

Casualties of War in Iraq 4,802 Afghan 3,303 as of May 23, 2013

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"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es la Paz" Lic Benito Juárez

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Oklahoma turns to mammoth task of cleanup after tornado

Under a sunny sky, residents of this Oklahoma City suburb began cleaning up debris from the monstrous tornado that inflicted death and destruction — bodies of animals, overturned cars, homes reduced to rubble — as more information emerged about the human victims.

The twister killed 24 people, the state medical examiner said Wednesday, 10 of them children, including two infants. The dead ranged from a 4-month-old boy to a 70-year-old woman and included two 9-year-olds who were best friends. The causes of death were primarily blunt-force trauma and asphyxiation. All of the missing had been accounted for.

Officials also updated their estimate of damaged or destroyed homes to 13,000, affecting 33,000 people and causing up to \$2 billion in damage.

"The numbers of this event are becoming even more staggering," Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett told reporters at Moore City Hall. Some details about the victims emerged. The infants, 4-month-old Case Futrell and 7-month-old Sydney Vargus, died of head injuries, the medical examiner said. Of the other eight children, who ranged in age from 4 to 9, six died of suffocation and two from massive trauma. Seven were killed at Plaza Towers Elementary School in Moore, which collapsed as students and teachers sought shelter in hallways and restrooms. The school had no tornado safe room.

Sharon Johnson, a volunteer with the Oklahoma Disaster Relief Chaplaincy, helped break the news Tuesday to families of Plaza Towers third-graders that their children were dead.

Two of the 9-year-olds already held hands, Johnson said. The father of one, she said, "kept saying, 'He was my only child, he was my only child.' ... He was just saying, 'He's gone.'"

Johnson said she and other chaplains are trained to be professional, but it's hard to stay composed.

"I held up really good, and then I went outside where there was nobody, and I cried," she said.

One of the victims, Terri Long, 49, was described by friend Linda Webb as a compassionate and involved citizen of Moore. They met a few years ago after Long began volunteering for Webb's nonprofit organization, Ally's House, which

and trash bags to clean up for upcoming funerals. Chain saws roared and volunteers gave tetanus shots to those who would be picking up debris. Others cooked food and passed out water as the sweet smell of cedar wood drifted through the air. It was the first opportunity many of the volunteers had to help, and they jumped at the chance. They wanted to do something, they said. Anything. "I didn't care if I was cleaning toilets or picking up trash, I just wanted to help," said Mike Car-

Oklahoma news conference. "At this point, the cameras will leave ... but on behalf of President Obama and on behalf of FEMA, we will be here to stay until this recovery is complete." Many of the tasks required big machinery and a stomach for ghastr's sights. Mike Roman, a single mother of two with glitter-polished nails and curly blond hair in a bun, spent most of the day hauling away the carcasses of horses from a farm near Moore. With a forklift, a mini-tractor,

but this time she has retrieved 52 so far. "This is the 'worst I've seen,'" she said. "You realize there are these animals that don't know where to run." Many blocks of Moore still resembled a war zone, with areas blocked off by police tape and men in Army uniforms patrolling in ATVs. Two looters were arrested Tuesday night, police said. Homeowners returning to check on their property and retrieve essentials had to pass

body else's lawn chair lodged in his shredded roof and his living room walls perforated by holes. This was his first home. He wasn't sure if he and his wife would keep living there. "It's like having a car," he said. "Once you wreck it, it just doesn't feel the same even after you repair it. Feels like we've been violated by the storm." Gouge sheltered his in-laws in his storm cellar, which probably saved their lives — their home was reduced to a cement slab. Local officials deflected criticism of tornado preparations, saying they had taken every precaution to protect lives. Tornado sirens sounded about 18 minutes before touchdown, alerting residents to take shelter.



Gov. Mary Fallin encouraged more Oklahomans to build tornado-safe rooms, but she said the shelters would not be required. More than \$12 million from a joint state and federal fund had been spent for \$2,000 rebates to state residents who installed safe rooms, officials said.

Fallin tried to restore some sense of normalcy to a region where upside-down cars still littered the streets and dozens of homes were without roofs. School graduations will go on as planned this weekend, and the Big 12 Conference college baseball tournament will begin in Oklahoma City on Thursday morning after being delayed a day by the storm.

The mayor, Cornett, called the tournament "an appropriate diversion" for the shattered city's morale. But he also warned of long, difficult days ahead. "I'll be throwing out the first pitch at 9 and then attending the first funeral at 10," he said.

raises money for families with children who have cancer. Whenever the organization put out a call for help, Long was the first to lend a hand, Webb said. "She'd be out there in the heat, the cold — no matter what," she said. "A volunteer for all seasons."

Meanwhile, at Moore Cemetery, hundreds of volunteers gathered with shovels, rakes and a Moore resident whose home was unscathed. "That's the Oklahoma spirit." President Obama will visit the disaster-ravaged area Sunday, and federal and state officials pledged to help for as long as it takes. "So, a lot of work to be done now in terms of recovery," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said at an

truck and a trailer, Roman's M&M Animal Disposal tackled a 10-foot pile of gnarled horses, donkeys and a pig, bringing them to a dump, where a long line of trucks was forming. Other truck drivers pinched their noses and looked the other way as she zipped by. Roman said she picked up 28 carcasses during a 2009 tornado that hit nearby Norman, Okla.,

through police barricades and show ID. Many roads were closed, causing massive traffic jams and forcing residents to hike in and haul out possessions on foot. On each block, a few families picked through debris as bulldozers and backhoes buzzed. Willie Gouge returned to his home to fill a trash bag with essentials. He found some-

Reforma migratoria pasa primera prueba en el Senado

Luego de debatir cerca de 200 enmiendas, el Comité Judicial del Senado está sobre la cuerda floja para elaborar el texto sobre una reforma migratoria. La jornada de hoy fue una de las más polémicas. Legisladores intentaron eliminar el camino a la ciudadanía. Hasta el cierre de esta edición, el grupo de 18 legisladores esperaba cerrar el proceso, pero todavía no completaba las más de 15 enmiendas pendientes.

El proyecto de ley parece ir por buen camino. Hoy, el líder de la minoría Mitch McConnell (R-KY) dio señales positivas respecto al futuro del plan. El republicano aseguró que no intentará bloquear la legislación. "El statu quo no es bueno. Si hay una moción para proceder con esta propuesta, es un paso en la dirección correcta", dijo.

Senado rechaza intento de eliminar ciudadanía. El comité demoró un intento por eliminar el camino a la ciudadanía en la reforma migratoria. Ted Cruz (R-TX) propuso que

los indocumentados sólo tuvieran acceso a la residencia legal. "Es injusto para los inmigrantes legales que han hecho fila y esperado décadas. Esto incentivaría a los indocumentados sólo migración ilegal. Esta enmienda removerá el camino a la ciudadanía, para que existan consecuencias reales", dijo Cruz. "Si este comité rechaza esta enmienda, eso hará que esta propuesta fracase en la Cámara de Representantes", agregó.

"Si no tenemos un camino a la ciudadanía, no hay reforma. Eso va en contra de nuestros valores. Esto crea disparidad y alienación", respondió Charles Schumer (D-NY). "Si lo hacen, no lo van a pasar en el Senado,

no tendrán mi voto ni el de mucha gente". La enmienda fue rechazada por un voto de 5-13. Los republicanos Lindsey Graham (R-SC),

inmigrantes altamente cualificados, que utilizan la vía H-1-B. Entre ellos se podrá aumentar el cupo máximo anual y se aliviana la obligación de compañías

Departamento del Trabajo. El sindicato AFL-CIO se ha mostrado incómodo con la negociación y no ha entregado su apoyo político a los cam-

bios. "No pudimos llegar a un acuerdo con la industria de alta tecnología, pero seguiremos trabajando para combatir las provisiones que nos parecen injustas para los trabajadores estadounidenses", explicó Ana Aveniño, asistente del presidente y directora de inmigración y acción comunitaria de AFL-CIO. Aveniño

explicó a La Opinión que intentaron negociar por varios días, pero no lograron pactar. Consultada respecto al apoyo del sindicato al proyecto de ley, enfatizó que hasta no tener un

producto completo, no podrán pronunciarse de manera decisiva. Rechazan que indocumentados paguen impuestos atrasados

Por la mañanita Mike Lee (R-UT) presentó una enmienda que hubiera obligado a los indocumentados a pagar impuestos atrasados. Actualmente el proyecto de ley especifica que si el Servicio de Impuestos Interiores no registra deudas pendientes, las personas podrán legalizar su estatus.

"Discutamos y presentemos algo cuando esto se debata en el pleno del Senado, de manera que incluyamos impuestos atrasados, pero esto no prevenga que los indocumentados puedan salir de las sombras", dijo Schumer.

La medida fue rechazada, al igual que otra propuesta por Lee que perseguía prohibir a los extranjeros que han tratado de regresar al país, accedan a la legalización. También bloquearon un intento por eliminar las declaraciones juradas como pruebas.



Jeff Flake (R-AZ) y Orrin Hatch (R-UT). Más condiciones en las visas H-1-B. Hoy se inspeccionaron nuevas condiciones para los trabajadores

de comprobar que intentaron contratar a un trabajador estadounidense primero. A su vez, exime a estos empleadores de excesiva supervisión en esta área, por parte del

Comentarios - Opiniones

LOS CINCO DE CENTRAL PARK:

Por **Aileen Roberto Schief**
Hispanic Link News Service

La cruda emoción del público se palpaba al rodar el documental de PBS, *The Central Park Five*, en el Club Nacional de la Tropa. Esta histórica ciudad de Nueva York continúa filtrándose después de 24 años.

Al enfocarse en los cinco adolescentes quienes fueron acusados erróneamente y encarcelados durante años por un delito abominable, el documental está recibiendo atención mundial. Producido, escrito y dirigido por Ken Burns, David McMahon y la hija de Burns, Sarah, la inspiración por filmar el documental partió de lo hallado por Sarah Burns al completar una pasantía jurídica y la investigación de su tesis de posgrado hace una década. A través del tiempo, estableció relaciones de confianza y comenzó a entrevistar a las jóvenes y otras figuras claves a la historia. Entre los entrevistados en el documental están los cinco de Central Park y sus parientes, los alkaláes de la ciudad de Nueva York, Ed Koch y David Dinkins, los periodistas Jim Dwyer, Natalie Dydenko y Lynn Heller, el doctor Calvin Butts y el historiador Craig Steven Weiland.

El libro, *The Central Park Five: The Untold Story Behind One of New York City's Most Infamous Crimes*, salió en el 2012, en lo que venía completándose el documental.

¿Qué documental hacer para reafirmar estos preparatos varios días de público después de escuchar a Raymond Santana y a Yusuf Salama, dos de los hombres encarcelados. Ahora con treinta y tantos años de edad, siguen luchando por componer sus vidas.

Una injusticia tal en Nueva York? Los residentes de la ciudad y los que visitan senten reverencia por la belleza majestuosa de Central Park, un oasis de paz al corazón de una ciudad que nunca calla. El parque se extiende desde el centro de la ciudad hasta Harlem al norte. La violación ocurrió a la altura de la calle 102.

Fue una noche de finales de primavera, el 19 de marzo de 1989, cuando ocurrió el ataque violento y violación brutal de Trisha Ellen Meili, una mujer blanca de 28 años, profesional de un banco de inversión, quien había joggado por Central Park. El delito atizó un frenesí en los medios y una precipitación histórica por emitir un juicio.

Las imágenes de la "Central Park Jogger," el "Sajivomio" y las "Manadas de Lobos" atormentaban al público y cobraron impulso. El mundo se mantuvo concurrido al caso con actualizaciones continuas por los medios descubriendo la milagrosa y violenta recuperación de Meili.

Hasta el día de hoy, Meili no logra recordar nada referente a aquella noche. Fueron encarcelados cuatro adolescentes y uno latino, a pesar de críticas políticas cuestionables y la carencia de evidencias. Los jóvenes y sus familias no pasaron de ser figuras andimensionales

EXONERADOS, LIBRES Y AUN ESPERAN JUSTICIA

en todo el gran drama urbano.

...En una de las escenas iniciales del documental, Jim Dwyer, periodista del *New York Times* hablando con el premio Pulitzer, quien cubrió el caso, entonces empleado del *New York Newday*, se lamenta: "Yo quisiera haber sido más escéptico como periodista... sabes, había mucha gente que no cumplió con su deber - reporteros, policías, fiscales, abogados de defensa. Fue una guerra indirecta de la que se libraba, y estos jóvenes sirvieron de representantes de toda clase de otros programas entre los que no formaban parte la Verdad, la Realidad ni la Justicia". En realidad, el gobierno, las fuerzas del orden, las instituciones sociales y los medios, todos y cada uno jugaron un rol en la precipitación cuestionable por la que fueron encarcelados.

El documental, *The Central Park Five*, es una crónica de un período de tensión en la historia de la ciudad de Nueva York. Emergentes de un colapso financiero casi total, las ganancias de Wall Street volaban por los cielos en una importante recuperación financiera que dio pie a una nueva era de gastos excesivos y llamativos que profundizaron la división entre los que tenían y los que no. Iban a la zaga las comunidades de color y se veían aisladas en lo que lidiaban con un auge en las ventas del crack. Por la calle había grandes cantidades de dinero, y el índice de delitos se disparó. Los policías municipales habían frenado con hasta seis millores por día, la mayoría ocurriendo en barrios de color. Estos delitos no recibían mucha atención de los medios, incluyendo el caso de una mujer violada, que fue lanzada de su techo en Brooklyn esa misma semana. Se afirmó de la ciudad una sensación de parálisis, dividido por raza, etnia y oportunidad.

"Más allá de la calle 96" era la contrasena que indicaba barrios de negros y hispanos.

Este telón de fondo permite atizar la presión por ganar que sentían los renombrados de la ciudad. No obstante, la justicia se dio con rapidez. En cuestión de días, fueron capturados los cinco adolescentes. Confesiones bajo circunstancias cuestionables, a pesar del hecho que no había evidencia alguna que los vinculara a la víctima.

El alkalde Koch, preparándose para la reelección, con otros respaldadores, cantó "¡los coginomos!"

Donald Trump descubrió un nuevo escenario y fundó negocios a favor de "restituir la pena capital", los cuales aparecieron en cuotas periodicos de la ciudad. Saliendo por las noticias de televisión, "voté", "No tengo ninguna duda que yo voy a derecho a los que se llevaron a esta muchacha para violarla brutalmente. No tengo ninguna duda".

Pat Buchanan añadió su acrímero apoyo de restituir la pena capital, olvidando que los cinco de Central Park eran adolescentes.

Al pasar los años, se les denegó la libertad condicional a los cinco porque

no querían registrar su culpabilidad. Más de una década más tarde, una confesión detallada en la cárcel y evidencias de ADN vincularon al violador en serie y asesino Matias Reyes al delito cometido. En el 2012, se presentó ante el juez del Tribunal Supremo del Estado de Nueva York, Charles J. Stabile, la confesión de Reyes y las evidencias de ADN. El juez anuló las condenas de los cinco jóvenes.

Anton McCray, Kevin Richardson, Raymond Santana, Khary Wise y Yusuf Salama fueron penalizados y sus antecedentes penales fueron borrados después de ser sentenciados hasta a 13 años por el delito.

Esta vez no hubo mucha cobertura noticiosa ni ultraje del público. Hasta el día de hoy, siguen habiendo intentos de conectar a los cinco hombres al delito.

Una comisaría de Nueva York comisionó una revisión, la cual habló que los agentes participantes del caso no habían cometido ningún error en la investigación ni en las interrogaciones.

Los jóvenes involucrados en un juicio civil basando varios millones de dólares contra la ciudad hace 10 años. Sigue pendiente. Por toda la nación va creciendo una campaña de petición, exigiendo al alkalde Michael Bloomberg a tomar acción.

El 12 de septiembre del 2012, abogado de la ciudad de Nueva York citaron a la empresa de producción del documental para lograr acceso a imágenes de video originales relacionadas con su defensa del juicio federal presentado por los cinco de los jóvenes acusados contra la ciudad. Celeste Coedel, abogada corporativa y asistente ejecutiva de la seguridad pública y la ciudad justificó la citación porque el documental había "cruzado la línea de periodismo a defensa" de los hombres erróneamente acusados. (Informe por internet)

El actual comisionado de la ciudad, Raymond W. Kelly, disputa que el señor Reyes haya actuado solo.

No las políticas ni el fiscal respondieron a solicitudes de entrevistas y no salen en el documental. La ciudad está intentando citar todas las falsas del documental para defenderse.

Linda Feinstein, nombrada por el entonces fiscal municipal Robert Morgenthau como directora de la oficina de delitos sexuales, vio florecer su carrera por cámara. Un abogado representante de los cinco hombres le dijo a New York Post: "Se hizo una impresionante carrera literaria con la fama de equívocos a cinco personas inocentes. Ellos siguen esperando justicia del sistema jurídico mientras que ella, mi hombre, ya fue sentenciado al delito. Fue el líder de la carga de cinco "mientras que el fiscal municipal favoreció su coacción."

El documental ha originado peticiones dirigidas a la Columbia University para que despida a la fiscal del caso

de los cinco de Central Park, Elizabeth Lederer, fiscal diputada en Nueva York y profesora de la Escuela de Derecho de Columbia. Su colega dijo por cámara que cuando llegamos nos informas indicando que no había consistencia del ADN de ninguno de los cinco jóvenes. Lederer dijo que había sido "golpeado en el estomago". Decidió seguir adelante con el caso de igual forma.

Con una nueva revisión, queda claro que se seleccionó al azar los cinco muchachos vulnerables y vagabundos de los más de 25 adolescentes que estaban del parque. Era el común personalmente aquella noche en que se entrelazaron por siempre sus vidas. Sus familias carecían de experiencia alguna con el sistema jurídico.

Los cinco no tuvieron ningún legal antes de confesar, cuatro de ellos por video. No sabían nada de la víctima, ni de lo ocurrido ni dónde.

Santana había ido al parque porque su padre le había asegurado que era más seguro que parar por las esquinas. Khary Wise, el mayor, con 16 años de edad, sufre de deficiencias auditivas y de aprendizaje. Acompañó al policía que quería hacerle preguntas a su víctima, y enjuiciado como adulto por un delito que no cometió, terminó por pasar 13 años encarcelado.

El 17 de abril del presente, después del estreno del documental de PBS, el periódico *The New York Times* realizó un foro que salió por internet a nivel mundial. Se puede ver por sí mismo web de PBS. Junto a Jim Dwyer, quien moderó la discusión, se presentaron los cinco de Central Park, además de Ken Burns y su hija Sarah. Los detalles detrás del título del proyecto, incluyendo la deficiencia que tuvieron en adquirir apoyo económico para la producción y el actual muro de silencio que enfrentan en Nueva York, resultan fascinantes. Los hombres encarcelados están finalmente habiendo abiertamiento de sus luchas, de los años perdidos y su trayecto por recuperarla su vida por estrés. Trece de ellos se involucraron en la universidad mientras estaban encarcelados. Han madurado y han intentado con valentía comentar su vida adulta y dejar atrás el lema de los cinco de Central Park. El documental, y el creciente apoyo del público les han ofrecido nuevas alas de orgullo para seguir adelante.

Durante el período de preguntas, a Santana se le preguntó si los muchachos que no se concian antes era ahora amigos. Respondió, "No, somos hermanos". Se acordó y se dijo que puede volver a ocurrir.

Este documental está en entropo por todo el país y también por sí mismo web de PBS. Hay un DVD disponible por PBS con un costo de \$99.

(Aileen Roberto Schief es columnista con *Hispanic Link News Service* con una columna en ella: creativecommons.com.)

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 Submitted to eleditor@sbcglobal.net

LULAC Applauds Gang of Eight's Consensus Leading to Swift Immigration Reforms

Washington, D.C. - The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) commends the Gang of Eight for its bi-partisan efforts to build a well-crafted and practical immigration system that will reflect the best of America's values and the will of the American people.

LULAC is especially pleased with the brevity in which the bi-partisan group has come to agreement on immigration reform, taking into consideration the many concerns brought up from both sides of the halls.

While LULAC understands the need for give and take, LULAC was disappointed that same-sex couples may still not be included in the immigration reform bill, as well as the many residents from all corners of the world who enjoy their stay in 2011.

"In the land of opportunity, where everyone is entitled to build their own American Dream," it's discouraging that we exclude so many immigrants from the newest pathway to citizenship," said LULAC National President Margaret Moran. "We realize it's difficult to put a date on eligibility, but believe we must be an inclusive process, rather than exclusive, especially since fixing our immigration system was decades overdue."

Additionally, LULAC is concerned about provisions that exclude people earning limited incomes. The latest iteration of the bill requires immigrants to have incomes at or above 125 percent of the poverty level.

"Our country has historically welcomed undocumented workers, so to penalize them for earning less than their documented counterparts, by withholding citizenship eligibility is a double edged sword to the hard working immigrants," Moran continued.

LULAC has been covering with members of the Gang of Eight throughout the process to provide feedback and convey priorities as they may affect the Latino community, in particular. While the proposed bill is not what LULAC would have drafted, it reflects the start of a long process in line with LULAC's principles of pathway to citizenship, visa reform, LGBT and employe rights, and a just and fair border security program.

LULAC has continuously worked to advance equal justice for all immigrants and citizens. LULAC has a rich history of advocacy in civil rights, economic development, immigration and equal opportunity.

About LULAC
 The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 900 councils across the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC's programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future. For more information, visit www.LULAC.org

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STRONG-ARMING THE PUBLIC

By *Judy de la Hala*
Hispanic Link News Service

MEDICO CITY - On April 18, the U.S. Senate failed to pass legislation to expand background checks on gun sales because that chamber was unable to get the 60 votes needed to unblock a pretend "filibuster". The final vote was 54 to 46. Mostly Democrats and two Republicans voted in favor in the 100 member upper chamber.

A compromise measure had been worked out by West Virginia's Democratic Senator Joe Manchin and Pennsylvania Republican Senator Pat Toomey. Manchin has an A-rating from the National Rifle Association, Toomey has solid conservative credentials.

Even with the compromise and a 90 percent public opinion favoring expanded gun control, it wasn't enough.

The obvious conclusion to reach is that representation in the U.S. Senate is not a 50 plus majority but 60 percent, a supermajority, used by one side making the public a chump, as if election politics and private interests are not really what's behind it all.

In reality, it is a ploy, historically used by both parties, as an added obstacle to keep from making tough decisions by making a popular majority lose.

In this case, the difficult decision was over what was stronger. On one side was a loud gun-owning majority, the gun-business and its rich lobby. On the other was the vast majority public victims and public safety from further gun escalation.

The representational dilemma gives rise, again, to when the Constitutional option, available since 1957, will be used to override the bogus supermajority needed to con-

duct ordinary Senate business.

If that does not seem sensible, a private group ought to file suit under a Writ of Mandamus requiring the U.S. Senate to perform its legal function.

Why such a drastic measure? The reason is simple. The justification for the establishment of government in the first place is to protect its people. The U.S. now averages 87 gun deaths a day and double that number in daily gun injuries, according to the University of Chicago and the Center for Disease Control.

On Radio Bilingüe y Línea Abierta program, host Chelis López asked me what the reaction was like from my listening post in Mexico.

In some parts of the U.S., an everyday danger comes from about 8,000 of the \$8,344 U.S. federally licensed gun dealers and weapons intermediaries servicing organized-crime gangs in Mexico. Since December, nearly 4,700 long and short arms have been trafficked just this way, according to Amnesty International and the Caravan for Peace with Justice said Dignity.

What legitimate question in the world allows military-style weapons to flow through showrooms, as does the U.S. through dealers? What kind of government would allow laboratories, slippage and lies about "a well regulated militia" to promote gun-running?

On April 28, Amnesty said the Caravan are sending a message to the U.S. government on behalf of the Mexican people. It is not a political, party or message through official channels. Instead, it is from the people here and from victims' families.

"A virtual march" is now assembling at www.posteoparavictimas.com. Their President Ohio will be asked, right before he is scheduled to visit here, to declare an arms embargo on Mexico.

Then, from the Museum of Memory and Tolerance located along the grand avenue Paseo de la Reforma, an uprising will be launched, taking the message from the people of Mexico, to the end of the avenue, where the U.S. embassy is located.

Among the requests are the U.S. ratify UN, guidelines for common rules on the annual \$60 billion arms business.

A good question to ask now is whether the U.S. Senate will "filibuster" the UN treaty when it comes up for consideration.

The approach taken by victims' families, civic society and other people of goodwill is gradually dispatching discredited political ways that do not protect people when they give the mechanics of death the upper hand.

(Judy de la Hala, a nationally syndicated columnist for Hispanic Link and Scripps Howard news services, was recognized for two consecutive years by his commentaries by New America Media. Reach him at josejida3@yahoo.com.)

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Prosecutor Retaliated Against Fast and Furious Whistle-blower

The former top federal prosecutor in Arizona retaliated against the lead whistle-blower in the Fast and Furious gun-smuggling scandal by leaking an internal report that suggested the whistle-blower once favored allowing illegal gun sales as a way to track weapons to drug cartels in Mexico, the Justice Department's inspector general's office said Monday.

Dennis K. Burke, who resigned from the U.S. attorney's office following the Fast and Furious matter, told investigators that he leaked an internal memorandum to a television producer in which ATF Special Agent John Dodson discussed an earlier case involving gun trafficking on the border. Burke told investigators that he did not believe he had done anything illegal.

However, he was sharply admonished by his supervisor, the deputy attorney general in Washington. He was prodded to resign over Fast and Furious and left the U.S. attorney's office in Phoenix in August 2011. Until then he had been seen as a rising Democratic political star.

Under the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives purposely allowed hundreds of guns to be illegally purchased in the hope of tracking

them to Mexican cartel leaders. Instead, almost all of the firearms were lost. Two turned up at the site of the slaying of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry in southern Arizona in December 2010. Burke could not be reached for comment Monday.

In November, the inspector general's office issued a report sharply criticizing the ATF for Fast and Furious. The findings Monday were a follow-up to that report and determined that "Burke's disclosure was likely motivated by a desire to undermine Special Agent's Dodson's public criticisms of Operation Fast and Furious."

The Dodson memo discussed a case he worked on in which he served as an undercover agent posing as an illegal straw purchaser providing firearms to a trafficker, and he discussed the tactic of "walking" firearms as a way to build an investigation. Burke saw the document as evidence that Dodson also condoned "gun walking" investigations, and personally emailed it to a friend in Washington with the intent of sharing it with a Fox News producer.

The inspector general's report said Burke told both Deputy Atty. Gen. James M. Cole and the inspector general that he had leaked the internal memo. He said

he did so thinking it was already in the hands of congressional investigators and would come out eventually. Nevertheless, Burke acknowledged it had been a "mistake" to leak the document.

Burke's departure came after he also leaked a separate internal memo to the New York Times about the guns recovered at the site of the Terry slaying. Burke admitted he had leaked the memo, which was published on the paper's website with the number on the copy. Cole called the leak "another horrible incident of bad judgment."

The inspector general referred the Burke matter to the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility to determine whether Burke's behavior violated any state bar association rules of conduct. It was unclear whether the office would go further and open a broader investigation.

Before he stepped down, Burke had a promising political future and had built a strong record for being tough on border crime. He was seen as a likely Democratic candidate for governor or senator from Arizona, and he had been a protégé of Janet Napolitano, now secretary of the Homeland Security Department, who earlier served as attorney general and governor in Arizona.

¿Que Pasa?

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

The public is invited to attend the Eleventh Annual Memorial Day Service, hosted by the Nancy Anderson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Lubbock County Historical Commission, American Legion Post 575, and the City of Lubbock Cemetery. The event will be held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, 2013, and the ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. This year, a historical marker will be unveiled. The marker honors the three Congressional Medal of Honor recipients who are buried at the cemetery. Stevan Melton, Lieutenant Commander, United States Navy (retired), will give the main address at this patriotic event. The City of Lubbock Cemetery is located at 2011 East 31st Street (two blocks east of Martin Luther King Boulevard and East 31st Street). Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Boy Scouts will place small American flags for the day on graves that are designated with a Veterans Affairs Memorial headstone or footstone. The public is invited to attend. Those who know a veteran buried at the City of Lubbock Cemetery are encouraged to attend and are welcome to place an American flag at their loved one's grave. It is estimated that more than 3,000 veterans are buried at the City of Lubbock Cemetery. Seating is limited, and the public is encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets to the ceremony.

COVENANT FOUNDATION AND RACER CLASSIC CAR WASH TEAM UP FOR COVENANT CHILDREN'S

Covenant Foundation and Racer Classic Car Wash have teamed up to benefit Covenant Children's. Every first and third Tuesday of each month Racer Classic Car Wash will donate one dollar of every car wash to Covenant Children's. This will be applicable for the months of May through December. The entire last week of May (May 26 thru June 1) Racer Classic Car Wash will donate one dollar of every car wash every day this week to Covenant Children's. Locations for Racer Classic Car Wash are at 74th & University, 50th & Detroit, and 4th Ave. Q.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

The City of Lubbock Health Department will hold vaccination clinic for both adults and children at the following location on May 24 from 8:30 am to Noon. The location will be at 806 18th Street.

MEMORIAL DAY INTENTIONS

Honor the memory of a beloved fallen comrade through prayer and remembrance on Memorial Day. For a donation of \$15 or more to the Catholic Foundation, a small American flag will be placed at Lubbock Area Veteran's War Memorial and the name of your loved one will be included in the intentions of the special Memorial Day Mass on Monday, May 27, sponsored by the Catholic War Veterans and the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Fifth District. Please pick up a remembrance brochure at the Catholic Pastoral Center or call Rachel Martinez at 806-792-3943 ext. 207 for me to be mailed to you.

17TH ANNUAL BIG WHEELS DELIVER MEALS PROMOTION RESCHEDULED
Due to the road construction on 34th Street, the annual Lubbock Meals on Wheels' Big Wheels Deliver Meals event usually held in June will be postponed until September. For more information, please call Lisa at 792-7971.

LIBRARY EVENTS

- Lubbock Chess Club at Mahon Library**
The Lubbock Chess Club will meet at the Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street, on Sunday, May 26 from 2 to 4:45 p.m. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Contact cmw02b@gmail.com for more information.
- Lubbock Libraries Closed on Memorial Day**
All Lubbock Public Library locations will be closed on Monday, May 27. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, May 28.
- Learn to Knit at Groves Branch Library**
Join us for an evening of fun while learning the basics of Continental style knitting at the Groves Branch Library, 5520 19th Street, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28. For more information, please call 767-3733.
- Wii Wednesdays at Patterson Branch Library**
Teens in grades 6 through 12 can play Wii games at the Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, on Wednesday, May 29 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. For more information, please call 767-3300.
- Teen Movie at Mahon Library**
Students going into grades 6 through 12 are invited to kick off summer at Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street, with a movie and refreshments on Thursday, May 30 at 2 p.m. For the movie title and other details, please call 775-2838.

Gas, Beef Prices Up Before Memorial Day Weekend

The prices of two staples of the Memorial Day weekend — beef and gasoline — are jumping just in time for the holiday. Wholesale prices of some grades and cuts of beef have

"We have had to cut back on inventory a bit" because of the rising prices, Hammann said. Like many retailers of beef, Hammann's has helped guide consumers who balk at the high

prices of beef luxury cuts such as beef tenderloin, New York strips and T-bones toward less expensive choices such as flat-iron steak, a slightly tougher but flavorful cut from the shoulder that benefits from a rub or marinade, Hammann said.

Steve Dillman, owner of Dillman Foods in Middletown, said prices of beef may ultimately lead to chicken and pork gaining market share — as well as a greater proportion of the space in his grocery store's meat cases. But beef still has a following. "I now sell steaks for higher than I have for a long time, although people are still buying them," Dillman said.

Kroger spokeswoman Rachel Betzler said Monday the Cincinnati-based grocery chain has not increased its beef prices. Large grocery chains such as Kroger lock in wholesale meat prices and are less vulnerable to short-term price fluctuations on the wholesale level. Meijer spokesman Frank J. Guglielmini said rising wholesale beef prices are "typical when we approach a grilling holiday such as Memorial Day," and he added, "For the most part, Meijer customers will not see any dramatic shift in retail pricing."

Both Kroger and Meijer are planning Memorial Day weekend special offers on beef this week, Betzler and Guglielmini said.

Just getting to the grocery store is also getting more expensive. Southwest Ohio gasoline prices jumped 20 cents a gallon in the past week to an average price of \$3.85 a gallon, while prices nationwide have fluctuated for no apparent reason. One petroleum industry analyst struggled Monday to make sense of it all. "The last seven days have delivered some shocks at the pump for motorists in the nation's Midwest," said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan. "I don't believe I've ever seen gasoline prices in the Midwest surpass California — areas of Nebraska, Minnesota, Oklahoma, North and South Dakota, and Kansas have done that. Gas price records in these areas aren't being quietly replaced, they're being blown out of the water."

"I don't believe I've ever seen such crazy trends in gasoline prices occur all at once — prices spiking in one area, falling in another, and holding steady in others. What we're seeing today is certainly rare," DeHaan said. GasBuddy's Dayton-area website, DaytonGasPrices.com, showed numerous stations charging \$3.89 per gallon for regular grade gasoline on Monday morning. The average price among all monitored stations was \$3.84 a gallon. That's 20 cents higher than a week ago and 19 cents higher than a year ago, according to the website. The AAA Fuel Gauge Report showed the average price of gas in the Dayton area was \$3.87 a gallon, compared with \$3.53 a gallon a week ago and \$3.70 a gallon a year ago. The national average has climbed 16.6 cents a gallon during the last month, GasBuddy.com reported.



reached all-time highs at the same time the region's gasoline prices have spiked 20 cents a gallon to nearly \$3.90 a gallon at some area stations.

"I'm not going anywhere unless I have to," Erin Stapleton said while pumping gas at a Springfield station on Monday. "I'm staying local."

The wholesale price of choice-grade beef set record highs last week, and at supermarkets and grocery stores, the average beef price in March reached a record \$5.30 per pound, surpassing the previous record of \$5.15 set in November, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported.

A multi-year drought in Texas and other top cattle-producing states and rising prices of feed have prompted ranchers to reduce the number of cattle in their herds to the lowest level in more than 60 years, the USDA has said.

Rob Hammann, owner of Hammann's Butcher Shop, Deli & Catering in Fairfield, said some beef prices are giving his customers sticker-shock. The increases have forced Hammann to think twice about filling his case with the traditional array of visually appealing — but increasingly costly — steaks and roasts.

She's off to college. Is it too late to talk about alcohol?

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Salma Hayek no tiene miedo a envejecer



La estrella mexicana Salma Hayek se encuentra en un momento vital inmejorable por lo que no siente que sus 46 años estén pasando factura a su rica vida familiar o a su salud.

"Mi marido jura que me ve mejor ahora que hace 10 años. Cuando mira mis fotos reconoce que he sido una mujer muy atractiva pero según él, ahora estoy magnífica. No tengo miedo de envejecer como lo tienen otras mujeres. Vivimos otros tiempos. La gente que cumple 50 años sigue muy bien, con mucha energía y con buena salud", declaró la actriz mexicana al periódico argentino Diario Popular.

Lo único que vivió la preocupación por las repercusiones que pudiera

tener el paso del tiempo en ella tuvo que ver con su profesión.

"Antes era tabú el envejecimiento y esto a menudo [para las actrices] suponía el fin de nuestra carrera. Pensé que mi carrera estaba terminada. Tengo 46 años, soy mexicana y vivo en Francia. Podéis comprender lo que se puede trabajar en Hollywood con semejanza vida", señaló.

Sin embargo su peor augurio no se cumplió y actualmente la actriz puede presumir de estar desbordada de trabajo.

TRAYECTORIA DE SALMA HAYEK

"Esta es la primera vez en mi vida que tengo tantas ofertas de trabajo. De hecho, hemos entrado en pánico [su mánager y

ella] porque no sabemos qué proyectos aceptar en un momento en el que no tengo tiempo para realizar películas. Me están ofreciendo roles estelares que nunca antes me habían ofrecido. Ahora estoy estudiando varios proyectos pequeños pero que son muy interesantes y considerando guiones y directores con quien quiero trabajar", reconoció la mexicana más internacional.

Está claro que Salma no quiere dejar de lado el cine pero tampoco desea que ocupe un tiempo que prefiere invertir en los suyos.

"A mi edad tengo que concentrarme en mi familia ya que ahora tengo todas las cosas que siempre soñé y que nunca tuve", añadió.

Michelle Rodríguez regresa a "Rápido y Furioso"

La actriz estadounidense Michelle Rodríguez aseguró que decidió regresar a formar parte de la saga "Rápido y furioso", porque su personaje es la voz de la vaquera urbana, la callejera.

"Es como el equivalente de Rosa Salvaje, pero sin amor" (nueva protagonizada por la actriz mexicana Verónica Castro en la década de los 80), afirmó Rodríguez.

La artista, quien se encuentra en esta ciudad para promocionar el estreno de la sexta entrega de "Rápido y furioso" (RyF6), comenzó en entrevista con Noémes que el ideal de una mujer debe ser la independencia, "oír su voz interna sin importar lo que pase a su alrededor, por eso "Letty" ha sido un personaje muy importante para mí".



Agradeció al actor y productor Vin Diesel haber luchado por su regreso a la franquicia, lo cual asume con entusiasmo pero también con mucha responsabilidad, "hac algo que me da y me sigue dando mucho miedo, porque debo justificar mi regreso y no defraudar a los fans que pudieron mi resurrección".

Detalló que decidieron que "Letty" volviera después de perder la memoria, "me gusta cuando se te va la memoria, lo único que te queda es seguir tu instinto, escuchar la voz de tu corazón y yo pensé que esa era la mejor manera de guiar a mi personaje a través de la aventura de Rápido y furioso".

Y es que Michelle Rodríguez vuelve a dar vida a la mujer ruda, que el público conoció en la primera película de "Rápido y furioso"

familiar es muy importante cuando alguien vive una vida callejera y eso lo entendi desde que viví de niña en Nueva Jersey y luego en Nueva York, cuando me enfrenté a ese mundo urbano".

Rodríguez coprotegionizó el drama de "showtime "3 A.M." y el mégo éxito cargado de adrenalina de Universal Pictures, "The fast and the furious". Se volvió a unir a la franquicia "The fast and the furious" en 2009 por su cuarta entrega, "Fast & furiosos".

Michel Rodríguez nació en Bexar County, Texas, y luego de trabajar como extra durante dos años obtuvo un papel en la película indie "Girlfight", que le valió numerosos premios, después vinieron cintas como "3 A.M." y en 2001 "Rápido y furioso", y luego "Rápido y furioso 4".

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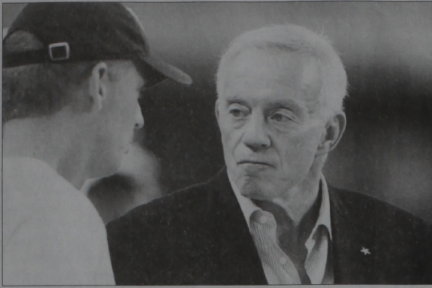
Marine Reunion held for CO. 1st Platoon/37

On June 5th through the 9th, several ocal marines will be hosting a reunion for 25 Marines from India CO. 1st Platoon/37 who served in Vietnam. These Marines have stayed together by hosting reunions in different states and now they want to come back to Lubbock. Four years ago, local Marines hosted this reunion and they were so impressed with our hospitality and the way they were treated that they decided to come back to Lubbock. We would like for the Lubbock Community to get involved and show these Marines how much we appreciate the sacrifices that they made so we could enjoy the better things in life which we enjoy everyday. We would like for the business community and anyone else who would like to make a monetary donatin to please give us a call and we will go pick up your donation. You can make donations to: American GI Forum, 2505 36th Street, Lubbock, Tx 79413 For more information contact: Jerry Luceo 549-7488 or Robert Narvaiz 781-6277

Jerry Jones says Jason Garrett isn't coaching for job this season

Sergio's racist joke aimed at Tiger not funny, to define Garcia's legacy

The Cowboys owner says Jason Garrett's job is safe for 2013. (USATSI) Earlier this year, shortly after the Cowboys put the finishing touches on another disappointing season, owner and general manager Jerry Jones offered this glimpse into the team's future: "I can assure our fans... it's going to be very uncomfortable for the next few weeks and months at Valley Ranch."



The implication: There were going to be changes, and the Cowboys would be better for it. A couple things that didn't change, however: Jones ain't giving up his GM duties, and coach Jason Garrett, who perpetually seems to be on the hot seat, isn't in danger of getting fired this season.

Boston. "No, no he's not [coaching for his job]," Jones toldNFL.com's Albert Breer. "No, what we're doing is taking the assets that we have and Jason being right at the top -- certainly our premier asset -- and we're using him to the best of our ability."

This comes months after Jones hired Bill Callahan as offensive coordinator, but defended the move by noting that it would benefit everybody, including

Garrett, who had previously called the offensive plays.

"Anything we do here that basically takes that responsibility, moves it away from [Garrett]... but give it to the overall team is a positive thing," Jones said in January. "And he is not only for it, he is encouraging it."

And this comes weeks after Garrett reportedly looked less than thrilled that Jones used the Cowboys' first-round pick on Wisconsin center Travis Fred-

erick. As it stands, Garrett is one of Jones' "premier assets." Not bad for a guy who is 21-19 as the head coach. But Jones can explain that, too. "The real world is, since Jason has become the head coach, and frankly since his years as offensive coordinator, we really have done some impressive things," Jones said during January's Senior Bowl practices. "... So that way you're seeing right now when we

go over here and make these changes [with assistant coaches], don't think we're throwing all the water out. ... The problem is a deal called 8-8."

Garrett's first order of business: getting quarterback Tony Romo, who signed a six-year, \$108 million extension earlier this spring, to put in Peyton Manning-type time on the job. Per the request of the owner/GM, obviously.



So this is how well I remember Sergio Garcia. Not as the great golfer, because he's never quite been that. Not as the head case, though he definitely has been that. Not even as the whiner, the moaner, the guy who complains about every little thing and even spits into the damn hole in the middle of a round.

Those are parts of his character, part of who he is, but that's not how history will remember Sergio Garcia.

We'll remember him as the racist. TIGER RESPONDS: Calls it 'wrong, hurtful' Fair or not -- and I don't see how this is remotely unfair -- we'll remember Tiger Woods with a comment about fried chicken.

That wasn't a joke, what Garcia said Tuesday at the European Tour awards dinner in London. Garcia and Woods have been feuding for weeks -- not a teasing feud but the real thing with real, actual hard feelings -- when someone in the media tossed Garcia a softball by asking if he planned to hang out with Woods next month during the U.S. Open.

"We will have him round every night," Garcia said. "We will serve fried chicken."

Rim shot, right? No? Oh. Fuzzy Zoeller did the same sort of thing once, making fun of 21-year-old Tiger Woods after Tiger's first win at the Masters in 1997 by calling him a "little boy" and saying "You put him on the back and say congratulations and enjoy it and tell him not to serve fried chicken next year. Got it? Or you could greens or whatever the hell they serve."

POOR CHOICE OF WORDS: Garcia's 'fried chicken' quip

They? What Zoeller said was awful, indefensible, hurtful, and while we remember him for those comments, I hope they're not his legacy. They're not who he is. Fuzzy is a world-class jokester who told a bad joke -- a hurtful joke, an indefensible joke -- and for that he apologized, but in his mind he was just telling one of his jokes, a joke from the 1950s when he was growing up in a small town in Indiana. He was from another place, another time, and it spilled out when he made that joke in 1997 about a "boy" who would respect "fried chicken," -- or called greens or whatever the hell they serve."

They? What Zoeller said was awful, indefensible, hurtful, and while we remember him for those comments, I hope they're not his legacy. They're not who he is. Fuzzy is a world-class jokester who told a bad joke -- a hurtful joke, an indefensible joke -- and for that he apologized, but in his mind he was just telling one of his jokes, a joke from the 1950s when he was growing up in a small town in Indiana. He was from another place, another time, and it spilled out when he made that joke in 1997 about a "boy" who would respect "fried chicken," -- or called greens or whatever the hell they serve."

Sergio's comment has no such explanation. He's not a good-hearted

golfball jokester from a bygone era. Sergio is 33 years old. He was born in 1980. He has lived every second of his life in a time and place where you don't taunt a man like Tiger Woods with a comment about fried chicken. Short of calling him a racial epithet, Sergio's comment -- aimed at the one player he has been targeting for weeks -- were about as naively racist as possible.

You have to consider who Garcia is, and who he is not. It is not, to be frank here, Fuzzy Zoeller. Garcia does not go around making quips -- he whines. While Zoeller attacks life with a grin, Sergio Garcia wades into it with a martyr complex, seeing enemies and issues everywhere, pointing fingers at those who are conspiring to keep him down. This is who he is. It's who he was long before he taunted Tiger Woods with fried chicken.

SERGIO'S SIDESHOW: Spaniard says he doesn't need Woods in life. Garcia apologized later Tuesday.

Someone in his management team -- possibly every single person in his management team, from his agent to his marketing rep to his swing coach to his caddy -- realized that Garcia had crossed a line you simply can't cross. Garcia issued a statement that read, "I apologize for any offense that may have been caused by my comment on stage during the European Tour Players' Awards dinner. I answered a question that was clearly made towards me as a joke with a silly remark, but in no way was the comment meant in a racist manner."

His apology, like his comment about fried chicken, is for you to judge. Here's how I judge it: Sergio Garcia was asked a light-hearted question about Tiger Woods. He had at his disposal millions of words, countless possibilities. He chose 12 words.

"We will have him round every night. We will serve fried chicken." That's not a "silly remark." That's racist. Garcia is in full backstroke mode, too, having a brief press conference on Wednesday morning to apologize again. On Wednesday he noted, "My answer was totally stupid and out of place... I feel sick about it."

That's good, but not good enough. Said to say, nothing would have been good enough. There is no going back. Not from something as bad as those 12 words from Tuesday night. Years from now when the name "Sergio Garcia" comes up, the apologies aren't what I'll remember. It's the 12 words that came first.

Not sure I'll remember all 12 words he said Tuesday night -- but I'll never forget the last two.

Cotts back in majors; Rangers skipping Tepesch

Left-hander Neal Cotts is back in the major leagues for the first time since ligament replacement surgery four years ago.

The Texas Rangers purchased the reliever's contract Tuesday from Triple-A Round Rock, where he was 3-1 with a 0.78 ERA in 15 games. The 33-year-old left-hander had 42 strikeouts and five walks in 23 innings.

"His numbers are pretty good in Triple-A. I've seen Neal Cotts. I'm glad he's healthy," manager Ron Washington said. "He's pitched in the World Series. He's a major

league pitcher." Texas also activated catcher A.J. Pierzynski from the 15-day disabled list. He was in the starting lineup, catching for Yu Darvish, after being out since May 6 with a strained right oblique muscle.

Cotts and Pierzynski were teammates for two seasons with the Chicago White Sox, including the 2005 World Series championship team. Cotts pitched in all four of those World Series games against Houston.

Right-hander Josh Lindblom, Monday night's starter, and catcher

Robinson Chirinos were optioned to Round Rock.

The Rangers also said that they would skip rookie's Nick Tepesch, scheduled start Wednesday. Tepesch (3-1, 1.98 ERA) has a blister on his right middle finger.

The Rangers plan to bring Ross Wolf up from Triple-A to start the series finale against the A's, and will have to make a corresponding move before the game to clear a roster spot. Wolf's last major league appearance was in 2010.

Wolf, who made 14 appearances for Florida in 2007 and 11 for Oak-

land three years later, is 1-1 with a 1.85 ERA in six starts for Round Rock this season.

"He's throwing the ball well. He's the hottest guy down there right now. I hope he can come up and continue that," Washington said.

Wolf signed a minor league deal with the Rangers on April 27, four days after he was released by Baltimore.

Cotts signed a minor league deal with Texas before the 2012 season, and had a chance to make the team before sustaining a strained right lat muscle late in spring training. He made 25 appearances for Round Rock last season, and signed another minor league deal with the Rangers last winter.

In 284 career major league games with the White Sox and Chicago Cubs, Cotts has a 10-12 record with a 4.63 ERA. He was 4-0 with a 1.95 ERA in 69 appearances in 2005 for the White Sox, and was the winner in Game 2 of the World Series.

"He's a hard-working guy. He loves the game," Washington said. "I hope he can get back to the dream he always wanted to be a part of and help the ballclub in the process."

El Editor wants to help you send a special message to your High School/College Graduate!

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TEXAS BEFORE THE ALAMO

The Dallas Mexican American Historical League (DMAHL), in partnership with Mexican American Studies (MAS) and the Department of History at the University of North Texas (UNT), present a Spanish Texas History Symposium and Premier of the new documentary film by director and producer Bill Miller, "Texas Before the Alamo" (Miller Films). The event is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at the Latino Cultural Center in Dallas, Texas.

Filmed at actual historic sites in Texas and Mexico with noted

historians and professional actors, "Texas Before the Alamo" is about the founding of Texas and the Spanish who established Missions, Presidios and Trails now known as Goliad, the Alamo, San Antonio Missions and El Camino Real de los Tejas. The film is dedicated to the research and tenacity of authors, archaeologists, historical organizations and researchers of Spanish Texas who have been consultants and producers for this project.

The rich Tejano culture of this State descended from Spanish Texas, and was manifested by

the establishment and unveiling of the Tejano Monument on the grounds of the State Capital Building in 2012. This film is an effort of that project and the outreach of Tejano activists like Adina de Zavala, whose struggles ensured that the Franciscan Missions in San Antonio, including the Alamo, would survive to be nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

"Texas Before the Alamo," a film about the true founders of modern Texas, will be broadcast on PBS (public television stations) Fall of 2013.

La obesidad infantil es responsabilidad de los padres

Los calificativos que Alberto, de 9 años de edad, tiene que tolerar por parte de sus hermanitos, amigos y familiares, son interminables desde "gordito" hasta otros más sofisticados y ofensivos como "mastodonte", entre otros muchos que sus padres no solamente no se esmeran por detener.

Sus padres participan activamente para hacer sentir mal al chico y provocan que cada vez se mantenga más lejano de todos ellos, sin perder el ánimo de comer de una manera compulsiva. Lo que sus papás no se daban a ver es que esa condición física que tanto critican en él, chaca es, en primer lugar, responsabilidad de ellos, pues son quienes se encargan de proveerlo de alimentos y establecer las cantidades que él debe consumir.

Aún así, en muchas ocasiones son ellos quienes se convierten en los principales críticos y promotores de la violencia verbal y psicológica hacia el hijo que sufre de obesidad.

Reconocer la gravedad. Indiscutiblemente el problema de la obesidad conlleva una serie de efectos negativos en lo que corresponde a la salud, pero existe otro dato que de no tratarse con oportunidad, puede convertirse en un daño perpetuo que impactará al niño, al núcleo familiar y en un

futuro, también, en su oportunidad, a su descendencia.

La psicóloga Martha Alicia Chávez, autora del libro *Hijos gordos*. Editorial Grijalbo, afirma que los padres deben darse cuenta de los graves problemas que implica la obesidad en todos los niveles: "Somos nosotros los que proyectamos y perpetuamos la obesidad. Compramos y preparamos alimentos ricos en grasas saturadas, carbohidratos, los enseñamos a comer en exceso y les promovemos una vida sedentaria que les deteriora a nivel muscular y físico, pero a pesar de eso los criticamos... juzgamos y humillamos por gordos".

Este tipo de comportamientos afectan para toda la vida, porque de acuerdo a la autora, los padres son los primeros seres con quienes un niño desarrolla los patrones de relación para el resto de su existencia, de tal manera que no se puede esperar que mantenga hábitos sanos en el presente y el futuro.

En estas condiciones, el niño se sentirá inconscientemente atraído por el rechazo, pues lo habrá aprendido en su familia y creó un autoconcepto de no ser digno de recibir amor, en este caso, por su condición de obesidad.

Momento de corregir. Darse cuenta de que como padre, uno es responsable de darle al niño

educación nutricional infirir en la formación de hábitos es un paso importantísimo para modificar su alimentación y procurar la más sana y equilibrada para garantizarle un desarrollo pleno.

También es necesario evitar las críticas y la hipervigilancia, ya que está comprobado que estas actitudes perpetúan la dificultad para perder peso y mantienen en el adecuado.

Una vez que el problema está detectado y el niño empieza un régimen para adelgazar, es prioritario que la familia se sume a este esfuerzo no sólo en lo que corresponde a la dieta, además, hay que ser empáticos con él y hacerle saber que el amor por él no está condicionado a su físico. Este simple hecho rompe barreras y lo ayuda a apegarse a su objetivo.

Por último, también hay que tomar partido en lo que se refiere a la relación afectiva con él. Una forma de hacerlo, recomienda Martha Alicia Chávez, es impulsarlo a desarrollar sus talentos: "si hace algo en lo que tiene éxito, equivale a contactarlo con sentimientos positivos, esto va de la mano de darle retroalimentación que destaque sus habilidades, ambos aspectos son factores que fortalecen la autoestima", concluye la especialista.

CASA Hires Employees and Has Summer Training Hours for New Volunteers to Fill Urgent Need

Lubbock, Texas — CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates®) of the South Plains hired four employees to further their mission of advocating for children in the foster care system.

Kristen Escobar has been hired as a Volunteer Supervisor. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Texas Tech University. She has a passion for working with children from under-served populations and has worked with organizations such as Upward Bound at TTU, South Plains Children's Shelter, G-Force, and the Native American Summer Bridge Institute.

Sheldy Dominguez is also a Volunteer Supervisor. She graduated from West Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work. She previously worked at The Parenting Cottage as a Certified Parent Educator doing home visitation with families with children prenatal to kindergarten age, and facilitated parent/child group meetings.

Irma Richey is also a Volunteer Supervisor for Hockley, Terry, Yoakum, and Cochran counties, and will also serve as the Volunteer Recruitment Specialist for those counties. A Lubbock native, she graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in Psychology and minor in Substance Abuse. She worked for Workforce Administration as the Program Manager/EEO Officer and was responsible for training and writing policy and procedures. She has more than 15 years of experience working with children through Child Protective Services, schools, and church.

Vangella Perryman is the new Development Associate. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication from Wayland Baptist University. Perryman is an award-winning journalist with a passion for working with children and families from under-served populations on a local, national, and international level. She has worked with organizations such as the South Plains Food Bank, the Plainview Daily Herald and Hobbs News Sun, and the International Sports Federation.

In order to comply with grant guidelines and not lose funding, CASA must recruit, train and assign more than 70 new volunteers by August 2013. There are hundreds of local foster children waiting to be placed with a CASA volunteer. New volunteer training dates for the summer daytime series are June 18, 19, and 20 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Potential volunteers can contact Peggy at 806-763-2272 or peggye@lubbockcasa.org to get more information.

CASA trains and supports volunteers who help abused and neglected children navigate the foster care system. In order to be a volunteer, thirty hours of combined class time, home study, and hands-on training must be completed per National CASA standards. CASA currently serves more than 300 children in the foster care system. Children with advocates spend an average of five months less in care than children without one.

When home is no longer safe for a child, and the child must enter the foster care system, a judge may appoint a committed volunteer called a CASA or Court Appointed Special Advocate®. The volunteer assists in navigating the way for abused and neglected children — out of the complex, overburdened child welfare system and into safe, permanent homes.

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