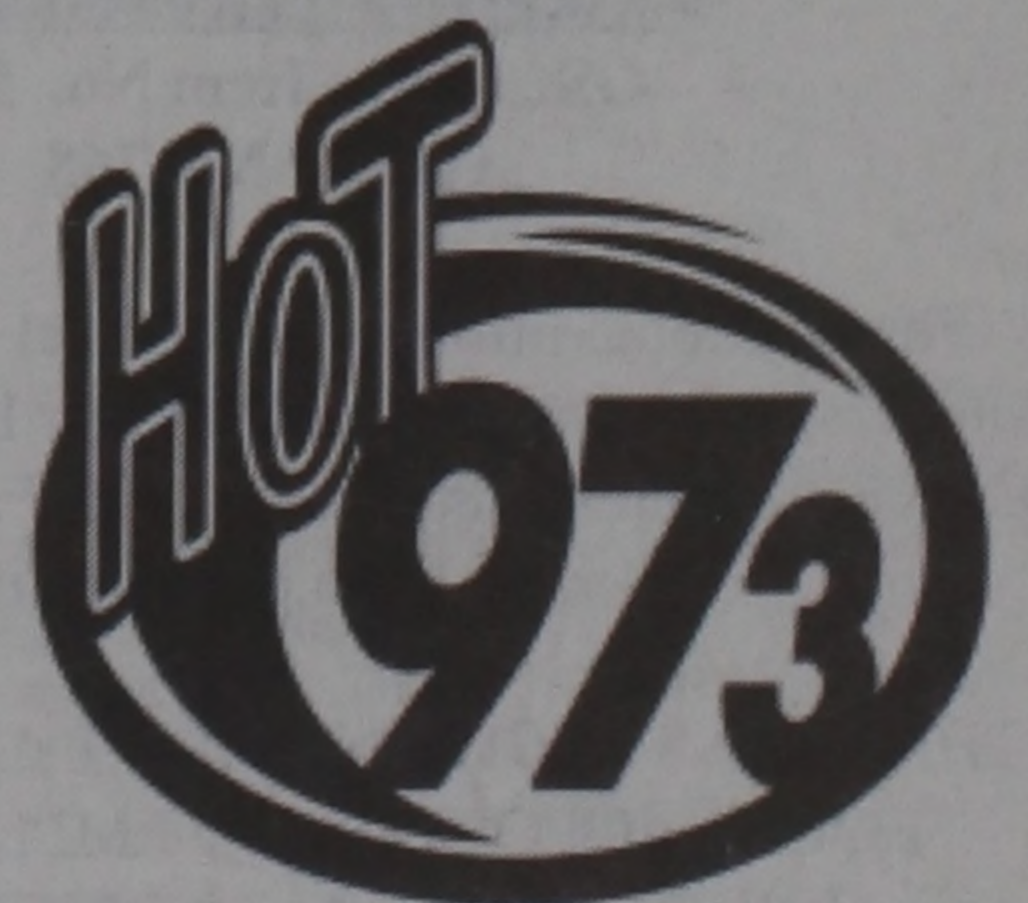
Friday: Mariachi Amistad, Atrevido, Michael Salgado Saturday: Evolucion, Chente Barrera, David Marez, Ram Herrera, David Lee Garza, DJ Kane



Fun for everyone and two cars will be given away by Tri United Auto Center! And a car show presented by Straight Clowin' Car Club.

Tickets are \$12 in advance at Select A Seat, Kings Food & Gas, Montelongo's and Premier Auto & Sound.

BYOB - No Cooler Fees! No Glass Containers



HAW

from page three

continues to serve with volunteer involvement, political involvement, and organizational involvement. One of her greatest achievements is her dedication to her business. She has held many positions with El Editor and continues to do whatever it takes to make it a success. Her dedication to El Editor shines through with her contributions to the community. One of her most influential achievements is her involvement as a plaintiff in the suit to have a school built in North Lubbock. She, along with Linda Deleon and others, filed a federal suit to have this school built, and, as we all know, they were successful. Thanks to this recipient and to others, Cavazos Junior High School stands today. Every day she is impacting our future as reflected by the documented success of the children that sit in these classrooms. She has been recognized with many achievements for her work in this re-

gard. She continues to support many area campaigns and is currently a member of Mexican American Democrats and Southwest Voter Registration and Educational Project. She is on the Lubbock Centro Aztlan Board of Directors, Board Member for Ballet Folklorico Aztlan, Texas Women's Network, Conference of Organizations, Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Member, Texas Association of Mexican American Chamber of Commerce, League of United Latin American Citizens - LULAC 263 and was the first woman president for the council and very proud of it. Is member of the National Association of Hispanic Publications and attended a conference in Las Vegas a week ago where El Editor was recognized for being one of the top 5 hispanic owned newspapers in the national. Also is a proud grandmother of 3 grandchildren; 1 boy Nicholas Ryan, 2 girls Eliana and Azelia who she adores very much.

On the Internet - www.leditor.com



Diane Garcia

The Sixth category was BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL. This recipient began in humble surroundings, selling flower arrangements in a booth she rented at the flea market. Slowly, she built her clientele and quickly developed an expertise. She loves decorating for weddings and quinceañeras and is known for producing beautiful arrangements for customers. She soon found that many people preferred to rent, therefore she took a chance and started a rental service. She found herself participating in a bridal show and loved it.

With no financial assistance, other than a payroll check that

her husband invested, her dream of owning a business became a reality. When the business began producing profit, she invested in more decorating equipment and eventually established Diane's Bridal & Quinceañera shop. She proudly reports that -Today, her company is operating in the BLACK!
Today, she is a Mentor for Tech Prep and Students of the South Plains Groundhog Job Shadow Day, A sponsor for Mr. and Mrs. Juneteenth Showcase and has worked with the LISD Adopt a School Program for the past 5 years.



Miss Amaris Garcia

The final category was Youth. Despite the fact that this young lady is only 14 years old, she has had the opportunity of being involved in an array of activities and service projects. Amazingly enough she founded a self-esteem recognition program called Las Mariposas (The butterflies) with support from her mother. Within the past three years, 80 girls have been honored in the program.

Last year, she was selected as a Junior Ambassador representing Lubbock in Japan. After her trip, she returned with a new appreciation for her community and her abilities. After the City Council decided to cut the Junior Ambassador program our youth honoree was instrumental in sustaining the program. She testified three times in front of City Council during the Citizen Public Comment time and wrote an op-ed piece for the Lubbock AJ. She interviewed with several media outlets demonstrating the effectiveness of the program for any student, and especially for a Latina girl in Lubbock.

In addition, our youth honoree helped lead students in keeping her school open. As a result of her positive and peaceful demonstrations along with the many others, LISD spared OL Slaton and kept it open.

Our young recipient is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and in only a semester has volunteered 600 hours. She is a founding member and active participant of Catholics-In-Action at Our Lady of Grace Church; and, was selected among 40 students across Lubbock to participate in a traveling exhibit for her photo in the Take Pride in the East Side pro-

gram. This young lady is a member of the Up & Coming Scholar program and has participated in programs including the NCLF Summit, "Science, It's a Girl's thing" program at Texas Tech University, and the IDEAL "Shake hands with your future" program also at Texas Tech University.

Her nominator states, "She impressed me with her gracious demeanor and broad participation in community activities; this young lady represents herself well".

J-Lo Sues Ex-Husband over plans for a Tell-All Book

Hollywood superstar Jennifer Lopez on Monday sued her ex-husband Ojani Noa claiming he demanded five million dollars to keep him from publishing an explosive tell-all book about the entertainer.

The lawsuit aims to keep Noa from publishing the book which Lopez claims contains "private and intimate statements, many of which are negative, denigrating and disparaging" about the singer-actress.

By "shopping" the manuscript, Noa was "wrongfully attempting to exploit his prior relationship with (Lopez) by making salacious, inflammatory, invasive, disparaging statements," the suit said.

In addition, Noa made "some false and defamatory statements" for his own "financial gain in violation of a specific written agreement to the contrary,"

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Tercera Parte

"Tiempos Verdes y de Oro - Una Carta para Recordar

Armando Gonzalez

Qué yo sepa, Papá nació con nuestra troca (camión para los profesores) igual que su sombrero, a un lado de él. Mis recuerdos más infantiles, siempre se realizaban con ese vehículo, de multi-colores, en el centro de todo movimiento familiar. Fue a consecuencia de esa troca que por primer vez conocimos a Terry Rogers - Texas Ranger.

Al terminarse el año escolar en Roosevelt Elementary en Acuff, Texas el mismo día siguiente toda la familia hacíamos un viaje al Mágico Valle de Tejas para visitar a los antiguos Tios y Tias, primos y a ver el oceano. Nuestros padres platicaban con una formalidad que se había alzado por todo el año - y aquí en estas visitas se distribuía esa formalidad con plenitud y gusto con sus parientes queridos que habían sobrevivido las muchas dificultades de los años previos. Después de tomar sus tes lindos y dulces y de comer sus tamales delicados con pasas y chicharrones de puerco; y haber cortado y recogido naranjas de sus naranjales; y después de tres mil abrazos y besos empezábamos a subir a la multi-colores uno por uno. Siempre recordaré los pisos de tierra - barridos limpiecitos por Tia Petra - el olor a tierra madura bruta cariñosa. Nunca podré olvidar su jardín de flores que de seguro fue encantado por los divinos. El olfato me desterraba y con esos olores de jasmín, rosas rojas, blancas y amarillas, y la yerba buena, y los árboles de lila, y cientos de otros olores celestiales me transportaban al otro lugar mágico que siempre he buscado con futilidad.

Como antes aludía - la troca multi-colores fue la quién nos presentó con Terry Rogers. Ibamos caminando de noche - una noche oscura sin benevolencia ninguna.. Ibamos todos los doce de familia de regreso a West Texas para empezar

la temporada de limpia del algodón. Ese vehículo/hermano con sus láminas sueltas y tornillos ruidosos, y llantas lisas como nuestras espaldas, hacia alborotos super naturales incluyendo ruidos de estropeamiento, arrumbaciones magníficos, y lloridos de bestia en agonía para poder subir a las cumbres de esas lomas severamente empinadas permanentemente por los diosis - como para hacerles la vida dificultosa a la humanidad. Nuestra abuela rezaba sies o siete "Padre Nuestros" y al fin llegabamos a un camino sin ondulaciones y la troca nos arrullaba con una serenata tranquila de sus sies cilindros - como para enfatizar que no había camino o loma superior a sus capacidades. Papá respiraba ondamente al ver unas cuantas millas sin impedimentos empinados.

Como antes aludía, la troca, sí la troca fue la responsable de presentarnos con el Terry. Entre el camino de Kerrville y Fredericksburg Texas hay lomas muy altas y curvadas como las blondies en nuestro Playboy, que teníamos escondido en un lugar secreto. La última escalación fue frenética y después de una docena de "Ave Marias" en todo labio los seis cilindros de la multi-colores se silenciaron como que estuviesen en la iglesia. Cuesta abajo a sesenta millas por hora y sin ninguna función mecánica la gravedad nos impulsaba con grandes estirones a una parte del camino donde la troca encontró un nivel parejo para anunciar con estremecidos jalones qué era todo lo que daba. Los animales del monte con sus ruidos salvajes despertaron a mis hermanos y se abajó el Tio Franke, diciendo qué no deberíamos abajarnos porque nos podía morder una vivora en un lado del camino.

Pasaron tres horas en lo oscuro entre esas lomas languidas y perezosas. Los mosquitos y zancudos

gozaban de nuestros brazos. Mamá nos bañaba con "Old Spice" para correr a los zancudos. Llegó un automobille del año, Chrysler, con luces rojas y azules. Se estacionó detras de la multi-colores. Salió un hombre gringo. Era el hombre más grande que nunca había visto. Vestía sombrero "Stetson" y un traje de oficial con una bacha redonda, grande y brillante que en la luz de la luna introvertida reflejaba las letras "Texas Rangers". Más arriba las letras Terry Rogers. Era alto de estatura, media por lo menos seis pies y cuatro pulgadas. Era guero con nariz muy derecha y puntiaguda, y afilada. Tenía un sonrisa sincera y contagiosa que le hacían arrugas permanentes en la frente y lados de la boca. Los ojos eran azules claros, penetrantes, ágiles, humildes. Terry miraba la troca con el motor caliente y muerto.

- Trouble? preguntó.
- Yazzir, dijo nuestro padre.
- Let me see it. Sacó Papá la licencia de manejar.
- No, no. I mean let me see the motor.
- Okay, okay.
- Hey, muchacho, me dijo, "you come and hold my hat, okay. You, speak English little fella?"
- Yes sir.
- Okay, then, go to my car and in the back seat get that red box and bring it here.
- Abri la puerta del carro patrullero. Adentro, el aire estaba frío. Las luces revelaron la caja que el Texas Ranger pedia. En la radio se oia música germánica alegre. En la otra radio se difundían códigos especiales - legales. Corri con la caja.
- Gracias, muchacho, dijo el Texas Ranger.
- El Texas Ranger se dobló de cintura y quitó el aparato que tapaba el carburador.
- Dale gas, decía el Texas Ranger, Terry. "¡Dale gas!"
- El motor no prendía. Terry

empezó a sacar tenasas y desarmadores y alhambres que tenía en la caja roja.

- Dame las tenasas, me dijo.
- Dame el desarmador, me dijo.
- Dame el alambre, me dijo.
- The gas filter on these trucks are always getting stopped up, dijo Terry. You can't use them anymore - you have to just reroute the gas line. "Dale gas!" decía. Al fin la multi-colores con ahogos y destornudos empezó de nuevo a funcionar. Los seis cilindros estaban pegando bien. Empezó a cantar su canción.
- Thank you, thank you, le decía Papá. "How much money I owe you?" le preguntaba.
- You don't owe me anything. I'm a mechanic too. I have a shop in town. No big deal getting you started up again. Say, are you folks looking for work? Do any of you know how to play the accordian? Papá le informó que él sabía muchas melodias en la accordion. Papá le informó que si buscábamos trabajo. Terry nos dió direcciones a su rancho donde nos esperaba una casa. El nos dijo que era suficiente grande para nosotros y que tenía baño adentro. Nunca habíamos vivido en casa con toilet adentro. Nos informó que íbamos a plantar tomates, cebollas, calabazas, sandias y elotes. Después de un tiempo llego otro carro oficial.

-Terry, "these Meskins giving you any trouble?" le preguntó el gringo gordo.

-Naw, not in the least, these are good hard working people - they're going to help us on the farm with the crop. I just hired them, they are with me. No trouble, but thanks for stopping over.

En el rancho de Mr. Rogers vivimos por los siguientes tres años. Ahí aprendimos de la vida y de la muerte. Entre la humedad, el calor y las lomas verdes y de oro crecimos en el Corazón de Tejas.

Sigúe la proxima semana

Learn Educational Opportunity Center
Have a GED, High School Diploma, or are you a college dropout?
 Want to attend college or enroll in a vocational program, but lack finances? LEARN Educational Opportunity Center can help you apply for federal and state aid programs that will get you on your way. Call 763-4256 or come by 2161 50th Street to schedule an appointment with one of our Advisors. LEARN EOC is a federally funded TRIO program, so all services are FREE!!!

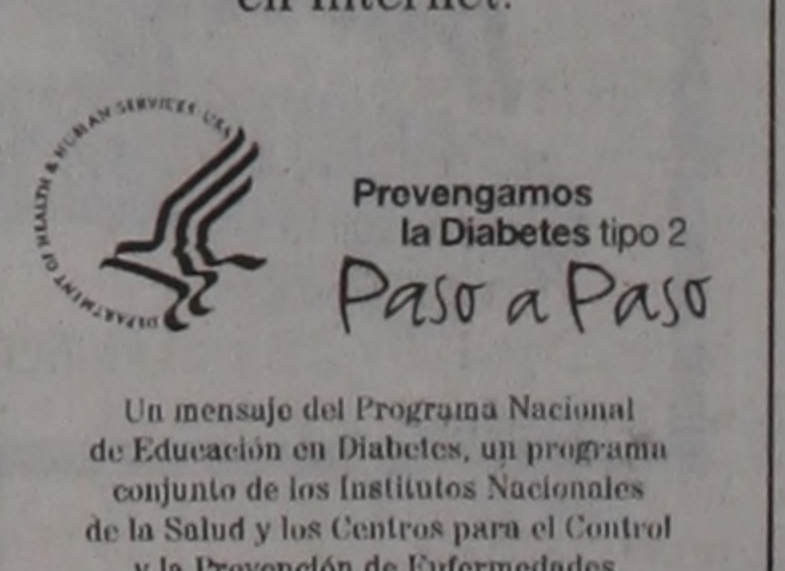


Smile! Have A Nice Day!

PREVENGAMOS LA DIABETES...
Paso a Paso
 Todos en la familia teníamos problemas de peso. El doctor nos dijo que corríamos el riesgo de desarrollar diabetes tipo 2. Sin embargo, nos tranquilizó. Nos dijo que aunque la diabetes es una enfermedad grave, la podíamos evitar o retardar.
 Decidimos actuar de inmediato. Nos propusimos perder un poco de peso. Empezamos a hacer 30 minutos de ejercicio moderado 5 días a la semana. También decidimos comer alimentos saludables.



Tome el primer paso. Hable con su doctor. Para obtener más información, llame al 1-800-438-5383 o visite www.ndep.nih.gov en Internet.



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Competitive Sealed Proposals
Various Landscape Enhancement Projects:
 Discovery Mall FP&C #96-36X
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 Texas Tech intends to landscape 2 areas on the Texas Tech University campus and 1 area on the Health Sciences Center campus.
The Texas Tech University System
 Lubbock, Texas

The RFP and further information can be obtained by accessing the **Texas Marketplace** www.marketplace.state.tx.us GSC Class Item No. 914 Agency No. 768

For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Laura N. Bennett. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail: laura.bennett@ttu.edu.

THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND ENCOURAGES ALL HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE.

www.CovenantHeartInstitute.org

Are you or a loved one affected by heart health issues? Covenant Heart Institute invites you to join us for our "Heart Matters" breakfast club. This is a great opportunity to share your thoughts, feelings and experiences with others who are dealing with matters of the heart. The Heart Matters breakfast club is open to the public and free of charge. Refreshments will be provided. See you there!

You're invited to the Heart Matters breakfast club.

"Heart Healthy Diet—Cholesterol-Lowering Food Tips"

Presented by: Will Hogan, R.N., Clinical Educator for Berkeley HeartLab, Inc.

Friday, April 28 9-10 a.m.

Covenant Medical Center—Lakeside 4000 24th Street Arnett Room, 6th Floor

Covenant Health System

For more information, please call 1.806.725.1650

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Los Grammy Latinos se van a Nueva York

La séptima entrega de los Grammy Latinos se celebrará en Nueva York por primera vez en la historia de los premios, lo que tendrá un impacto de 30 millones de dólares en la economía de la ciudad, según anunció ayer el alcalde Michael Bloomberg, junto a las estrellas de la música Johnny Pacheco, India, y Willie Colón.

La mayor fiesta de la música latina se realizará el próximo 2 de noviembre en el Madison Square Garden, y el 26 de septiembre, también en la Gran Manzana, se efectuará un acto para anunciar a los nominados al preciado galardón.

"Hoy me siento muy orgulloso al anunciar que la séptima entrega anual de los Grammy Latinos se realizará por primera vez en la Gran Manzana", dijo en español el alcalde, señalando que "la ciudad de Nueva York es la casa de la población latina más diversa del mundo".

"La celebración de este evento latino atraerá la atención de la prensa mundial y de los turistas sobre nuestra ciudad, creando con ello un impacto económico significativo, lo que nos ayudará a crear más fuentes de empleos", aseguró Bloomberg.

El alcalde dijo que Nueva York



es el centro cultural de la vida latina, indicando que en las calles de la ciudad se escuchan todos los ritmos de la música hispana.

En conferencia de prensa en el salón azul de la alcaldía, Gabriel Abaroa, presidente de LARAS (Latin Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc.), dijo que Nueva York constituye una meca mundial del arte "y, al mismo tiempo, representa el centro de movimientos musicales tales como la salsa, mambo, tango, mariachi, merengue y Latin jazz".

"Nueva York es también el si-

tio que muchas grandes estrellas han llamado su casa, como Tito Puente, Los Panchos, Celia Cruz, Willie Colón, Rubén Blades, Johnny Pacheco, India, Eddie Palmieri, Héctor Lavoe, Thalia, Plácido Domingo y Marc Anthony, sólo para mencionar algunos", dijo Abaroa.

"De hecho, yendo a la ciudad de Nueva York, estamos yendo a casa, porque uno de cada cuatro residentes de la ciudad es latino", agregó.

Otros que participaron en el anuncio junto al alcalde fueron el senador federal por New Jersey Bob Menéndez, la congresista

Nydia Velázquez, el asambleísta Adriano Espaillat, y el presidente de la Asamblea estatal Sheldon Silver.

La séptima entrega anual de los Latin Grammy Awards será transmitida en vivo a través de la cadena Univisión, el jueves 2 de noviembre, a las 8 de la noche.

Según informó la presentadora de televisión Bárbara Bermudo, en 2005 la transmisión de los Latin Grammy se realizó por primera vez en español, alcanzando una audiencia de más de 9 millones de televidentes, 2 millones más que la transmisión en inglés realizada el año anterior.

Este evento fue procurado agresivamente por NYC Big Events por la importancia de poder atraer una audiencia diversa, de acuerdo a una fuente. La decisión fue tomada por ejecutivos de Univisión y de LARAS después de casi cinco meses de reuniones y negociaciones, dijo una persona allegada a las mismas, "pero la ciudad ha estado tratando de lograr esto por tres años".

Nueva York tiene en su trayectoria el haber hecho los 2005 Country Music Association Awards, la premiere de King Kong, la Convención Nacional Republicana de 2004 y los Premios Grammy en 2003.

En 2005 participaron en el evento las estrellas de la música Juanes, Juan Luis Guerra, Ana Bárbara, Los Tigres del Norte, Olga Tañón, Laura Pausini, Don Omar, Vico C, Kumbia Kings, Julieta Venegas, Alejandro Fernández, entre otros.

J-Lo Sues Ex-Husband from page 4

Lopez -- once known to her fans as J-Lo -- claimed.

In the suit filed in Los Angeles, Lopez requested a temporary restraining order and a permanent injunction preventing Noa from selling the manuscript. In addition she wants to be awarded her court costs.

Lopez, 36, and former model Noa were married for one year from February 1997 to January 1998.

The lawsuit states that Noa sent a letter to Lopez's attorney on January 13, 2005 in which Noa "declared his intention to continue to shop his proposed Book and to obtain a publisher for the book."

In the letter he suggested negotiations over what he said about Lopez in the proposed book saying he would not "stop his life because of her" again.

"She may want me to stay quite (sic), and not talk about her it (sic) all in the book, I'll be more happy to do, if we can come to an agreement..." Noa allegedly said in the letter.

The lawsuit then states that Lopez's attorneys received another letter from Noa dated January 19, 2006, claiming "he would not agree to refrain from marketing his book unless

(Lopez) paid him a sum of five million dollars."

In addition, Lopez claimed that Noa made a false statement to a New York Post gossip columnist alleging Lopez had been seeing singer Marc Anthony, to whom she is now married, while she was filming the 1997 horror movie "Anaconda" in Brazil.

According to Lopez, Noa's actions violate a settlement agreement they entered into last October that includes a "non-disparagement clause" and a "non-disclosure clause."

That agreement ended an employment dispute lawsuit Noa brought against Lopez in December 2004 over her Pasadena restaurant, Madres, which she appointed her first husband to run when she opened the eatery in 2002.

Noa, who met Lopez when he was working as a waiter in a Miami restaurant and remained friends with her following their divorce, had accused Lopez of breach of contract.

He had claimed she lured him into taking the manager's job and then fired him nearly six months later.

Following her divorce from Noa, Lopez was married to dancer Cris Judd from September 2001 to January 2003 and then had a highly publicized romance with actor Ben Affleck.

Their engagement collapsed suddenly in and then married singer Marc Anthony in June 2004 after he divorced his wife.

Sugar Ray Robinson Honored on New Stamp

Sugar Ray Robinson would have considered being featured on a postage stamp "an honor for him, an honor for God and an honor for the community," his son said of the latest accolade for a man once selected as the top boxer of the 20th century.

The new 39-cent stamp, designed to resemble a vintage fight poster of the 1940s and '50s, is being released Friday in ceremonies at New York's Madison Square Garden.

"I think he would have thought (the stamp) was a gift from God," Ray Robinson II said in a telephone interview.

But not just a gift to him alone.

"He was a team player in a sport where you don't have a team," the younger Robinson said. His father valued his family, agents, lawyers, training staff and sparring partners, "that was the team."

And he recalled his father's concern for fair and equal treatment for everyone. "We're all one world," he said, quoting his father.

The elder Robinson once did a public service announcement urging the police to treat everyone the same, whether they are individuals on the street or famous athletes like Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella and himself, the son recalled.

And he noted his father's close friendship with boxer Jake La-

Top Prospect Leinart Dumps Agent Steinberg

Southern California quarterback Matt Leinart fired agent Leigh Steinberg less than three weeks before the NFL draft, where he is expected to be among the top three choices.

Steinberg, who has represented some of the top quarterbacks during the last 25 years, said Wednesday he did not know the reason for the decision.

Leinart, however, is also represented by Creative Artists Agency. Last week the agency hired Tom Condon, who represents such quarterbacks as Peyton and Eli Manning, Drew Brees and Alex Smith, the No. 1 pick last year by San Francisco. Condon previously worked for International Management Group.

Leinart has not yet selected another agent. Players' union rules require a player to wait five days after leaving one agent before hiring a new one. Steinberg said he hopes to lure back Leinart during the waiting period.

Steinberg represents Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and has had such clients as Hall of Famers Troy Aikman, Steve Young and Warren Moon.

Leinart's Southern California teammate, running back Reggie Bush, is expected to be taken by Houston with the first selection in the April 29 draft. Both Tennessee, which picks third, and the New York Jets, who are fourth, are considering a trade to get Leinart.

Motta. LaMotta was the first fighter to beat Robinson, and the two fought six times. Yet they also became friends and Robinson was best man at one of LaMotta's many weddings.

"They were two men that were committed to nothing but their craft," the younger Robinson said. "They didn't take their craft personally, they took it as going to work, like a plumber would, like an electrician would, and afterwards it was, 'Let's go out for a beer.'"

First-day of issue ceremonies for the stamp were scheduled for the Golden Gloves boxing competition.

Robinson was world welterweight champion from Dec. 20, 1946 until Feb. 14, 1951, when he won the world middleweight title for the first of five times. Overall, according to The Ring Record Book, Robinson fought

201 bouts, winning 174 (109 by knockout) against only 19 losses, six draws, and two no contests.

He was voted "Fighter of the Century" by a panel of experts in 1999.

And with boxing often called "The Sweet Science," Robinson was described as its sweetest practitioner by boxing historian Bert Sugar.

Robinson was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990. After his fight career ended, he became an actor and established a youth foundation. He died from complications of Alzheimer's disease and diabetes on April 12, 1989.

The younger Robinson, a fight promoter, stays close to the sport and works with Ring Eight, a boxing support group that assists indigent fighters.

SOFTBALL CALENDAR

- May 5-7 4th Annual Cinco de Mayo Men's D NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225**
- 4th Annual Women's Cinco de Mayo (Qualifier) USSSA \$175**
- May 19-21* 8th Annual Cotton Pickin' Fast Pitch NIT (All age groups) USSSA \$300 (6 game guarantee -World Series Qualifier)**
- June 2-4* 18th Annual Hub City Youth NIT (Girls & Boys - all ages) USSSA \$175/\$250 (Slow Pitch & Fast Pitch -World Qualifier)**
- June 9-11 4th Annual South Plains Men's D NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225**
- 4th Annual South Plains Women's NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225**
- June 16-18 13th Annual Hub City Men's C NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225**
- 13th Annual Hub City Men's E NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225**
- 3rd Annual Hub City Mixed NIT (World Series Qualifier) USSSA \$225 (Other Divisions Offered - Women's) \$175**
- July 14-16 Youth Slow Pitch State USSSA \$200**
- July 22-23 - Texas SuperCup/Menudazo Softball Tournament Aug 4-6 USSSA West Texas Men's C and E State USSSA \$250 Aug 11-13 USSSA West Texas Men's D and Women's State USSSA \$250 Aug 25-27 2nd Annual Cotton Pickin' Midwest National (Men's & Women's) USSSA \$300 S**

HispanicWorld - Sept. 16-17 --Competitive and Recreation Divisions USSSA \$300 (Men's and Women's)

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Coming Soon to Lubbock's Cancun BOBBY PULIDO



Bobby's appearance at Tejano Texas definitely gave fans a Christmas week to remember. With his mustache gone, his hair longer, and part of his goatee shaved, Bobby was sporting a new look. Fans in the audience passed personal notes to Bobby while on stage and as can be seen by some of the pictures below, he took time to read each one of them. In addition, Bobby posed for pics with fans who happened to jump on stage. He even told one girl in the audience who was contemplating the jump that he would not stop her if she chose to hop on stage. That gave her the courage to jump and I just so happened to snap a picture of the embrace. There was also a rather roudy group of women standing close to the stage who must have been in their 50's or 60's. Bobby called them the Golden Girls as he shook their hands and even kissed their cheeks. The women were ecstatic to have gotten Bobby's attention; once again proving that age is just a number! The last picture in this set shows Bobby attending to the Golden Girls right before he squatted down to kiss them. Awwwww.

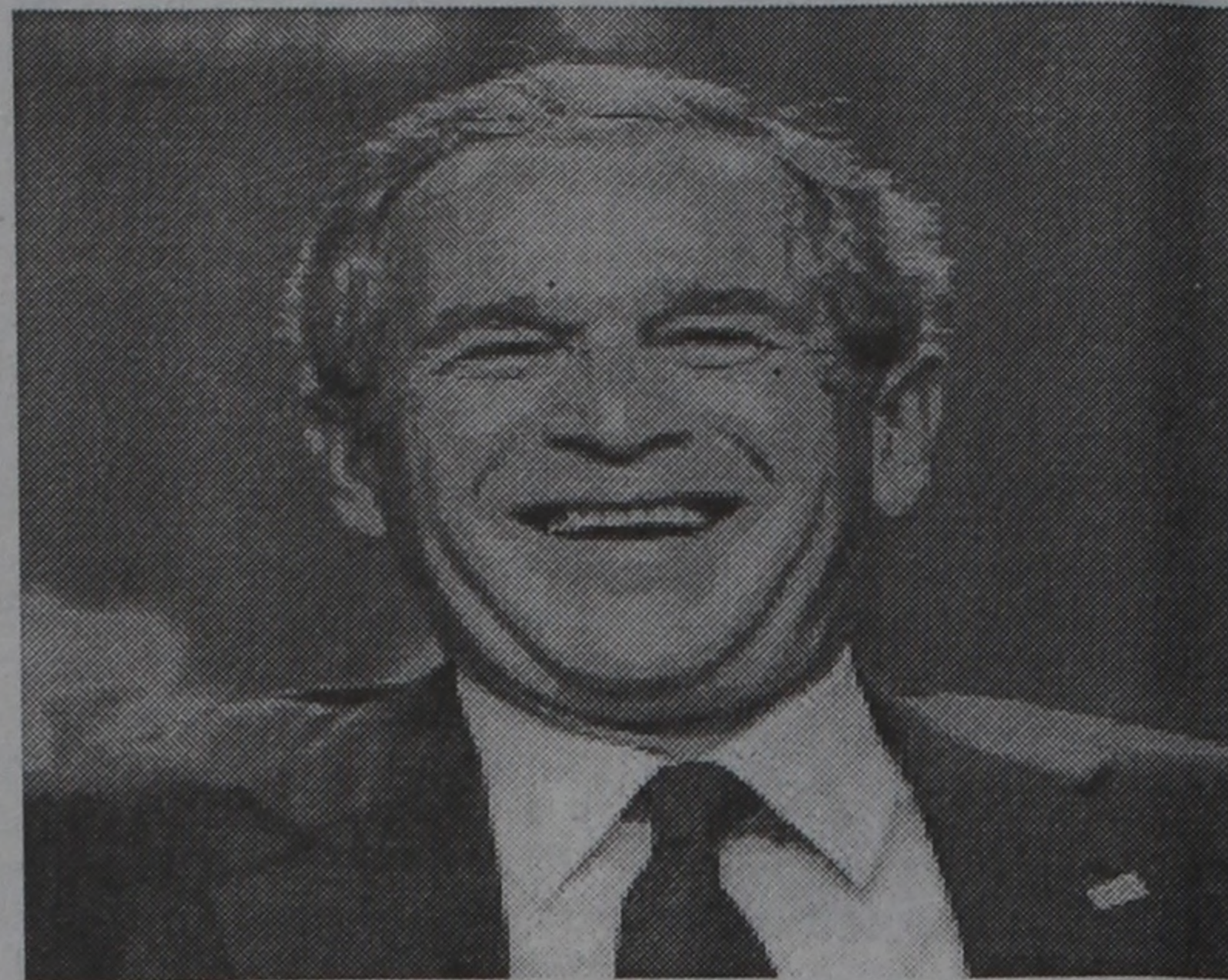
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Critican a Bush por filtrar datos secretos

La mayoría de los estadounidenses cree que el presidente, George W. Bush, hizo algo "ilegal" o "inmoral" en el conocido como caso Plame, que ha vuelto a incendiar la vida política de Washington tras meses de relativa calma.

Una encuesta difundida ayer por el centro Gallup revela que seis de cada 10 estadounidenses critican al Presidente por su papel, todavía no del todo claro, en la filtración de información confidencial sobre Irak.

Documentos judiciales publicados la semana pasada señalan que pocos meses después de la invasión de Irak, Bush autorizó la divulgación de partes de un informe secreto en el que se ex-



plificaban los motivos que sirvieron para justificar la guerra.

La Casa Blanca ni confirma ni desmiente que la autorización tuvo lugar.

Según la versión oficial que corroboró Bush el lunes, y que no hace sino confirmar algo que ya se sabía: el Presidente si autorizó desclasificar partes de un documento llamado Evaluación Nacional de Inteligencia (NIE), el cual decía que "Irak intentaba de forma activa conseguir uranio".

La fecha oficial en la que se "desclasificó" el citado informe fue el 18 de julio, 10 días después de que tuviera lugar la filtración a la que hacen referencia los documentos judiciales.

Labor Department Unveils Retirement Planning Resource for Hispanic Americans

The U.S. Department of Labor today released "Su Dinero Y Futuro Economico: Una Guia Para Ahorrar," a resource to help Hispanic Americans plan, save and invest for a secure retirement. The publication, which can be found at <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/savingsfitnesssp.pdf>, is the Spanish-language version of the department's popular Savings Fitness: A Guide to Your Money and Your Future.

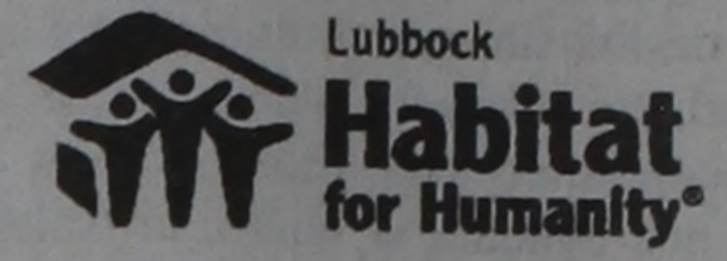
The publication highlights the importance of saving for retirement and emphasizes the benefits of developing savings habits at a young age. The booklet provides important information on how to start saving, how retirement plans work, ways to develop a savings plan that incorporates realistic retirement goals, and simplified principles on investing.

"Hispanic-Americans are one of the fastest growing segments

of the workforce. Su Dinero Y Futuro Economico will help them save for their retirement," said Ann L. Combs, assistant secretary of labor for employee benefits security.

This financial planning tool uses an easy-to-follow approach to setting financial goals and including retirement planning as a priority. A resource section provides other sources of information on retirement, savings and investment issues, including a link to FirstGov en Espanol, which provides information on government services including benefits and financial assistance, consumer protection and employment.

Free copies of the booklet are available by calling the Employee Benefits Security Administration's toll-free number at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or visiting the agency's Web site at <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa> (under publications).



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Hay controversia sobre cómo influirán en el debate migratorio del Congreso

WASHINGTON.—Mientras demócratas y republicanos se culpan mutuamente por el "punto muerto" de la reforma migratoria, algunos activistas creen que las marchas han comenzado a tener efecto y prueba de ello, dicen, es que los máximos líderes republicanos ahora digan que pretenden impulsar una legislación que no considere un delito grave la presencia ilegal en Estados Unidos.

Otros, sin embargo, temen que la politización del debate y la búsqueda de culpables resulte en que los republicanos intenten impulsar una medida que sólo se enfoque en seguridad argumentado que los demócratas no permiten el avance de otra cosa, sobre todo tras el revés del pasado viernes en el Senado.

Algunos activistas creen que la declaración conjunta de los líderes republicanos Bill Frist, de la mayoría republicana del Senado, y Dennis Hastert, presidente de la Cámara de Representantes, responde a las masivas marchas a través del país porque saben que la propuesta HR4437 ha galvanizado a la oposición y existe el potencial de consecuencias políticas a corto y a largo plazo.

El martes los líderes emitieron una declaración conjunta diciendo que "sigue siendo nuestra intención producir un sólido proyecto de seguridad fronteriza que no convertirá en delito grave la presencia ilegal en Estados Unidos".

"Me parece que es una señal

positiva. Toda la presión de la comunidad inmigrante ha tenido un definitivo impacto positivo. La declaración reconoce que la medida de la Cámara Baja [HR4437] fue demasiado lejos en sus componentes punitivos", dijo a La Opinión, Michele Waslin, analista de asuntos migratorios del Consejo Nacional de la Raza (NCLR).

Gabriela Lemus, directora de política pública y legislación de la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC), coincidió.

"Las marchas están comenzando a tener su efecto", dijo Lemus a La Opinión. "Están [los líderes republicanos] reaccionando a lo que están viendo en sus distritos", agregó.

Pero otros activistas temen que el juego de buscar culpables frustre el avance de cualquier medida. Por ejemplo, en su declaración escrita Frist y Hastert recuerdan que fueron los demócratas los que votaron en contra de una enmienda de F. James Sensenbrenner, autor de la HR4437, para que en lugar de un delito grave la presencia ilegal se considerara un delito menor. Un total de 191 demócratas votaron en contra de esa enmienda al igual que 65 republicanos. El argumento de los demócratas es que se opusieron a cualquier cambio cosmético porque querían que el castigo siguiera siendo una ofensa civil como al presente. Los republicanos dicen que los demócratas se opusieron a la enmienda con fines partidistas.

Al echarle la culpa a los demócratas de eso y del bloqueo de enmiendas al proyecto Martínez/Hagel en el Senado la semana pasada, los republicanos pueden decir que nada ha avanzado por el bloqueo demócrata y que proseguirán con una medida centrada en la seguridad, que es lo único que menciona la declaración de los líderes republicanos.

"Ése es mi temor personal. Que ésto no llegue a ninguna parte y que decidan proseguir con un plan de seguridad y aplicación de leyes, que no es una reforma integral", dijo una activista que prefirió el anonimato.

"Los dos partidos [Republicano y Demócrata] están jugado a la política en este debate, pero honestamente no sé si nos están manipulando a nosotros o si es entre ellos", como parte de la estrategia legislativa de presión, agregó la fuente.

Pero Waslin opinó que sería difícil que digan que se concentrarán en medidas de seguridad cuando ya el Senado demostró que tienen más de 60 votos para impulsar una reforma integral. Además las marchas han surtido el efecto esperado y se pide es una reforma integral.

En el Senado los republicanos afirman que el lenguaje Martínez/Hagel tenía hasta 70 votos para ser aprobado y que las enmiendas que los demócratas bloquearon argumentando que iban a deshacer el acuerdo no tenían apoyo suficiente.

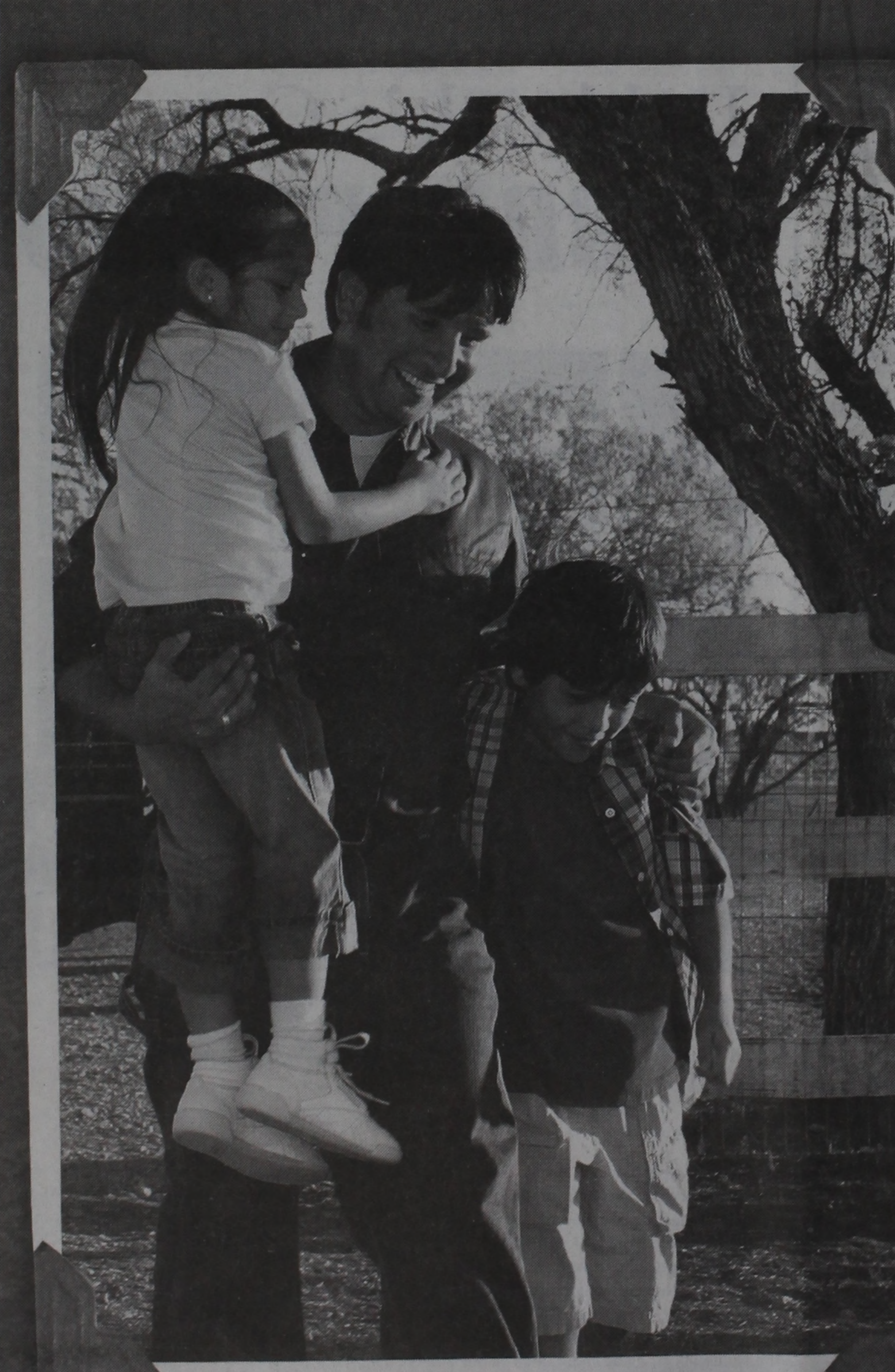
Los dos máximos líderes republicanos no sólo recordaron la "falta de compasión" de los demócratas al votar en contra de la enmienda de Sensenbrenner. También hablaron de los "continuos esfuerzos" del líder de la minoría demócrata del Senado, Harry Reid, "de bloquear la acción sobre la legislación migratoria".

La semana pasada Sensenbrenner también envió una carta junto a otros republicanos a la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos en la que habló sobre la enmienda y agregó que las penas a quienes ayuden a indocumentados no tienen la intención de castigar a clérigos o individuos o grupos, sino de aplicarla a quienes trafican con personas.

Pero el senador demócrata Edward Kennedy, dijo que "los actos dicen más que las palabras, y no hay manera de escapar del hecho que la Cámara Baja, de mayoría republicana, aprobó la medida (HR4437) y el senador Frist ofreció una que criminaliza a los inmigrantes".

Sin embargo, los activistas coinciden en que la búsqueda de culpables debe pasar a un segundo plano, pues lo importante es el resultado final: una reforma integral como la que pide la comunidad inmigrante.

Frank Sharry, director ejecutivo del Foro Nacional de Inmigración, dijo que a los inmigrantes "no les interesan los juegos políticos en Washington" sino una reforma migratoria integral.



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