

# for the Children of the New Pilgrims

EDITOR'S NOTE: ASK MOST AMERICANS what Thanksgiving is "about" and they'll probably answer "turkey," but young Americans from immigrant families offer more complex interpretations (not to mention menus).

Learning to observe this holiday is for many a passage into American culture -- though they may transform it. We asked three young, second-generation immigrants to describe their Thanksgiving table. The writers are on the staff of YOI (Youth Outlook), a newspaper by and about Bay Area teens produced by Pacific News Service.

## EVERYTHING WE LIKE -- EVEN EACH OTHER

By Susana Palma

On Thanksgiving, my family and I don't have the traditional turkey and...

Actually, I don't really know what a traditional Thanksgiving consists of. We just prepare all of our favorite foods -- enchiladas, burritos, tacos, corn, mashed potatoes, chips and salsa, tamales, macaroni and cheese (my personal favorite), Stove Top stuffing, candied yams, pumpkin pie, cheesecake, atole (a thick, sweet beverage), apple cider and Mexican hot chocolate. We don't care if the food goes together as long as we like it.

My dad, my sister and I prepare the meal. It takes all day so we get up early. It's nice to feel like a family.

Tamales are the hardest things to make. We have to soak the corn husks overnight, so they'll be soft, then we make the masa (corn meal), stuff it with meat, and put it in the oven.

Actually, Thanksgiving is the only day that we eat together at the table like a family. On a normal day, we eat each when we want to, and where -- if we don't feel like eating at the table, we eat in the living room or in our own rooms. We rarely eat together because we argue a lot.

Thanksgiving is important to us not because of the pilgrims but because it's the only day of the

year that my family really makes the effort to be a family--meaning be nice, listen, communicate and understand one another.

## SOY SAUCE, GARLIC, AND GREAT CONVERSATION

By Bonnie Wong, Pacific News Service

Thanksgiving in my family is always at my dad's house. We have grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and of course, my parents.

We can easily count more than 25 heads.

My mom and I start the day at 9 a.m. My mom shops at the May Wah grocery store to buy fresh vegetables, meats, herbs and fruit. I pick up the American goodies at Safeway.

Back home, we go up the stairs with 50 pounds of groceries in each hand -- we can hear my father and grandpa watching college football from a mile away.

Later, while my mother entertains my grandparents and friends, I'm in the kitchen preparing the food. I start with the 30-pound turkey. I don't cook it the American way -- I use soy sauce and cloves of garlic. By 8 p.m., the table will have garden salad, garlic bread, peas and

corn, mashed potatoes, yams, honey roasted ham with pineapple chunks, lasagna, roast beef, a pot of steamed rice, cranberry sauce, tater tots and finally, the turkey.

To me, this day is part of my American culture. I don't think my grandparents feel this way -- to them, China is home and Chinese food is real food. My parents and grandparents don't like food that is creamy, because to them,

"I know I'm blessed to have you in my life," but we know we love each other because we feel it in our hearts.

## COVETING THE NEIGHBORS' TURKEY

By Nishat Kurwa

Thanksgiving isn't celebrated in India, my parents' native country, but when they came to the U.S. they started taking advantage of this opportunity to get the extended family together. When I was little, we'd either fly to my aunt's house or her family would come to us. Dinner was served without much fuss, fanfare or football, and included about half as many courses as my friends would describe.

We veered away from the traditional some years, making Cornish game hens instead of turkey, and Indian curries for the gravy. I never really knew what exactly was "supposed" to be on a Thanksgiving table until around the sixth grade, when I started comparing our meal with those of my American friends.

Our family's small appetite never required more than a modest spread, but as my brother and I got older, we would pressure my mom a little more each year. "Why don't WE eat mashed potatoes?" and "Mom, I'm going to make an apple pie this year if you're not." She started making a few more dishes to keep the peace, but I don't think even we really knew why we wanted them.

Now that my brother and I are older, what our friends eat on holidays doesn't interest us much, and my aunt's family is in Hawaii, so the extended family gathering is no more. My parents and brother and I eat together most nights and we're close, but our interest in Thanksgiving has faded -- as it is, the holiday meal is just special because it's a day off for the family to relax together.



food -- even though I was born here and a part of me is Americanized. I wonder how the third generation will feel?

The reward for me is to have the family together enjoying the food that I've prepared, having great conversation, which I believe is the purpose and the spirit of the holiday. In my family, we do not tell each other "I love you," or

"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz."  
"Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace."  
Lic. Benito Juarez

# EL EDITOR

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## Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

I guess there's a lot to be thankful about this Thanksgiving. One of them is definitely not that the Cowboys have had a winning season.

I guess we can be thankful that Tech will not have to pay thousands of dollars to a search committee to look for a new coach because "We love Spike."

I'll be especially thankful if my numbers come up. Not only in the lottery but in football pots that are floating around as if there was a flood.

I'm thankful that my Suburu hasn't broken down lately. Of course it's been at the mechanic's for about a month.

Olga and the kids say that I should be thankful for my health. It gets hard to believe this when the only thing I can do when it comes to getting Thanksgiving desserts is look at them.

Besides all of these, I am lucky and thankful for my entire family and friends that really were concerned about my health these past few months.

Muchas Gracias a todos, especialmente a mi familia.

Feliz Día de Dar Gracias a todos!

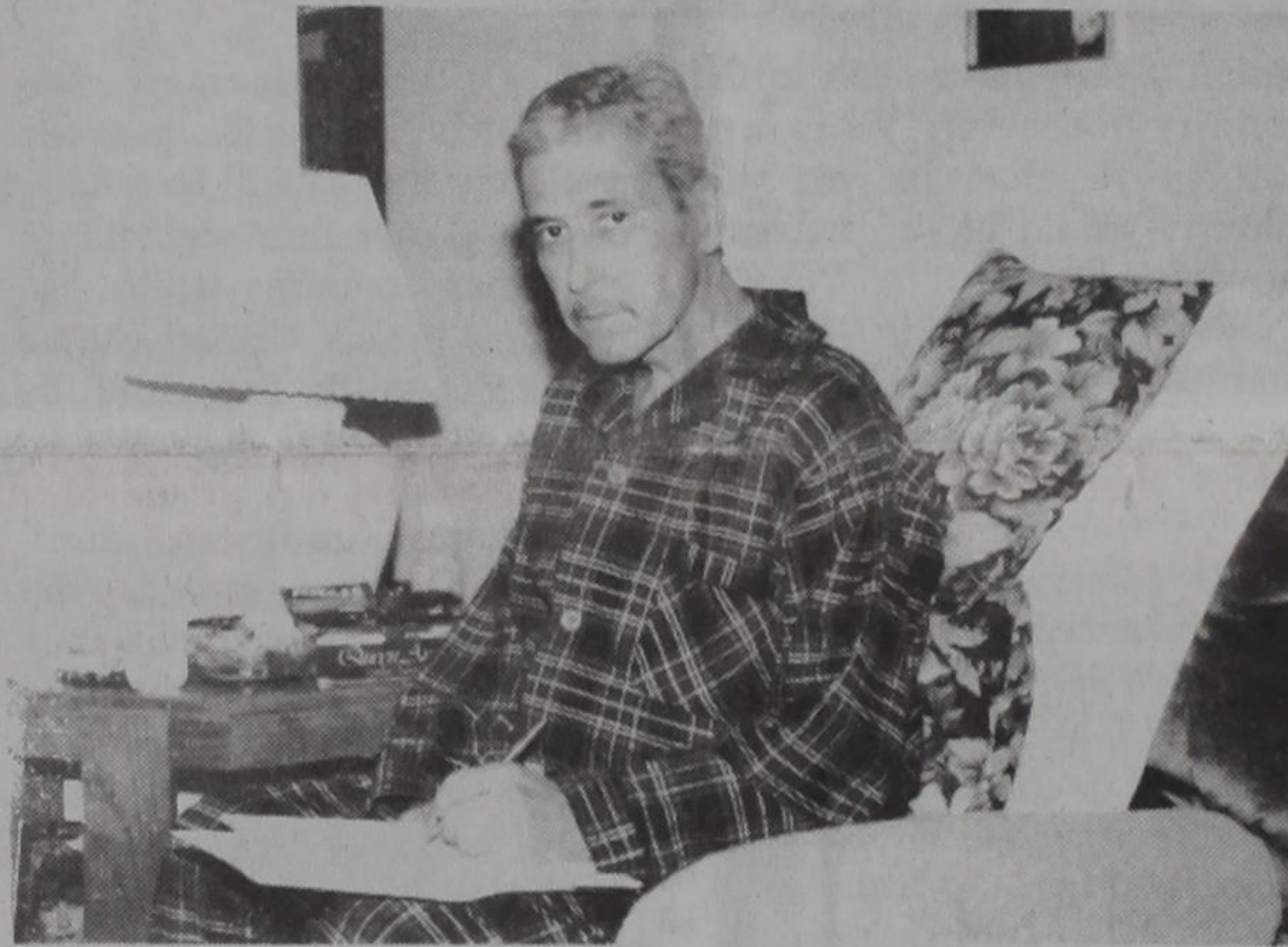
## Family Seeks Help for Transplant

By Jose Luis Rodriguez

Isidro Castillo, 51, needs help. Help to finance a needed operation. An operation he needs because his liver has nearly stopped functioning due to a liver disease. A disease that affects an estimated 4.5 million Americans.

Castillo, a Vietnam Veteran and brick mason by trade (the trade he began as a boy at the age of 12) contracted a hepatitis virus in the early 1980s when the blood transfusion he received after suffering severe injuries in a car accident infected him with the Hepatitis C virus. Until this year, he had managed to contain the virus, but it has recently turned up its fight and taken his liver with it.

His family like any other in the same position feels he does not deserve to die and are not about to give up the struggle to keep him alive. They have rallied around him trying to get him the transplant he so desperately needs. After all - this is a family that has had to survive adversity before. Their father was murdered when the children were very young, consequently they grew up extremely poor. Sometimes they went without food for days, according to



relatives. Castillo the oldest eventually had to take on the responsibilities of supporting his younger brothers and sisters.

"He's worked so hard to be independent and to provide for his family since he was 12 years old," says his sister, Dalinda Prado from Houston. "When our father died he was the one that began supporting me and my five brothers and sisters as well as our mother. At the age of 15 he had to drop out of school in order to insure that we had food on the table and a roof over our heads. He's always had the same commitment for his own children and now he can't be

independent any more until he receives a transplant."

But receiving a transplant may not come in time unless the Castillos are able to raise the \$125,000 dollars needed as a deposit for the evaluation that places him on the donor list. Once the money is raised the process involves receiving an evaluation from the Baylor Donor program, (one of only three centers in this region that can perform the procedure) to determine the severity of his condition. Then he would be placed on the waiting list for a matching donor. It is a process that could take several days or several

Continued Page 4

## Latino Advocates Give 105th Congress Mixed Reviews on Legislation

By Michelle Garcia and Joseph Torres

Hispanic advocates are giving the 105th Congress mixed reviews for its first-half performance on issues of special concern to the nation's 32 million Hispanics.

After a 1996 session brutal on legal permanent-resident immigrants, early this year it restored Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income to those who are disabled. Then, before Christmas recess, it passed legislation allowing Central American refugees to avert immediate deportation.

Responding to a Hispanic Link question for the administration, even Vice President Al Gore has a few nice words to say: "President Clinton and I are pleased Congress has joined us in supporting and promoting issues that are

important to the Hispanic community."

Many advocates are applauding the changes to the welfare and immigration bills. They credit the change of heart to increased Latino voter turnouts and the work of Hispanic and immigrant groups that highlighted the laws' inhumane consequences.

"In general there were some good victories," says Cuauhtemoc Figueroa, director of policy for the League of United Latin American Citizens. "They (Republican leadership) learned their lesson and told their troops they have to tune down their rhetoric."

But other advocates claim the Congress didn't go far enough. "All in all, things haven't changed," Juan Figueroa, general counsel for

the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, responds. "We are living in troubled times."

National Council of La Raza vice president Cecilia Munoz characterizes the 105th Congress as "schizophrenic." Two factions exist in the Republican Party, one courting Latinos and the other anti-immigrant, she observes.

The Congressional Black Caucus and Hispanic members of Congress criticize the latest immigration legislation for not including Haitian refugees.

Advocates also castigate Congress for not passing a permanent extension to 245 (i), which allows undocumented immigrants awaiting decisions on green card applications to adjust their legal status without having to leave

the country. They also complain that the welfare bill did not restore food stamps.

Manuel Mirabal, president of the National Puerto Rican Coalition, comments that despite several setbacks, the 105th was "kinder and gentler" than the previous body. He credits it for seeking common ground on several issues that affect Hispanics.

Others, including the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Ingrid Duran, pan both President Clinton and Republican leadership for striking a deal allowing Republicans to challenge the use of statistical sampling for the 2000 Census in court. The Census will conduct dress rehearsals using exact enumeration in one test run and sampling in the

Continued Page 4

## News Briefs

### Clinton, Ministers Talk About Race

Saying America must address its racial problems "before they become a festering sore," President Clinton sought Thursday to recruit religious leaders for his national dialogue on race, reports Associated Press.

"We started with a Constitution that we couldn't live up to, just like none of us live up perfectly to the holy Scriptures that we profess to believe in," Clinton said. "Our whole life as a nation has been an effort punctuated by crisis after crisis after crisis. ... We saw the efforts to move beyond all those barriers very often in spiritual terms."

The ministers responded with an array of ideas. Some offered to hold individual dialogues on race in their homes and some proposed exchanging pulpits. They generally agreed to work on reconciling racial differences among religious groups before tackling the problem at large.

"The president thought we should use our position in the community as religious leaders to call for respect," said the Rev. Bennett Smith, president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. "There are a lot of things that are happening in this nation that tend to put us at odds."

The Rev. Barbara King, pastor of the Hillside International Faith Center in Atlanta, told Clinton how her church established The Quiet Place, a center near downtown court and government buildings where people could go to meditate and reflect. The center has drawn people from all walks of life, King said.

"We can see healing taking place in our nation," King said. "When a president calls people in the faith community together, that demonstrates there is a movement toward a unity of purpose with racial issues."

"I sat, for the first time, next to a Sikh," said the Rev. Suzan Johnson Cook, a member of Clinton's advisory board on race. "We shared openly and we said this is the beginning of things we're going to do together ... so there won't be the fear of ignorance that causes racism."

Clinton said that kind of diversity makes dealing with the problem of race so necessary. It is imperative, he said, to address unresolved racial issues now, while the country is not gripped by war, rioting or civil unrest.

"Just because there is not any civil discord that's apparent doesn't mean we don't have a lot of serious problems," Clinton said. "It is a sign of strength if a society can examine its problems before they become a festering sore that people who are otherwise uninvolved have to face."

Clinton noted that one state, Hawaii, already has no racial group as a majority, and California will follow in a few years. The nation will not have a white majority within 50 years, he said, and the racism that has plagued the country for centuries "will be foreign to a lot of the new Americans that are coming in here."

"How will they react if they're subject to systematic discrimination?" Clinton said. "The scholars have said for 200 years that America was not about a race, or a place, it was about an idea. We're about to find out, and we'd best be ready."

### Court Rulings on Affirm Action

The out-of-court settlement in a New Jersey affirmative action dispute heads off a ruling on the issue by a Supreme Court that has been increasingly hostile to race-based policies, reports Associated Press.

The justices were scheduled to hear arguments Jan. 14 on whether the school board in Piscataway, N.J., illegally laid off a white teacher rather than an equally qualified black teacher. The school board agreed Thursday to pay the white teacher a settlement funded mostly by civil rights groups.

Both sides will ask the high court to drop the case from its calendar.

The Supreme Court first condoned the concept of affirmative action in 1978. The court said then that racial diversity could be a factor in a university's admissions decisions, but that rigid racial quotas could not be used.

Since then, the court's rulings on the legitimacy of affirmative action by private and public employers and government set-aside programs have been far from consistent.

In its last full-blown ruling on affirmative action, the court in 1995 used sweeping terms to limit the federal government's power to give special help to racial minorities in awarding federal highway contracts.

Last year, the court turned down a bid by the University of Texas to use race as a factor in judging law school applicants. Two justices said the case was not a proper vehicle for a ruling



# La Retirada Republicana Sobre La Inmigracion Puede Reflejar Un Cambio Nacional

Por Louis Aguilar

Partes importantes de la ley de inmigración de 1996 fueron desmanteladas por el Congreso, controlado por los republicanos, en las últimas semanas.

Esto indica, no sólo una retirada dramática por parte de los republicanos, que quieren suavizar la imagen del partido en contra de los inmigrantes, sino que puede reflejar un viraje en las actitudes de la nación hacia los inmigrantes recientes.

Algunos políticos latinos y por los defensores de los inmigrantes están expresando este punto de vista. Este es un resultado de los cambios efectuados por el Congreso en los últimos días de la primera sesión del 105x Congreso, que terminó el 14 de noviembre.

"Todo lo que puedo decir es Increíble!" fue la reacción de Frank Sharry, director ejecutivo del Foro Nacional sobre la Inmigración, con sede en Washington, D.C. "Los republicanos dieron una vuelta notable. Yo diría que el ala del partido favorable a los inmigrantes puede estar en control. Nadie pronosticó esto hace seis meses -- y nadie lo habría creído si se hubiera pronosticado."

El Representante al Congreso Lincoln Díaz-Balart, republicano por la Florida, dice, "Hemos doblado una esquina. Educando al liderato republicano durante los meses

recientes, pudimos llegar al punto en que estamos hoy. Creo que esto romperá la idea errónea de que el Partido Republicano está en contra de los inmigrantes, y hasta cierto punto, en contra de los latinos."

Entre los cambios se hallan los siguientes:

-- Los 50,000 refugiados nicaraguenses que huyeron cuando Estados Unidos respaldaba una guerra encarnizada contra el régimen sandinista izquierdista, recibirán sus tarjetas verdes. La nueva propuesta concede la residencia permanente a cualquier nicaraguense que haya entrado a los Estados Unidos antes de diciembre de 1995 y que solicite la residencia no más tarde del año 2,000. Hace seis meses los nicaraguenses, que están concentrados en el sur de la Florida, estaban luchando contra la deportación.

-- Una iniciativa encabezada por los Representantes Díaz-Balart e Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (ambos republicanos por la Florida), el Senador Spencer Abraham (republicano por Michigan) y el Senador Connie Mack (republicano por la Florida) -- llamada "Ley de Auxilio a las Víctimas del Comunismo" -- ofrece el mismo trato a los cubanos y los europeos orientales.

-- A cerca de 500,000 guatemaltecos y salvadoreños, la

mayoría de los cuales se han asentado en el sur de California, se les permitirá solicitar la suspensión de la deportación si han estado en este país durante siete años y pueden probar que su salida del país les ocasionaría "dificultades extremadas."

Los refugiados de El Salvador y Guatemala vinieron a este país para escapar regímenes militares apoyados por Washington contra los rebeldes marxistas. A muchos de esos refugiados se les concedió una amnistía temporera tras una demanda judicial de 1990 que acusó a los funcionarios de los Estados Unidos de otorgar el asilo político a los nicaraguenses con mucha mayor frecuencia que a los demás centro-americanos. Esa diferencia en el trato ha ocasionado muchas críticas por parte de los defensores de los inmigrantes.

"Esto prueba que los republicanos todavía están tratando de ganar la Guerra Fría," dice Pedro Avilés, dirigente de la Red Nacional Salvadoreña-Americana, con sede en Washington, D.C.

Empero, Avilés se siente satisfecho por lo ocurrido en el Congreso antes de que éste cesara. "Realmente hicimos que los republicanos retrocedieran. La lucha no ha terminado aún, pero esto cambia las cosas."

Otro viraje importante del Congreso pertenece a la dispo-

sición, que tiene tres años de existencia, conocida como Sección 245(i). Los residentes indocumentados que soliciten tarjetas verdes hasta el 14 de enero próximo podrán pagar una multa de \$1,000 y obtener documentos de residencia mientras permanezcan en los Estados Unidos si son elegibles para visas, por virtud de parentesco o auspicio de sus patronos.

Lo que es importante, dicen los defensores de los inmigrantes, es que el cambio se produjo no solamente por las protestas de los demócratas y los latinos, sino también de los conservadores. Personas importantes, tales como Paul Gigot, redactor editorial del Wall Street Journal, y la junta editorial del Washington Times, dicen que la modernización de las leyes de inmigración en 1996 fue demasiado brutal.

Los alcaldes republicanos de Los Angeles y Nueva York, Richard Riordan y Rudolph Giuliani, se oponen públicamente a la línea del partido y abrazan al enorme influjo de inmigrantes que esas dos ciudades han tenido que recibir.

(Louis Aguilar, de Washington, D.C., redacta una columna semanal para el Servicio de Noticias Kidder-Ridder e informa sobre los medios de comunicación y otros asuntos para el Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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## Sittin' Here Thinkin'



### Rockin' The Cradle by Ira Cutler

It is now the national policy, here in the United States of America, that working is more important than raising children. This was not always so. When I was a young welfare caseworker it was permissible for even poor mothers on welfare to choose not to work until their youngest child reached age 6 and started school. When I was younger than that, when I was a boy, most mothers who could afford to choose stayed at home rather than leave their young children with strangers.

Right now the country is all abuzz about child care, as a result of the death of Matthew Eappen. Everyone agrees that if the English nanny really murdered that poor little boy, she did not serve nearly enough time to atone for it. On the other hand, if she was just a poorly prepared teenager who was careless or foolish, she should not have served any jail time at all, as sad as the boy's death surely is.

But that is as far as the agreement goes and the debate over guilt or innocence and proper punishment is a heated one. Some people blame Matthews' parents, who in their minds should have chosen better, could have paid more attention and who did not need a second income to begin with.

Over at the diner yesterday, the guys were not talking about child care at all. This football season there is a miracle going on. Both the Jets and the Giants, two football teams that have been lousy ever since Joe Namath and Frank Gifford got old, are both winning and the guys were talking about linebackers, wide receivers and Bill Parcells. It would take a spectacular murder or a significant war to get them off of football.

The waitresses are another story altogether. Four of them were drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes while on break at a table near me the other day and child care was all they could talk about.

"One thing's for sure," Connie said. "If that nanny girl was black or Puerto Rican she'd be locked up forever and they would throw away the key." Connie was the only black woman in this otherwise all white diner and was, some suspected, involved in some sort of relationship with Arthur Bupkiss. But that is another story.

"There you go again, Connie," Blanche said. "Everything to you is a racial thing. This is all about white people as best as I can tell - except maybe the husband - so let's just try to stay on the subject."

"Just saying what's true," Connie said. "Like it or not."

"What I don't get," Vera, the blond and heavily made up sixty year old waitress said, "is why a doctor's wife was going out to work in the first place. If I'd of married a doctor you can damn bet I would of stayed home with my kids."

"She's a doctor, too, you know," Blanche said. "She had a career of her own. La dee dah. Aren't we impressed."

"And they need the money from TWO doctors?" Vera said. "What would you do with two doctors salaries in one family? Jesus."

"I don't know why people even have kids, if they're going to have someone else bring them up," Blanche said.

"Yeah, but nobody can afford not working anymore," Carmen said. "When my mama stayed home and cooked and cleaned and raised six of us, my father got two jobs and he could still afford a used car and to buy a little house. Now me and Eddie both work like dogs and we still got nothing. And I could sure use one of those au pairs."

"We don't call them au pairs in my neighborhood," Blanche said laughing. "Or nannies, either. We just call them babysitters."

"Yeah, well, in my neighborhood," Connie said. "we don't call them any of those things. We call them Granny or Auntie 'cause its family that usually watches the kids when we go to work. Safer and cheaper that way."

"Well, I just don't know what the world is coming to," Vera said. "Every day, if you read what's in the papers, little kids are being molested and murdered by teachers, boy scout leaders and even priests. They should all go straight to hell."

"You ladies got the problems of the world solved yet?" Gus asked. "Because we got a restaurant here to be running, you know?"

"Easy for Gus," Connie said. "Mrs. Gus stays home, goes crazy raising all them little kids and Gus, he never leaves here while they are awake."

"All men have it easy," Blanche said. "You know, I'm not sure that all that women's liberation did us all that much good when you think about it."

"Y.A. Tittle?" Vinnie yelled just then. "You're telling me that Y.A. Tittle was as good a quarterback as Joe Willie Namath?"

"What a life," Vera said, sighing as they all got up and went back to work.

Ira Cutler, HN4072@handsnet.org, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverent, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

# GOP Immigration Retreat May Reflect National Shift

By Louis Aguilar

Major portions of the 1996 immigration law were dismantled by the Republican-controlled Congress in the past few weeks.

This not only signals a dramatic retreat by Republicans who want to soften the party's anti-immigrant image but also may reflect a shift in the nation's attitudes toward recent immigrants.

This is a view being expressed by some Latino politicians and immigrant advocates. It is a result of the changes made by Congress in the final days of the first session of the 105th Congress that ended Nov. 14.

"All I can say (is) wow!" reacts Frank Sharry, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based National Immigration Forum. "Republicans made a remarkable turnaround. I would say the pro-immigrant wing of the party may be in control. No one predicted this six months ago -- no one would have believed you if you did predict it."

Says Rep. Lincoln Díaz-Balart (R-Fla.): "We have turned a corner. Through education of the (Republican)

leadership in the past months we were able to get to the point we are at today. I believe this will break the misperception that the Republican Party is anti-immigrant and, to some extent, anti-Latino."

Among the changes:

The 50,000 Nicaraguan refugees who fled when the United States was backing a brutal war against the leftist Sandinista regime will get their green cards. The new proposal grants permanent residency to any Nicaraguan who entered the United States before December 1995 and who applies for residency by the year 2000. Six months ago Nicaraguans, who are concentrated in South Florida, were fighting deportation.

An initiative led by Díaz-Balart and Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.), Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.) and Sen. Connie Mack (R-Fla.) -- the "Victims of Communism Relief Act" -- offers the same treatment for Cubans and Eastern Europeans.

About 500,000 Guatemalans and Salvadorans, most who have settled in Southern California, will be allowed to apply for a suspension of depor-

tation if they have been in the country for seven years and can prove that leaving the country would be an "extreme hardship."

Refugees from El Salvador and Guatemala came to this country to escape military regimes supported by Washington in wars against Marxist rebels. Many of those refugees were granted temporary amnesty due to a 1990 lawsuit that accused U.S. officials of granting political asylum to Nicaraguans far more often than to other Central Americans. That difference in treatment provokes much criticism by immigrant advocates.

"This proves Republicans are still trying to win the Cold War," says Pedro Aviles, head of the Washington, D.C.-based Salvadoran American National Network.

Still, Aviles is pleased by what happened in Congress before it recessed. "We really got (the Republicans) to back down. The fight is still not over, but this changes things."

Another major turnaround by Congress deals with the 3-year-old provision known as

245 (i). Undocumented residents who apply for a green cards by Jan. 14 will be able to pay a \$1,000 fine and obtain residency papers while remaining in the United States if they qualify for visas by virtue of family or employer sponsorship.

What's significant, immigrant advocates say, is the change was spurred not only by outcry from Democrats and Latinos but also from conservatives. Pundits such as Paul Gigot, editorial writer for the Wall Street Journal, and the editorial board of the Washington Times state the overhaul of immigration laws in 1996 was too brutal.

Republican mayors of Los Angeles and New York, Richard Riordan and Rudolph Giuliani, publicly oppose the party line and embrace the huge influx of immigrants those two cities have encountered.

(Louis Aguilar, of Washington, D.C., writes a weekly column for Kidder-Ridder News Service and covers media and other issues for Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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## Sales Tax Trade-off or Shell Game?

By Alberto Pena

The Lubbock City Council is once again trying to raise taxes. However this time they are being a bit more clever than before; this time they are trying to fool the tax payer into thinking that they are getting a tax reduction. The plan calls for voters to approve a new 3/8 cent sales tax increase in exchange for a 3 cents property tax reduction.

The City Council's support for the sales tax increase has been accurately described as a shell game since they cannot promise property owners that the 3 cent property tax reduction will be permanent. It is likely that the property tax will once again be increased sometime in the future. Because of its past record on taxes, citizens have little cause to trust the City Council.

Meanwhile, the City Council in an ill advised maneuver to side-step their role and thereby shirk their responsibility as elected officials have taken the position that they are simply responding to a request from its citizens to increase the sales tax. This is a classical textbook cop-out on their part.

The City Council by failing to take leadership in this matter is unwittingly contributing to class envy and stratification in Lubbock by pitting property owners against citizens who do not own property. Recall that tax relief from the proposed 3 cent property tax reduction goes to property owners only. In attempting to entice the property owners to vote in favor of the new tax, they have effectively betrayed all others by failing to consider a fair reduction for all of the citizens of Lubbock.

Mr. Mike Cunningham and a group calling itself iLubbock Citizens for Better Jobs is proposing the new tax. They are asking the tax payer for \$8 million, which is the amount expected to be raised each year if the tax is approved. However, the group has yet to propose a specific plan for administration of the money and

have yet to commit to granting control of the money to Market Lubbock Inc. In effect they want the Lubbock tax payer to give them an \$8 million BLANK CHECK

Property owners, have been promised a 3 cents property tax reduction in exchange for their iyesi vote.

However the shell game label can be applied once again since the promise is a sinister and ill concealed attempt to fool them into thinking that they are getting a tax reduction. In fact the 3/8 cent sales tax, if approved, will result in a tax increase not only for the homeowner, but for all who shop in Lubbock.

iSales taxes are a regressivei form of taxation which places an especially heavy burden on the poor, the low income worker, the elderly, and those living on fixed incomes or social security. Lubbock voters will have to decide if it is fair to place the burden of financing Lubbock's economic development on the poor and those less able to pay a higher tax.

Since Lubbock's Economic Development plan calls for paying Multimillion Dollar Corporations to come to Lubbock, it amounts to nothing less than iCorporate Welfarei. Therefore Lubbock voters will have to decide if it is fair to tax poor people in order to raise money to give away to multimillion dollar corporations.

Local voters will also have to decide if it is fair to pay multimillion dollar corporations to come to Lubbock to compete against local business owners who built their business from the ground up in fiercely competitive markets and never got nor asked for a single penny from the tax payer to open their stores and hire workers.

Councilman Victor Hernandez has been the lone voice in opposition to the new sales tax proposal. He is correct in stating that if you want to attract new businesses to Lubbock and create new jobs, the way to do it is to lower the property taxes, not increase the sales tax. Mr. Hernandez is not alone in his contention, many economists accept, as fact, that a lower tax base attracts business and industry and advocate such strategies as part of a comprehensive economic development plan.



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# Thanksgiving, Hope, and the Hidden Heart of Evil

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanksgiving is the truly American holiday, celebrating the romantic history of arrival in the new world and cooperation with its inhabitants. For a Native American, the story is a much less happy one -- yet PNS commentator Jacqueline Keeler finds some occasion for hope. Keeler, a member of the Dineh Nation and the Yankton Dakota Sioux works with the American Indian Child Resource Center in Oakland, California.

By Jacqueline Keeler, Pacific News Service

I celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. This may surprise those people who wonder what Native Americans think of this official U.S. celebration of the survival of early arrivals in a European invasion that culminated in the death of 10 to 30 million native people.

Thanksgiving to me has never been about Pilgrims. When I was six, my mother, a woman of the Dineh nation, told my sister and me not to sing "Land of the Pilgrim's pride" in "America the Beautiful." Our people, she said, had been here much longer and taken much better care of the land.

We were to sing "Land of the Indian's pride" instead.

I was proud to sing the new lyrics in school, but I sang softly. It was enough for me to know the difference. At six, I felt I had learned something very important. As a child of a Native American family, you are part of a very select group of survivors, and I learned that my family possessed some "inside" knowledge of what really happened when

those poor, tired masses came to our homes.

When the Pilgrims came to Plymouth Rock, they were poor and hungry -- half of them died within a few months from disease and hunger. When Squanto, a Wampanoag man, found them, they were in a pitiful state. He spoke English, having traveled to Europe, and took pity on them. Their English crops had failed. The native people fed them through the winter and taught them how to grow their food.

These were not merely "friendly Indians." They had already experienced European slave traders raiding their villages for a hundred years or so, and they were wary -- but it was their way to give freely to those who had nothing. Among many of our peoples, showing that you can give without holding back is the way to earn respect. Among the Dakota, my father's people, they say, when asked to give, "Are we not Dakota and alive?" It was believed that by giving there would be enough for all -- the exact opposite of the system we live in now, which is based on selling, not giving.

To the Pilgrims, and most English and

European peoples, the Wampanoags were heathens, and of the Devil. They saw Squanto not as an equal but as an instrument of their God to help his chosen people, themselves.

Since that initial sharing, Native American food has spread around the world. Nearly 70 percent of all crops grown today were originally cultivated by Native American peoples. I sometimes wonder what they ate in Europe before they met us. Spaghetti without tomatoes? Meat and potatoes without potatoes? And at the "first Thanksgiving" the Wampanoags provided most of the food -- and signed a treaty granting Pilgrims the right to the land at Plymouth, the real reason for the first Thanksgiving.

What did the Europeans give in return? Within 20 years European disease and treachery had decimated the Wampanoags. Most diseases then came from animals that Europeans had domesticated. Cowpox from cows led to smallpox, one of the great killers of our people, spread through gifts of blankets used by infected Europeans. Some estimate that diseases accounted for a death toll reach-

ing 90 percent in some Native American communities. By 1623, Mather the elder, a Pilgrim leader, was giving thanks to his God for destroying the heathen savages to make way "for a better growth," meaning his people.

In stories told by the Dakota people, an evil person always keeps his or her heart in a secret place separate from the body. The hero must find that secret place and destroy the heart in order to stop the evil.

I see, in the "First Thanksgiving" story, a hidden Pilgrim heart. The story of that heart is the real tale than needs to be told. What did it hold? Bigotry, hatred, greed, self-righteousness? We have seen the evil that it caused in the 350 years since. Genocide, environmental devastation, poverty, world wars, racism.

Where is the hero who will destroy that heart of evil? I believe it must be each of us. Indeed, when I give thanks this Thursday and I cook my native food, I will be thinking of this hidden heart and how my ancestors survived the evil it caused.

Because if we can survive, with our ability to share and to give intact, then the evil and the good will that met that Thanksgiving day in the land of the Wampanoag will have come full circle.

And the healing can begin.



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### A REFUGEE REMEMBERS HIS FIRST THANKSGIVING

EDITOR'S NOTE: More than twenty years later, Andrew Lam reflects on his first Thanksgiving as a refugee boy recently arrived from Vietnam. But it was neither American history lessons nor Puritan cuisine that taught him the meaning of the holiday.

By Andrew Lam, Pacific News

"Thanks-giving," said Mr. K., my seventh grade English teacher. "Repeat after me: Thanksgiving." "Ssssthanks give in," I repeated, but the word tumbled and hissed, turning my mouth into a wind tunnel. A funny word, "Ssssthanks give in," hard on my Vietnamese tongue, tough on my refugee's ears.

"That's good," said Mr. K., full of encouragement. "Very good. Thanksgiving."

As I helped him tape students' drawings of turkeys and pilgrims and Indians on the classroom windows, Mr. K. patiently explained to me the origins of the holiday. You know the story: Newcomers to America struggling, surviving and finally thriving in the New World, thanks to the kindness of the natives.

I could barely speak a complete sentence in English, having spent less than three months in America, but Mr. K.'s story wasn't all that difficult to grasp. Still, I didn't particularly see what it could have to do with me.

My family and I had arrived in America several months earlier, at the end of the Vietnam War. My father, a high-ranking officer in the South Vietnamese army, was missing, having adamantly refused to join us when we fled in the C130 cargo plane heading out of Saigon two days before communist

tanks rolled in. Father--who had stayed in Vietnam determined to fight to the end in the jungle--was the center of our lives, and his absence left a horrible void.

We had arrived in America with nothing but rags in our backpacks and a few ounces of gold that my mother had tucked into her money belt. An impoverished aunt took us all in. Soon there were ten people crowding together in Auntie Lisa's tiny two-bedroom apartment at the end of Mission Street in San Francisco.

Today, in her suburban home at the edge of California's Silicon Valley, my mother is fond of referring to our first year in America as "a time of living like wandering ghosts." We had, after all, gone from being an elite family in Saigon, with three servants and a villa, to being exiles with little to our name. We did not speak English and had no discernible skills. Without father, who was educated and spoke English, we were destined for a life of poverty.

Thus in the refugee's home there was an oppressive silence that hung as heavy as the monsoon rain. We ate in silence in the dining room that served as a bedroom at night. We waited silently in line for the bathroom, slept silently side by side, as if saying anything would only bring us all to tears.

Indeed, Mr. K., what was there to be thankful for?

Ah, but there was. A few days after Mr. K. explained Thanksgiving to me,

something marvelous happened: My father called. He had survived, and would soon join us, having changed his mind and escaped aboard a crowded naval ship.

When Father arrived he was skinny and haggard, no longer the war hero of my memories, but he nevertheless brought jubilation into our lives. I remember hearing my mother laugh, hearing the adults gossip and argue, and sometimes I would close my

eyes, pretending that we were all still living in Saigon. One morning I looked in the mirror and was surprised to see a boy's face smiling back at me.

As the holiday drew near, I had a change of heart about Thanksgiving. If Vietnam's final act of mercy was to release its grip on my father, America was generosity itself. As in Mr. K.'s story, it was populated by friendly natives who helped us out. There was that businessman at the L.A. airport, a stranger, who offered to pay for my entire family's plane tickets to San Francisco when we left the refugee camp. In school my friends Remigio, Tai, Mar-

vin, Wayne, Robert--white, black, Filipino, Mexican kids-- all adopted me. Eric taught me to play baseball; 200-pound Tai protected me from the rowdy kids; and Robert, the popular blue-eyed jock, offered to take me on vacation with his family. And best of all Mr. K., ever patient and nurturing, made me his pet. Whenever I missed the bus, or even simply asked, he would drive me home after school.

That Thanksgiving my family gathered on the floor and ate two gigantic turkeys donated by religious charities. The kids fought over the food and the adults talked about job prospects. There was

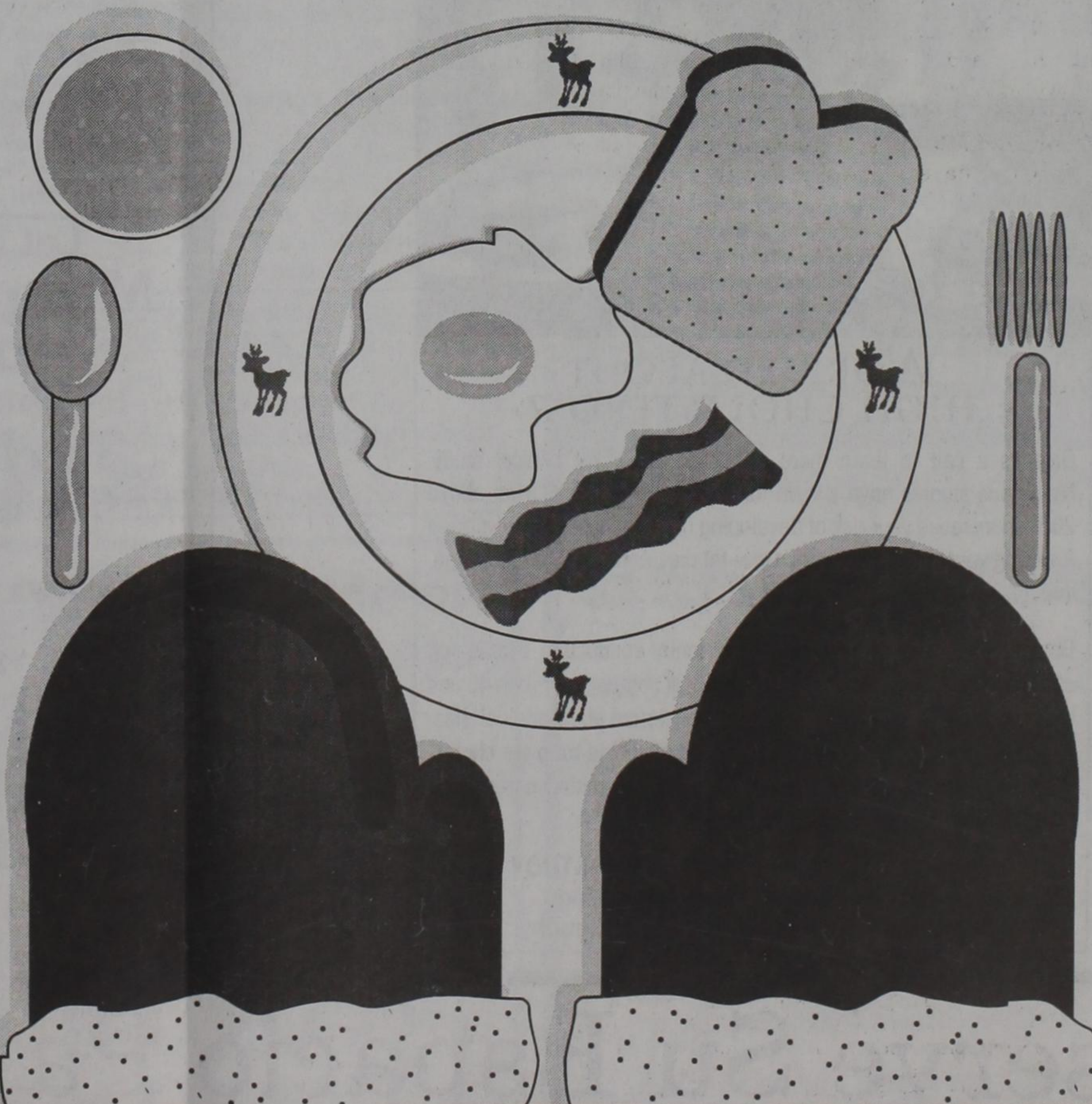
even talk of a possible trip next summer to the place I equated with paradise: Disneyland.

Ssssthanks give in. Thanksgiving.

We have moved into the middle class since then. My father recently retired from his job as a bank executive, my mother from hers as an accountant. Thanksgiving at my parents' home is replete with wines and turkeys and hams, and fabulous Vietnamese dishes. But the Thanksgiving I remember best is the first one, where we ate on the floor and wore donated clothes, and I was just learning to pronounce the word.

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# National Latina Groups Still Struggle To Surmount Obstacles

By Yara I. Alma-Bonilla

Twenty-five years after two of the nation's major Latina organizations were founded, members of national and regional Latina groups continue their struggles to anchor and develop their organizations with minimal economic resources.

They confront challenges that affect Latinas in their careers and respond to students' pressing needs for support in high school and college.

Hispanic Link News Service surveyed 12 such groups to compile this report on the development and status of Latina organizations.

It examined their scope, history and reach.

Those analyzed shared an awareness of Latinas as a singular group with very similar challenges, even after accounting for ethnic differences.

The 12 organizations developed ambitious, often strikingly similar plans and programs to combat common obstacles. Thus, the profile they provide centers on three major objectives:

- to sustain and bolster Latinas' career advancement,
- to encourage younger Latinas to progress through the educational system, and
- to create and enhance Latina leadership.

The groups' combined active membership exceeds 12,000.

Celebrating a quarter-century of service in 1997 are the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., and the National Association of Cuban American Women, based in New Jersey.

MANA, A National Latina Organization -- which changed its name from the Mexican-American Women's National Association a few years ago to reflect its diversifying membership -- is now 23 years old.

The trio's independent battles for survival haven't been easy. MANA president Elisa Sanchez explains: "As with women in general, Latinas shy away from women's organizations."

Nevertheless, MANA and the others continue to grow and spread their influence.

Latinas involved in the groups are mostly professionals, working at all organizational levels, in different fields, and within both the public and private sectors. They range from 20 years old to more than 60.

The groups vary in size from 50 active members, as with the Dallas-based Hispanic 50 -- to more than 4,000, the memberships claimed by MANA and the National Association of Cuban American Women.

The country's three largest Latina ethnic groups predominate. Still, Dominican and Central and South American women are becoming increasingly involved.

Distribution of the organizations' chapters and members across the country roughly corresponds with the overall Latino national geographic presence. They have chartered numerous chapters in the Southwest, the Northeast and around Chicago and Miami. They also are gaining a presence with chapters and members-at-large throughout the Midwest and Northwest. Only 14 states lack at least one chapter of a national Latina organization.

Creating and sustaining an interest and influence over issues that affect Latina progress inspired half of the groups to set up their headquarters in the nation's capital.

Nine of the 12 shared their annual budgets with Hispanic Link. They range from \$5,000 to \$500,000. Only three exceed \$150,000. Those are MANA, the National Hispana Leadership Institute, and the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health.

Corporate support accounts for more than half of their monies, foundation grants for 34 percent and membership fees for 10 percent. Individual members often contribute personal resources to their group as well. And long-term commitments by volunteers have proven crucial to their survival, their leaders say.

Many began simply as support groups, developing later into effective networking webs as well. Now they provide social and cultural lifelines in workplace environ-

ments where Latinas often feel estranged. They also help as Latinas move from city to city to pursue their careers.

Esther Baldivia, who worked in the federal government for years after arriving in Washington, D.C., from San Antonio in the early '70s, recalls the isolation and fear. "Nothing in the communities we came from prepared us for Washington. It was totally foreign, unfamiliar."

Now the groups regularly provide an array of activities to promote Latina career advancement and develop leadership. They stage receptions, host Latina speakers and honor Latina achievers.

They also conduct business

## Transplant From Page 1

months.

Liver transplants are among the hardest and costliest to get, and the family has learned that this is not as easy as showing up at the hospital and receiving one. Because of the high demand for transplants, rules are in place.

The American association for the study of Liver Disease states that liver disease from hepatitis C is the most common reason for liver transplants in the US, but most don't know it because initially the virus only causes flu-like symptoms.

Untreated, up to 90 percent of cases cause long-term diseases, such as cirrhosis, cancer or slow liver failure. People who are likely to be infected other than by infected needles are patients who received transfusions before 1990 or have undergone kidney dialysis.

The family is asking for donations from the community so that Isidro can be evaluated then placed on the waiting list for an organ. A fund raising campaign is also being organized by "Su Salud Al Dia" Television Program. A weekly Medical information Program that airs on the local Telemundo Spanish Television Station.

Anyone wishing to help with the costs can do so by contacting the Isidro Castillo trust fund at any Norwest Bank. For information contact 747-4229.

and personal development seminars and workshops on pertinent themes and issues. All publish their own quarterly or monthly newsletters. Six organize a conference every year.

The pioneering organizations -- MANA, NACAW and the NACOPRW -- have worked together over the years in the public policy arena, promoting legislation that serves Latina interests and analyzing the impact of other bills. Such concerted effort depended heavily on volunteer work and time. Their greatest concerns revolved around education, making it a strong, unifying issue.

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Hispanics From Page 1

other.

Elisa Sanchez, president of MANA, a Latina organization, suggests the environment in Congress has turned worse, citing the dragged-out investigation of Rep. Loretta Sanchez's victory over Robert Dornan. Advocates charge it is harassing Hispanic voters.

Others fear that Republicans will renew their attacks on immigration in the second half of the 105th session. Munoz predicts Congress will debate on whether to set up voter citizenship verification procedures with the INS.

LULAC's Cuauhtemoc Figueroa sees another major issue as the reauthorization of the higher education act. Hispanic educators and advocates are attempting to get rid of the strict requirements Hispanic-serving institutions must meet to receive some federal support. PRLDEF's Juan Figueroa expects language rights and bilingual ballots will become issues, particularly if a bill passes Congress calling for Puerto Rico to conduct a vote on the island's status that would require congressional action.

Official-English bills were introduced as usual in the first session. While there was no action on them, some Latino lobbyists fear there may be a concentrated push for them in '98 if language issues such as bilingual education prove popular with voters.

(Michelle Garcia is a reporter with Pacifica Radio in Washington, D.C. Joseph Torres, also of Washington, is editor of the national newsworthy Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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# News Briefs

because the Texas program no longer was in use.

Earlier this month, the justices turned down a challenge to California's Proposition 209, which bans race or gender from being a factor in state hiring or school admission.

The court let stand a ruling that said the measure adopted by California voters violated no one's constitutional rights. The high court's action set no national precedent, but it could encourage adoption of similar measures in other states.

The Supreme Court has rejected race-based policies in voting-rights cases, where the justices consistently have declared majority-black election districts unconstitutional.

## Poll: Youth Want Better Government

According to a new poll, most young adults don't necessarily want to reduce government's role in America but want it to do a better job, reports Associated Press.

As for themselves, however, they see their future not in government work but in private business.

The survey by pollsters Peter Hart and Robert Teeter was released Wednesday at the kickoff of a project by corporations and nonprofit groups to increase public trust in government.

"Young people give government mixed grades in terms of helping them achieve the American dream," Hart said, but "it is reforming government rather than less government that is important to these people."

The telephone survey of 505 Americans between the ages of 18 and 34 was conducted Oct. 29 and 30. The margin of error is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

In the poll, 40 percent of respondents said government can help them achieve their goals in life, compared with the 48 percent who said government programs and policies are a hindrance.

But a large majority, 71 percent, answered that government could help with better leadership and management, and 60 percent would prefer improving the government over simply reducing its size and power.

Young people ranked improving education, reforming Social Security and Medicare to accommodate the retirement of the baby-boomer generation and maintaining a strong economy as their top priorities for government.

On working in government themselves, 66 percent said a career in the private sector is more appealing. The worst aspects of government work, young people said, are that it is too bureaucratic and too political.

When asked to rank their attraction to specific careers, most put traditionally public service occupations, such as teaching and social work, above corporate careers including management and software engineering.

Among 22 organizations participating in the new Partnership for Trust in Government launched Wednesday, the Girl Scouts of America will introduce a new patch scouts can earn by learning about public service, and IBM Corp. and Harvard University will host a conference on how the government uses technology to solve problems.

## Using Arts to Explore Social Issues

Anna Deavere Smith, the playwright and performer who invented her own form of theater and has used it to explore matters like race and class, will head a new summer institute at Harvard University devoted to finding ways in which the arts might enhance the public discussion of social issues, reports The New York Times.

The institute, to be announced by Harvard Monday and to be financed initially by a \$1.5 million grant from the Ford Foundation, HN6678@handsnet.org, is intended to serve as a kind of laboratory where professional artists in theater, dance, film and other fields will come together for six weeks each summer to develop new work.

Organized with the help of Henry Louis Gates Jr., the scholar and critic, the institute will also bring in academics, journalists and community leaders, not only to serve as sources of information and ideas but also to help investigate ways of engaging the interest of a broad and diverse audience.

"In my own performances, I was always grateful to get a standing ovation," said Ms. Smith. "But what if instead they jumped to their feet and said, 'What can we do?' That's the beginning of a different kind of democracy. And that's what I would like the goal of this institute to be."

"There has been a lot of talk about this kind of work," said Robert Orchard, managing director of the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Mass., which will help administer the institute. "Can artists change society? What is the relationship of the artist to ideas? What are the responsibilities of institutions in connecting to different communities?"

The idea for the institute arose out of a series of conversations initiated since 1992 by Ms. Smith, 47, who is also a professor at Stanford University. She has been trying, she said, "to use the ambiance and techniques of the theater to inspire discussion about the events of our time."

In her 1991 one-woman show, "Fires in the Mirror," she played 27 people she had interviewed about the racial violence between blacks and Jews in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, that year. In "Twilight: Los Angeles 1992," her 1994 production, she took a similar approach to the Los Angeles riots. Her current production, "House Arrest," investigating the American national identity as it has been embodied in the presidency, opened on Thursday at the Arena Stage in Washington.

The three-year grant will be administered jointly by American Repertory Theater, which operates out of the Harvard-owned Loeb Drama Center and offers theater courses, and by Harvard's W.E.B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research, of which Gates is the director. Ms. Smith called him "a perfect partner, because he's a master at creating conversations."

The financing plan for the new Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue will also include another \$1 million that the theater and the institute intend to raise. The institute will begin accepting applications next month for the summer's projects, and plans to focus on theater, dance, music, film, video and fine arts.



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# Deportes Sports

## Cowboys Host Oilers In Annual Thanksgiving Day Game

### Holy Field Looks to Fight Lewis

**THIS WEEK:** The Dallas Cowboys (6-6) host the Tennessee Oilers (6-6) at 3:00 p.m. (Dallas time) Thursday in the Cowboys' annual Thanksgiving Day game. Dallas comes into the game after falling to Green Bay 45-17 at Lambeau Field last Sunday. Tennessee enters the game after defeating Buffalo 31-14 in Memphis last week.

**THE COWBOYS AND THANKSGIVING** - The Dallas Cowboys have a 20-8-1 record when playing on Thanksgiving Day, including six wins in the last seven games. The Cowboys have accumulated a 6-5 record against AFC teams in games played on Thanksgiving Day, including a 24-12 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs in 1995. Last year, Dallas used a 21-10 defeat of the Washington Redskins on Thanksgiving to propel themselves to three consecutive victories and a fifth straight NFC Eastern Division crown. The Cowboys own a 0-2 Thanksgiving Day record against the Oilers. Dallas is also 22-7 in the games that have been played following a Thanksgiving Day game. Last year, the Cowboys knocked off Arizona (10-6) in the week following the Thanksgiving Day win over Washington.

**THANKSGIVING DAY TRADITION** - The Cowboys took a chance in 1966 as one of the newer teams in the NFL and volunteered to host a game on Thanksgiving Day. In front of a record crowd of 80,259 at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, the Cowboys defeated the Cleveland Browns 26-14. Since then, the Cowboys have hosted a Thanksgiving Day game every year except for 1975 and 1977. In '75 and '77, the NFL allowed the St. Louis Cardinals to host games, but the response in St. Louis was not as expected and the game was returned to Dallas on an annual basis.

**THE SERIES:** Thursday's match-up will be only the ninth time these two teams have met, with Dallas holding a 5-3 series advantage. The Cowboys and Oilers have met twice previously on Thanksgiving Day, with the Oilers claiming a 30-24 victory in 1979 and a 25-17 victory in 1988. The last time these two teams squared off during the regular season, Dallas claimed a 20-17 victory at Texas Stadium in 1994.

**THE COACHES:** With an overall NFL record of 45-22 (including playoffs), Barry Switzer (60) has the best winning percentage (67.2%) of all active NFL head coaches (more than three years). Hired by Jerry Jones on March 30, 1994, he is the third head coach in the 38 year his-

tory of the Cowboys. In only his second year as a NFL coach, Switzer guided Dallas to the Super Bowl XXX title, the team's third Super Bowl victory in four years. During his three-plus years at the Cowboys helm, he has compiled a 40-20 regular season record

(sprained left knee), RB Emmitt Smith (strained neck), LB Vinson Smith (jaw) and T Erik Williams (sprained right ankle) are probable.

**COWBOYS NOTES**  
NFL's LONGEST STREAK OF SOLD OUT STADIUMS CONTINUES:



and a 5-2 playoff record, including a trip to the NFC Championship Game in 1994 and the Super Bowl XXX title in 1995. Switzer was the head coach at the University of Oklahoma from 1973 to 1988. During that 16-year span, his Sooners teams amassed an .837 winning percentage and captured national titles in 1974, 1975 and 1985. Switzer retired from the college ranks with the fourth-best career winning percentage in major college football history.

Jeff Fisher (39) has led the Oilers to a 21-23 record over the past three plus seasons after officially taking over the head coaching responsibilities on Jan. 5, 1995. He was 1-5 as the Oilers interim head coach in 1994. He originally joined the Oilers as defensive coordinator in 1994 after spending two seasons as defensive backs coach for San Francisco (1992-93). He was the Rams' defensive coordinator in 1991 and Philadelphia's defensive backs coach from 1986-88 before becoming the NFL's youngest defensive coordinator in 1989. Fisher was drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1981 and played five seasons for the Bears.

**INJURY REPORT:** FB Daryl Johnston (neck) and T Mark Tuinei (left knee) are out for this week. S Darren Woodson (strained right shoulder) is questionable. T Tony Hutson (strained left groin), G Nate Newton

(Cleveland) in 1994. A COWBOYS WIN OVER TENNESSEE WOULD:

\*Increase Dallas' series advantage to 6-3 against the Oilers.

\*Raise the Cowboys Thanksgiving Day record to 21-8-1.

\*Give Dallas four consecutive Thanksgiving Day victories, and victories in seven of the last eight.

\*Raise the Cowboys' NFC best all-time record against the AFC to 63-32, including 3-0 this season.

\*Mark Dallas' 77th win in the last 106 games (including postseason) since the start of the 1992 season.

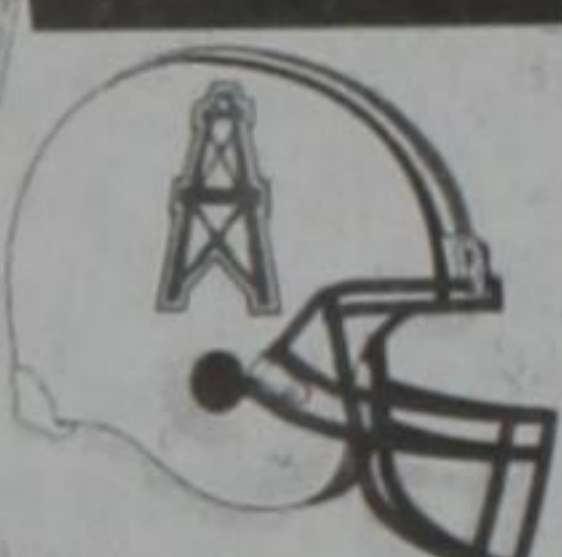
**LAST WEEK:** Dallas saw its record fall to 6-6 with a 45-17 loss to the Green Bay Packers at Lambeau Field. The Packers opened the scoring midway through the first quarter with a seven-yard pass from Brett Favre-to-Dorsey Levens. The Cowboys answered the score with a 29-yard Richie Cunningham field goal at the end of the first quarter. Dallas took a 10-7 lead late in the second quarter when Deion Sanders intercepted a Favre pass and returned it 50 yards for a touchdown. By virtue of his effort,

cus Allen (120). Smith's 21-yard TD run was his longest since scoring from 39 yards out against Philadelphia on Nov. 6, 1995. Green Bay answered with a 23-yard touchdown pass from Favre-to-Antonio Freeman midway through the fourth quarter and a five-yard Levens TD run. Green Bay closed out the scoring when Darren Sharper returned a Sherman Williams fumble 34 yards for a touchdown late in the fourth, giving the Packers 45 points -- the most a Dallas team has surrendered since Cincinnati scored 50 on Dec. 8, 1985. The 28-point margin of defeat was the greatest by a Dallas team since losing to Detroit 38-6 in a divisional playoff game on Jan. 5, 1992 and the greatest regular season loss since New Orleans defeated the Cowboys 28-0 on Sept. 4, 1988.

### COWBOYS



### OILERS



Sanders established a new NFL record for career touchdowns on returns (14). Green Bay tied the score at 10-10 with a 32-yard Ryan Longwell field goal at the end of the half. Green Bay took a 17-10 lead early in the third quarter on a four-yard Favre-to-Mark Chmura pass and came right back with a two-yard Favre-to-Chmura touchdown at the end of the quarter. Emmitt Smith cut the Dallas deficit to 24-17 early in the final period with a 21-yard touchdown run. Smith's touchdown gives him 111 career rushing touchdowns, moving him ahead of Walter Payton (110) into sole possession of second place on the NFL's all-time rushing touchdowns list behind Mar-

The Dallas Cowboys own the longest current streak of sold-out games in the National Football League. That streak dates back to the 1990 season, while no other NFL team has a sell-out streak that extends beyond the 1995 season. Thursday's game against the Oilers will mark the 126th straight sold out stadium for a Cowboys game (home or away). The Dallas streak, which includes playoff games, dates back to Dec. 16, 1990 against Phoenix at Texas Stadium (the last non-sell-out). This week's game will mark the 61st straight sell-out at Texas Stadium (including playoffs). The Cowboys have sold out 65 straight games on the road (including playoffs).

**DALLAS VS. THE AFC:** Dallas owns a NFC best 62-32 all-time record against the AFC, including nine wins in the last 11 inter-conference games. Since 1992, Dallas has won 20-of-25 games (.800) against AFC foes, including victories in Super Bowls XXVII (Buffalo), XXVIII (Buffalo) and XXX (Pittsburgh). The Cowboys are 2-0 against the AFC Central (Pittsburgh and Jacksonville) this season after finishing 2-2 against the AFC East in 1996. Dallas won three-of-four against the AFC Central (Pittsburgh, Houston, Cincin-

NEW YORK, Nov 13 - Evander Holyfield said on Thursday he is guardedly optimistic that he will fight World Boxing Council (WBC) champion Lennox Lewis next in his bid to become the undisputed world heavyweight champion.

"Lewis is the one fight I want and I look forward to unifying the title," said Holyfield, who kept his World Boxing Association (WBA) crown and added the International Boxing Federation (IBF) belt by stopping Michael Moorer after eight rounds last Saturday in Las Vegas.

"I believe that anything can happen, but he talks like he wants to do it and his people talk like he wants to do it," Holyfield said of The British WBC champion in a teleconference call.

Lewis had declared his desire for an unification bout after watching from ringside Holyfield punish Moorer for eight rounds, knocking him down five times, before the fight was stopped with the loser on his stool.

"We both want to become undisputed heavyweight champion of the world, prove that we're the best fighters on the planet and I think we are going to do that," Lewis said.

"I'm optimistic to the extent that a lot of people want to explore in good faith the idea of putting this together," said Holyfield's lawyer Jim Thomas.

"There are always obstacles but the most important elements are two fighters who truly want to have this happen and we seem to have that," said Thomas, adding he plans further talks next week with Lewis' promoter Dino Duva and Holyfield's promoter Don King.

One possible stumbling block is thought to be King, who might not want to risk his highly-lucrative fighter in such a risky fight before the possible return of Mike Tyson sometime next summer.

"He knows without question what Evander's first priority is and we have not at all discussed any other alternative," said Thomas.

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# Saludando La Luz Del Dia En Casa De Doña Alicia

Por Victor Landa

Una mañana típica, en el tránsito típico de la mañana, en la ruta acostumbrada hacia el trabajo. Debe haber sido un martes, podría haber sido un miércoles; una llovizna suave caía por parches y los conductores conectaban y desconectaban alternadamente los limpiadores de parabrisas de sus autos a medida que pasaban de la llovizna al sol, del sol a la llovizna.

No pude resistirme de abrir la ventanilla para oler la lluvia. Y como una conversación que se mueve en una corriente sin interrupción, de pronto comencé a pensar en Doña Alicia. Ella vivía calle abajo desde nuestra casa, después de donde se terminaba el pavimento. Su vivienda era la primera casucha a la entrada de la ladrillera. Yo siempre caminaba frente a su casa cuando tomaba el atajo hacia la escuela, a través de las hileras ladrillos que se secaban al sol. Doña Alicia estaba siempre afuera, humedeciendo la tierra con rocíos de agua desde un cubo. Cuando la puerta estaba abierta, se podía ver el interior de la casucha, con el sol de la mañana brillando en el piso de tierra. Yo recordaba el olor de la tierra húmeda, como la lluvia nueva.

Ella era una mujer de piel oscura, más atezada por el sol que por el pigmento. Recuerdo que ella tenía cabello rojo cansado y pecas, y que siempre olía a humo de mezquite, a consecuencia de una estufa que quemaba madera. Ella solía tocar nuestra puerta periódicamente para preguntar si había algo que planchar. Cobraba por pieza e iba a la próxima casa, donde lavaría, limpiaría o arrancaría yerbas.

Había cierta dignidad en aquella mujer, algo sobre el

modo en que ahuecaba la mano para retener el agua y rociarla sobre la tierra, a fin de asentar el polvo, o sobre una camisa para ayudar a aplastar las arrugas. Ella era pobre; pobre hasta la tierra no sería un chiste.

Me pregunté qué habría sido de ella, de su planchado y de su casucha a la entrada de la ladrillera. Ella estaba en la base, entre los más pobres de los pobres -- el segmento más bajo de la población del mundo, el menos afectado por las alzas y bajas de la economía de una nación.

Para las personas como Doña Alicia, no parece haber salida alguna. Seguro, tenemos la anécdota ocasional de una persona o de una familia que se las arregla para elevarse por encima de sus circunstancias. Pero en gran medida, el agarre de la pobreza extrema es sólido.

Las cifras más recientes recopiladas por la Oficina del Censo de los Estados Unidos hablan a toda voz sobre un ascenso aparente y sostenido de la economía de nuestra nación. Hablan de que el ingreso mediano de la nación se elevó por un por ciento, de una economía que ha crecido en un tres por ciento, de que las nóminas de la asistencia económica pública han disminuido en un 10 por ciento, de que el jornal mínimo ha aumentado, de la prosperidad de la clase media.

No obstante, a pesar de todas estas buenas noticias económicas, a los más pobres de entre los pobres no les ha ido mejor. En verdad, al ajustarse por la inflación, el ingreso mediano del 20 por ciento más pobre de las familias disminuyó en el año anterior. Un susurro en el alboroto de la nueva economía audaz.

Para complicar este problema, según Ken Bryson, de la Oficina del Censo de los

Estados Unidos, la mitad de los jóvenes de 16 y 17 años de la nación son pobres, depende de la asistencia económica pública y está viviendo con un sólo padre.

Estos son factores que, independientemente de cuánto lo deseemos, nunca parecen alejarse. Sin que importe cuán robusta sea la economía, ni cuán prometedoras sean las proyecciones, en el último peldaño de la escalera hay personas y familias que se aferran con dificultad. Y muchas de ellas todavía se las arreglan para levantarse por la mañana y reunen suficiente dignidad para hacerle frente al día.

Había algo muy flexible acerca de Doña Alicia y el modo en que su hogar olía a lluvia cada mañana. La misma flexibilidad que ayuda a algunos de los jóvenes de 16 y 17 años más pobres a tener un poco más de éxito que el alcanzado por sus padres.

La economía y casi todos los indicadores económicos tienden a descartar a los que viven en la pobreza extrema, en parte porque se han convertido en una constante de la ecuación económica y en parte porque tienden a ser invisibles -- separados físicamente por la pobreza de sus vidas.

Pero están allí, y se las arreglan para escarbar una existencia de día en día. Como Doña Alicia, quien a pesar de su casucha y de su olor a humo de mezquite, se despertaba cada mañana para humedecer el polvo frente a su casa, por ninguna otra razón que la de que era un nuevo día.

(Victor Landa es director de información de la estación KVDA-TV60, afiliada de Telemundo en San Antonio, Texas.)

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## Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofia Martinez

Las naciones tienen sus señales que las distinguen, y que aparecen en sus banderas, en las fachadas de sus edificios, en sus monedas, etc. Los cristianos somos la Nación Santa, el Reino de Jesucristo, y nuestro distintivo es la Santa Cruz, la llevamos ahora, pero la llevaron los cristianos, desde el principio, con mucho amor creciendo en cantidad y en calidad. Desde luego, tomaron por modelo aquella cruz adorable que sostuvo la víctima del mundo, y a su semejanza fabricaron murias mas duraderas, o que costaran mas dinero: de piedra, hierro, bronce, plata, oro, según su piedad y sus facultades, y las colocaron en los templos, altares, casas, torres, castillos, palacios y edificios mas altos; en las plazas, calles y caminos y sitios mas publicos. Toda clase de cristianos se adornaron con la Cruz, e hicieron un punto de honor y de religión llevar ese signo. Los Obispos la usaban sobre sus tiaras y mitras, los reyes sobre sus coronas, los militares pendientes de sus uniformes.

Si el pueblo cristiano católico se hubiera dejado guiar por la prudencia humana, no habría tomado por distintivo la imagen de Cristo crucificado en el Calvario, sino la imagen de Jesucristo glorificado en el Tabor. Pero este pueblo, que nació al pie de la Cruz, y que debía de alimentarse de sus frutos, eligió guiado de una prudencia divina, esta misma Cruz, que representa a Jesucristo clavado en ella, le está predicando siempre el amor inmenso de Dios Hijo hecho hombre, que murió por salvarnos. (Mat. 27. Marcos. 15. Lucas 23, 46. Juan 18, 30).

# Greeting The Daylight At Doña Alicia's House

By Victor Landa

A typical morning, driving in the typical morning traffic on the usual route to work. It must have been Tuesday, could have been Wednesday. A soft drizzle was falling in patches, and the drivers in their cars alternately switched their windshield wipers on and off as they passed from drizzle to sun.

I couldn't resist opening the window to smell the rain. And like a conversation that moves in a seamless flow, I suddenly found myself thinking about Dona Alicia.

She lived down the road from our house, past where the road had no pavement. Hers was the first shack at the entrance to the *ladrillera*. I always walked past her house when I took the shortcut to school, across the rows of bricks drying in the sun.

Dona Alicia was always outside, wetting the ground with sprinkles out of a bucket of water. When the door of her shack was open, you could see inside, the morning sun shining on the dirt floor. I remember the smell of the damp earth.

She was a dark-skinned woman, made more so by the sun than by heredity. I remembered her tired red hair and freckles, and that she always smelled of mesquite smoke, the consequence of a wood-burning stove. She would regularly knock on our door to ask if there was any ironing to be done. She'd charge by the piece and move on to the next house where she'd wash or clean or pull weeds.

There was a certain dignity about the woman, about the way she cupped the water in her hand and sprinkled it on the ground to settle the dust or on a shirt to help tame the

wrinkles. She was poor -- dirt poor would be no pun.

I wondered what had become of her, of her ironing and of her shack at the entrance to the *ladrillera*. She was among the poorest of the poor, the least affected by the ebb and flow of a nation's economy.

For people like Dona Alicia, it seems as if there is no way. Sure, there is the occasional anecdote of a person or family that manages to rise above their circumstance. But by and large the grip of extreme poverty is strong.

The latest figures compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau speak loudly of an apparent and sustained upturn in our nation's economy. They speak of the nation's median income rising by 1 percent, of an economy that has grown by 3 percent, of welfare rolls falling by 10 percent, of the minimum wage rising, of the prosperity of the middle class.

And yet, despite all of this good economic news, the poorest of the poor have fared no better. In fact, when adjusted for inflation, the median income of the poorest 20 percent of families fell in the past year, a whisper amidst the loud banter of the bold new economy.

To compound this problem, according to Ken Bryson of the Census Bureau, half of the nation's 16- and 17-year-olds are poor, depend on welfare and live in a single-parent environment.

These are factors that, wish as we may, never seem to go away. No matter how robust the economy, no matter how promising the outlook, at the bottommost rung of the ladder are individuals and families barely hanging on. Yet many of them manage to get up in the morning and gather enough dignity to face the

## St Mary Hospital Holiday Festivities

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony officially launches the christmas season next week at St. Mary Hospital.

Sponsored by the St. Mary Hospital Foundation and open to the public free of charge, the tree lighting ceremony is slated for Thursday, Dec. 4, at 5:30 p.m. in front of the main entrance and marks the beginning of a flurry of holiday activity on the St. Mary campus.

Thursday's program will feature the Recorder and Bell Choirs from Christ the King School, and youngsters also will have the opportunity to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus following the lighting ceremony.

The event is a fund-raiser for the Foundation, as participants have the opportunity to endow a light in memory or in honor of loved ones and friends. Last year's event raised more than \$3,500 for the hospital's "Helping Hands" fund, an employee assistance program.

Two days later, on Saturday, Dec. 6, Santa and Mrs. Claus made a return trip to St. Mary Hospital for the Kids Club sponsored "Breakfast With Santa". The event is slated for 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Arnett Room, sixth floor of St. Mary Hospital.

In addition to breakfast

and a visit with Santa, each child in attendance will receive a Christmas stocking filled with goodies.

Cost is \$5.00 per person, and children must be accompanied by an adult. An optional photo with Santa is available for \$1.00 each. Tickets are available through the Community Relations Office at 796-6667. Due to limited seating, advanced reservations are required.

Another St. Mary tradition, the annual Senior Class Christmas Dinner Dance, will be held Thursday, Dec. 11 from 7 until 10 p.m. at the Godbould Cultural Center, 2601 19th Street.

Attendees will dance to the music of Misty and enjoy an elegant dinner. It is open to all seniors (55 years of age and up), and membership in the Senior Class program is not required.

Tickets are \$10 per person, and reservations are required by calling 741-7111.

Once again, St. Mary employees will be participating in the hospital's "Adopt A Family At Christmas" program to help out disadvantaged families in Lubbock.

Hospital departments and individual employees have provided monetary support to ensure that 15 local families have gifts this Christmas, es-

## LHCC Annual Awards And Installation Banquet

"United for a Better Lubbock" is the theme of this year's LHCC Annual Awards and Installation Banquet. The Twenty-third Annual Banquet will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a reception, followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. It will be held on Dec. 4, 1997 at the Holiday Inn Civic Center, 801 Avenue Q, Petroleum Room.

Local businesses and individuals will be honored for their dedication to the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Lubbock community. Come join us and find out who will receive this year's Corp. Of The Year, Businessman & Businesswoman, member and Media of the Year.

For reservations contact the LHCC office at 762-5059.

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day. There was something very resilient about Dona Alicia and the way her home smelled like rain every morning. It's the very same resiliency that helps some of the poorest 16- and 17-year-olds succeed a little more than their parents did.

The economy and almost every economic indicator tend to dismiss those living in extreme poverty, partly because they've become a given in the economic equation and partly because they tend to be invisible -- physically set apart by the poverty in their lives. But they're there, and they manage to scratch out a day-to-day existence. Like Dona Alicia, who despite her shack and her aroma of mesquite smoke, woke up every morning to wet the dust in front of her home for no other reason than because it was a new day.

(Victor Landa is news director of Telemundo affiliate station KVDA-TV 60 in San Antonio.)

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pecial for their children. funds have been supplemented by proceeds from two book fairs conducted earlier this year at the hospital.

In past years, the effort has yielded bunk beds, bicycles, and hundreds of toys and clothing items for needy children and their families.

Members of the participating departments also have taken on the responsibility of purchasing and wrapping the gifts, which will be delivered to the families' homes on Thursday, Dec. 18.



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