

Casualties of War in Iraq 4,771 Afghan 2448 as of May 26, 2011



# Editor

Celebrating 35 Years of Publishing

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

VOL. XXXIV No. 31

Week of May 26 thru June 1, 2011

www.eleditor.com

Lubbock/Midland-Odessa Region

## High Plains Diversified Energy Corporation Short-Circuited by Lubbock Court

The most electrifying story in Lubbock since LP&L almost went bankrupt was played out Tuesday in a Lubbock County Court room.

Mr. Charles Dunn, a local attorney, authored an article called "The Basics" which is available on "lubbockpowergrab.com". In the article Mr. Dunn explains how the City of Lubbock, Brownfield, Floydada and Tulia created an agency called "The West Texas Municipal Power Agency" commonly referred to as the WTMPA. This agency then created the "High Plains Diversified Energy Corporation" commonly called "High Plains."

Tuesdays Court room drama resulted from High Plains filing a lawsuit asking the Court to "issue a declaratory judgment" granting it the right to sale \$1.5 Billion in revenue bonds. High Plains needed the money to finance the purchase of two gas power electric generating plants in Odessa, Texas and install 220,573 into districts of approximately 38,267 residents each.

High Plains was claiming to be a lawfully instituted public purpose corporation. However the High Plains suit met with intervention from three governmental agencies, the Texas Attorney General (AG), the City of Lubbock and the City of Odessa. Each entity filed separate intervention briefs in opposition to the High Plains claim. The arguments presented by both sides were wide ranging but focused on two main points. Is High Plains a legal agency? Can High Plains repay the debt?

Can High Plains repay the debt?

**City of Odessa Brief (in-part)**  
"This is an attempt to put tens of millions of tax-exempt public dollars into private pockets. High Plains does not even legally exist. There is no evidence that High Plains has any contracts with any cities, or with any third party. The bonds will be paid for with non-existent revenue from non-existent contracts."

customers. Furthermore its purported customers had signed contractual commitments to purchase electricity solely from Xcel Energy, Inc. until the year 2019. This point raised doubts about the sale of electricity by High Plains. An attorney for the City of Lubbock argued that if High Plains defaulted on its debt, the WTMPA member cities could be staddled with repayment of the debt.

**CAN HIGH PLAINS RE-PAY THE DEBT?**  
The question of financial viability was raised by an attorney for the City of Lubbock. It was noted that High Plains presented no evidence of contracts or so much as a commitment letter from customers to buy electricity. This point had the effect of voiding any claim that financing would be by sale of revenue bonds. Revenues

can only be generated by selling power to paying customers and High Plains has no paying

customers. Furthermore its purported customers had signed contractual commitments to purchase electricity solely from Xcel Energy, Inc. until the year 2019. This point raised doubts about the sale of electricity by High Plains. An attorney for the City of Lubbock argued that if High Plains defaulted on its debt, the WTMPA member cities could be staddled with repayment of the debt.

An attorney for the City of Odessa noted that even the laws of physics argued against High Plains. Since the two power plants are located in Odessa, they are part of the ERCOT grid and Lubbock is in the SPP grid. In order for the plants to

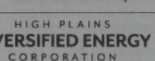
provide electricity to both grids, they would have to totally shut down and restart each time they switched from one grid to the other because the two grids run at different frequencies.

This point was too scientific for trained attorneys and would require expert testimony to substantiate: High Plains lawyers never challenged the point.

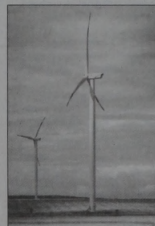
**IS HIGH PLAINS A LEGAL AGENCY?**

In its intervention brief, the AG stated that High Plains is acting as a "Private Corporation" not as a "Public Purpose" agency. Two objections were presented in support of the AG's position. High Plains stated that the member cities need not purchase any of its electricity. In this case, High Plains would be competing in the open market - therefore by their own petition to the Court, High Plains contradicted its claim of being a "Public Purpose" entity. In

support of this argument, an attorney for the City of Lubbock, stated that the capacity of the power plants is far greater than needed by Lubbock and other West Texas municipali-



HIGH PLAINS  
DIVERSIFIED ENERGY  
CORPORATION



ties. He estimated that 70% of the all electricity would be sold on the open market. This was a compelling argument against

High Plains assertion that it is a public purpose organization. The State AG argued that High Plains had no legitimacy to use public resources.

As the hearing progressed another damaging argument to High Plains was presented by the City of Odessa. In the packed court room, attorneys for Odessa claimed Texas Law limits the

authority of lawfully established Municipal Corporations and specifically lists what they can do. Specifically, they have no legal authority to form a separate agency. Therefore, WTMPA did not have the authority to establish High Plains. Therefore, High Plains is not a legal entity. Only a Municipality has legal authority to form a Municipal Corporation and it can only do so by Resolution or Ordinance - neither was ever the case for Precinct One voting. Judge John Board agreed and ruled that High Plains is not a legal entity.

High Plains has the option of filing an appeal in Amarillo.

## Factors Affecting the Weight and Shapes of City Council Districts

By Neale J. Pearson

Over the past two weeks, an 18-member citizen group appointed by members of the City Council took testimony from citizens who looked at a Map of the Size and Nature of the Population in the current City Council Districts and two new proposals that divide the 2010 Lubbock City population of 229,573 into districts of approximately 38,267 residents each.

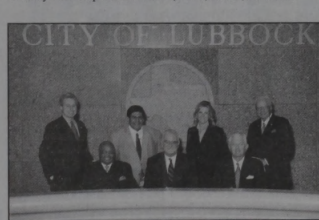
The Supreme Court Requires Equal Representation  
Ever since 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court in Baker v. Carr, and Wesberry v. Sanders (1964) that voters in legislative and congressional districts should have approximately the same weight in casting their votes under a rule that came to be known as "one person, one vote."

A few years later, the Supreme Court ruled that Midland County Texas could not keep using three County Commissioner districts for 10,000 rural residents while providing only one Commissioner for the 90,000 citizens of the City of Midland in a case known as Midland vs. Avery. The earlier decisions and Midland v. Avery were applied later to Lubbock and other cities to create single member districts that in Lubbock came to be represented by Maggie Trejo and T.J. Patterson.

"Packing, Cracking, Fracking" and Other Terms Also Apply to Reapportioning a County or City  
Over time, federal courts and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 created other terms relevant to implementing the rule that one citizen's vote is to be equal to that of any other. "Packing" a district means the dominant party or group a City puts as many as possible of an opposing party or group into one district so that the remaining parts of a county or city are safe for the majority party or group.

Districts must be "contiguous" and "compact," that is physically adjoining as in square or oval shapes or drawn in ways that do not prejudice ethnic minorities or "communities" of interest be they agricultural or business interests, housing and school districts. However, federal courts have not overturned cases involving snake-like gerrymandered districts that in North Carolina created a district called Interstate-40 that maintained a congressional district with a Black Democratic Congressman; in Texas, the all-Republican Texas Supreme Court and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans upheld 2003 efforts of Gov. Perry and Atty. General that tried to eliminate Lloyd Doggett a Liberal Democrat representing Austin and Travis County by pit-

ting him against a Hispanic Democrat in a clear case of "packing." Fortunately, Doggett was able to win but many other Hispanic and white



state legislators such as Democratic minority leader Jim Dunningan of Waco lost their seats to Tea Party candidates in 2010.  
Some Impacts of Population Shifts on the Proposed Models  
In two models prepared by a Law Firms employing Baylor Law School professors, there was an effort to create six districts close to the "ideal" of 38,292 persons each. The proposed maps recognized not only the growth of the city but also the demographic shifts in the population in other districts. Jim Gillenton of North and East Lubbock in District Six represented into South and Southwest Lubbock. Council Districts have changed

significantly since 2000. District One (Victor Hernandez) in 2010 had 19,999 Hispanic residents (51.4%) and 11,808 whites

Shifting District Lines Has a Domino Effect on More than One District  
Under proposed Model One, Hernandez will represent 39,489 voters, with a potential 21,678 Hispanic voters (54.9%) with 1,679 more Hispanic residents out of an additional 6,393 residents. The deviation between Hernandez District and Gilbreath district would be 2,823 voters or a 7.3% difference. In Model Two, Hernandez would represent 38,519 citizens.

In proposed Model One, Floyd Price would incorporate Precinct 24 (Wheelock Elementary) and this represent 39,273 voters, with 759 more Blacks, 67 fewer Hispanics and 10,638 more whites totaling 38,691. Transferring the 4,513 residents in the Wheelock area back to Klein's District would create a District with 41,795 voters or a 9.1% deviation from the "ideal" 38,292 persons. Therefore, some 2,866 persons in Klein's new district would have to be moved into an adjoining district to reduce the deviation in citizen numbers from other residents in the district whose children attend Wheelock and Hanchiso Middle School.  
While the proposed districts were relatively contiguous and compact, the mostly white voters

of Hillcrest Neighborhood (part of Precinct One voting at Walford) are cut off by Northwest Loop 289 where its mostly Hispanic citizens vote. Bowtie Elementary School (Precinct 7) is cut off by the Marsha Sharp Freeway from the rest of Karen Gibson's District Five which mostly lies to the south of the Freeway.

This is most likely that a few Precincts may be split so that a better balance or equality of population can be achieved.  
Protecting Minority Representation May Or May Not Lead to Council Growth

While the only responsibility of the Committee is to listen to citizens and recommend changes to the Council on the shape of future districts, Neale Pearson, Roger Suttler, Stewart Williams (Brown School neighborhood) and Mrs. Billie Russell of the Dunbar Heights Association suggested at the Alderson Meeting Monday May 23 that the Council be expanded by one or two members to preserve Black and other representation on the Council. Judge J. Q. Warnecke, Chair of the Special Committee, informed those present that his committee could not do that. This would involve a proposed change in the City Charter which is a council responsibility.

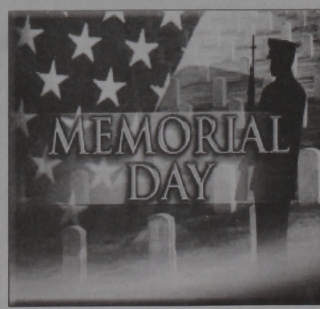
## USCIS Lanza Iniciativa de Educación Pública y Concientización Sobre la Ciudadanía

WASHINGTON—El director del Servicio de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de Estados Unidos (USCIS, por siglas en inglés) Alejandro Mayorkas anunció hoy el lanzamiento de una iniciativa federal para responsabilizar al público sobre los derechos, las responsabilidades y la importancia de la ciudadanía estadounidense. La iniciativa de educación pública y concientización sobre la ciudadanía facilita canales nuevos para llegar a los recursos gratis que USCIS ofrece sobre la ciudadanía y que están disponibles para los residentes permanentes legales y las organizaciones de servicio al inmigrante.  
"La ley es el hilo que nos conecta a todos los estadounidenses.

Esta iniciativa acentúa la importancia de la ciudadanía —no sólo para los inmigrantes y sus familias sino también a nuestra nación en general", dijo el director Mayorkas. "Hay una necesidad demostrada en las comunidades de todo el país de cómo llegar a los programas educativos de ciudadanía y encontrar información fiable sobre la naturalización. Esta iniciativa reconoce esta necesidad y marca un nuevo hito en la divulgación de información por parte de USCIS a las personas elegibles para naturalizarse".  
Cerca de 7.9 millones de los casi 12.5 millones residentes permanentes que viven en Estados Unidos son elegibles para solicitar la ciudadanía, según el más reciente análisis del Departamento

de Seguridad Nacional.  
La nueva campaña usará los medios de comunicación digitales en español así como mensajes en publicaciones de radio en una variedad de idiomas. Un anuncio de servicio público en video estará disponible en inglés. La iniciativa estará en el aire del 30 de mayo al 5 de septiembre durante la primera fase de un esfuerzo planificado para varios años. Esta dirigirá al público a los materiales de estudio para la ciudadanía y otros recursos educativos para inmigrantes adultos, educadores y organizaciones en el Centro de Recursos de Ciudadanía de USCIS en www.uscis.gov/citizenship.  
Desde principios del siglo XX, el gobierno federal ha promovido la

importancia de la ciudadanía y que los inmigrantes están preparados para lograr una ciudadanía exitosa. La iniciativa actual se basa en estos esfuerzos históricos y apoya la misión de la Oficina de Ciudadanía de USCIS, establecida por la Ley de Seguridad Nacional de 2002 para promover la instrucción y capacitación sobre los derechos y las responsabilidades de ciudadanía. Desde julio del 2009, USCIS ha ayudado a más de 32,000 residentes permanentes legales y posibles candidatos de ciudadanía en casi 560 sesiones informativas de la naturalización a través de las oficinas locales de USCIS, grupos comunitarios, y organizaciones de servicio al inmigrante.

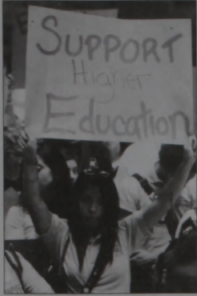








# DREAM Act: La historia de la niña que pudo



historia de "La niña que pudo", el segundo libro infantil que escribe esta joven indocumentada que se ha convertido en rostro del movimiento nacional a favor del DREAM Act y que como la niña del libro, ha superado y sigue superando obstáculos para lograr sus metas.

Los ha escrito, pero busca casa editora que se los publique y conociendo a Gaby, no me queda la menor duda de que lo conseguirá.

Quiénes tenemos el privilegio de conocer a sabemos de su dedicación, su persistencia y su aplomo al defender la legalización de jóvenes indocumentados como ella.

También conocemos de su

pasión por la educación de los niños.

Gaby fue traída por sus padres desde Ecuador hasta Miami cuando tenía siete años y desde ese momento inició una ruta académica ascendente digna de admiración. Se ha destacado académicamente, en los deportes, en la música, en su servicio comunitario.

Esta joven ya posee dos grados asociados y una licenciatura en Educación. Sin documentos no puede ejercer su profesión aunque eso no la ha frenado en servir como tutora de niños. Gaby quiere ofrecer a niños autistas terapia musical.

Sus sueños la impulsaron a caminar 1,500 millas desde Miami hasta Washington DC junto a otros tres jóvenes para atraer atención a la lucha por el DREAM Act.

El año pasado se convirtió en

una constante presencia en el Capitolio federal buscando apoyo al DREAM Act que lamentablemente fracasó y este año se mantiene firme abogando por el proyecto y para que el presidente Barack Obama les conceda. De momento, la acción diferida que ampare a los jóvenes de la deportación.

Y entre todas sus luchas, Gaby sacó tiempo para escribir dos hermosos libros infantiles. El primero, en español e inglés, se titula "En el tío y 'mamá'" y el otro, en inglés, se titula "La niña que pudo".

"El primero lo escribí hace cuatro años y es sobre dos hermanos, que son lobos, y que su tradición es inmigrar cada año, pero en una esa migración se topan con una sombra que no es igual a las sombras de los árboles donde solían descansar. No se dan cuenta de que la sombra es un

muro", explica Gaby a America's Voice.

"Pero un buen día, al tratar de continuar nuestra ancestral tradición porque mis antepasados la cumplían con gozo y sin cesar, vimos una gran sombra, no era que el sol reflejaba su luz ante un árbol, esta sombra no tenía la frescura bañada por la brisa del viento. No. Quien la producía era una gran muralla que estaba clavada en el suelo... Nuestra familia esperó día tras día pensando que en algún momento esa muralla se derribaría u otro paso se abriría", escribió Gaby.

"El otro libro tiene mucho sobre mí y el mensaje es que aunque la sociedad le diga que no puedes, tienes que tratar hasta lograrlo", indica Gaby.

ir a la universidad. Ella sabía que podía, y ese otoño comenzó a estudiar en el Miami Dade College", dice una de las porciones del segundo libro de Gaby.

"Para mí la niñez es algo muy importante. Tenemos que abrirle los ojos y darle información para que desde temprana edad puedan ser agentes de cambio", señala Gaby.

"Ese segundo libro habla de que a los niños muchas veces se les dice que no pueden hacer esto o lo otro, pero es posible lograr lo que uno se propone", afirma la joven.

A Gaby, educadora, activista y escritora, y a miles de jóvenes como ella, el Congreso les sigue diciendo que no al aprobar el proyecto que los legalizaría.

Pero estoy convencida de que la niña que pudo y sus compañeros Soñadores finalmente emergerán victoriosos de su lucha.

"Esta es la historia de una niña que siempre supo que podía lograr todo lo que se propusiera". Así inicia Gaby Pacheco la

## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN LATINOS OF WORLD WAR II

By Erick Galindo

Joe García likes to tell stories — about his days running Republican Nelson Rockefeller's presidential campaign office in East Los Angeles, about how he and his father used to run chorizo up and down California, or just about growing up as a Mexican American who loved this country.

As we sat in the Whittier restaurant that bears his name, Famous Joe's Legendary Mexican Food, the 85-year-old Army veteran told one about when the big war and the draft came to the barrio following Dec. 7, 1941.

"I remember one guy. His mom made him go to Mexico, like my mom wanted me to do," he says. "But I wanted to fight for my country and so did he. The guy came back from Mexico the very next day and enlisted in the Army. He died in our second day

of combat."

García stands six feet tall in a gray suit that matches his hair. A smile shines through his wrinkled face as he talks about the fellow Latinos with whom he served during his three-year Army stint, reminding me of William Faulkner's words that the past is never dead or really even past.

"There were a lot of us that went because we were healthy and we wanted to fight for our country. And there were many of us who didn't make it back. I was one of lucky ones," he tells me.

García was just 18 when he entered the service. As a paratrooper in the 50th Airborne, he fought in battles throughout the Pacific.

More than half a million Hispanics like him served during World War II. The number of Latino casualties isn't recorded.

They were counted as whites then, but only on the battlefield.

Retired Navy veteran Gus Chávez of San Diego, who works with the U.S. Latino & Latina WWII Oral History Project at the University of Texas-Austin, had mentioned to me earlier, "Memorial Day has a special significance for Latino WWII veterans, especially for Mexican Americans."

Chávez called the commemoration "a breaking point in moving forward to challenge the segregation and discrimination" that still awaited many of them on discharge.

Pivotal was the refusal by a funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas, to bury a Mexican American soldier in the town's all-white cemetery. Pvt. Félix Longoria had been killed in action in the South Pacific.

Lyndon Johnson, then a mem-

ber of Congress, took up the cause and arranged for Longoria to be interred in Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington, D.C., where some of the nation's most renowned military heroes rest. The incident led to the formation of the American GI Forum in 1948 by Mexican-American veterans. It remains an active civil rights organization.

Restaurateur García continues our conversation, recalling, "It's also been tough as a Mexican-American businessman."

After the war, he became active politically while founding, building and eventually selling two million-dollar businesses in Southern California. El Rey Mexican Food Co. and Reynaldo's Mexican Food. The latter, a \$25-million revenue maker, was sold in 2007 for about \$12 million.

A first-generation U.S. citizen,

García was born in El Paso, Texas. But it was in Central California that he learned the trade as a child working with his father.

"There wasn't anyone selling authentic Mexican food to the local markets," he recalls. "So we started selling chorizo. Pretty soon we were moving 148,000 pounds a month."

The grocery business wasn't the only place where García saw a lack of Latino representation. In Los Angeles, he campaigned for both Republican and Democratic political candidates, helping to elect some of the first Latino officeholders in this state, including the late Congressman Edward Roybal.

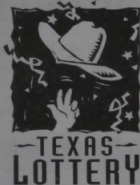
García fought for inclusion of Latinos in the public consciousness. He takes pride in having ensured that his three children had opportunities equal to those

of any other kids. In the '60s, he launched Mas Gráfica, a pioneering bilingual magazine that incorporated Latinos in politics, business, sports, entertainment and fashion.

"To this day, García wears a pin on his lapel to commemorate those who fought in the big war."

"For Americans of Mexican descent, back then there was nothing. They didn't even expect us to go to college." He recalls his high school days when the counselor told Hispanics not to bother taking college prep classes. "She told us to take the courses that would prepare us for a life of manual labor."

Recently, one of his grandsons, who had studied economics at Notre Dame, earned his MBA at Stanford. Joe smiled his widest smile as he concluded, "I went to his graduation, and, boy, was that something!"



# ¡NO TE LO PIERDAS!

Te Invitamos a Asistir al  
**Foro Anual de la Comisión de la Lotería de Texas sobre Empresas Históricamente Subutilizadas (HUBs)**

**Martes, 7 de junio de 2011**  
**1:00 pm - 4:30 pm**  
**611 East 6th Street - Austin, Texas**

El foro proporcionará información acerca del programa HUB de TLC, los procesos de procuración, e iniciativas de Mentor y Pupilo. Además, habrá una mesa redonda para establecer contactos con personas clave de la Comisión de la Lotería y representantes de sus principales contratistas.

La asignación de lugares para la mesa redonda será por orden de llegada el día del foro.

Este foro sobre HUBs es GRATIS!  
 Regístrate por Internet el o antes del  
 2/JUN/11 en:  
[www.txlottery.org/hub](http://www.txlottery.org/hub)

Para más información comunicate con:  
 Joyce Bertolacini, HUB Coordinator  
 (512) 344-5293  
[joyce.bertolacini@lottery.state.tx.us](mailto:joyce.bertolacini@lottery.state.tx.us)



# Oprah's Last Show: 'I Won't Say Goodbye'

Alternating between tears and laughter, Winfrey spent her final episode talking to fans about finding their purpose in life and recalling her best and worst moments.

Oprah Winfrey spent her last show speaking to fans about finding their purpose in life and acting on it.

"There are no words to match this moment," said Oprah from Chicago's Harpo soundstage as several members of her audience teared up. "Every word I've ever spoken from the stage of the Oprah show -- 4,561 days of my life -- is what this moment is all about. Yesterday, you heard the legendary Aretha Franklin sing what has really been a constant in the theme of my life: 'Amazing Grace.' And how truly amazing it is: this journey that you and I have shared together."

Oprah then spoke about her first days in Chicago with co-host Richard Scher, who watched from the audience.

"When I arrived in Chicago from Baltimore... I was just happy to get the job. And, as you can see from the first day on AM Chicago on WLS. I had no publicist, no stylist, there was no makeup team... just a jheri curl and a bad fur coat," she said as the audience displayed a mixture of laughter and tears and old footage played behind her.

"When I came here, I was about to turn 30 years old. I didn't have a vision or a lot of great expectations -- Steedman always talks about vision," said Winfrey as cameras flashed to her longtime partner, who also surprised her in Chicago's

United Center last week. "I just wanted to do a good job and cause no harm. I was so happy to get the job. I fought to ask if I would have an audience." Read THR's minute-by-minute live blog, and critics' reviews of Oprah's United Center show.

Winfrey recalled that she didn't, so they set up folding chairs and recruited building workers and those off the street with the promise of free coffee and donuts.

"Soon after I started the show, something shifted for me. I started the show as a job," said Oprah. "It was not long before I realized something else going on here. More than just job satisfaction, something in me connected in each of you in a way that allowed me to see yourself in me and you and me. I listened and grew and you grew, sometimes I was a teacher, and more often you taught me."

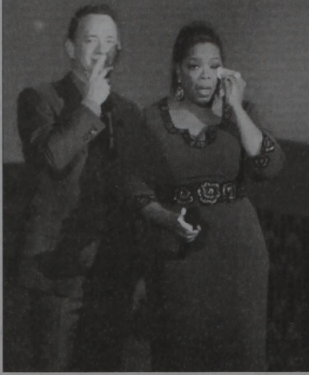
"It is no coincidence that I always wanted to be a teacher, and I ended up in the world's biggest classroom. And this, my friends, will be our last class from this stage," continued Oprah. "So today, there will be guests, no makeovers, no surprises. You will not be getting a car or a tree," she said, referring

to Diane Sawyer's announcement that more than 100,000 trees would be planted in honor of Oprah. "This last hour is really about me say-

ing what I have given to you. It has been a privilege to me to speak to you here in this studio. In this country and 150 countries around the world."

Next, Winfrey switched gears and spoke about her United Center show. "They rehearsed in one day. [People ask], 'Was I surprised?' Did you see my face? That United Center experience was a love intervention on steroids for me."

Oprah then spoke about some of her earlier, more tabloid



guests, and showed clips from The Color Purple, for which she was nominated for an Oscar in 1985 for playing Sofia. "Don't wait for anybody to fix you, save you, complete you. Jerry Maguire was just a movie," she said.

Oprah then read fan-reading reader comments from Oprah.com, and showed footage of her wackiest moments over the years, including her riding an elephant, scaling a wall at marine boot camp and swinging from a rope.

Recalling the show's past, she said, "One day we're LOLing with Chris Rock, the next day we're at Walter

Reed [Army Medical Center] spending time with soldiers who lost their limbs. The day after that, we're sitting with an entire family of heroin addicts."

"The show has taught me there is a common thread that runs through all our pain and all our suffering, and that is unworthiness," she said, citing former protegee Iyanla Vanzant as an example. (Oprah recently reconnected with Vanzant, who had been blacklisted from the Oprah show after she turned down an opportunity to produce her own show with Harpo to instead make her own deal.)

Winfrey said she spoke to 30,000 people over the past 25 years, and thanked her staff. "The team stays. Harpo stays, the buildings stay." Rosie O'Donnell's OWN talk show will be produced there, among other OWN shows.

"People ask the secret of the show's success, how have we lasted for 25 years? I non jokingly say: my team and Jesus," said Oprah in what then became an increasingly religious show. "Nothing but the hand of God made this possible for me."

Oprah said she is always asked about her regrets, and she said she has only one: "That I was not able to bring enough attention - although I tried in 217 shows - was the sexual induction, molestation and rape of children," she said.

"One of my proudest moments in the story of the Oprah show was when my friend Tyler Perry joined me on stage and gave us his testimony of abuse," she said as cameras panned to Perry in

the audience, who had tears in his eyes and was clapping. Oprah then gave out her personal email address, Oprah@oprah.com, and said she hoped to hear from audience members as she moved on to "my next life at OWN."

In the last 10 minutes, Oprah broke into what she calls her "ugly cry," when her face contorts as she tries to continue speaking. "You and this show have been the great love of my life," she said through tears.

"It's been all sweet, no bitter," she said. "We have hooted and hollered together, we cry together -- as the audience laughed and she paused to smile -- and I thank you for all your support and trust in me. I thank you for sharing this yellow brick road in blessings, for tuning in every day with your mothers, daughters, partners, gay or otherwise, husbands coaxed into watching me. You were as much as a sweet inspiration to me as I tried to be for you."

Winfrey ended the show by saying, "I won't say goodbye. I'll just say, 'Until we meet again.' God be the glory." Then she walked off, gave Graham a kiss and a long hug and high-fived guests as she fought back tears.

As the credits rolled, she walked through Harpo Studios backstage, hugging crying staffers and shedding tears of her own. "We did it!" she said, throwing up her arms. She hugged her executive producer Sheri Salata.

The last scene was her holding her dog, saying, "We did it Sadie!" as she walked out the door.

Tras meses de mantener actualizados a sus seguidores

La intérprete de "Conga" confirmó el título en su etapa

La cantante felicitó a su aficionado y escribió: "El lo adivino correctamente 'Miss Little Habana' como el título de mi nuevo álbum"

Estefan dijo durante los premios Billboard de la semana pasada que ya se ha terminado la grabación y que se encuentran en la etapa de

mezclas. Aunque la mayoría de las letras son en inglés, también tienen frases en español, adelantó la artista.

El productor Emilio Estefan reveló a la prensa local que "es un disco para bailar, muy bueno para discoteca". La placa musical saldrá a finales de este año.

# Gloria Estefan prepara 'Miss Little Habana'

Tras meses de mantener actualizados a sus seguidores

La intérprete de "Conga" confirmó el título en su etapa

La cantante felicitó a su aficionado y escribió: "El lo adivino correctamente 'Miss Little Habana' como el título de mi nuevo álbum"

Estefan dijo durante los premios Billboard de la semana pasada que ya se ha terminado la grabación y que se encuentran en la etapa de

mezclas. Aunque la mayoría de las letras son en inglés, también tienen frases en español, adelantó la artista.

El productor Emilio Estefan reveló a la prensa local que "es un disco para bailar, muy bueno para discoteca". La placa musical saldrá a finales de este año.



del proceso de creación de su nuevo álbum de estudio a través de Twitter, la cantante Gloria Estefan anunció que el disco se llamará "Miss Little Habana".

cio de la red social, después de que uno de sus seguidores adivinó las iniciales "MLH" que ella misma puso en un juego para que, tuvo un mes de duración.

El disco será de música para bailar es su primer álbum en inglés desde "Unwrapped" (2003) y en el que Estefan ha colaborado con el productor de hip-hop Pharrell Williams, de The Neptunes. Trabajar con Williams, quien ha colaborado con Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears y Madonna, ha demostrado ser una "experiencia mágica" para la cantante de 53 años de edad.

**Now Open Every Sat & Sun at 2pm!**

**Over 30 Bands and Attractions**

**Featuring the 140 foot**

**Through April bring 2 cans of food for the Food Bank and get \$4 off the price of a regular armband Saturdays & Sundays!**

**Directions, Details and Discount Coupons at**

**www.joylandpark.com**  
4th and 127, Lubbock. 806 763 2719

# JOYLAND

AMUSEMENT PARK

## AVISO LEGAL

Estos raspados de la Comisión de la Lotería de Texas se cerrarán pronto:

Número del Juego	Nombre del Juego / Probabilidades	\$	Cierre Oficial del Juego	Último Día para Validar
1295	Green Machine Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.98	\$5	04/06/11	01/12/11
1147	Mega Bucks Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.70	\$2	11/06/11	08/12/11
1276	Texas Lottery Black Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.32	\$10	24/06/11	21/12/11
1291	Fabulous Fortune Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.94	\$5	27/07/11	23/01/12
1305	Triple Lucky Diamonds Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.85	\$3	27/07/11	23/01/12
1345	Lotería® Texas Probabilidades son de 1 en 3.99	\$3	27/07/11	23/01/12
1347	Cash to Go! Probabilidades son de 1 en 4.60	\$1	27/07/11	23/01/12



Para detalles de las probabilidades de los juegos y más información, visite [txlottery.org](http://txlottery.org) o llame al 1-800-37LOTTO. Debe ser mayor de 18 para comprar boletos de lotería. La Lotería de Texas beneficia la educación en Texas. © 2011 Texas Lottery Commission. Todos los derechos reservados.



# NFL Coaches Association brief: 'End the lockout'

On Wednesday, the NFL Coaches Association became the newest party of interest to file an Amicus Brief with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

And, despite the stance of the people who cut their checks, the NFLCA cited numerous issues - as well as CBSports.com's own Mike Freeman! - that the lockout would cause for coaches before urging the court to "end the lockout."

"The burdens of little job security and frequent moves mean that a prolonged lockout would inflict significant economic harm and career risks on the coaches," the NFL Coaches Association attorneys wrote in the brief.

Additionally, the NFLCA cited an aspect of the coaching business (or, at least, the business of negotiating coaches' contracts) that hadn't really been made public up to this point. Namely, that teams were planning ahead when it came to how they wanted to pay their respective coaching staffs.

"Anticipating a lockout, the NFL teams for the past several years have been demanding a provision in the coaches employment contracts (which are negotiated individually with each coach) that authorizes the employing team to withhold part of a coach's salary in the event that league operations were suspended," the Coaches Association attorneys

wrote. There's nothing ethically wrong with negotiating such clauses into



contracts. And the resulting money saved isn't part of the players' pie, like the "war chest" fund that was created as a result of television contract negotiations.

But it still kind of leaves a bad taste to think that the NFL had been planning ahead for this summer and doing so at the expense of the men who put out the finished product on the field.

"The Coaches Association officials with the Players Association (per Washington), the NFL said, by Albert Breier of the NFL Network.

"So this comes as no surprise." Those men, however, went unnamed in the NFLCA's suit. No individual coach, as was the case with Brady v. NFL, was a named plaintiff in the suit.

But there is a reference to numerous coaches who are being particularly damaged by the lockout as a result of their inability to work with their new teams.

"The lockout, if left in force, will prevent the coaches from mean-

ingfully preparing and reaping themselves for the season," the brief reads. "While all the coaches will be exposed to greater risk of failure, the eight teams with new coaching staffs are at particular risk."

In a citation for that portion of the brief, the NFLCA also points out that "there are also three additional coaches who have only spent one season with their teams (Mike Shanahan, Chan Gailey, and Pete Carroll)" who will be significantly affected by the lockout.

Jack Del Rio and Gary Kubiak are specifically mentioned as coaches who "reportedly received an ultimatum from their team's owner that their teams must make the playoffs to keep their jobs."

In short, the NFLCA believes that close to half of the coaches in the NFL are being put at a systematic disadvantage by the court's decision to continue the lockout. "The NFLCA therefore urges the Court to grant the petitioners equitable relief and end the NFL lockout," the NFLCA's lawyers wrote in their conclusion. "Granting equitable relief will also permit the NFL coaches to avoid the irreparable harm that comes with delaying the start of preparation preparations and will give the coaches a fair chance to preserve their employment and advance their careers."

## Don't worry, be happy: College football is coming

This was going to be an open letter to Roger Goodell and DeMaurice Smith, scolding them for obvious reasons, but why bother?

It's been done, it's tired. We're tired. Massive blocks of air time dedicated to analyzing a business that has been shut down for months? The absurdity baffles. What's next, daily steel mill strike updates on Telemundo Tonight? I don't laugh. Veritas is said to be interested.

Meanwhile, college football's opening weekend begins in 100 days. That's a certainty, which counts for a lot during these troubled football-less times. This is also why the CBSports.com college football bloggers had the brilliant idea to start coagulating down those days since, let's face it, we can't wait. And by we, I mean every red-blooded American who enjoys the college football experience more than a professional football game.

You see Google and De, we got game - rather we got games. Check them out beginning the first week of September. Right now we're in that dead calm between spring ball and fall practice, but at least we know football is coming

-fast - which is more than can be said for the playoff chances of Jerry Jones' squad.

The idea here is to rank the people, issues and things that will influence the sport in 2011. That means everything from Jim Trelease's conviction to Willie Lyles' "scouting service" to Big Ten Championship Game. It will all be in there with our bloggers' typical insight and energy.

With the NFL having suspended itself, the nation's No. 2 sport has been given a hole big enough to drive Chris Berman through. An aching football-starved public awaits. As long as the lockout madness continues, it's not a question of if college football does a pattern past the NFL in popularity, it's a matter of when.

If college's first weekend kicks off with the No Fun League still kicking around dollar figures, the football fan won't have a choice. There won't be an argument about which Cowboys rule. Oklahoma State will have it all over Dallas. There will be more interest in the Tigers of Missouri, LSU and

Auburn than in the Bengals of Cincinnati. The Cardinal by a mile over the Cardinals.

Keep hickering boys, there's a tailgate out each Saturday with our names on it.

Meanwhile, the uncertainty how to split \$9 billion in revenue will be matched only by what orbit Ray Lewis' mind happens to be in at the moment. Crime spree? Really?

If you are really jonesing for that fix, we've got your drug. Lurking somewhere in this year's Auburn - the team most likely to come out of nowhere, hopefully minus the NCAA issues. Can't wait to read about the best passing combinations. Stanford has become the cradle of Heisman contenders.

Where will Russell Wilson end up? Is Oklahoma really that good? Will Florida and Texas players be able to show their faces on campus this year? Oh, and anyone heard from Chip Kelly lately?

Somewhere in that list the subject of the NFL lockout might even pop up. But why? We got games.

# ¿Que Pasa?

## REGISTER FOR SWIMMING LESSONS

For the first time in a number of years, Lubbock's four municipal pools will be offering swimming lessons for area children! All sessions consist of eight 45-minute lessons and cost \$35 per session. For our youngest swimmers we have Beginner Swimmers for preschool children ages 3-5 years old. Youth ages 6-12 have two levels available. Level I (Guppies) is for youth with little or no water experience, and Level II (Minnows) is for intermediate swimmers. For more information or to register for lessons call the Parks and Recreation Office at 775-2673. The Parks and Recreation Office is located at 1010 9th Street (two blocks east of Mahon Library) and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lubbock's four municipal pools include Clapp Pool, 46th Street and Avenue U; Mae Simmons Pool, 24th Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.; Maxey Pool, 4007 30th Street, and Montelongo Pool, 3200 Bates Street.

Information on all of our swimming lessons plus over 600 other summer activities is available in our 28-page Recreation and Leisure Services Summer Activity Guide, which can be viewed and downloaded online at [www.playlubbock.com](http://www.playlubbock.com). To have a free copy mailed to you, call 775-2685.

## CELEBRATE NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY

The Lubbock Senior Center will be hosting their annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Local agencies and businesses will be available to provide tips and information on many healthcare and fitness topics including nutrition, fitness, health habits, medications, exercise, scans, caregivers and coping with chronic illnesses such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease. This event is free to the public.

Lubbock Senior Center is located at 2001 19th Street. Hours of operation are Mondays and Wednesdays-Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, call Lubbock Senior Center at (806) 767-2710.

## SOUTHWEST COLLECTIONS NEEDS MEXICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

Southwest Collections/Special Collections Library (SWC/SCL) staff members will be at Montelongo's Annual Pool Party at 3200 Bates Ave. on Wednesday June 1st from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. disseminating information concerning their efforts to document the Mexican-American experience in Lubbock and the surrounding communities. Additionally, selected material for inclusion in the archive's holdings will be scanned at the event.

The public is encouraged to bring items for scanning to the event. Logistically, only a few items can be scanned on-site; however, the SWC/SCL staff will discuss the importance of collecting our cultural history through scrapbooks, photographs, movies, diaries, letters, other primary materials and oral histories. This project is part of the archive's long-term goal of collecting material of historical importance; as such the emphasis will be on gathering the material and returning it ASAP.

## SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

Parks and Recreation and CATS Theater will again dazzle Shakespeare lovers with their annual production of Shakespeare in the Park. This year's play will be "The Merry Wives of Windsor," and it will be staged May 26-28, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. nightly in Wagner Park located at 26th Street and Flint Avenue.

Co-directed by CATS Theater's Chris Davis and Kim Klafka, the play is one of Shakespeare's comedies and revolves around Sir John Falstaff and includes themes of love and marriage, jealousy and revenge, social class and wealth. The play is free of charge, and audiences are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on. For more information, contact CATS Theater at 792-0501.

Your kids will never be bored at any of Parks and Recreation's day camps with our ever changing weekly themes and activities! Come for a week or the whole summer! Register in person at the camp location you would like your child to attend. Our 28-page Summer Activity Guide contains more information about our camps plus over 600 other summer activities for all ages. Download a copy from [www.playlubbock.com](http://www.playlubbock.com) <<http://www.playlubbock.com>> or call 775-2685 to receive your free copy!

## "IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?"

Why: Court Appointed Special Advocates® (CASA) serve abused and neglected children in Lubbock County. However, at the end of April 188 children are still in need of a CASA volunteer to serve as an advocate for them in court. CASA seeks dedicated volunteers to support and serve as an independent voice for abused and neglected children. CASA volunteers serve as a fact-finder and advocate for foster children in need and report their findings back to the judge. CASA volunteers spend an average of 5 to 10 hours per month over an 18 month period dedicated to helping abused and neglected children find a safe and permanent home. Commitment to the program includes a visit with the child at least once per month, reviewing the child's records, interviewing pertinent people and serving as an advocate to help prepare them for a better life after foster care. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old, participate in a 30-hour initial volunteer training program which includes classroom, on-line and hands-on components, and must pass criminal background checks and a pre-screening process. Call Today - new volunteer training begins June 7 in Lubbock!

## SCIENCE: IT'S A GIRL THING

Texas Tech's IDEAL opens registration for academic enrichment summer camp. Registration is underway for the academic enrichment program Science: It's a Girl Thing (SITG). The Texas Tech University residential summer camp is scheduled for June 20-23 for girls entering grades 5 and 6 and July 18-21 for girls entering grades 7-11. The program addresses the shortage and need for women scientists, provides an overview of an array of scientific fields and introduces girls to a university experience. The girls live on campus for four days and receive a first-class introduction to science and careers in science. The faculty comprises public school educators, Texas Tech faculty and representatives from NASA. The Institute for the Development and Enrichment for Advanced Learners (IDEAL), a department within the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, is a non-profit organization. Formed in 1984, the institute has introduced thousands of students in grades K-11 to the university through a variety of on-campus academic enrichment programs. For a program brochure or more information, contact IDEAL at (806) 742-2420 or email ideal.mail@ttu.edu. You may also find information and brochures online at [www.ideal.ttu.edu](http://www.ideal.ttu.edu).

*Our children are the greatest blessings. Our Lord gives us but its also the most painful loss a mother can experience. It has been 30 years since my beloved JB was called home by our God and it seems like yesterday, my Roland departed this earth five years ago, they were both loved by all our family and we miss them terribly but our comfort, peace and strength comes from knowing we will be reunited again if we have believed and accepted Gods gift of salvation through his son Jesus as John 3:18 tells us plainly and my sons accepted this wonderful gift so I will see them again, Praise the Lord Jesus. Their Mom Esther Sepeda*

**WWW.ELEDITOR.COM**

## ¿QUE PASA?

Let us know!

EMAIL [eleditor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eleditor@sbcglobal.net)

Embracing Life in a New Age

PACE (A Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) is designed to improve the quality of your life.

4010 22nd Street Lubbock, Texas (806)740-1500

- Comprehensive medical services
- All prescription medications
- All hospitalizations
- All physician services
- Transportation
- Home Health Care
- Activity Center
- Therapeutic pool
- Physical Therapy
- W/.../...

Eligibility Requirements:

- 55 Years of Age or Older
- Live in Lubbock County
- Medical Needs determination
- Live Safely at Home

Payment Information: Program is fully funded for individuals with both Medicaid & Medicare. Private pay is also available.

PACE participants may be fully and personally liable for the cost of unsubsidized or out of the PACE program agreement services.

**Tractor Trailer Mechanic.**  
Experienced with own tools.  
in Lubbock. Competitive Pay/Benefits.  
877-484-9675  
[www.groendyke.com](http://www.groendyke.com)  
<<http://www.groendyke.com>>

**BeyondFaith Homocare & Rehab**  
is now accepting applications for FT RN Case Managers. Experience preferred. Competitive Salary, Great benefits offered, sign on bonus available. Spanish Speaking preferred but not required. Please fax resume to 806-798-2443 or email to [tjobe@beyondfaithhomocare.com](mailto:tjobe@beyondfaithhomocare.com).



# Rapping About Tamales and Deportation

On a dark, lonely street corner, a man in sunglasses leans against his car and waits. "It's 'bout to go down," he says to his cellphone, as an ember-red Chevy Monte Carlo with cattle horns on the hood pulls up. Out steps a menacing-looking fellow in ostrich skin boots and a black Stetson.

"Señor Bling," says the man who was waiting. "The streets is fendin' for it."

Up pops the car's neon-rimmed trunk to reveal foil-wrapped packages of "it." Bricks of marijuana? Kilos of cocaine? No, tamales plastered with the logo of the Mexican-American rapper Chingo Bling.

Tamales and masa, their cornmeal base, may not have the street cred of drugs, but Chingo Bling has tried to do for them what Tony Montana did for cocaine. In songs like "Walk Like Cleto," whose video opened with the street corner scene above, he mockingly uses hip-hop's swagger to urge respect for the hard work and home cooking that help Latin American immigrants survive in a hostile world.

Before a recent show near here at the Key Club, the man who styles himself as the Chetto Vaquero and the Masa Messiah peered from beneath the brim of that black cowboy hat and made clear his intent. "I'm trying to stay current in hip-hop. Lil Wayne has a style, and so does Jay-Z. But I'm not a gangster, I've never sold crack."

"I'm Mexican-American," he said between bites of chorizo, scrambled eggs and corn tortillas at Pann's Restaurant and Coffee Shop. "Not stay any attention to the stereotypes. Our

real hustle is selling tamales, our white powder is masa. I just try to represent that."

His message is gaining a wider audience. El Real, the new Tex-Mex restaurant in Houston, displays a series of movie-style posters, framed in shadowboxes. Along with Tex-Mex music heroes like Flaco Jiménez and Freddy Fender, the Masa Messiah gets his due. "He's a rapper," said Bryan Caswell, one of the restaurant's owners. "But he raps about Tex-Mex issues, about Tex-Mex ideals. His subjects are the family that gets together in the kitchen to make tamales to make extra money. His stuff is funny. But he uses humor to make serious points."

Chingo Bling is the stage name of Pedro Herrera, a native of Houston whose parents came from the northern Mexican state of Tamaulipas. Mr. Herrera conceived the persona in the late 1990s, while studying at Trinity University in San Antonio and working as a DJ, for fraternity parties and radio shows. By 2001, soon after he graduated with a marketing degree, he had begun recording what he calls MexTapes — compilations of Spanish rap spoofs and raunchy Cheech & Chong-inspired raps — which he sold from the trunk of his car at flea markets.

He found his first audience at the flea markets, before moving on to car shows popular with low-rider enthusiasts, mom-and-pop record stores and bodegas in African-American and Mexican-American areas of Houston. (Mr. Herrera calls this the taco circuit, a reference to the chillin' circuit that African-American

musicians played before clubs and theaters integrated.) He put his marketing lessons to work. In addition to peddling self-produced CDs at shows and on his Web site, he began selling T-shirts, coloring books and bobbleheads. In time, he added



bottles of habanero-fortified salsa, emblazoned with a photo of himself, in character, wearing a T-shirt that shows him holding one of his own bobbleheads. "50 Cent wouldn't sell hot sauce," he said later as he scribbled lyrics on a napkin while preparing for a lip-sync performance on "Lánzate," a morning variety show on the Univision network. "It's not his thing, but I had to."

As his music evolved, Mr. Herrera continued to use food imagery as he began to write about identity and immigration. On the song "Like This and Like That," from his 2007 album, "They Can't Deport Us All," he sings, over a percussive backdrop, of immigrants' fear of deportation and their hopes of salvation through the under-ground economy, where it's possible to earn rent money by

selling tamales. "Making paper stacks/making paper stacks/slinging masa like crack," he raps.

Before that, Mr. Herrera — who usually steps on stage wearing a golden pendant that depicts a man, woman and chicken



running across the border — had already released a 2004 album, "The Tamale Kingpin," on his own Big Chile label. On the track "Masa & Da Flour" he does a send-up of "Money and the Power" by the Houston rapper Scarface. On "Walk Like Cleto," an homage to Mr. Herrera's pet rooster (and frequent taco circuit co-star), recorded in a hyperkinetic style that owes a sonic debt to New Orleans bounce music, he rejects stereotypes. "We're lawn people," he said. "Or we're lazy Mexicans." Mr. Herrera prefers to tell the story another way. "We're all hustlers," he said as he navigated Los Angeles traffic in an afternoon meeting at a Chipotle Grill in Beverly Hills where he would confirm plans for a summer tour with Molotov, a band his agent called the Motorhead of Mexico. "That's what it takes to make it

in America."

"I admire the hustle," he continued. "The hustle is America. And so are those tamale ladies who work the parking lots at Wal-Mart, who keep their cars in the back seat of their cars, next to the coolers of tamales they made this morning, and

"Whisper — tamales, tamales, tamales — as you walk by." "Some of those ladies would be big product," he said, slipping into a lingo more often associated with drug dealers. "Back home, you hear people talk about this one lady. You hear people say, 'She moved 20K last month.' You hear them say, 'I heard she split for Cancún with 50 large.' They respect her. And so do I."

Mr. Herrera's love of tamales is visceral. In the '70s, his mother, Dora Gana, made tamales for his father, Pedro Herrera, to sell to his co-workers at the body shop of a Houston car dealership, where he pulled dents from Pontiacs.

But his food references are likely to be more metaphorical than literal. And in the past Mr. Herrera pushed those metaphors to off-color extremes.

This was back when reviewers commonly referred to him as the Mexican Weir Al Yankovic, a title he earned by shooting music videos like "Taco Shop." In that parody of 50 Cent's "Candy Shop," Mr. Herrera transformed a bikini-clad woman, reclining in a bathtub full of shredded lettuce, into a human taco, as he dribbled her with salsa and strewn her with grated Cheddar.

That kind of routine is behind him now, Mr. Herrera said, before he took the stage at the

Key Club in West Hollywood, for a show he would headline, with the Beatnuts, a Latino rap duo from Queens. Over tacos at carbon, which he ate in a deli-bus in an alley that the club uses as a green room, he tried to dispel the notion that his music revolved around food. "I don't sing about food," he said. "I sing about my people."

Like Notorious MSG, the rap group from New York City's Chinatown that has won a reputation for songs like "Dim Sum Girl" and, in the process, started conversations about the conditions under which immigrants labor, Mr. Herrera has found a persona that lets him move effortlessly from what he calls "Exploitation messaging" to pointed commentaries about political issues like immigration reform.

As he reached for the second taco, he talked about the work ethic of his parents. And he talked about how songs like "Don't Stop Believin'" the power rock anthem by Journey, resonate with Mexican-American audiences.

Such talk brought him right back to tamales. "They're a resource, a reservoir that almost anybody can tap into," he said as his band mates tuned their instruments, and well-wishers crowded the bus. "If you can roll tamales, you have a revenue stream."

"I respect that labor," Mr. Herrera continued as he tossed his mouth full, inset with Mexican-flag-inspired semi-precious stones, back and forth in his hands. "It's like those ladies who make tamales are earning their citizenship through sweat equity."

# Autismo gana terreno entre los niños latinos

En la década de los cincuenta la enfermedad infantil más temida era la poliomielitis, su incidencia era de un niño en cada 2,250. Ahora, uno de los padecimientos que ha adquirido la categoría de epidemia es el autismo.

Las últimas cifras indican que uno de cada 100 niños tiene alguna forma de esta enfermedad que se caracteriza por falta de interacción social y de habilidad para comunicarse, así como fijación con objetos o rutinas.

Aunque entre los expertos aún se discuten las causas de este incremento, nadie puede negar que el autismo es unas 15 a 20 veces más común que el polio, y está afectando a los niños latinos al igual que a los menores de otras razas.

Los tres hijos de Sandra Luján eran dentro de los estadísticas de los miles de niños latinos que han sido diagnosticados con esta enfermedad.

Cuando Luis, su primogénito nació hace seis años, Sandra sabía que él era diferente. El bebé lloraba mucho. Cuando fue creciendo, no tenía contacto con las personas a su alrededor, no hablaba y los episodios de llanto y desesper-

ación eran frecuentes.

"Desde que era bebé me di cuenta que algo no estaba bien. Yo le hablaba y no volteaba a verme," recuerda Sandra, quien quedó embarazada con gemelos pocos meses después de dar a luz a Luis.

Su ex esposo y su padre de sus tres hijos le decía que ella exageraba los síntomas y que le diera tiempo a Luisito para que se adaptara. El padre de los menores se negaba a aceptar que su hijo mayor tenía un problema de desarrollo social e incapacidad de comunicación verbal llamado autismo.

A los dos años de edad, Luis fue diagnosticado con autismo y logró recibir una serie de terapias que lo han llevado a interactuar casi de forma normal con otras personas. Antes de las terapias, el niño lloraba con frecuencia, se golpeaba a él y a su madre. Su abuela recuerda como se tiraba

al piso y daba vuelta hasta golpearse con la pared una y otra vez. Ahora Luis es mucho más tranquilo, se la pasa horas jugando con un equipo de ciencias para niños. Le gusta leer

diagnosticados con autismo, juegan y se pelean entre sí. Cuando alguno de ellos se enfoca en algo en su actividad, se queda sumergido ahí por mucho tiempo. Lo mismo sucede cuando lloran o se frustran, permanecen encerrados en esos sentimientos por más de media hora restando lo mismo una y otra vez.

Rutina diaria les da tranquilidad. José y Juan tienen una agenda con todos los días. En la mañana es a veces con leche. Al mediodía yogurt de fresa, una galleta salada, una banana molida y una porción de queso amarillo tipo americano y por la noche una sopa.

"Mamá where's the banana" (donde está la banana?) le preguntan en inglés a Sandra cuando ella les hace falta en su plato. Ella les sonríe y les responde "Today, there's no banana" (hoy no hay plátano).

Sandra explica que ninguno de los tres niños habla español porque los cuenta mucho trabajo comunicarse y como la terapia es inglés, todo lo han aprendido en ese idioma. Luis sabe que su madre habla un idioma que él no comprende, al cual se refiere como "mom's language" (el idioma de mamá). Ninguno de los tres intenta hablar o comprender español. Es más, cuando lo escuchan pierden completamente el interés.

De acuerdo con el pediatra y experto en autismo, Dr. Michael Goldberg, el autismo se ha llegado a convertir en una epidemia porque la comunidad médica no conoce a fondo las causas, lo que ha ayudado a su propagación. "En estos 30 años de práctica pediátrica he aprendido que podemos ayudar a los niños con autismo. En mi práctica hemos visto como los menores se recuperan", dijo el Dr. Goldberg, graduado de la Universidad de California en Los Angeles (UCLA) y autor del libro The Myth of Autism (El Mito del Autismo).

En su clínica de Tazarna, Valle de San Fernando, el Dr. Goldberg atiende a niños de todas las razas, principalmente

de los tres niños habla español porque los cuenta mucho trabajo comunicarse y como la terapia es inglés, todo lo han aprendido en ese idioma.

Luis sabe que su madre habla un idioma que él no comprende, al cual se refiere como "mom's language" (el idioma de mamá). Ninguno de los tres intenta hablar o comprender español. Es más, cuando lo escuchan pierden completamente el interés.

De acuerdo con el pediatra y experto en autismo, Dr. Michael Goldberg, el autismo se ha llegado a convertir en una epidemia porque la comunidad médica no conoce a fondo las causas, lo que ha ayudado a su propagación.

En su práctica hemos visto como los menores se recuperan", dijo el Dr. Goldberg, graduado de la Universidad de California en Los Angeles (UCLA) y autor del libro The Myth of Autism (El Mito del Autismo).

En su clínica de Tazarna, Valle de San Fernando, el Dr. Goldberg atiende a niños de todas las razas, principalmente

a niños de ascendencia mexicana, peruana y de otras partes de Suramérica.

Entre la comunidad científica hay mucha controversia en torno a las causas del autismo. Algunos expertos lo atribuyen a desbalances genéticos en la actividad cerebral, mientras otros como el Dr. Goldberg, quien ha expuesto los resultados de sus investigaciones frente al Instituto Nacional de Salud (NIH), lo considera un desorden inmunológico complejo.

En términos sencillos, el Dr. Goldberg explica el autismo como una enfermedad de tipo inmunológica que nubla la parte del cerebro en donde se encuentra el control de las habilidades de comunicación y cognitivas. Lo que él hace en su práctica — y lo explica de forma detallada en su libro — es modificar las condiciones a través de dieta y algunos medicamentos, para lograr que el cerebro funcione adecuadamente. "En lugar de entrenar a los niños a que respondan de una forma, le ayudamos a que el cerebro se despeje y el niño pueda pensar", acotó el Dr. Goldberg.



**¿QUE PASA?**  
Let us know!  
EMAIL your events & pictures to:  
eleditor@sbcglobal.net

**PASOS PARA PROGRESAR**

**QUIERE MEJORAR SU EDUCACIÓN, TRABAJO, O CALIDAD DE VIDA?**

**CLASES PARTICULARES**  
\*Inglés Como Segundo Idioma (ESL) \*Preparación para la Ciudadanía  
Cursos intensivos con un enfoque en vocabulario, comprensión, dialogo, lectura y escritura.

**SERVICIOS**  
\*Lectura y Escritura \*Traducción  
Para más información: Maestra Laura L. Morales  
STEPS Educational Enterprises  
Telephone: 432-556-3368  
E-mail: Morales@stepsenducation.com

**Las familias con ingresos de \$44,000 o más podrían recibir beneficios. ¿Le sorprende?**

CHIP cubre medicinas con receta, visita al dentista, anteojos, y mucho más. Lo mejor de todo es que sólo cuesta \$50 o menos al año. La mayoría de las familias pagan poco o nada.

Tamaño de la familia (incluyendo a usted)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ingresos anuales de la familia (antes de impuestos)	\$21,760	\$24,430	\$27,100	\$29,770	\$32,440	\$35,110	\$37,780	\$40,450

www.CHIPmedicaid.org | 1-877-543-7669

**CHIP Children's Medicaid**  
Protegemos la salud de sus niños.