

# HISPANIC BAR POINTS 'FINGER OF SHAME' AT 105 LAW SCHOOLS

By Oswaldo Zavala

The Hispanic National Bar Association released its 13th annual "Dirty Dozen" list of universities this month, and once again Latino faculty holding at least tenure-track positions are absent from many of the nation's top law schools.

The "Dirty Dozen" roster includes Harvard, Yale and New York University, all of whom have been criticized for their lack of Hispanic representation on their law school faculties since the HNBA first started the list in 1987.

There are 105 law schools in the nation with no Hispanic faculty in tenure-track positions, according to HNBA Latino Law Professor Committee chair Michael Olivas, who compiled the list. Olivas also singles out the University of Pennsylvania, Northwestern, Duke and DePaul as having lacked Latino law faculty for more than five continuous years.

He counts 135 Hispanic faculty spread among 75 of the country's 180 law schools. The number of Latino professors increased by just two this year, he reports.

"(The universities) say it's a supply, and not a demand, problem. They say they have tried to hire Latinos, but that they won't come," said Olivas, a law professor at the University of Houston. "None of these justifications are true. They are in denial. The schools assume (Latinos) are underqualified."

HNBA President Alice Velázquez, an attorney in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, says the organization represents 22,000 Hispanics in the field of law nationwide.

"As an ethnic group, Hispanics are over 10 percent of the U.S. population, but only a small fraction of the legal profession," she said. "It is inexcusable that major, national universities

continue to operate without any Latino or Latina law professors. We will continue to point

## HISPANIC BAR'S 1999 DIRTY DOZEN

Baylor University  
Cornell University  
DePaul University  
University of Washington  
Harvard University  
New York University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University  
University of Pennsylvania  
Yale University  
State University of New York at Buffalo  
Duke University

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the 'finger of shame' at law schools that do not have any Hispanic faculty."

Velázquez added that to increase Hispanic representation in the field, the presence of Latino faculty in law schools is crucial.

The HNBA considers St. Mary's University in San Antonio, with seven Hispanic faculty members, and the University of New Mexico, with six Latinos, as institutions with the best records.

Ohio State University's law school was the newcomer on this year's "Dirty Dozen" list. Its dean, Gregory Williams, says the school is redoubling its efforts to hire Hispanics. "Our faculty is 18 percent people of color," he said.

"Unfortunately, none of them is Hispanic. We are in the process of interviewing Hispanics for faculty positions."

The "Dirty Dozen" are chosen based on their national ranking, classification, location and size of the Hispanic population in their areas, said Olivas. The list does not include foreign-born Hispanic faculty or the 100 Latino faculty in Puerto Rico's law schools.

Contacted by Hispanic Link, Harvard Law School refuted the report. Spokesman Michael Chmura said that Einer Elhauge, who was hired in 1995 in a tenure-track position, is U.S.-born of South American descent. "Certainly, diversity among faculty is extremely important," Chmura said. "We look forward to more faculty appointments that include Latinos."

In response, Olivas repeated that Harvard does not have any Latino faculty and declined to comment on Elhauge.

Only Columbia University was deleted from the 1998 list. The university added José Alvarez, a Cuban-American professor, to its faculty.

Since HNBA began compiling statistics, 22 universities have added Hispanics to their law school faculties. Among schools taken off the list in earlier years are the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Southern California, South Texas College of Law in Houston and the University of Miami.

"The list forced them to hire Latinos," Olivas said. "Someone has to point a finger and initiate the dialogue, or nothing will be done."

(Oswaldo Zavala is a reporter with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C. He may be contacted by fax at 202-234-4090, or by e-mail at zapoteco@aol.com)

## News Briefs

### Bradley Seeks Hispanic Support in Denver

By Francisco Miraval

Denver, - As part of his campaign to attract Hispanic votes, Democratic presidential hopeful Bill Bradley visited Denver Thursday where he met with Hispanic politicians and activists.

The former professional basketball player, along with Rep. Diana DeGette, visited Clyburn Village, a housing project in the city's northeastern section where a high concentration of Hispanics and African-Americans live.

DeGette has publicly announced her support for Bradley in the 2000 elections.

Bradley, who is a former New Jersey senator, congratulated DeGette for her community involvement and urged minorities to participate actively in politics.

Bradley's aggressive political campaign has prompted Vice President Al Gore to criticize his stance on several issues including Social Security and Medicare.

According to Maria Lezcano, coordinator of youth activities in a local community center, between 40 and 60 percent of the area's residents are Hispanic, which demonstrates the demographic change brought about by immigration, particularly from Mexico.

John Mancha, director of a community help organization, commented that due to the high Hispanic concentration in this area, and the power of the Hispanic vote, politicians are visiting the area and even speaking in Spanish. This came after Bradley's wife addressed a group of Hispanic women in Spanish.

The meeting with the young mothers was coordinated by Mi Casa - Recursos para Mujeres (My Home - Resources for Women), an organization that has offered help to Hispanic women since 1976.

With Bradley's visit, local authorities sought to open a dialogue on how to improve social conditions for minority women.

Susana, a 19-year-old mother, applauded the motivation exhibited by Bradley's wife and the good example she set, stressing the importance of education. She is one of 3,500 single Hispanic mothers in western Denver, and one of 240,000 in the country.

Besides using the visit to collect funds and to draw himself closer to Hispanics, Bradley also highlighted his stance favoring Affirmative Action and racial unity.

### Civil Rights of Hispanics Are Being Violated

By Olivia P. Tallet

Houston, - The president of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Rick Dovalina, issued a warning Thursday about civil rights violations and racism against Hispanics in several areas of the United States.

In central and northern states "many things are happening that go against labor laws and are evidence of discrimination," Dovalina told EFE.

He said he is planning a trip to Tennessee to investigate the recent burning of a school meant for the children of Hispanic immigrant farm workers, adding that he would find the guilty parties with the help of federal authorities.

Dovalina also spoke about a recent survey that contained offensive terms about Hispanics and was mailed out by the Memphis Bureau of Light, Gas and Water at the beginning of Fall.

The survey included 20 questions such as, "Do you think that Hispanics use utilities and do not pay for them?" "Do you feel that Hispanics park their vehicles illegally in areas for the handicapped?" "Do Hispanics sometimes illegally occupy buildings?"

Dovalina said that similar actions occur frequently in states such as Missouri, Kansas, Georgia, North and South Carolina, that have growing Hispanic populations.

Regarding the incident in Memphis, Dovalina said the president of the company that designed the survey apologized, while the mayor and chief of police have said they would like better relations with Hispanics, who now number more than 100,000 in the city.

"I do not think there were bad intentions, but the fact that they do not understand Hispanics leads them to do things like that company did, which really insults people," he said.

Dovalina said that, in Kansas "we hear about problems with people burning crosses in front of Hispanic houses... We believe all this is part of racism."

"Many things are not known sufficiently because many Hispanics do not know to whom they can complain," he said, adding: "They do not have enough information because these are states where Hispanic organizations just recently began to appear."

### Castro Calls Clinton "Weak Under Pressure"

Havana, - Cuban President Fidel Castro accused U.S. President Bill Clinton of a "lack of ethics" and said that he is politically very weak in the face of pressure.

During a seven-hour meeting with Cuban and foreign journalists, Castro said he is not getting his hopes up about the next U.S. presidential candidates and eventually having normal relations between the two countries that have been odds for 40 years.

Castro said he had felt "surprised at the lack of ethics" in some recent statements by Clinton where he said every time he makes a (goodwill) gesture to Cuba, Havana answers by "shooting down airplanes or putting people in jail."

"I have treated him with respect and sometimes I have praised him, but in my opinion, Clinton gives in to pressure from certain sectors very quickly," he said.

According to Castro, Clinton "is too sensitive to the pressures of the Cuban counter-revolutionary Mafia. He speaks differently when he is in Washington than when he is in Miami."

Almost two million Cubans live in Miami, many of them anti-Castro exiles.

"It is a big lie to say that whenever we get closer together, something happens," Castro said.

He added, "The person who came closest to being frank was (former U.S. President Jimmy Carter)," but he added that "all plans of the United States start from the idea of destroying the Revolution."

To Castro, "Cuba is really not such an easy adversary."

Regarding Clinton's announcement that he would not include Cuba among the countries that cooperate with drug traffic.

"Large drug cargoes have been discovered thanks to our information," Castro added.

Regarding the U.S. presidential candidates, Castro indicated he felt that there was little difference between them.

Castro recalled that all the candidates support the embargo "and I really do not want to wrong one by saying that I back him."

Castro criticized some Cubans in exile, particularly the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF). He called it a "terrorist organization" and said of its president, Jorge Mas Santos, "he is neither a saint nor the devil. The latter is supposed to be more intelligent."

Castro said 150,000 Cubans from the United States will visit the island and that "an overwhelming majority of those who left are economic emigrants."

Nevertheless, Castro warned that illegal immigration will continue to be an issue as long as the Cuban Adjustment Act exists, which expedites residence for Cubans on U.S. soil.

"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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## Asociación de Abogados Hispanos Dirige 'Dedo de Vergüenza' a 105 Facultades de Derecho

Por Oswaldo Zavala

La Asociación Nacional de Abogados Hispanos (HNBA en inglés) publicó su décima-tercera lista anual de las universidades principales del país con facultades de leyes, y nuevamente los profesores latinos que tienen plazas

### Activistas Preparan Protesta Contra Escuela De Las Américas

F. Benning (Georgia), Líderes sindicatos, religiosos, veteranos de guerra, el actor Martin Sheen y la legisladora Cynthia McKinney encabezaron la semana próxima un acto masivo de desobediencia civil para exigir el cierre de la Escuela de las Américas (SOA, en inglés) del ejército de EEUU, en Georgia.

Hay un total de 105 facultades de derecho en la nación sin profesorado hispano en plazas con permanencia, según dijo el presidente del Comité de la HNBA sobre Catedráticos Latinos de Derecho, Michael Olivas, quien recopiló la lista. Olivas también menciona las Universidades de Pensylvania, Northwestern, Duke y DePaul como las que han carecido de catedráticos latinos de derecho durante más de cinco años consecutivos.

El cuenta a 135 catedráticos hispanos, distribuidos entre 75 de las 180 facultades de derecho del país. La cantidad de catedráticos latinos sólo aumentó en dos miembros en este año, según dijo.

Las universidades dicen que es un problema de falta de profesores latinos y no de falta de querer tenerlos. Agregan que han tratado de reclutar a más latinos, pero que éstos no quieren acudir," comentó Olivas, catedrático de derecho en la Universidad de Houston. "Ninguna de estas justificaciones es cierta. Ellas se hallan en estado de negación. Las escuelas de derecho asumen que los latinos no se están suficientemente capacitados."

La presidenta de la HNBA, Alice Velázquez, abogada de Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, observa que la

### Hispanic Vote to Play Crucial Role

By Rocio Ayuso

Los Angeles, - The slumbering giant that has been the Hispanic vote is wide awake and ready to tip the scales in the coming elections in states such as California, crucial to the next presidential election.

Hispanics are the fastest growing electoral group across the United States. They account for 5 percent of votes cast and, in California, they comprised 13 percent of voters casting ballots in the 1998 gubernatorial election. The number is nearly double Hispanic participation in 1994, and continues to grow. Hispanics now make up 15 percent of registered voters in California, according to the Southwest Voter Registration Project, which encourages Hispanics to register and vote.

"Let's say it was about time. It is only one big step in the continuous struggle toward justice and equality in California," said Antonio Gonzalez, a spokesman for that organization with headquarters in Texas.

Because of the Hispanic vote, the last local elections in 1998 produced historical results. Cruz Bustamante was elected lieutenant governor and other Hispanic candidates triumphed in both the municipal and legislative areas.

The Hispanic vote, which is predominantly democratic, also contributed to the election of Gray Davis as governor of California, which has been led by prominent Republican figures like Ronald Reagan.

organización representa a 22,000 hispanos en el campo del derecho en toda la nación.

"Como grupo étnico, los hispanos somos más del 10 por ciento de la población de los Estados Unidos, pero sólo un pequeño porcentaje de la profesión legal. No tiene excusa el que las universidades nacionales más importantes continúen funcionando sin profesores latinos de ambos sexos," dice ella. "Continuaremos dirigiendo el 'dedo de la vergüenza' a las escuelas de derecho que no tengan profesorado hispano."

La licenciada Velázquez agrega que, a fin de aumentar la representación hispana en ese terreno, la presencia de catedráticos latinos en las escuelas de derecho es crítica.

La HNBA considera que la Universidad de St. Mary's, en San Antonio, con siete catedráticos hispanos en su profesorado, y la Universidad de Nuevo México, con seis latinos, son las instituciones con los mejores historiales.

La facultad de derecho de Ohio State University fué la recién llegada a la lista este año. Su decano, Gregory Williams, dice que la universidad está redoblando sus gestiones para reclutar a hispanos. "Un 18 por ciento de nuestro profesorado son minorías. Desgraciadamente, ninguno es hispano. Estamos entrevistando a hispanos para plazas en el profesorado."

La lista les obligó a contratar latinos," alega Oliva. "Alguno tiene que llamarles la atención e iniciar el diálogo, o no se hará nada."

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Nowadays you cannot say that political events of interest to Hispanics are circumscribed to certain neighborhoods like East Los Angeles. It is now a general phenomenon. The sleeping giant has awakened," said Harry Pachon, president of the Tomas Rivera Institute.

It is now Hispanic voters' turn to voice their views in the next presidential election. The speed at which the main candidates are learning Spanish is a reflection of their importance.

This is especially evident in California, the most populated state in the union with more than 10 percent of the delegates necessary to win a presidential candidacy and 20 percent of the electoral votes needed to reach the White House.

The Los Angeles Times notes that, despite Hispanics' rapid growth rate, their numbers are still not enough to decide election results. One must also take into account the differences in opinion among recently arrived Hispanics and those who have been settled in the United States for several generations.

According to the latest California polls, the majority of Hispanic voters are younger, poorer and have less schooling than the average voter.

Two-thirds of Hispanic voters have not reached the age of 50, 15 percent earn less than 20,000 dollars per year and one-third of them have merely an elementary school education.

La protesta, a la que se espera acudan más de 10,000 personas en los predios del Fuerte Benning, se llevará a cabo el 20 y 21 de noviembre, para marcar el décimo aniversario de la masacre de seis sacerdotes jesuitas en El Salvador a manos de graduados de SOA en 1989.

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"No nos iremos hasta que esta escuela desaparezca", dijo el padre Roy Bourgeois, codirector del grupo "School of the Americas Watch" que, desde su sede en Washington, lucha por el cierre de la escuela militar.

Para Bourgeois, "el creciente número de manifestantes es prueba de que el pueblo norteamericano no va a tolerar más que el gobierno apoye a una escuela que esté vinculada a crímenes contra la humanidad."

Este año, el movimiento a favor del cierre de la Escuela de las Américas obtuvo el apoyo de dos grupos importantes: los estudiantes y los trabajadores, según indicó el grupo en un comunicado.

Se estima que 5,000 estu-

# A Visit That's Owed to the Kin of Private Martinez

By Rick Martinez

There are tattered photos in my dad's wallet that he has carried with him always. I've known about them since I was a nosy boy of 7, poking through his wallet while he napped. I checked the other day. They're still there.

The snapshots show my dad, Santos "Sandy" Martinez, age 29, at a stateside Army camp shortly before he and the three buddies in the photo shipped out for Europe and World War II. Another shows two other soldiers, including his best Army buddy at the time, Harry Hopkins of Little Rock, Ark. They all served together in Gen. Patton's 3rd Army, Fifth Division, Company L.

Harry perished while crossing the Rhine River in Germany in 1945. Company L was on the move, and Harry's machine gun proved to be too much weight and he drowned. I guess you could say that once my dad realized the war would have to go on without Harry's toothy grin, the value of that photo became priceless.

Ask Dad about the war, and invariably he will pull out his wallet and show you the photos of him and Harry. Each time the guys around Dad's Veterans of Foreign Wars' post in La Mirada, Calif., toast their fallen comrades, Dad raises his glass and remembers Harry. And many, many others who were lost fighting the good fight.

How easy it is to forget those who died in battle, fighting for the U.S. flag. For many of us, Veteran's Day this month meant little more than a day off school. After 21 years as a newspaper reporter and editor, I now teach middle school. My initial reaction to Veteran's Day 1999 was, "Yippee! No school Thursday."

Then I remember Dad's wallet. World War II certainly was this country's last war that was sincerely celebrated at its end. "You should have seen the crowds that met our troop train at every stop all the way home," Dad recalls of 1945. "Everybody wanted to shake your hand. They couldn't get the train out of the station."

More than the snapshots, of course, are the memories. Even at 84, Dad still remembers. There was Uncle Joe. We drove to Fresno one night in 1961. My parents had to claim the body of Joe Hernandez, my mother's baby brother. He was 42 when he died in a cheap

motel. Years later I found out it was booze. I was a kid, and my recollections are slim, but I can remember his mustache. He never seemed happy to me. But he always had a small smile and a nickel for me. I liked him a lot.

Uncle Joe was a tank gunner in North Africa in World War II. He earned five battle stars and two Purple Hearts. He was already in the Army on Dec. 7, 1941, so he was among the first U.S. servicemen to see action.

Dad recalls that Joe saw too much action and just couldn't adjust to civilian life. Dad will acknowledge his own battle with alcohol excess as an answer to those postwar demons that haunt the combat veteran. But the war left an indelible mark on Uncle Joe's soul.

Uncle Joe was a nomad and preferred the life of farm worker, shunning every chance at a regular job. He spent his last days picking grapes. Ma and I accompanied his body on the train trip back to our hometown of San Antonio, Texas, for burial.

My dad's brother, Aurelio "Rudy" Martinez, never made it home to San Antonio. Uncle Rudy died in the Pacific right at the tail end of the war, on April 27, 1945. My Aunt Janie decided he should be buried in Punchbowl National Cemetery in Honolulu, a beautiful site that overlooks the Pacific. All the 22-year-old Rudy knew about the ocean before his 105th Infantry went to the Pacific Theater was that the gulf water was warm down in Corpus Christi. I've visited Uncle Rudy twice. I've left a Hawaiian lei each time.

Then there's Robert Burciaga, "El Rey de las Mujeres" — "King of the Women." His nickname and the fact he drove a motorcycle with a sidecar indicate that he was one colorful character. He sparked my mother's older sister and was one of my dad's best friends in the neighborhood, the south side of San Antonio. He married Ma's cousin Pina. He went to World War I and was a POW in Europe.

When the war in Europe ended, my dad's two battle stars earned him a 30-day furlough in San Antonio. "General Patton told us to enjoy our furlough because he was taking us to the Pacific to teach MacArthur how to kill Japs. Then they dropped the bomb, and the

war was over."

In San Antonio, Dad ran into Robert Burciaga. He tried to get Dad to re-enlist with him. Dad was tempted. But he told Robert he had two young sons and a wife (he would add me to the family in 1955), and had had enough of war. El Rey met his maker during the Korean War, where many of his 2nd Division comrades were wiped out.

Interesting enough, it is the memory of one warrior whom Dad knew very briefly that seems to haunt him the most. That is the irony of war, I suppose. Dad knew his last name was also Martinez and they shared a cigarette and small talk from time to time in Belgium. My dad was Company L ("They called us Love Company"), and Private Martinez was Company C. As a T-5, my dad was always on the move, he and his sergeant shuttling ammunition to Company L.

One day during a battle with German tank troops in Belgium, my dad's buddies found a casualty and thought it was Santos Martinez. Needless to say, Dad got a fair share of slaps on the back when he "returned from the dead" later that day carrying M-1 ammo. Dad went over to the dead man, the name Martinez emblazoned on his jacket, and saw it was Martinez from Company C, "a mexicano from Denver, Colorado."

My dad is still bothered by the memory. "I wish I had gotten his information from Company C and went and visited his people in Denver, Colorado. But so much was happening, you just had to keep going."

Now if Dad ever meets any kin of Private Martinez, I am not sure exactly what he would tell them. That is really between him and them. I am guessing he would not say much about the condition of the body he found that day, but he might tell the family how Private Martinez lived during those final days in Belgium.

If Private Martinez was your kin, my dad figures he owes you a visit. Let me know, and I'll set it up.

(Rick Martinez is a sixth-grade teacher at Mesa Linda Middle School in Victorville, Calif. He may be reached at: rickmartinez(AT SIGN)earthlink.net)

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## Letters to El Editor

### Texas Rankings Under Bush: Good Enough for You?

AUSTIN, TEXAS — A quick look at Texas under Bush: National Ranking Among 50 States follows each. Source footnotes in ( ).

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#### The Education Governor

Teacher salaries at beginning of 1st term - 36th (1); Teacher salaries at beginning of 2nd term - 38th (1); % Change in Average Salaries 1987-97 constant \$ -5.4%; Teacher salaries plus benefits - 50th (1); High school completion rate - 46th (2)

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#### Bush Family Values

Highest number of children living in poverty - 2nd (3); Highest number of children without health insurance - 2nd (3); Highest % of children without health insurance - 1st (3); Highest % of population without health insurance - 2nd (3); Highest Teen Birth Rate - 5th (4); Per capita funding for public health - 48th (4); Delivery of social services - 47th (4); Mothers receiving prenatal care - 45th (9); Teen smoking - down nationally, flat in Texas (5); Teen drug use - down nationally, up in Texas (5)

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#### Pollution

Pollution released by manufacturing plants - 1st (6); Pollution by industrial plants in violation of Clean Air Act - 1st (6); Greenhouse gas emissions - 1st (6)

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#### Quality of Life

Spending for parks and recreation - 48th (7); Spending for the arts - 48th (7); Public libraries and branches - 46th (8)

Spending for the environment - 49th (7); Best place to raise children - 48th (9)

#### Sources:

(1) National Education Agency; (2) U.S. Department of Education Office of Educational Research and Development; (3) U.S. Bureau of Census, Current Population Trends; (4) U.S. Dept. Health and Human Services National Center for Health Statistics; (5) 1998 Texas School Survey of Substance Use Among Students: Grades 7-12, Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; (6) U.S. EPA, Office of Pollution and Prevention; (7) Texas Observer; (8) Statistical Rankings by State; (9) Children's Rights Council

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# Una Visita Que Se Adeuda a Los Familiares del Soldado Martinez

Por Rick Martinez

Hay fotografías viejas en la billeteira de mi padre que él ha llevado consigo siempre. He sabido de ellas desde que yo era un niño curioso de 7 años que buscaba en su billeteira mientras él dormía la siesta. Volví a comprobarlas el otro día. Todavía están allí.

Las fotos muestran a mi padre, Santos "Sandy" Martinez, a la edad de 29 años, en un campamento del Ejército en los Estados Unidos, poco antes de que él y sus tres compañeros de la foto se embarcaran para Europa y la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Otra muestra a otros dos soldados, incluyendo a su mejor amigo del Ejército en aquella época, Harry Hopkins, de Little Rock, Arkansas. Todos prestaron servicios juntos en el Tercer Ejército del General Patton, Quinta División, Compañía L.

Harry pereció mientras atravesaba el Rin en Alemania en 1945. La Compañía L estaba en movimiento y la ametralladora de Harry probó ser demasiado pesada y se ahogó. Me imagino que ustedes podrían decir que una vez que mi padre se dió cuenta de que la guerra tendría que seguir adelante sin la sonrisa de Harry, el valor de aquella foto llegó a ser inapreciable.

Pregúntele a papá sobre la guerra, y él sacará su billeteira y les mostrará las fotos de Harry con él. Cada vez que los colegas del puesto de los Veteranos de Guer-

ras Foráneas (VFW, en inglés) del que papá es miembro en La Mirada, California, brindan por sus camaradas desaparecidos, papá levanta su copa y recuerda a Harry. Y a muchos, muchos otros que se perdieron combatiendo la buena lucha.

¡Cuán fácil es olvidar a los que murieron en combate, peleando por la bandera de los Estados Unidos! Para muchos de nosotros, el Día de los Veteranos este mes significa poco más que un día sin clases en las escuelas. Después de 21 años como reportero y editor de periódicos, ahora dio clases en una escuela. Mi reacción inicial al Día de los Veteranos de 1999 fué: "¡Yippee! No habrá clases el jueves."

Entonces recuerdo la billeteira de papá. La Segunda Guerra Mundial fué ciertamente la última guerra de este país que se celebró con ganas al terminar. "Tenían que ver las multitudes que recibieron a nuestro tren militar en todas las paradas del camino hacia casa," recuerda papá sobre 1945. "Todos querían estrecharlos las manos. Era imposible sacar al tren de las estaciones."

Más que las fotos, desde luego, son los recuerdos. Aún a sus 84 años de edad, papá recuerda todavía. Ahí estuvo el Tío Joe. Viajamos a Fresno en una noche de 1961. Mis padres tuvieron que reclamar el cadáver de Joe Hernández, el hermano menor de

mi madre. El tenía 42 años de edad cuando murió en un motel barato. Años después, supe que se debía al alcohol.

Yo era un niño y mis recuerdos son vagos, pero puedo recordar su bigote. El nunca me pareció como que era feliz. Pero siempre tenía una pequeña sonrisa y unos velones para mí. Me gustaba mucho.

El Tío Joe era artillero de un tanque en el Norte de África en la Segunda Guerra Mundial. El recibió cinco estrellas de combate y dos Purple Hearts. Estaba ya alistado en el Ejército el 7 de diciembre de 1941, de modo que estuvo entre los primeros militares estadounidenses que participaron en acciones de guerra.

Papá recuerda que Joe vió demasiada guerra y nunca pudo ajustarse a la vida civil. Papá reconoce que su propia lucha contra el exceso de alcohol puede ser una respuesta a aquellos demonios de postguerra que asedian al veterano de los combates. Pero la guerra dejó una señal indeleble en el alma del Tío Joe.

El Tío Joe era un nómada y prefería la vida del trabajador agrícola, desechar todos las oportunidades de tener un empleo normal. El pasó sus últimos días recogiendo uvas. Mamá y yo acompañamos a su cadáver en el viaje por tren de regreso a nuestro pueblo natal de San Antonio, Texas, para darle sepultura.

El hermano de papá, Aurelio

"Rudy" Martinez, nunca regresó a San Antonio. El Tío Rudy murió en el Pacífico, casi al final de la guerra, el 27 de abril de 1945. Mi Tía Janie decidió que él debería ser enterrado en el Cementerio Nacional de Punchbowl, en Honolulu, un lugar bello que da al Pacífico. Todo lo que Rudy, de 22 años de edad, sabía sobre el océano antes de que su Regimiento 105 de Infantería fuera al Pacífico era que el agua del golfo era cálida en Corpus Christi. He visitado dos veces al Tío Rudy. Cada vez he dejado un león en su tumba.

Entonces estuvo Robert Burciaga, "El Rey de las Mujeres." Su apodo y el hecho de que él conducía una motocicleta con un carrito lateral indicaban que él era un individuo interesante. El llamó la atención de la hermana mayor de mi madre y fué uno de los mejores amigos de papá en el vecindario, en la parte sur de San Antonio. Se casó con la prima de mamá, Pina.

Fué a la Segunda Guerra Mundial y fué Prisionero de Guerra en Europa.

Cuando terminó la guerra en Europa, las dos estrellas de combate de papá le valieron una licencia de 30 días en San Antonio. "El General Patton nos dijo que disfrutáramos de nuestra licencia, porque él estaría llevándonos al Pacífico para enseñarle a Europa.

Un día, durante una batalla contra las tropas de tanques alemanas en Bélgica, los compañeros de papá encontraron un cadáver y pensaron que era Santos Martinez.

Arthur el modo de matar japonés. Entonces tiraron la bomba (en Hiroshima y Nagasaki) y se acabó la guerra."

En San Antonio, papá se encontró a Robert Burciaga. El trató de convencer a papá que se volviera a alistarse con él. Papá se sintió tentado. Pero le dijo a Robert que él tenía dos hijos pequeños y una esposa (él me agregaría a la familia en 1955) y que ya había tenido suficiente de la guerra. El Rey se encontró con su creador durante la Guerra de Corea, donde muchos de sus camaradas de la 2 División fueron berridos del mapa.

Es interesante que sea el recuerdo de un guerrero a quien papá conoció brevemente lo que parecía asediárselo más. Esa es la ironía de la guerra, supongo. Papá sabía que su apellido era también Martinez, y ellos compartían un cigarrillo y charlaban de vez en cuando en Bélgica. Mi padre era miembro de la Compañía L y el Soldado Martinez era de la Compañía C. En su calidad de Especialista Técnico 5, mi padre estaba siempre en movimiento, ya que él y su sargento transportaban municiones para la Compañía L.

Un día, durante una batalla contra las tropas de tanques alemanas en Bélgica, los compañeros de papá encontraron un cadáver y pensaron que era Santos Martinez.

Rick Martinez es maestro de sexto grado en la Escuela Intermedia de Mesa Linda, Victorville, California.

Pueden comunicarse con él por el indicativo: rickmartinez@earthlink.net

No es necesario decir que papá fuera agasajado cuando "regresó de entre los muertos" más tarde aquel día, transportando municiones para los rifles M-1. Papá fue a donde estaba el hombre muerto, con el apellido Martinez bordado en su chaqueta, y vió que era Martinez, de la Compañía C, "un mexicano de Denver, Colorado."

A mi padre aún le molesta el recuerdo. "Desearía haber obtenido su información de la Compañía C y haber ido a visitar a sus familiares en Denver, Colorado. Pero había tantas cosas sucediendo que uno sólo tenía que seguir adelante."

Ahora, si papá conociera alguna vez a cualquier familiar del Soldado Martinez, no estoy exactamente seguro de lo que él le diría. Eso es realmente entre ellos. Estoy advirtiendo que él no diría mucho sobre el estado del cadáver que él encontró aquél día, pero sí podría decirle a la familia cómo vivió el soldado Martinez durante aquellos días finales en Bélgica.

Si el soldado Martinez era familiar de ustedes, mi papá se imagina que él les adeuda una visita. Háganmelo saber y yo haré los arreglos.

(Rick Martinez es maestro de sexto grado en la Escuela Intermedia de Mesa Linda, Victorville, California. Pueden comunicarse con él por el indicativo: rickmartinez@earthlink.net)

**Children of War: Salvadoran American Youth Coming of Age in America 10 years After Key Guerrilla Offensive**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Ten years ago as the Berlin Wall fell, guerrillas in El Salvador launched a spectacular offensive against the U.S.-backed government, an event which finally pushed all sides to a peace table. During the 12-year civil war a massive diaspora began and today a fifth of El Salvadorans — perhaps a million persons — live in the United States. Three voices from the new generation speak of gang murder, family love that crosses borders, and a flash of understanding about what came before. Shadow and Salvation, a journal by Salvadoran-American teenagers, will be published by Pacific News Service. Mr. Snoopy is the pseudonym of Josue Rojas, a 19-year old spoken word artist in San Francisco.

#### MY CRAZY LIFE, BY MR. SNOOPY

My crazy life started when I was a young kid in El Salvador. My father came to the United States before I was born because people were looking for him. When I was three, my mom had to leave for the United States because she had been in the guerrilla, "out of necessity," it was always said. I was left alone with my brothers and sisters and my grandmother. At school I spent most of my time joking around but sometimes I didn't like how other people joked so I started to fight a lot. When I came to the United States I lived with my older sister who put me in Mission High School. There I got into problems because the vatos said I wasn't from there. I got into a gang and still went to school until a vato tried to mess with me and said we should shoot it out. I didn't answer him because I wanted to study but after some time I fought with somebody else and he told me, "When you get out of school I'm going to kill you." I told him that I had been offered that millions of times. But I decided not to go back to school because I was already burned out. One day I left my house around 1 p.m. and my homies were waiting outside. I told my mom that we were going to work. But we went to a party 'cause it was Saturday. There were some nice girls there and all my homies were singing and dancing. After a while we were going crazy and there was a fight because of some girls that were from the other hood. Then the girls said they didn't want to be with us so we started to take them home. But we ran into some more vatos from the other hood and that's when the problems started. The girls started to cry when they heard the shots. Two vatos fell to the ground, one dead and the other wounded. Nobody from our group got hurt. Some called the police and they got us — 7 of ours and 3 from the other hood. They asked us a bunch of questions, but they didn't find the guns. But the girls said we had raped them and that we were from the gang that had shot the guys that took away in the ambulance. Now I've been sentenced to 25 to life. But there is still a chance because the other guys didn't show up to court, and we'll see what happens. My message is that if you go to a party don't drink too much, and if you like a girl hold off. So

# In 20 Years Arte Público Has Made An Indelible Mark On Publishing

By FRITZ LANHAM

HOUSTON, Book publishing is a tough business. Small houses come and go.

Big houses get gobbled up by bigger ones.

Arte Público Press, based at the University of Houston, is one of the publishing world's success stories. It began with a clear mission: to provide an outlet for Hispanic authors around the country. In its first year, it published one book.

As Arte Público recently celebrated its 20th birthday with a gala, the number of titles in its catalog has swollen to 275. "Indispensable," is the word respected novelist and Arte Público author Rolando Hinojosa uses to describe the press' impact on Latino literature in this country.

Nicolas Kanellos, founder and director of Arte Público, is a 54-year-old professor of modern and classical languages at UH and a tireless, articulate advocate for the work of American Hispanic authors.

Speaking in his modest office, part of a rabbit warren Arte Público occupies in the Cullen Performance Hall, he explains that he started the press because Hispanic authors simply weren't being published by mainstream houses.

The books that were being published, such as Piri Thomas' "Down These Mean Streets," were autobiographical accounts of gang life or impoverished upbringings, describing a relatively narrow range of experience.

In 1973, teaching in Gary, Ind., Kanellos founded a literary magazine, Revista Chicano-Riqueno. That journal, which still exists under the title The Americas Review, gave Latino writers an avenue to a largely academic audience.

But a more important development came with the late-1970s rise of ethnic studies courses in colleges and universities. Students and teachers needed course material, and that meant books.

Kanellos seized the opportunity, and in 1979 founded Arte Público Press.

The debut title: "La Carreta Made a U-Turn," a collection of poetry by Tato Laviera.

In 1980 Kanellos received an offer to move to the University of Houston and bring the press with him. That year the number of new releases rose to three.

Today the press publishes 30 to 35 titles a year, about 85 percent in English and the rest in Spanish. Most are released as trade paperback originals. Unlike commercial publishers, Arte Público keeps virtually all of its titles in print. For example, you can still order a copy of "La Carreta Made a U-Turn," now in a second edition.

Although Arte Público originally focused on literary fiction and poetry, it has broadened its range. Today the catalog includes detective novels, memoirs, history, reference works, books for teen-agers and picture books for children, as well as poetry and literary fiction.

The nonfiction list emphasizes history and the Hispanic civil rights movement "because they're areas that have not really been plumbed and are critical for the development of Hispanic identity in the United States," Kanellos says.

In 1994 the press released "The Handbook of Hispanic Culture in the United States," a much-praised four-volume reference work.

Less weighty fare includes such crime novels as Hinojosa's 1998 "Ask a Policeman," set on the Texas-Mexico border, or Lucha Corp's series featuring the sleuth Gloria Damasco, the latest of which, "Black Widow's Wardrobe," came out in September. But Kanellos says the press won't publish fiction that lacks literary heft.

"When Lucha writes a crime novel, she sets it in a historical

context and quite often goes deep into culture. "Black Widow's Wardrobe" is set during the Day of the Dead and explores myth and history that go back to pre-Columbian Mexico.

"We won't publish just a formula book."

Children's literature is an area of growing importance. Bilingual picture books, books for families, literacy programs and children of all ages are issued under the Pinata Books imprint, started in 1994.

Arte Público also tours writers in schools. In 1998 the press sponsored 170 such visits coast to coast. In Houston, Kanellos estimates, Arte Público authors visit 40 or 50 classrooms a year.

While Arte Público's largest audience remains college students, particularly in Hispanic history and literature courses, about 40 percent of the press' sales come from general bookstores.

"So I assume we're reaching general audiences, probably more heavily Hispanic, but I don't know," Kanellos says. Not surprisingly, given its large Latino population, California is the largest market for Arte Público books.

This year the press has taken a big step outside traditional academic publishing and started putting its books on spinner racks in grocery stores.

"We're in about 30 or 35 Krogers and Fiestas in Houston, and we just went into Dallas through Kroger. Our goal is to get up to about 300 throughout Texas and go into San Antonio and the Valley."

The experiment seems to be working. About two-thirds of the books put on the racks are sold. Wholesalers tell Kanellos that's a very good rate.

"Could be a cash cow," he says cheerfully.

The growth of the press has been gradual, though things did pick up steam in the early 1990s as the debate grew over whether the literary canon featured too many dead white males and too few black, brown and female writers.

"The Wall Street Journal ran a headline stating that the great books were being replaced by the not-so great," Kanellos says, laughing. "They were talking about our books, as well as others by African-American and Asian-American writers. So word was getting out that there were these books available."

The controversy over Victor Villasenor's "Rain of Gold" also helped put Arte Público on the map, in part by getting large distributors interested.

Dutton, a major New York house, had contracted to publish the family saga, but insisted that Villasenor cut the manuscript, retitle it "Rio Grande" and market it as fiction.

The California-based Villasenor gave back his \$75,000 advance and took his manuscript to Arte Público, which published "Rain of Gold" in 1991 as its first hardcover. The book remains in print in hardcover from Arte Público and in paperback from Bantam.

"The Rain of Gold" experience was crucial for us, because it taught us how to publish a hardcover release and really slug it out with the big boys," Kanellos says.

The book was a regional best seller, but the press encountered resistance when trying to sell nationwide. Some parts of the country simply weren't receptive to Latino literature.

"One wholesaler didn't take 'Rain of Gold' because the cover was, quote, too ethnic, unquote," Kanellos says. The lucrative Northeast market in particular is tough to crack for Hispanic writers, he says.

Of the manuscripts Arte Público publishes, about 30 percent to 40 percent are submitted by literary agents. But Arte Público is

"one of the few presses that still opens the mail," Kanellos says, which means its editors actually look at unsolicited material. He estimates that another 30 percent to 40 percent of Arte Público titles come "over the transom," in the phrase of the trade.

Graciela Limón's "In Search of Bernabe" (1993), winner of an American Book Award, is one over-the-transom title that has done well. Last spring Limón published "The Day of the Moon," her fourth book with Arte Público.

The remainder come from authors who have become part of the Arte Público "stable." Poet Pat Mora, children's author Judith Ortiz Cofer and novelist Nicholasa Mohr are among that number.

Altogether the press gets more than 2,000 submissions each year for its 30 to 35 publishing slots, Kanellos says.

"We invest in (new authors), which is hard. The hardest part of publishing fiction is launching that first book, when nobody knows the author.

"Quite often that first book goes down the drain and you don't sell anything. So when we do this we have to be thinking about the second book, and that works out quite often."

Among the best-known authors who have published with Arte Público are poet Sandra Cisneros and novelists Ana Castillo and Julia Alvarez.

Two-thirds to three-fourths of Arte Público books are by Mexican-American authors. But the press is stretching into Cuban-American literature simply because so many new young writers, like Florida's Virgil Suarez, are producing good material.

And the press has embarked on a project to reprint all the fiction of Jose Yglesias, an important Cuban-American writer who died in 1995 and who wrote more than a dozen books of fiction and nonfiction beginning in the early 1960s.

A relatively small number of titles by Puerto Rican writers fills out the catalog.

The press has 16 full-time and more than 20 part-time staff members.

Revenues from books total more than \$1 million a year. The press also receives grant support.

"We try to break even every year as a nonprofit organization," Kanellos says. "Most years we break even and bank a little bit. A couple years we ran a deficit."

Arte Público aggressively advertises itself as "the oldest and largest publisher of U.S. Hispanic literature." Kanellos says only two other publishers in the country share the same mission.

Bilingual Press at Arizona State University in Tempe and a Cuban exile publisher in Miami, Ediciones Universal, which publishes only in Spanish. (The Pittsburgh-based journal Latin American Literary Review publishes six or seven titles a year in translation.) Among the press' most important activities is the Recovering the U.S.

Hispanic Literary Heritage Project.

From the beginning of his ca-

reer, Kanellos realized that American Hispanics had produced a vast amount of literature over the centuries.

Unfortunately, much of it was, if not lost, at least unavailable, sitting uncataloged in archives or squirrelled away in people's attics.

Americo Paredes, the great folklorist with whom Kanellos studied as a doctoral student at the University of Texas, pointed out the importance of Spanish-language newspapers, which published stories, essays and poetry as well as traditional journalism. Paredes himself first published poetry in San Antonio and Brownsville newspapers.

Somebody should try to find those old papers, Paredes said.

But it really wasn't until the mid-1980s that the cohort of scholars specializing in Latino culture was large enough and had enough clout in academia to launch a major research project to recover lost Hispanic literature. By the early 1990s the advent of the Internet made researching this material much easier.

In 1990, funding from the Rockefeller Foundation helped launch Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project.

Its goal: "to locate, identify, preserve and make accessible the literary contributions of U.S. Hispanics from colonial times through 1960 in what today comprises the 50 states of the Union."

One part of the project is to

find, microfilm and make available through the Internet the poetry, fiction, essays, plays and editorials published in some 900 Spanish-language newspapers.

Altogether, Kanellos says, some 2,400 newspapers were published by Hispanic communities between 1808 and 1960.

"The mission of the newspaper was greater than, for instance, a newspaper in Mexico City or Madrid or Havana," Kanellos says. "In this immigrant or native community the mission was to preserve the language and the culture. (That was) stated very clearly. And they felt that the highest model was literary."

The project funds visits to archives by scholars, who catalog and index any written material that could classify as Hispanic literature, from botanical treatises to novels. Kanellos estimates that a thousand people nationwide are involved in the recovery project.

Much of the material will be published only in electronic form, but Arte Público currently has in print 15 books that also serve as examples of recovered literature. These include Leonor Villegas de Magnon's "The Rebel," a never-published autobiography written in the 1920s by a Mexican-American feminist who served as a nurse in the Mexican Revolution. The manuscript was found in the Houston home of Villegas' descendants.

There's also Miguel Antonio Otero Jr.'s early biography of gunfighter Billy the Kid and Mara Amparo Ruiz de Burton's novel "The Squatter and the Don," published in 1885 and offering insight into the response of California Mexicans to the U.S. acquisition of California after the Mexican-American War.

Describing the impact of the project, Kanellos says, "It has helped us understand how the (Hispanic) community organized

## Breves de la Salud

### Muchas Legumbres Durante Embarazo Pueden Alterar Feto

Los Ángeles, EE.UU. - Una dieta rica en legumbres puede ser muy beneficiosa para los adultos, pero también alterar el desarrollo del feto, si se mantiene durante el embarazo y la lactancia, según un estudio del Centro Médico Cedars Sinai de Los Ángeles.

El estudio, hecho con animales y personas, no ha logrado identificar cómo pueden afectar esos cambios la salud del niño, pero ha confirmado que unas sustancias que contienen las legumbres, denominadas isoflavones, modifican la acción de las hormonas de la madre, responsables del desarrollo fetal.

"Somos unas criaturas realmente muy diferentes cuando somos un embrión o un feto, un niño o un adolescente y un adulto en edad reproductiva o un adulto de edad avanzada," ha señalado Claude Hughes, médico de Cedars Sinai.

Los isoflavones se encuentran en general en todas las legumbres y en especial en la soja. Mediante una investigación con ratas preñadas de laboratorio, los científicos comprobaron que, cuando se les suministró genisteína, un isoflavón con propiedades hormonales, los fetos sufrieron modificaciones notables.

Los isoflavones, también llamados fitoestrógenos, han demostrado efectos beneficiosos para prevenir los perjuicios de la menopausia, pero en el caso del feto, los científicos creen que pueden actuar de modo distinto.

Una de las modificaciones observadas en los animales tratados con genisteína fue la "masculinización" de los fetos, tanto en machos como en hembras, según se comprobó mediante criterios establecidos de distancia entre el ano y los genitales.

"Estas hormonas influyen en el modo en que el cerebro del feto se organiza, el modo en que las células y los órganos se desarrollan, incluso el modo en que las funciones del sistema inmunológico se desarrollan," ha señalado Hughes.

"Si la madre come algo o tiene en la grasa de su cuerpo algo que actúa como una hormona sexual,

es lógico preguntarse si eso puede cambiar el desarrollo del niño, si hay un impacto y si ese impacto es benéfico, negativo o irrelevante", añadió.

## City-Wide Thanksgiving Service

Everyone in the Lubbock area is invited to attend the "City-Wide Thanksgiving Service" Tuesday, November 23rd, at 7:00 p.m., at Lakeridge United Methodist Church, 4701 82nd. This year's theme is "For A Century of Blessings ... A Celebration Of Thanks!" There will be diverse musical performances by various singers/musicians from amany different churches in the Lubbock area.

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# OJO POR OJO

Por Jorge Antonio Renaud

El viernes 18 de mayo de 1781, los coloniales ejecutaron a Tupac Amaru por sus actividades revolucionarias contra España. Amaru, descendiente de los Incas, era el último de nueve rebeldes muertos en esa mañana en la plaza principal de Cuzco.

Después de extirparle la lengua, se ataron sogas a sus manos y pies, entonces las sujetaron a cuatro caballos, que fueron azotados en cuatro direcciones distintas como tentativa de desmembrar al Inca.

Los caballos tiraron poderosamente, pero sin éxito. El dirigente revolucionario se sostuvo allí, como una araña, hasta que el espectáculo fué demasiado, y entonces lo decapitaron. Su cadáver fué tendido debajo de la horca y le cortaron las manos y los pies. Lo que quedó fué llevado a la ciudad de Machu Picchu, quemado y las cenizas lanzadas al aire y a una corriente de agua próxima.

Y entonces la ejecución estuvo completa. Los españoles querían que el hombre muriera, vean ustedes.

El debate sobre la pena de muerte es extrañamente antiséptico, limpiado de sangre por el reflejo peculiarmente estadounidense de ocultar todo lo des-

gradable en eufemismos.

Este impulso de no ofender a nadie con las realidades de la vida y la muerte da vueltas casi cómicas -- no morimos, "pasamos al más allá"; no tenemos relaciones sexuales, nos "acostamos"; no somos ni bajitos ni gordos ni calvos, sino "desafiando gravedad vertical, horizontal y folicularmente."

Nuestros intentos para separar a la vida de su fealdad no son todos tan humorísticos ni insignificantes. La búsqueda de sinónimos alcanza dimensiones grotescas cuando racionalizamos a la ejecución.

Debatiremos frívolamente la disuisión, presentando estadísticas para reforzar a cualquier argumento. Debatiremos con soltura por qué está bien ejecutar a genios, pero quizás no a los enfermos mentales. Abrigamos seriamente la noción de que la ejecución es más eficaz en cuanto al costo que la encarcelación de por vida, asumiendo desde luego que limitemos las apelaciones -- et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

Nos retiramos desde la horca a la cámara de gas a la silla eléctrica a la camilla con ruedas para hacer que las ejecuciones sean más humanitarias, para eliminar de algún modo los saltos, espasmas y

mos y estremecimientos del moribundo, porque después de todo no es dolor ni sufrimiento lo que deseábamos inducir.

Sencillamente esperamos que el condenado "pague por sus delitos". Queremos "que se haga justicia." Nosotros, el pueblo, hemos intelectualizado el debate sobre la pena de muerte, y ya no hablamos sinceramente de lo que hacemos en la cámara de la muerte.

Esto es cobardía. Queríamos que Kenneth McDuff muriera. Queríamos que Karla Faye Tucker muriera. Queríamos que los cientos de hombres y mujeres de las galeras de la muerte murieran.

Queremos sentir cada pedacito del terror que marchita el alma, cada segundo de la degradación violenta que ellos hicieron sentir a sus víctimas, y si alguien más recibe el mensaje, está bien, pero eso no es necesario realmente. Esta persona en particular cometió un delito que nos horroriza, y sencillamente queríamos que esta persona muriera.

Las emociones son comprensibles y humanas, especialmente si alguien ha sufrido la muerte de un ser amado de manera especialmente brutal. La tristeza, la pérdida, la ira y la venganza son las

llamas con las cuales se encienden las conflagraciones. Esas son las razones de que mi estado de Texas se haya sentido impulsado a intervenir como verdugo, a agregar una sembla de justicia y a proporcionar un amortiguador entre las dos partes, para que un ciclo de violencia desenfrenada no se apodere de nosotros.

Pero la equidad, la justicia y la inocencia son conceptos que pueden tergiversarse; son sacrificados en el altar de la conveniencia por los políticos que llevan encuestas. De modo que, una vez más, nos quedamos con el delito, el delincuente y las víctimas gritando por la muerte de la persona que se les dice que es la que hay que culpar.

Si nos unimos a esa protesta ruidosa; si nos convertimos en parte de esa turba, entonces deberíamos estar dispuestos a decirle a esa persona, en su cara, o a cualquiera que pregunte, sin vacilación: Queremos que usted se pudra, que se eche en su excremento hasta que su aliento y su corazón se detengan.

Queremos que usted esté muerto.

(Jorge Antonio Renaud está cumpliendo una sentencia de 60 años en la prisión estatal de Texas en Huntsville.)

**Lea  
El Editor**

## EYE FOR AN EYE

AN EYE FOR AN EYE

By Jorge Antonio Renaud

On Friday, the 18th of May, 1781, colonial officials executed Tupac Amaru for his revolutionary activities against Spain. A descendant of the Incas, Amaru was the last of nine rebels killed that morning in the square of the main plaza at Cuzco.

After Amaru's tongue was removed, ropes were tied to his hands and feet, then fastened to four horses, which were urged in four different directions in an attempt to tear the Inca apart. The horses pulled mighty, but to no avail. The revolutionary leader hung there, like a spider, until the spectacle was too much, and he was beheaded. His body was laid under the gallows and his hands and feet cut off. What remained was taken to the city of Picchu and set afire, and the ashes cast into the air and a nearby stream.

And then the execution was done. The Spaniards wanted the man dead, you see.

The debate about the death penalty is strangely antisepctic, bleached bloodless by the peculiar U.S. reflex to cloak everything distasteful in euphemisms.

This compulsion not to offend anyone with the realities of life and death takes almost-comic turns -- we don't die, we pass; we don't have sex, we sleep together; we are neither short nor fat nor bald, but vertically and horizontally and follicularly challenged.

Our attempts to leach life of its ugliness are not all so humorous or inconsequential. The search for synonyms reaches grotesque dimensions when we rationalize execution.

We will airily discuss deterrence, producing statistics to prop up either argument. We will

glibly debate why it is right to execute geniuses, but perhaps not the mentally ill. We seriously entertain the notion that execution is more cost-effective than lifelong incarceration, assuming, of course, that we limit appeals -- et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

We retreated from the gallows to the gas chamber to the electric chair to the gurney to make executions more humane, to somehow remove the jerks and spasms and shudders of the dying because, after all, it is not pain or suffering we meant to induce.

We simply expect the condemned to "pay for their crimes." We want "justice to be done." We the people have intellectualized the capital punishment debate, and we no longer speak honestly of what we do in the death chamber.

This is cowardly. We wanted Kenneth McDuff dead. We wanted Karla Faye Tucker dead. We wanted the hundreds of men and women on death row dead.

We want to feel every bit of soul-searing terror, every second of violent degradation they made their victims feel, and if anyone

else gets the message, fine, but that really isn't necessary. This particular person committed a crime that makes us aghast, and we simply want this person dead.

The emotions are understandable and human, especially if one has had a loved one killed in a particularly brutal fashion. Grief and loss and rage and revenge are the flames from which conflagrations are lit. They are why my state of Texas has felt compelled to step in as executioner, to add a semblance of fairness and provide a buffer between the two parties, lest a cycle of wanton violence take hold.

But fairness and justice and innocence are concepts that can be twisted; they are sacrificed on the altar of expediency by politicians bearing polls. So once again, we are left with the crime, the criminal, and the victims crying for the death of the person they are told is to blame.

If we join that hue and cry, if we become part of that mob, then we should be willing to tell that person, to his or her face, to anyone who asks, without hesitation: We want you to foul yourself, to lie in your excrement as your breath and heart stop.

We want you dead.

(Jorge Antonio Renaud is serving a 60-year sentence as a three-time offender in Texas state prison in Huntsville.)

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## Noticias Breves

### Bradley Busca el Apoyo de los Hispanos en Denver

Por Francisco Miraval

(Denver Colorado), - Como parte de su campaña política y en busca del voto hispano, el precandidato presidencial demócrata Bill Bradley visitó este jueves la ciudad de Denver, donde se reunió con un selecto grupo de activistas latinos y políticos locales.

Durante su visita a Denver, Bradley, junto a la representante Diana DeGette, visitó Clyburn Village, un complejo habitacional en el noreste de la ciudad, con alta concentración de inmigrantes hispanos y afroamericanos.

DeGette ha dado públicamente su apoyo a Bradley para los comicios presidenciales del 2000.

"Felicitó a la representante DeGette por su acciones a favor de la comunidad, y exhortó a los miembros de grupos minoritarios a participar activamente en la política", dijo Bradley, ex senador de Nueva Jersey.

La agresiva campaña política de Bradley ha puesto a la defensiva al vicepresidente Al Gore, quien ha lanzado una serie de ataques contra su rival demócrata, criticando sus posturas en temas como el Seguro Social, y el sistema de asistencia pública conocido como Medicare.

Las encuestas de opinión demuestran que Bradley continúa aventajando a Gore, especialmente en New Hampshire y Nueva York.

"Hace cuatro o cinco años, jamás hubiese pensado ni siquiera en transitar por este lugar. Ahora, hasta vemos políticos nacionales visitando este barrio", comentó María Lezcano, coordinadora de actividades juveniles en un centro comunitario de la zona.

Según Lezcano, entre el 40 y 60 por ciento de los habitantes en esa zona de Denver son de origen hispano, lo cual demuestra el cambio demográfico que han causado los inmigrantes, particularmente de México.

"Los políticos locales y nacionales reconocen el potencial electoral de este área. Por eso ahora nos visitan y hasta nos hablan en español", dijo John Mancha, director de un centro de ayuda comunitaria, refiriéndose al discurso en español que pronunció la esposa de Bradley ante un grupo de mujeres hispanas.

La reunión con las jóvenes madres fue coordinada por "Mi Casa - Recursos para Mujeres" una organización de Denver que desde 1976 ofrece ayuda social a adolescentes y mujeres hispanas.

Con la visita de la pareja Bradley, las autoridades locales buscaban promover un diálogo sobre cómo mejorar las condiciones sociales de la mujer como minoría.

"Es bueno tener este tipo de ejemplos motivadores", dijo EFE Susana, una joven madre hispana de 19 años quien prefirió reservar su apellido.

"En la escuela, cada vez que no entiendo, los profesores sólo me recomiendan que abandone la escuela. Es bueno que alguien muestre que vale la pena estudiar", agregó.

Susana, de origen mexicano, es una de las 3.500 madres solteras hispanas del oeste de Denver, y una de las 240.000 de todo el país.

Según estadísticas oficiales, menos del 30 por ciento de las jóvenes hispanas decide ponerle fin a su embarazo precoz, y tres de cada 10 adolescentes hispanas deciden tener un hijo hasta después del matrimonio.

Más allá de las estadísticas, para jóvenes como Susana lo importante es tener ejemplos vivos de que se puede salir adelante pese a los obstáculos en el camino.

"Ahora sé que puedo estudiar, y sé que tengo que hacerlo por mis padres, y también por mi bebé", agregó la joven mexicana.

Además de aprovechar la vista para recaudar fondos y para acercarse a los hispanos, Bradley no perdió la oportunidad de reiterar su postura a favor de los programas de acción afirmativa y de la unidad racial.

Afirmó asimismo que encontrará a los culpables con la ayuda de las autoridades federales.

"Creemos que todo eso es parte del racismo", aseguró el presidente de LULAC, con sede en Houston, la organización hispana más antigua de Estados Unidos.

Dovalina se refirió también a una reciente encuesta que contenía términos ofensivos sobre los hispanos y que fue distribuida por la Oficina de Luz, Gas y Agua de la ciudad de Memphis (Tennessee).

La encuesta, enviada a comienzos de otoño a los residentes de Memphis incluía 20 preguntas como "¿considera que los hispanos usan los servicios y no los pagan?", "¿considera que los hispanos estacionan sus vehículos ilegalmente en sitios para discapacitados?", y "¿son a veces los hispanos ocupantes ilegales de edificios?"

El activista hispano manifestó que acciones similares suceden con frecuencia en estados como Missouri, Kansas, Georgia, Carolina del Norte y del Sur, entre otros, con emergentes poblaciones de latinos.

Sobre el incidente en Memphis, Dovalina expresó que el presidente de la empresa que elaboró el sondeo le ofreció disculpas y que además el alcalde y el jefe policial han manifestado su deseo de relacionarse mejor con los hispanos "ya que hace diez años allí no había ninguno y ahora hay más de 100.000".

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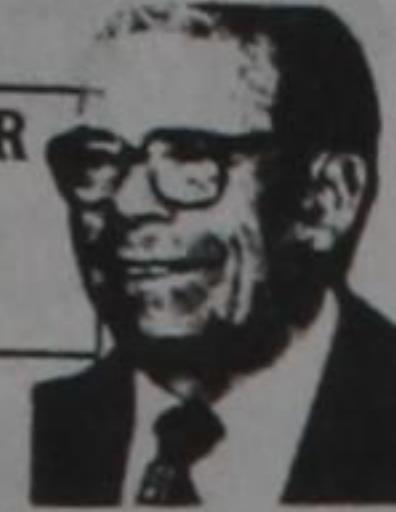
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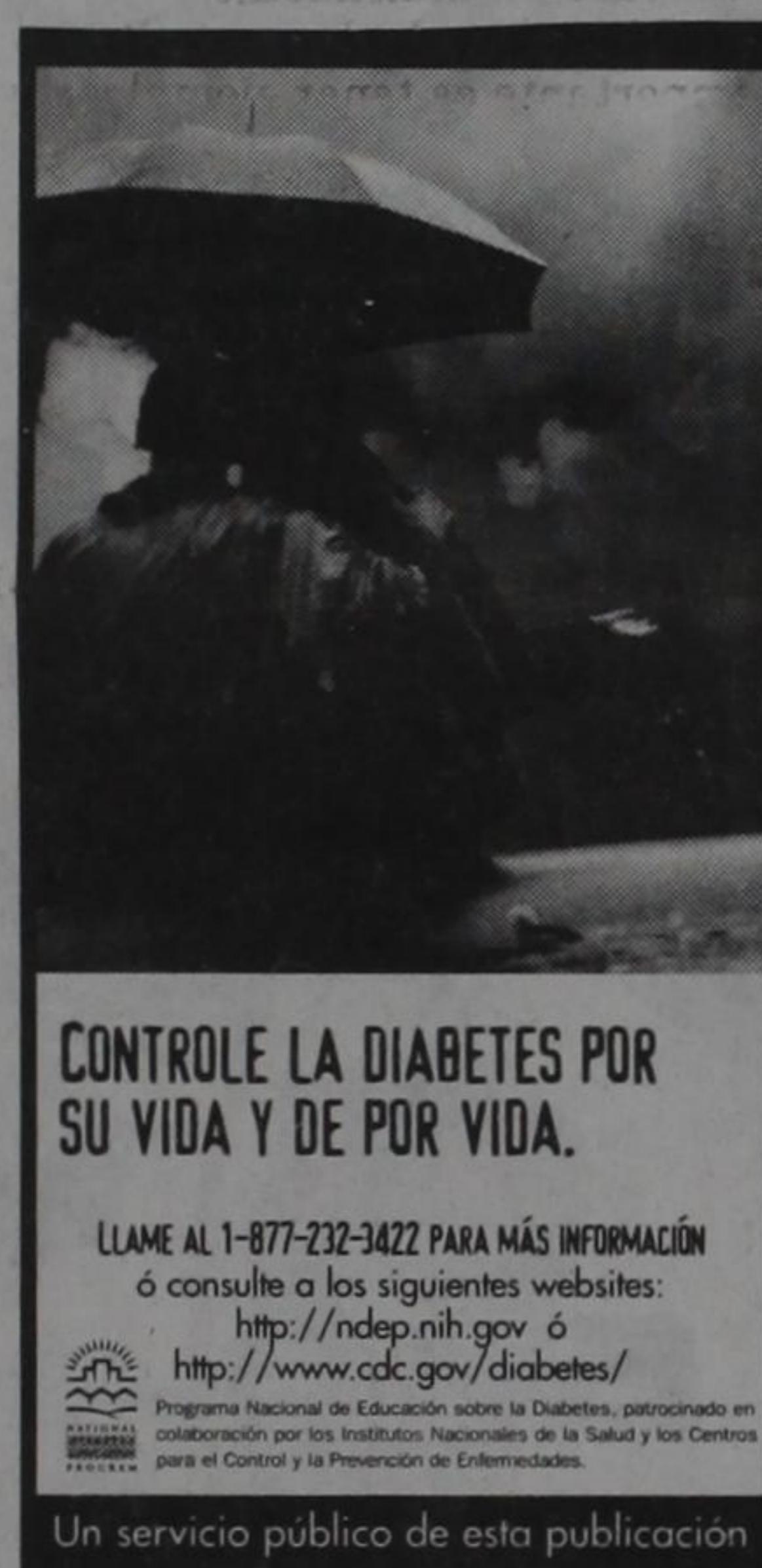
PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR  
Por Pastor: Frank García  
Lubbock, Texas



## VALORES DE LA VIDA DEVOCIONAL

Por un momento nos ocuparemos en hablar de los valores de una vida devocional. Porque ésto es muy necesario y urgente saber de estos valores hoy día. Porque toca a nosotros vivir en los tiempos, y días que dijó Cristo que vendrían según nos dice Mateo 24:37-39 "Mas como en los días de Noé, así será la venida del Hijo del Hombre. Porque en los días dian antes del diluvio estaban comiendo y bebiendo, casándose y dándose en casamiento, hasta el día que Noé entró en el arca. y no conocieron hasta que vino el diluvio y se los llevó a todos. Así será también la venida del Hijo del Hombre." Pero Cristo Jesús es el perfecto ejemplo de una vida bien equilibrada. Porque desde su nacimiento, combinó lo mental, físico y social con lo espiritual. Porque ésto es el todo del hombre o sea del humano. La Escritura dice que: "Porque no tenemos un pontífice que no se pueda compadecer de nosotros." Heb.4:15. Pero lo que no dice la Escritura es que Cristo valla hacer la parte que nos toca a nosotros, ¡CUIDADO! Si las gentes pudieran conocer los valores de una vida bien equilibrada, no hubiera tanta corrupción como hay hoy día. Apesar de la corta vida que Cristo vivió sobre esta tierra, Cristo pudo vivir una vida equilibrada porque utilizó su espíritu alma y cuerpo. Porque aunque él sabía que solamente estaría con nosotros por treinta y tres años y medio, no por ello se desatendió de honrar los valores de una vida devocional, viviendo de balde o inútilmente; sino que desde su niñez se aprendió un oficio carpintero Mt.13:55. Ayudando y obedeciendo a sus padres en el hogar, y no se fué del hogar a los 18, años; porque él no era americano, sino cristiano. CRISTO NO les dejó a sus padres la carga del hogar o la parte que le pertenecía a él... Tú derás pero Cristo era Hijo de Dios, y tenía espíritu alma y cuerpo. Mira: chiquito; nosotros también lo tenemos. O no habéis leído que la Biblia dice en 1Tos. 5:23 "Para que nuestro espíritu alma y cuerpo sea guardados enteros para la venida del Señor Jesucristo." Esto es lo que nos hace valer tanto delante de Dios. Pero no toda la gente está dispuesta a vivir una vida equilibrada y donde cada quien asuma sus deberes y responsabilidad. Y por eso hay y habrá siempre problemas en nuestra nación, y en nuestra sociedad. Y porque las gentes no saben honrar estos valores cristianos. Hay padres que dejan a sus hijos a la aventura, dejando el hogar. Esto es una falta grande delante de Dios. Porque aunque es cierto que Dios nos da el saber cómo traer hijos a este mundo, pero no nos da el derecho de hacerles sus vidas miserables, y esto es un pecado delante de Dios. Porque Dios estableció el hogar donde los hijos tubieren el amor de papá y mamá, siendo ellos el primer maestro de sus hijos. Y el hogar la primera escuela.

## From Page 1

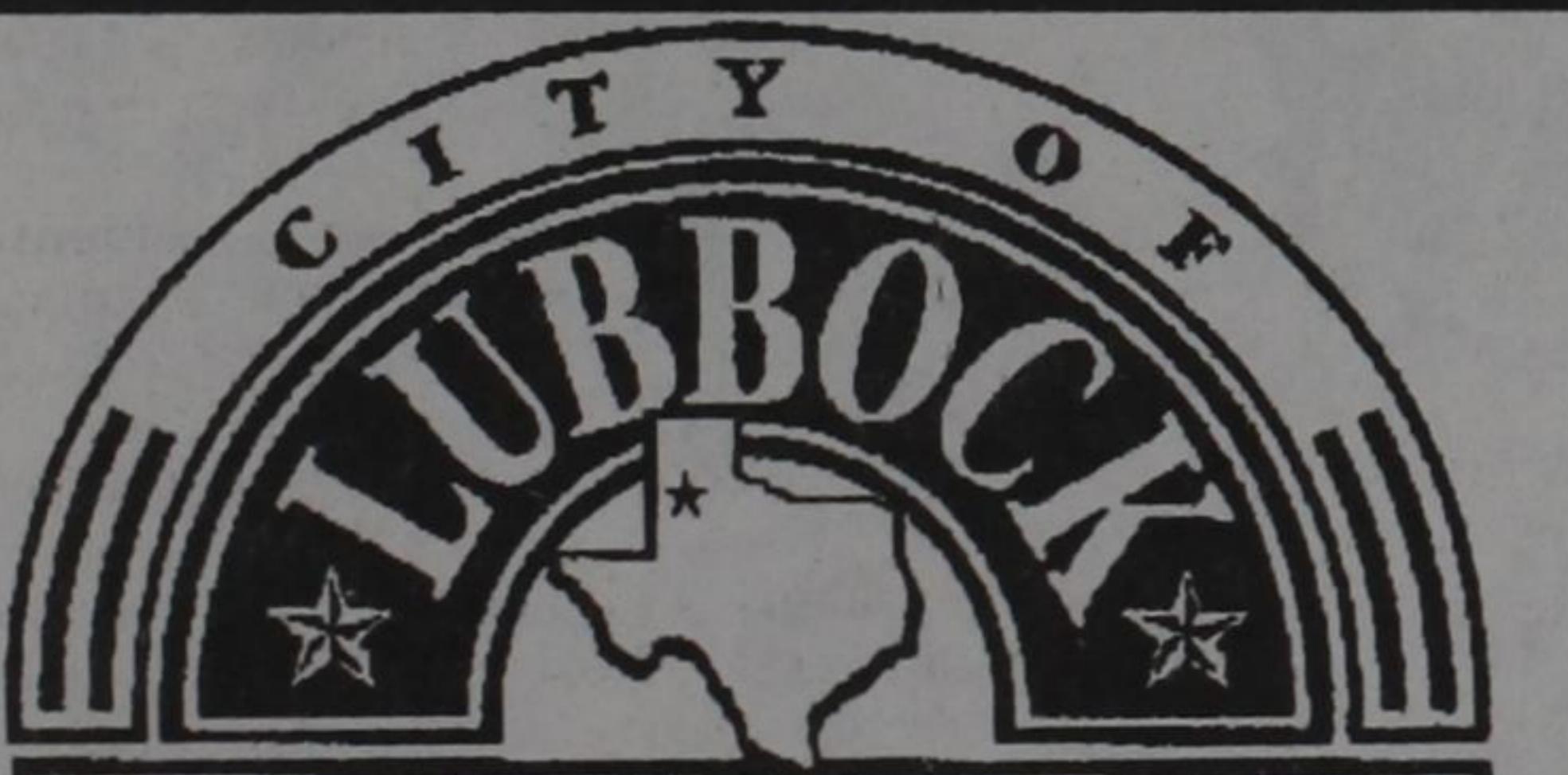


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## Notice of Meeting for Contractors

## Semi-Annual General &amp; Sub-Contractor Meeting &amp; Solicitation for Interested New Contractors

The City of Lubbock's Community Development Department is having a meeting for all existing GENERAL & SUB Contractors. All interested General and/or Sub Contractors who are not registered and are interested in bidding, are encouraged to attend.

Contractor registration packets will be made available to ALL NEW INTERESTED CONTRACTORS. Work includes: Housing Rehabilitation, Home Reconstruction, Emergency Repair, Roof Replacement, Barrier Free and other programs administered through our office or through Community Housing Development Organizations (C.H.D.O.'s). For additional information please call Rey Arias (806) 775-2298 or Brad Reed (806) 775-2294.

MEETING DAY: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1999

TIME: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM (for existing registered Contractors)  
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (for new interested Contractors)

LOCATION: Municipal Building (City Hall)  
1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas Room: L01

**El Editor Newspapers**

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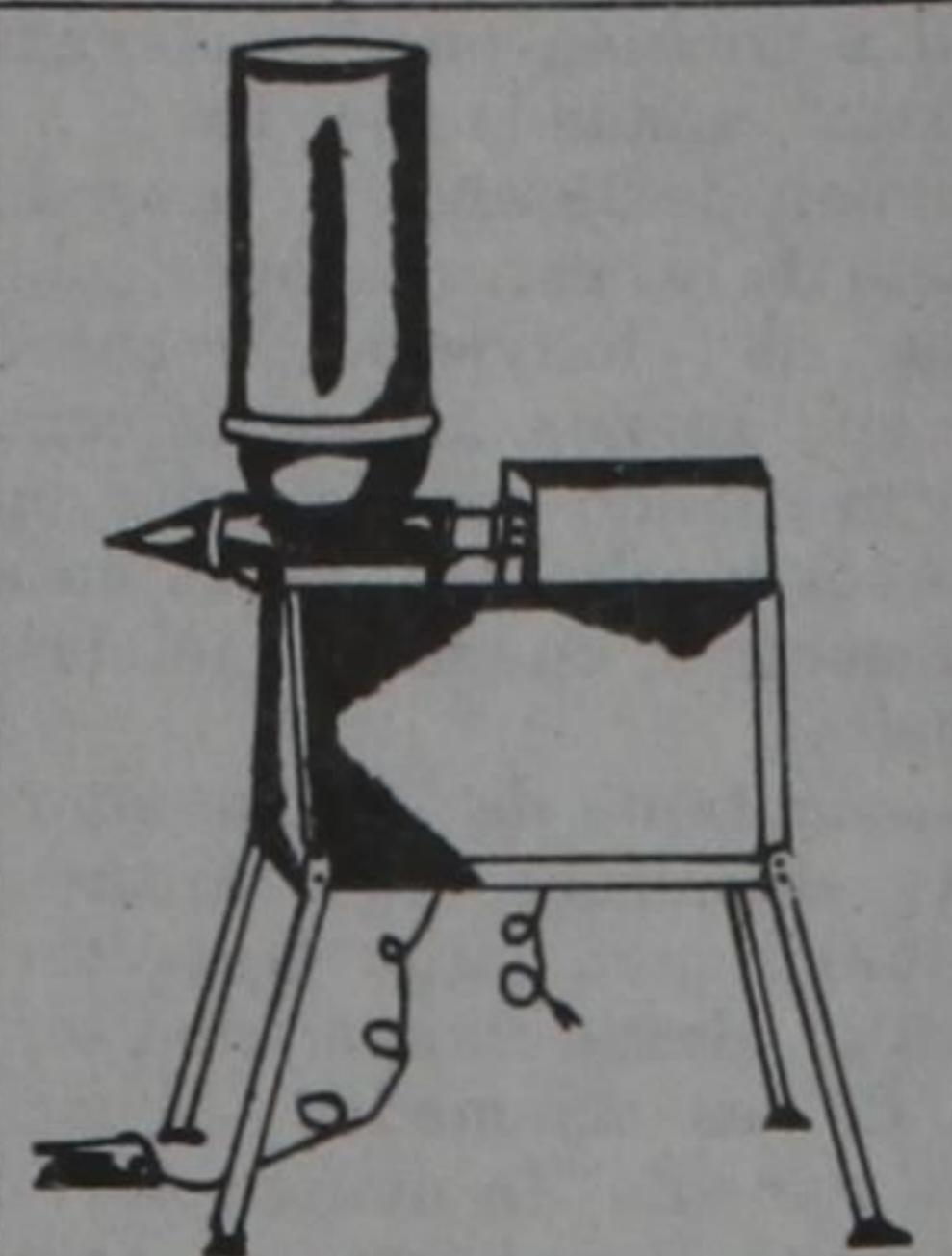
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El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, November 18, 1999

## New HUD Budget Will Bring \$846,313,000 To Texas

Communities in TEXAS will get an estimated \$846,313,000 in assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Fiscal Year 2000 for rental assistance vouchers for poor families, job creation, assistance to homeless people, and public housing operating subsidies, Secretary Andrew Cuomo said today. This is \$40,501,000 more than the communities received from HUD for these programs in Fiscal Year 1999.

In addition, communities in TEXAS will receive millions of dollars in HUD funds from other programs, including renewals of rental assistance subsidies.

The increased HUD assistance will bring an estimated 4,135 new rental assistance vouchers to TEXAS, create an estimated 1,319 additional new jobs during the year, and help an estimated additional 3,854 homeless people get housing and move toward self-sufficiency.

The HUD assistance is in the Department's Fiscal Year 2000 budget, which was signed into law Wednesday by President Clinton. HUD will use the budget to expand and preserve the supply of affordable housing, benefit senior citizens, create jobs, and help revitalize communities.

"This is the best HUD budget of the Clinton Administration," Cuomo said. "The budget is a direct result of President Clinton's strong and effective advocacy of HUD programs, his willingness to veto any budget that failed to provide adequate funding, and his work with Congress."

"This budget benefits our nation by putting HUD back in the business of creating and preserving desperately needed affordable housing, jobs, and economic development for America's people and places in greatest need," Cuomo added. "The budget is also a vote of confidence in the performance of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the management reforms we've successfully implemented."

The budget provides \$1.5 billion more for HUD programs than the Department received in Fiscal Year 1999.

**The new HUD budget includes:**

- 60,000 new rental assistance vouchers - the largest expansion of affordable housing in seven years - along with increased funding for public housing, and a new initiative to protect residents of subsidized housing opting out of the Section 8

### From Page 1

diantes llegarán al Fuerte Benning procedentes de más de 200 colegios y universidades a través de Estados Unidos, para la protesta que ha sido catalogada como el acto de desobediencia civil más grande en EEUU desde la época de la Guerra del Vietnam.

El 20 de noviembre, día que inician los actos de manifestación pacífica, algunas de las víctimas de la SOA participarán en una conferencia de prensa y compartirán sus experiencias de tortura a manos de los egresados de la escuela.

Entre éstas figura Rufina Amaya, sobreviviente de la masacre de cerca de 1,000 personas en El Mozote, El Salvador, en 1981.

También estará presente el periodista colombiano Richard Vélez, quien, según se afirmó, fue brutalmente golpeado en 1996 por tropas militares bajo el mando de un graduado de la SOA.

El domingo, 21 de noviembre, el actor Martin Sheen, y la congresista demócrata por Georgia, McKinney, se unirán a los manifestantes, quienes correrán el riesgo de ser arrestados una vez crucen hasta la base militar.

Los organizadores de la protesta señalaron que pese a los esfuerzos de la SOA de "renunciar a su brutal historial" y "limpiar su imagen" la realidad es que "poco ha cambiado".

Carol Richardson, otra codirectora de "SOA Watch", afirmó que en 1997 y 1998, oficiales militares colombianos -graduados de la SOA-, fueron implicados en la matanza de 30 campesinos y el asesinato de tres trabajadores de derechos humanos.

Denunció que sólo el 15 por ciento de los soldados colombianos tomó cursos en esta área durante 1998 y "el resto se ciñó al currículo de antaño que enseña tácticas de comando, combate y guerra sicológica".

SOA sobrevive con fondos del gobierno federal. En julio pasado, la Cámara de Representantes votó 230-197 para recortar 1,2 millones, casi la mitad del presupuesto de la escuela.

## Jennifer Lopez En La Lista De Mujeres Del Año De "Glamour"

Nueva York, - La actriz y cantante de origen puertorriqueño Jennifer López está incluida en la lista de "Mujeres del Año" de la revista "Glamour", por su destacada presencia en el mundo del espectáculo y como un modelo para las jóvenes de hoy.

"Esta cantante y actriz logró superar los límites de El Bronx y ha llegado a las pantallas cinematográficas y a las ondas de toda América por la fuerza de su talento y de su voluntad, llevando la cultura latina a los escenarios más importantes de EEUU y sirviendo de inspiración a millones de jóvenes", resalta la publicación.

La intérprete del disco "On the 6" -que deriva su nombre del tren que ella tomaba para salir de El Bronx- no ha olvidado sus raíces y "ha encontrado tiempo para visitar escuelas públicas de Nueva York y decir a cientos de estudiantes, muchos de ellos pertenecientes a minorías, que una vez también fue como ellos y que

un día también pueden alcanzar el éxito", añade la revista.

López, de 29 años y convertida en una de las estrellas más solicitadas de Hollywood, recuerda que sus sueños artísticos comenzaron cuando apenas tenía cuatro años y cobraron fuerza en su adolescencia, cuando tomó clases de baile.

La cantante de "No me ames", junto al salsero Marc Anthony, ha tenido una larga trayectoria artística, desde su aparición como una de las aclamadas "Flygirls" en la comedia "In living color" de la cadena Fox, hasta sus actuaciones en películas como "Mi familia", "Money train", "Selena", y "Out of sight".

"Siquieres tener éxito en este negocio, debes tener un tipo de personalidad extraordinariamente resuelto, porque no hay otra alternativa", ha dicho López, al referirse a los obstáculos que suelen aparecer en la carrera de un artista.

"La música siempre ha sido



merengue.

Ahora la revista "Glamour" se une al sinnúmero de publicaciones, tanto en inglés como en español, que reconocen en Jennifer López a una joven artista que, además de realizar el llamado "crossover", sirve de inspiración para miles de jovencitas.

La cantante Jewel; la primera mujer astronauta Eileen Collins; la directora ejecutiva de la empresa de internet eBay, Meg Whitman; la activista de los derechos humanos Mavis Leno y las campeonas del mundo de fútbol femenino, la selección de EEUU, son algunas de las figuras incluidas también en esta distinguida selección.

Los galardones se entregarán hoy, jueves, en el transcurso de una gala que se celebrará en el Lincoln Center de Nueva York y los perfiles biográficos de las premiadas aparecen en el número de diciembre de "Glamour", que llegará a los quioscos el próximo 16 de noviembre.

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