

# n Festival Makes Plans For 26 Folklórico Groups

Finding culture around town and surrounding cities is not easy. But with Viva Aztlán Theatre and Dance Festival, cultural awareness is the Snickers bar everyone has been waiting for.

This festival is a competition for ballet folklórico groups in Texas and thus far, two other states have also participated. It also introduces Hispanic theatre groups for a taste of spicy Mexican theatre.

Although theatre groups are brought for viewing pleasure only, they usually are a sure crowd pleaser. With the attention on Hispanic values and humorous antics of childhood memories, audiences will awe in amazement.

Lubbock Centro Aztlán founded this festival four years ago with culture aware- Continued on Page 3



Mas de 25 Ballet Folklóricos participaron en el Cuarto Festival Viva Aztlán que se llevara cabo el día 27 y 28 de Marzo aqui en Lubbock. Segun informes los Ballet viene de todo Tejas ademas de Nuevo Mexico y Colorado.

"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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## Estudio Federal Reafirma Explosión Demografica Hispana Creciente

Por Fernando Trulin IV

El Centro Nacional para Estadísticas de Salud ha agregado nuevos detalles para

apoyar las proyecciones de la Oficina del Censo sobre una explosión demográfica creciente de la población latina

en los Estados Unidos. Las mujeres latinas están teniendo un porcentaje más alto de bebés que otros grupos y dando comienzo a las familias a una edad más baja -- creando así ciclos más cortos entre las generaciones.

En un informe publicado el 25 de febrero, el Centro dijo que el 18 por ciento de todos los niños nacidos en los Estados Unidos en 1995 fueron hispanos.

De interés particular para los grupos de salud de la comunidad hispana debería ser la estadística de que la tasa de nacimientos para las inmigrantes latinas adolescentes es del 12.5 por ciento, menos que la mitad de la tasa para las jóvenes latinas nacidas en los Estados Unidos, que es del 26.6 por ciento.

El informe citó estas tasas de fertilidad (número total de nacimientos por cada mujer durante toda su vida, basándose en los nacimientos en un año natural dado):

1989 1995	
En conjunto	2.01
Blancas	1.77
Negras	2.42
Hispanas	2.90
Las tasas de fertilidad hispanas por familia y país de origen fueron:	
1989 1995	
Mexicanos	2.92
Puertoriqueños	2.42
Cubanos	1.48
Otros hispanos	2.68

Los mexicanos, que forman las dos terceras partes de la población hispana, tuvieron más de siete de cada diez nacimientos hispanos en 1995.

Durante el espacio de seis años, la población hispana de los Estados Unidos aumentó en un 25 por ciento, desde 21.6 millones hasta 26.9 millones. Los hispanos forman ahora el 11 por ciento de la población de los Estados Unidos.

En el mismo período de tiempo, la cantidad de latinas que recibieron atención prenatal se elevó en un 19 por ciento. Esto se traduce en resultados de nacimiento favorables, incluyendo tasas bajas de mortalidad infantil, dice Adolph Falcón, vice-presidente para cursos de acción e investigación de la Coalición Nacional de Organizaciones Hispánicas de Salud y Servicios Humanos (NCHHHSO).

Los estudios muestran que las latinas inmigrantes tienen mejores dietas que otros grupos y que fuman y beben menos durante los embarazos, advierte él, agregando: "Debemos hallar un modo de enjaezar las prácticas positivas de salud en nuestra cultura hispana en los Estados Unidos".

El informe halló que en 1995 -- por primera vez -- el porcentaje de adolescentes hispanas que tuvo bebés fue mayor que el de las adolescentes negras. Fue dos y media veces más alto que el de las adolescentes blancas.

Pero, según advierte COSSMHO, la mayoría de los nacimientos en las adolescentes latinas son a jóvenes de 18 y 19 años de edad, y las madres tienen mayores probabilidades de ser casadas.

El Centro informó estas tasas anuales de nacimientos (por 1,000 mujeres en un sólo año) para las jóvenes entre 15 y 19 años de edad:

En conjunto	57.57
Blancas	40.39
Negras	112.99
Hispanas	101.107
Por clasificación de herencia hispana, las tasas de nacimientos a las adolescentes fueron:	
1989 1995	
Mexicanas	95.125
Puertoriqueñas	113.89
Cubanas	25.29
Otras hispanas	66.78

Aracely Panameño, directora ejecutiva del Instituto Nacional de Salud Reproductiva para Latinas, señala que además de la juventud de la población hispana, los factores socio-económicos pueden influir también sobre las tasas de nacimientos entre las adolescentes: "Una vez que una adolescente tiene un bebé, hay menos oportunidades de que la madre salga de la pobreza. Eso se convierte en un círculo vicioso en que el niño tiene mayores probabilidades de repetir la misma conducta de la madre".

Muchas latinas pobres creen que no tienen futuros, dice ella, y creen que el tener un bebé les dará esperanza.

El informe del Centro hizo notar que las mujeres de las Américas Central y del Sur incluídas en el estudio tuvieron tasas de natalidad altas, aunque muchas habían terminado los estudios de secundaria. Pero el estudio pronosticaba que las tasas de fertilidad de las latinas disminuirían a medida que sus logros en la enseñanza aumenten. Un

# News Briefs

## Help for Young Victims of Sexual Abuse

San Francisco Chronicle--Contra Costa County children who are victims of sexual abuse no longer have to endure numerous confusing interviews with county officials or relate painful experiences to an officer in a police car.

Several county agencies, nonprofit organizations and charitable trusts, hoping to increase the number of convictions in juvenile sexual abuse cases and diminish trauma for children, have come up with a new option -- the Children's Interview Center in Martinez.

The center, which opened earlier this month, is designed exclusively for victims of sexual abuse under 14. It is equipped with discreet video cameras, one-way glass and warm, kid-friendly interview rooms.

Before the center was established, there was no standard procedure for interviewing young victims of rape or molestation. Interviews would take place in the back of squad cars, police stations, and even locations where the crimes against them were committed.

There was also no limit on the number of interviews a child would have to endure. A child might be interviewed separately by a patrol officer, detective, prosecutor, social worker, paramedics and doctors -- making the child relive the experience each time. Multiple interviews also sometimes led to inconsistencies and confusion in the victim's accounts.

Now, children will talk to specially trained social workers -- called forensic clinical interview specialists -- who can extract details without causing more emotional damage and without causing children to get confused and offer different accounts.

The new center was created by the county Social Services agency and the Rape Crisis Center of Contra Costa and is partially funded by the Mount Diablo Medical Center Foundation. The center will cost more than \$500,000 a year to run, and funding must be obtained on a yearly basis.

## Library of Congress Shows Black History Online

The Washington Post--The Library of Congress is formatting its "African-American Odyssey" exhibition for presentation on the World Wide Web to coincide with Black History Month. The online display of much of the library's African-American collection is scheduled to include 240 manuscripts, books and photographs, and will be posted on line by May 2.

The "African-American Odyssey" opened for public viewing on Feb. 5 in the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress, but placing the exhibition on the Internet will make it available to a worldwide audience.

The online exhibition will be divided into nine eras: Slavery -- The Peculiar Institution; Free Blacks in the Antebellum Period; Abolitionists, Antislavery Movements and the Rise of Sectional Controversy; The Civil War; Reconstruction and Its Aftermath; The Booker T. Washington Era; World War I and Postwar Society; The Depression, the New Deal and World War II, and The Civil Rights Era.

Among the items in the online exhibition is a copy of John Quincy Adams' brief delivered before the Supreme Court in defense of Africans who mutinied aboard a Spanish slave ship in 1839, the topic of the recent film "Amistad." This portion of the Web site includes a photograph of the legal brief defending the slaves and a synopsis of the event.

Financial support for the online exhibition came from the Citicorp Foundation, which donated \$1 million to the Library of Congress.

Daria Sheehan, vice president of the Citicorp Foundation, based in New York, said: "I did not study black history when I was in school. There's not a lot of information on black history available." She added that the online version of the exhibition will allow a worldwide audience to view photographic documentation and texts from the Library of Congress.

## Report: Bias Hinders Home Buying in Cities

While the number of Americans who own their homes has reached a record level, a new report by the U.S. Conference of Mayors contends that discriminatory lending practices in urban areas have kept many city dwellers from participating in the boom.

Last year, the overall national rate of home ownership reached a record high of 65.7 percent. But the report, "America's Home Ownership Gap," found a sharp difference in likelihood of owning a home in different places.

Citing evidence compiled by the Federal Reserve Board and the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University, the report said 71.5 percent of people who live in the suburbs own their homes, compared with 49 percent who live in cities.

The disparity, the report said, stemmed largely from redlining by banks, a practice that makes mortgage loans unavailable to low-income buyers. It found that those same people are also affected by real estate agents who steer them away from certain neighborhoods and by the current limits on Federal Housing Administration loans.

Typically, the people who have been hurt by those conditions are minorities, who disproportionately live in cities. The report said 71.3 percent of whites are homeowners, compared with 43.6 percent of blacks and 41.7 percent of Hispanics. The Federal Reserve concluded that minority households applying for mortgage credit were "much more likely" to be rejected than white households with a similar income.

"Redlining and all other forms of housing discrimination are ugly stains from America's past that have no place in America today," said Housing Secretary Andrew Cuomo, in response to the report's findings. "This report proves that home ownership in America is still too often separate and unequal."

Home ownership is viewed by many sociologists and politicians as vital to neighborhood stability, a key to promoting safer streets, better schools and economic development.

That pattern has worked successfully in suburban areas for decades as thousands of bedroom communities have sprung up around urban centers. But in many cases, the outward flow has led to the decline of inner-city neighborhoods, with renters and, often, wrecking balls claiming homes once owned and occupied.

Some cities, like Philadelphia, Cleveland and Detroit, are fighting back with ambitious redevelopment plans, making use of local and federal programs that emphasize home ow-

## Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

I was invited by a friend this past Tuesday to go eat at the Lubbock Club. Jokedly I told my friend that they didn't allow Mexicans in there. My friend assured me there would be no problem since he was a member. I really don't know what it takes to be a member, all I can really guess is that it probably takes money. Money from ones pocket, money from one's corporation or business or money from a public entity. A public entity that feels that OUR money needs to be spent to belong to the prestigious Lubbock Club to take your guests and impress them.

I've never really liked the Lubbock Club. I would probably prefer to go to a place where people would say "hey Bidal, what's up" or "que paso bato."

Getting back to my going to the Lubbock Club this past week. As I walked in and told the host I was there to meet a friend, I felt a little uneasy.

Most people know that I usually wear warm-ups, a cap and whatever I feel like wearing when I wake up in the morning. I guess that's why the hostess kind-of looked at me funny as I walked out the elevator.

To make a long story short, after being asked if they could take my cap and voluntarily giving the manager of the Lubbock Club my coat and then being told to put in my T-Shirt inside my pants - which I didn't do immediately mainly because of other persons being present - the manager decided that I couldn't go in.

He told this to the hostess who relayed that "The manager won't allow you in the dining room so we're trying to FIND A PLACE TO PUT YOU."

That didn't really sit well with me very well, but being the professional that I am - possessing a degree for Texas Tech, the University of Wisconsin and having the honor of writing the outstanding story last year from all weekly Bilingual newspapers in the nation, I decided to just ask for my cap and coat and go on about my business elsewhere. I left a message for my friend... and perhaps feeling a little bit of the rebellious 60's in me... "Tell my friend that I wasn't white enough to go in."

I can remember when I was growing up that "not being white enough" meant more than just the color of one's skin because I often have gone places with some of my friends, who regardless of color, were told that they were not welcome.

My friend felt as upset as I was and asked me to go back to the Lubbock Club with him. After going through several channels to talk to the manager, he stated that the reason for my not being admitted was because they wanted to maintain their image of being a restaurant for PROFESSIONALS and that I had refused to put in my shirt tail. The manager of the Lubbock Club said that they would ALLOW me in if I complied with what seemed to me... orders.

Well you guessed it. That didn't sit with me either. I never have had to "jump" when someone says "jump".

"You don't have to go in there if you don't want to," said my friend.

I didn't. He admitted that he really just wanted to make a point that I could have gone in, if I wanted. Eventually my friend and I decided to go somewhere else.

I ate a big steak and enjoyed a big salad bar at Byran's. Many of my friends eating there said hello, asked me how I was doing and many of them just smiled. It was a welcome change.

I've been to the Lubbock Club before, with Governor Bush, Governor Richards, Attorney General Dan Morales, just about every elected official in Lubbock and many others that have invited me. Most recently with Chancellor Montford.

I've always really hated the food there.

# ¿Quien Paga El Precio Por El Mercado Hispano, Cada Vez Mayor?

Por Paige R. Penland

El futuro luce brillante para los hispanos. Si las tendencias actuales continúan, para el año 2005 los hispanos eclipsarán a los afroamericanos como el segundo grupo de población más numeroso del país.

Qué mercado! Es un mercado joven, con la tasa de natalidad más alta de la nación, el lugar perfecto para anunciar pañales.

Tal crecimiento rápido, desde luego, se traduce en un poder político cada vez mayor y en mayores oportunidades de negocios para la dirigencia latina que va sobre la ola.

Este llamado por la carne ha sido escuchado por los hispanos jóvenes de toda la nación. Según la "California Wellness Foundation", las latinas de California tienen la tasa más alta de natalidad entre las adolescentes en el mundo industrial, más alta que las ultra-católicas Irlanda e Italia, más alta que la de los negros, blancos o asiáticos estadounidenses, hasta más alta que la de las adolescentes mexicanas.

En mi calidad de mujer blanca que trabaja para la revista "Lowrider", una publicación sobre automóviles que llega a cerca de 600,000 jóvenes hispanos cada mes, me sorprendí de que la revista no estuviera adoptando una postura más activa contra la tasa elevada de embarazos entre nuestras lectoras adolescentes. En verdad, ninguna mujer que pueda servir de

ejemplo para las latinas -- por lo menos que yo sepa -- se había adelantado para decir que el aborto y el control de la natalidad son alternativas seguras, legales y moralmente aceptables.

En vez de eso, la mayor parte se mantenía proclamando a la mayoría hispana próxima y los beneficios que la explosión demográfica produciría para los latinos bien instruidos.

Cuando miro a las jóvenes de 15, 16 y 17 años de edad que empujan carrujitos de niños en nuestras exhibiciones de automóviles, no me digo a mí misma: "Caramba, ése es el camino hacia la igualdad de toda la humanidad!"

En vez de eso, mis pensamientos se vuelven hacia el alto costo de la matrícula de las escuelas superiores, las dificultades para equilibrar el trabajo y el cuidado de los niños, y las posibilidades infinitas dentro de cada juventud, que se han convertido súbitamente en algo mucho más difícil de revelar.

No me entiendan mal -- Jesucristo y Darwin están de acuerdo en que los niños son la razón de que estemos aquí en la Tierra, y el tenerlos a la edad de 15 años es una alternativa que yo apoyo plenamente.

Pero la maternidad puede esperar hasta que una mujer haya cultivado su propio lugar en la comunidad, hasta que se haya capacitado a sí misma en una carrera que le guste, que haga de Aztlan, de los Es-

tados Unidos y del mundo unos lugares mejores.

Sólo quiero saber por qué las lectoras jóvenes de "Lowrider" no disfrutaron de las mismas oportunidades que yo tuve.

¿Por qué no pueden tener relaciones sexuales baratas, no significativas como adolescentes, sin comprometer su futuro?

¿Por qué no pueden tener un aborto relativamente libre de culpa, como yo, en vez de escoger entre un niño y un traumatismo personal, para no mencionar una reputación como una "chica mala" egoísta y pecadora?

¿Por qué no pueden disfrutar de compañeros múltiples mientras terminan su enseñanza secundaria, van a la escuela superior y consiguen un empleo bueno, como lo hice yo, asentándose cuando se enamoran antes que cuando queden embarazadas por algún tipo realmente "caliente" pero que no tenga futuro?

¿Por qué hay solamente otra mujer en el personal creador aquí, en la revista "Lowrider"?

Gloria Steinem, mi madre, y muchas otras mujeres, estuvieron allí para decirme cuán importante era que yo contribuyera a mi comunidad con mi cerebro así como con mi cuerpo.

¿Quién se lo dirá a nuestras lectoras?

Mi voz sale de una garganta blanca, y no sonará a verdad en los corazones de muchas latinas jóvenes.

Lo que estas jóvenes están oyendo hoy es que sus altas tasas reproductivas benefician a la comunidad hispana más que desarrollar sus propias habilidades individuales.

En una época de control de la natalidad y abortos seguros y legales, las jóvenes latinas no deberían tener que ver cómo las puertas de la oportunidad se cierran, sencillamente porque ellas han decidido estar activas sexualmente.

Si, el hablar por estas mujeres puede costar al mercado hispano unas cuantas bocas más que contar, pero piensen en las latinas que lograrían sus posibilidades asombrosas más fácilmente con un poco de respaldo. Sé que muchas mujeres están llegando, con todo y la guardería infantil y las matrículas, pero, ¿cuántas más tendrían éxito si alguien dijera: "Tienes una selección! Puedes tener relaciones sexuales, una carrera y ser una buena persona. Por qué no esperar un momento para agregar a tu propio hijo a la multitud, cuando puedes proveerle mejores circunstancias y enseñarle la sabiduría de un adulto?"

A través de esta puerta, realmente creo, se halla el camino a la igualdad para toda la humanidad.

(Paige R. Penland, de Los Angeles, escribe para la revista "Lowrider".)

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## Who Pays The Price For The Growing Hispanic Market?

By Paige R. Penland

The future looks bright for Hispanics. If current population trends continue, by 2005 Hispanics will surge past African Americans to become the country's second-largest racial group.

What a market! It's a young market, with the highest birth rate in the nation, the perfect place to advertise your diapers.

Such rapid growth, of course, translates into ever more political power and greater business opportunities for Latino leadership riding the wave.

This call for flesh has been heard by young Hispanics across the nation. According to California Wellness Foundation, California's Latinas have the highest teen birth rate in the industrial world, higher than ultra-Catholic Ireland and Italy, higher than U.S. blacks, whites or Asians, higher even than Mexican teens.

As a white woman working for Lowrider magazine, an automotive publication that reaches some 600,000 young Hispanics each month, I was surprised that the magazine wasn't taking a more active stand against the high rate of

teen pregnancy among our readers. In fact, no Latina role models -- at least that I know of -- had stepped forward to say that abortion and birth control are options that are safe, legal and morally acceptable. Instead, most kept trumpeting the coming Hispanic majority and the benefits the baby boom would reap for well-educated Latinos.

When I look at the 15, 16, and 17-year-old women pushing strollers around at our car shows, I don't think to myself, "Wow, that's the road to equality to all humankind!" Instead, my thoughts turn to the high cost of college tuition, to difficulties balancing work and child care, and to the infinite potential inside each young woman that has suddenly become that much harder to unlock.

Don't get me wrong -- Jesus and Darwin agree, children are the reason we are here on Earth, and having them at age 15 is an option I totally support. But motherhood can wait until a woman has cultivated her own place in the community, until she has trained herself in a career that she loves, that will make Aztlan, the United States and the world a better place.

I just want to know why Lowrider's young, female readership does not enjoy the same choices I had. Why can't they have cheap, meaningless, awesome sex as a teenager without compromising their future? Why can't they have a relatively guilt-free abortion, like me, instead of choosing between a child and a personal trauma, not to mention a reputation as a selfish, sinning "bad girl?" Why can't they enjoy multiple partners as they finish high school, go into college and land a great job, like I did, settling down when they fall in love, rather than when they get pregnant by that really hot guy with no future? Why is there only one other woman on the creative staff here at Lowrider magazine?

Gloria Steinem and my mother and many other women were there to tell me how important it was that I contribute to my community with my brain as well with my body.

Who will tell our readers?

My voice comes from a white throat, and will not ring true in the hearts of many young Latinas.

What these young women are hearing today is that their

high reproductive rates benefit the Hispanic community more than developing their own individual abilities.

In a time of safe, legal birth control and abortion, young Latinas should not have to watch the doors of opportunity slam shut simply because they have chosen to be sexually active.

Yes, speaking up for these women may cost the Hispanic market a few extra consumers to tally, but think of the Latinas who will more easily achieve their awesome potential with a little back-up. I know that many women are making it, child-care, tuition and all, but how many more would succeed if someone said, "You do have a choice! You can have sex, a career and be a good person. Why not wait for a moment to add your own child to the crowd, when you can better provide for her and teach her the wisdom of an adult?"

Through this door, I truly believe, lies the road to equality for all humankind.

(Paige R. Penland of Los Angeles writes for Lowrider magazine.)

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## A Quiet Giant Leaves Town

By Andy Porras

Newspaper obituaries seldom do justice to those who die.

But I was prepared for a lot more than I found when a friend sent me the obituary published in the small Texas bordertown where I grew up.

"Dr. Fermin V. Calderon, 68, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 29, 1998, in Del Rio..." it read. It listed the family members who survived him and basic information on visitation, mass and burial. It named pallbearers and honorary pallbearers, including the American G.I. Forum.

R.I.P.

Del Rio, Texas shall not see the likes of Chicano physician Fermin Calderon again.

As an activist, he ushered the

bordertown into the Chicano Movement back in the '60s; as a man dedicated to curing the ill, he was without equal; and as a human being, *era una alma justa* -- he was a just and loving soul.

"When I graduated from the University of Texas' School of Medicine, naturally I was given a diploma stating that I was a doctor," Calderon, who was born in Mexico, once explained to my father Jose. "When my mother saw the document, she shrugged her sloping shoulders and said, 'We must go to church now to repeat your Hippocratic Oath before God, so it'll really count.'"

The quiet-spoken doctor never wavered from the ethi-

cal code. He returned to the town where he was raised to do the honorable thing. But white Del Rio in the '50s was not quite ready to have an immigrant with brown skin addressed as "Doctor."

Once, rushing to attend to a heart-attack victim in the lobby of a Del Rio bank, he parked his vehicle in an area reserved for service station customers. Calderon reached the patient in time to save him. Then, returning to the car, he was met by a white businessman almost twice his size.

"Hey, you damn Mexican, you can't park here. Can't you read?"

"I was attending to a person who collapsed in the bank,

...sir. I am a doctor and..." Before Calderon could finish, he felt a crushing blow to his face as the man backed off and called him more names.

"There I was on the ground trying to find my glasses," Calderon would tell my father later, "I felt so embarrassed, and to think that the man I attended to was another white person!"

At a time when making house calls was going out of style, Calderon still catered to the poorest of the poor in the San Felipe barrio. But when he applied for a loan at a local bank to build his house there, he was turned down. No local bank would loan money to anybody wanting to construct anything in the barrio.

## Sittin' Here Thinkin' The One About Social Security by Ira Cutler

A few weeks ago I ended a column on the impending war on Iraq by saying, "The struggle is about peace and democracy, folks, not about oil. And, if you believe all that, let me tell you the one about Social Security."

In response, a number of readers indicated that they were surprised there is a Social Security controversy. We all know, after all, that Social Security is broke and that the President is proposing to devote the entire budget surplus to saving it. Isn't that simple, straightforward and pretty darn admirable?

Sorry to burst still another bubble, but the truth is that Social Security is not broke and the plan to use the budget surplus to shore it up is a sham.

First of all, there is no meaningful budget surplus anywhere in sight. The words are tricky here and often confusing. When the politicians talk about the DEFICIT, and having eliminated it, they are talking about the one year proposed budget for federal fiscal year 1998 which, if it is enacted and goes as projected, would have no more spending than revenue. In a one year budget sense, it would be balanced. But the federal DEBT, the total we owe from all the accumulated previous years when revenues were less than expenditures and we borrowed to make up the difference, is huge and is not going to be reduced by anything now on the table.

The federal debt, which was about 1 trillion dollars in 1981 when President Reagan took office, tripled during his administration and is now upwards of 5 trillion dollars. The interest each year on this huge debt is one of the largest single expenditures in the federal budget and it is a cost that we will keep paying for as long as anyone can see. If this were a family budget, we would hardly consider it balanced or crow about the fact that we have temporarily stopped the financial bleeding. (The huge expansion in the federal debt, for those with short memories or who have been sold a bill of goods, came as a result of sharp reductions in the tax rates paid by the most wealthy Americans, not as a result of increased federal spending.)

The federal debt figures do not even include things which businesses usually would put in their annual reports like the unfunded liability of all us baby boomers getting old and expecting to receive the benefits we were promised.

People believe that the Social Security funds they pay are kept for them and that the government gives it back later, presumably with interest, like a 401-k. Not so. Social Security is an inter-generational income transfer program in which the money that current working people pay in goes right back out to current recipients. There is no pot of money sitting there.

But there could be a pot of money, if it had not been diverted. The Social Security program is running at a considerable surplus, has been for years and is expected to continue in surplus for years to come. This is a simple calculation: the total amount of money taken out of working people's checks is far more than the total amount of the checks spent to current Social Security recipients.

But the Social Security "trust fund" is raided, year after year, to pay for the things the government wants to buy our votes with but lacks the courage to tax us for. Next year, in his balanced budget, President Clinton proposes to snatch \$184 billion in surplus funds out of federal trust fund accounts (Social Security, highway trust funds and others) and use those dollars as revenue to support the rest of the federal government. Then, if there is a \$5 billion or \$10 billion surplus in the federal budget as a whole, he wants to use it to "save Social Security." Having looted Social Security, again this year as for so many years, he wants to give back a little of the loot.

This is not to suggest that there are not very real Social Security problems, driven by demographics. There surely are. The bulge of population that is in their forties and early fifties today will cost far more to retire at current Social Security rates than the relatively small population of anticipated workers can earn. (By the way, this is a good argument for immigration.) The problem starts, the experts say, in 2010 and the system goes broke by 2029.

That problem needs to be faced and the current surpluses alone, even if protected, would only solve a part of it. But the looting of today's funds surely does not help and the false impression of acting on Social Security is a recipe for delay and symbolic rather than forthright action. No one wants to tell the truth: that it will take larger contributions, increased retirement ages or smaller pensions to make the numbers balance.

On top of all this, the underlying tragedy is that the Social Security tax, that thing called FICA on our pay checks, would not need to be so high if it were being used only for its proper purpose. And the FICA tax hits poor people the hardest since it is not progressive and starts from the first dollar of earnings. For many poor people, with earnings too low to have to pay income taxes, FICA is THE tax. When we use Social Security funds to pay for current expenditures, rather than income taxes, we let the wealthy off the hook and balance our books by taxing the poorest among us.

So add it all up: the government is using an onerous tax to build up funds that the working public believes is for their retirement but is, instead, used in significant part to fund current obligations. And the politicians that are doing this, on both sides of the aisle, know this and look you straight in your television eyes and tell you they are about the business of "saving Social Security."

Both political parties are going to run for Congress on this issue in 1998. The Democrats will suggest saving Social Security by using Clinton's hard won surplus. The Republicans are for spending less in general and for both saving Social Security and giving the middle class a tax cut. The election will hinge on which of these plans the voting public finds to be credible or, maybe, on which set of lies we find more outlandish.

But, never fear, it is all going to become very clear in the near future. President Clinton and even House Speaker Gingrich (remember him?) are lining up behind a series of town hall meetings and Phil Donahue-like television shows where the whole country will talk about Social Security, like we have been doing to solve the race and Iraq problems. I do not know when these meetings are going to be, or where, but my guess is that Ohio State is pretty much out of the running.

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

"I had to go to San Antonio (354 miles away) to secure a loan to build my house where I wanted it," he related.

When the American GI Forum -- organized by Latino veterans of World War II to fight the cruel discrimination they encountered on returning to Texas from the battlefields of Europe and the South Pacific -- came to Del Rio, it was Calderon who put up property and money to build a club house. When the barrio high school, with a 99.9 percent Chicano population, needed a team doctor, Calderon volun-

teered to cover each and every game. When college students needed a financial boost for books or registration, Calderon was there.

"He always pushed our kids to go to school, and he was there to help them out," recalls Bernie Castillo. "The man had a very special mission in his life."

Shy and unpretentious, Calderon helped put Del Rio on the Chicano Movement map through his backing of organizations catering to the needs of La Raza. Somehow he  
Continued on Page 3

# Federal Study Reaffirms Expanding Hispanic 'Baby Boom'

By Fernando Trulin IV

The National Center for Health Statistics has added fresh detail to support Census Bureau projections of a widening U.S. Latino population boom.

Latinas are having a higher percentage of babies than other groups and starting families at a younger age -- thus creating shorter generational cycles.

In a report released Feb. 25, the center said that 18 percent of all children born in the United States in 1995 were Hispanic.

Of particular interest to Hispanic community health groups should be the statistic that the birthrate for teenage Latina immigrants is 12.5 percent, less than half the rate for U.S.-born Hispanic girls, 26.6 percent.

The report cited these fertility rates (total number of births per woman over a lifetime, based on births in a given calendar year):

1989/1995 -- Overall 2.01/2.02 -- White 1.77/1.79 -- Black 2.42/2.25 -- Hispanic 2.90/3.02

Hispanic fertility rates, by family country of origin, were:

1989/1995 -- Mexican 2.92/3.27 -- Puerto Rican 2.42/2.25 -- Cuban 1.48/1.71 -- Other Hisp. 2.68/2.83

Mexicans, who make up two-thirds of U.S. Hispanic population, accounted for more than seven out of 10 Hispanic births in 1995.

During the six-year period, the U.S. Hispanic population increased by 25 percent, from 21.6 million to 26.9 million. Hispanics now make up 11 percent of the U.S. population.

In the same period, the number of Latinas receiving prenatal care rose by 19 percent. This translates in favorable birth outcomes, including low infant mortality rates," says Adolph Falcon, vice president of policy and research for the National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations.

Studies show that immigrant Latinas have better diets than

other groups and smoke and drink less during pregnancies, he notes, adding, "We must find a way to harness the positive health practices in our (U.S. Hispanic) culture."

The report found that in 1995 -- for the first time -- the percentage of Hispanic teenagers having babies was greater than that of black teenagers. It was two and a half times higher than that of white teenagers.

But, COSSMHO notes, most births to Latina teens are to 18- and 19-year-olds, and the mothers are more likely to be married.

The Center reported these annual birthrates (births per 1,000 women in a single year) for girls ages 15-19:

1989/1995 -- Overall 57/57 -- White 40/39 -- Black 112/99 -- Hispanic 101/107

By Hispanic heritage, the teenage birthrates were:

1989/1995 -- Mexican 95/125 - Puerto Rican 113/89 -- Cuban 25/29 -- Other Hisp. 66/78

Aracely Panameno, executive director of the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, points out that in addition to the youthfulness of the Hispanic population, socioeconomic factors can also influence teenage birthrates: "Once a teenager has a baby, there is less opportunity (for the mother) to work herself out

### From Page 2

found time to become involved in school and civic groups.

In recent years, his work did not go unrecognized. The city named an elementary school after him.

When I read the obituary, I called another friend from my youth, Ruben Pollo Barragan. Barragan still lives in Del Rio, working as a photographer. Every December, he plays Santa to thousands of Del Rio's poorest children with a huge party and individual gifts.

"When you start to add up all the people Dr. Calderon helped in his lifetime, you simply run out of paper," Pollo recounted. "I used to take real sick kids to him and he'd

of poverty. It (becomes) a vicious cycle where the child is more prone to repeat her same behavior."

Many poor Latinas feel they don't have a future, she says, and they believe that having a baby will give them hope.

The Center's report noted that Central and South American women in the study had high birthrates even though many had completed high school. But it predicted that Latina fertility rates will decrease as their educational attainment increases. A study it conducted in 1994 found the fertility rate for college-educated Latinas comparably low to those of college-educated African Americans and whites.

Some attribute the high Latina birthrate to cultural and religious beliefs as well. Hispanics tend to practice Catholicism, whose tenets strongly oppose the use of birth control and abortion.

Observing that Latinas make up 8.4 percent of the U.S. female population between ages 14 and 49, Panameno states that they undergo 13 percent of all abortions in the United States.

(Fernando Trulin IV is a reporter with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Washington, D.C.)

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come out the back door to tend to them. He never once asked me for any kind of payment. We're all doing to miss him. Especially the poor folks."

Dr. Fermin Calderon. He made his mother proud. Many, many times over.

# Viva Aztlan To Be Held March 27

From Page One

ness in mind. Zenaida Reyes committee member said, "Lubbock lacked culture, therefore we formed this festival to show this city something new, not the norm."

This year the festival will be held on March 27-28 at the Lubbock Civic Center where 26 groups will compete from categories ranging from Best Costumes to Best Overall Dance Troupe. The intensity between the two are what make this competition so interesting.

Bob Craig, festival scheduler, has received many calls from different groups and all have stated they are coming to win. Each year past winners are invited to return to the competition and each year the competition is tremendously overwhelming with talent.

With groups from San Antonio and Albuquerque, NM, for example, the culture ethnicity is that of true creation and preservation of its origin.



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# "No Soy El Mas Grande":



**Un Rayito De Luz**  
por Sofia Martinez  
Para ser cristiano no basta tener una imagen de Jesús en la casa o en el cuello, sino que, debemos de ser una imagen viva de Jesús en la casa o fuera de la casa, en el trabajo y en todas partes. Cristiano no es el que dice con su boca: "Señor, Señor". Es cristiano el que realmente vive haciendo los gustos del padre de los cielos. (Mateo 7, 21-22).

El Centro Ceremonial Otomi esta de plácemes. El mejor boxeador mexicano de la historia realiza sus entrenamientos en esta zona montañosa. Se prepara para la que podría ser al ultima pelea de su brillante carrera.

El adiós esta cerca y el legendario boxeador se despide del deporte que los hizo famosos y millonario. Su meta: Recuperar un cinturón mundial que cree suyo, que ostento por 12 prolongados años y que dejó ir.

Alejado de la vida social y del mundo superfluo que crea la fama, la fortuna, los halagos, las reverencias, Julio Cesar Chavez esta concentrado en cuerpo y alma para subir al cuadrilatero el 7 de marzo en la Monumental Plaza Mexicana.

El rival? A quien le importa? es Julio Cesar la atracción del negocio de los punos, un pasatiempo que millones de aficionados siguen por las arenas y por los medios de difusión, principalmente la television que transmite las imágenes y hazanas de un atleta superdotado.

Un hombre poderoso con los punos e inmisericorde con los rivales, pero debil de caracter en la convivencia que le acarreo problemas familiares y sociales, solventados por sus abultadas cuentas bancarias.

**Alejado de la civilizacion**  
Siete cabanas alojan a los colaboradores de Julio Cesar en la tranquilidad de un lugar consagrado a la preparación de atletas de alto rendimiento, a los mejores exponentes de la actividad física que buscan seguir en la supremacia.

Para Chavez, la unica y mejor forma de asegurar su futuro economico es con los punos. Y para tener la condicion física que requieren sus punos para demoler a sus

rivales, necesita prepararse y entrenarse de manera intensa y disciplinada.

"Despues de boxear seis rounds en esta altura, sientes que te falta aire, pero la condicion física que adquieres es inigualable, incomparable, por eso estoy aquí", asegura el ya legendario peleador mexicano.

La presencia de Julio Cesar rompe la tranquilidad de este frío lugar. La numerosa comitiva, las constantes visitas. Los automoviles y camionetas de reciente modelo estacionados en las zonas aledañas a las cabanas.

Para Chavez es la sexta concentracion en el centro Ceremonial Otomi. "Las hago solo para combates importantes, la ultima fue ante Meldrick Taylor. Ahora me juego mi futuro el 7 de marzo, porque mi meta es otra pelea contra Oscar de la Hoya", afirma.

Chavez asegura que en la revancha lo derrotara. Pero hay un obstaculo llamado Miguel Angel Gonzalez que puede frenarlo, "si pierdo me retiro, si gano una mas," responde categorico.

Despues de 18 años en el boxeo profesional, que "son muchos, pero me siento bien gracias a Dios. Estoy en plenitud de facultades físicas y mentales. Estoy en el ultimo jalón de mi carrera".

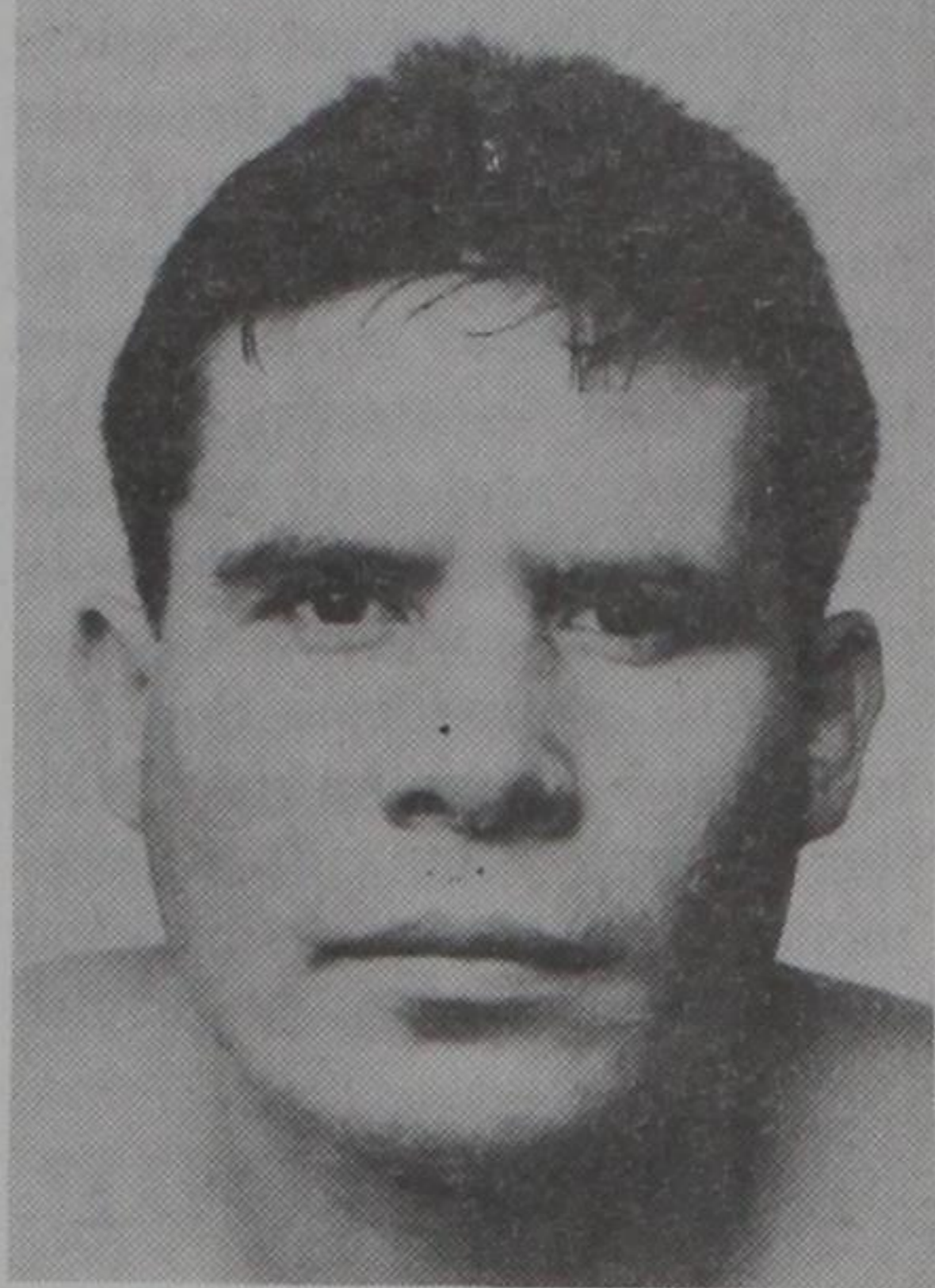
**En paz pero intranquilo**  
Que te falta hacer en tu carrera? Me falta consumir dos triunfos mas. Estoy en santa paz conmigo mismo, pero intranquilo por las dos derrotas (ante Frankie Randall y Oscar de la Hoya)".

Pero no solo los retadores fueron los rivales de Julio Cesar. Sus problemas personales y morales, los que afectan mas que los economicos y que desgastan al ser humano, los vivio el sonorense.

"Ahora no tengo problemas, es una ventaja a mi favor gracias a Dios. Me preparo a conciencia, sin ninguna excusa".

Eres considerado el mejor boxeador mexicano de la historia, que opinion tienes al respecto?

No me creo el mejor peleador de Mexico, siempre lo he reiterado porque cada quien en su epoca ha sido



grande. Existieron grandes peleadores y existiran mas, porque hay jovenes que empujan fuerte. Me siento contento con lo realizado, pero me falta el ultimo estiron.

Respira hondo y anade:  
El boxeo me ha dado todo y me quiero retirar con dignidad, ganando o perdiendo con Gonzalez hare una buena pelea. Miguel Angel tiene que sacar fuerzas no se de donde para poder ganarme, pero lo veo muy complicado. Cuando me preparo bien es muy difícil que alguien me gane.

Sus facultades sobre un cuadrilatero son innegables. Pegada, resistencia, boxeo, agresividad. Un caracter indomable.

El peleador nace, nose hace. Yo naci boxeador.

Su historial lo confirma: 102 peleas profesionales en la estadística del Consejo Mu-



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ndial de Boxeo.  
"Son 103 combates, 100 ganadas, dos perdidas y un empate", afirma y contradice al consejo. "Yo he hecho las peleas. Tengo mi record".

Confiesa que aun no esta cansado del boxeo y lo demostrara el 7 de marzo. Un triunfo claro y contundente para demostrar por que es considerado uno de los mejores peleadores de Mexico en la historia. El mejor de todos.

**"Me ire para no regresar"**  
En una revancha contra Oscar de la Hoya, seria una obsesion retirarte como monarca mundial?

"Tanto como obsesion no. Si pierdo, perdere bien, en toda la linea. Pero terminare mi carrera como campeón."

Que opinas de la escasez de figuras en el boxeo mundial y por lo tanto sigan peleando veteranos como Roberto Duran y George Foreman, que rebasan los 40 años de edad?

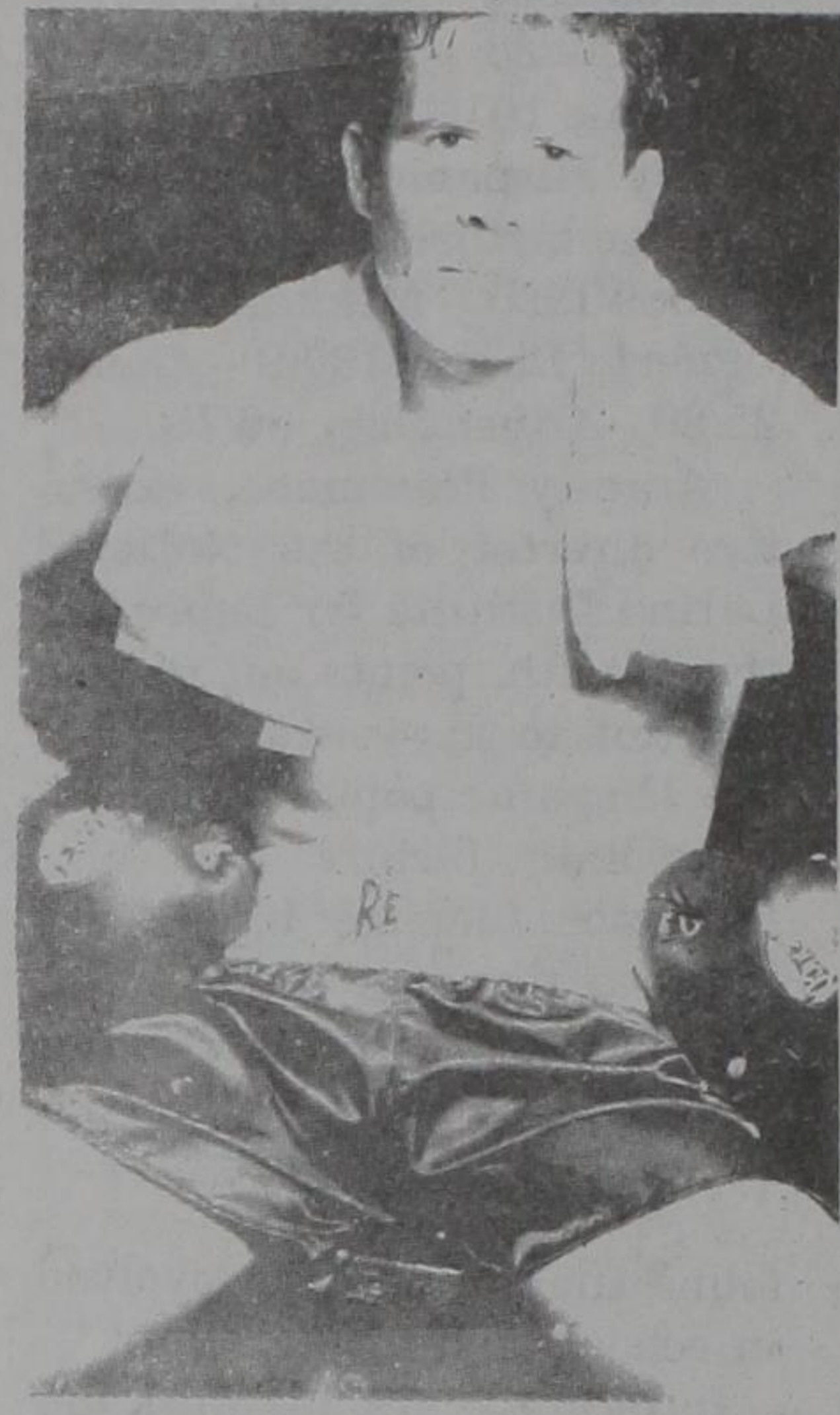
Yo tengo 35 años, pero me ire para no volver. Ellos siguen por orgullo o necesidad. Yo no regresare, por eso he anunciado que me retiro en forma definitiva y no volveré. Es un adiós definitivo.

Pero no solo la gloria deportiva acompañara a este gladiador de los cuadrilateros. Un futuro comodo lo espera. No habra mas hambre, ni penurias. Millones de dolares ganados a guantazos invertidos en bienes raíces, negocios, cuentas bancarias.

Vivire de lo que tantos golpes me costo.

Pero su recuerdo como boxeador perdurar para siempre en la memoria de los que presenciaron sus hazanas en el ring.

El Salon de la Fama en Canastota lo espera. No puede ser de otra forma. Aseguro su lugar en el nicho de los inmortales.



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# News Briefs

From Page One

nership as the best way to rehabilitate eroding neighborhoods. But as the report found, discriminatory practices continue to impede the development, even as incomes are rising and many banks have lowered their mortgage rates.

The report quotes Willie Brown, the mayor of San Francisco and chairman of the mayors' conference on community development and housing, as saying: "We've got more people in more jobs making more money and buying more homes. But these home buyers aren't minorities, and that raises the question: Shouldn't all boats be rising on this strong economic tide?"

The report offers few concrete solutions, other than to urge the private mortgage industry to make more loans available to lower-income buyers. Cuomo said that the Clinton administration is proposing to raise federal housing loan limits, which have been in effect for 21 years.

Passage by Congress, he said, would enable three million more families to buy their homes.

## Study: US Policies May Worsen Poverty

Two-thirds of the states have adopted welfare overhaul policies that threaten to throw the poor further into poverty, said a university study released today.

Only 14 states, led by Vermont, have revamped their welfare systems in a way that is likely to improve the financial condition of the poor, said the report. It ranked Idaho's policies as the most likely to threaten welfare recipients' economic security.

Tufts University's Center on Hunger and Poverty surveyed all 50 states about how they implemented the new federal welfare law. Its primary conclusion: "The majority are failing and failing badly."

Researchers came to that conclusion after evaluating 34 policy decisions that the federal government left to the states under the 1996 welfare overhaul law. Those areas include providing child care, expanding health coverage and offering education and job training.

The majority of states adopted policies that, on the whole, make it more difficult for people collecting welfare to rise above poverty and support themselves, the report contended.

"It is a sobering fact," said John T. Cook, research director at Tufts in Medford, Mass. "I think a part of what we hope the report will accomplish is to send a wake-up call to the nation, to those states ... who have the inclination to look that they are not, in fact, using the new prerogatives that they were given to actually accomplish the central promise of welfare reform -- and that is to improve the lives of poor people."

States are doing the worst in improving the eligibility of the poor for benefits, increasing the amount of those benefits and in requiring work, the study found. Most states, however, are doing a better job of helping welfare recipients get child care so they can search for and hold down a job. And every state is allowing people to keep more of what they earn or to invest in some kind of tax-free savings.

States in the Northeast scored the highest in the study, while those in the South and Midwest did the worst.

The best possible score on the scale devised by Tufts was a 22. Vermont scored a 12 and second-place Oregon scored a 7.5. The worst possible score was a negative 38. Idaho got a negative 15.5 and Wyoming a negative 12.

Vermont Gov. Howard Dean said he believed his state scored so well because welfare overhaul there was enacted before the federal government required it.

"What we do that's different is we don't cut off all benefits; we cut off cash benefits, which means people don't get kicked out in the street," Dean said. "The biggest danger in this is people won't be able to find a job. If you can't find a job in our system you can continue to get your grant if you work in a public nonprofit or a private nonprofit job."

# Special Links In A Hispanic News Chain

By Raymond Rodriguez

In 1980, Charles Ericksen and his wife Sebastiana Mendoza founded the Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C. It was the fulfillment of an idea that became a dream in Charlie's active mind. Ericksen had started his journalistic career as a teenage copyboy at the old Los Angeles Mirror half a century ago, in 1948, and, like so many others bitten by the journalism bug, he dreamed of someday becoming a publisher of his own newspaper.

Anyone who is sane will tell you that starting a news service is a sure way to go bankrupt in a hurry. With no clients lined up, Charlie called together his five children -- who ranged in age from 17 to 28 -- to announce he was taking a vow of poverty and they could kiss any inheritance bye-bye. All of them applauded his decision and urged him to fulfill his life's ambition.

He then called Peter Kaye, an old Army buddy who had become a senior editor at the San Diego Union, and asked if the Union would subscribe to a service featuring Hispanic perspectives on issues of the day. Kaye said yes, and Hispanic Link was in business.

In the lean years that followed, Charlie and Sebastiana, or Tana as everyone affectionately called her, refused to give up. They were two people obsessed by a single idea. The Latino community, with no nationally syndicated columnist of its own, needed a link to make its voice heard. The Ericksen-Mendozas were determined to break the isolation that limited the influence of Latino writers. Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans and other Hispanics often did not know what their brethren throughout the United States were undergoing, thinking or writing.

There was no national means for collecting and distributing news important to the Hispanic community but often ignored by the mass media. The Link's syndicated column service, launched in February 1980, and the news-weekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report, begun in September 1983, were created to fill that void.

The now-more-robust Weekly Report is read by all who need to keep the pulse of the Latino community. For Latino leaders, academics, politicians and others who work with the U.S. Latino

community, it is must reading. Nowhere else will you find as complete a summation of news, ideas and information that impact the Latino community from coast to coast.

In addition to articles by its staff writers, Hispanic Link distributes timely opinion and analysis pieces written by the most respected Latinos in our society. Many are household names, ranging from Cabinet secretaries to celebrated authors, lawyers, journalists and organizational leaders. The Link distributes three commentaries weekly, in English and Spanish, to some 60 subscribing media via the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. No other forum provides a wider distribution of what is current in the Latino community on a wide variety of issues.

Although still operating on a shoestring, Hispanic Link News Service is recognized as a comprehensive and, more importantly, a reputable, creditable source of information. Fairness and objectivity are prime concerns, but its column contributors are given full leeway to state their views.

In December of 1996, Charlie's beloved wife Tana passed away after a four-year struggle with cancer. Her death was mourned by thousands who knew her. She and Charlie had met when he, as a young veteran of the Korean War, headed south to Mexico to find himself and write the "great American novel." Instead, in a small Oaxacan seacoast village, he met a lovely Zapotec maiden and fell in love. Theirs was truly a marriage made in heaven. Sebastiana, who never had a day of formal schooling, became Charlie's life and inspiration.

Tana would have been pleased to know that last month, at the Times Mirror Center in Los Angeles, Charlie's fellow journalists honored him for his years of dedicated service in advancing the public's awareness about the fastest-growing segment of U.S. society. His colleagues, friends and children were there to congratulate and thank an individual who dared to live his dream, and who made a difference. Many prominent Latino writers on newspaper and magazine staffs from coast to coast are former "Linkies" trained by Ericksen.



A five year old native girl named "KARLA" had not been stricken by the deadly illness and became very helpful to both the colony of visitors and her village people. KARLA worked continuously providing them with the water until she would fall asleep from exhaustion.



At the cry of her name, she would be up, awake, ready with her arms still around a water vase. A time came when she was awoken to what she thought was the call of her name. It was really pure silence but silence at its very best is loud. She would turn her head side to side listening to see where the call was coming.

This time silence spoke, the unseen became visible; it dawned on her why it was so silent. She ran from person to person with hopes to find at least one, one person breathing. She knew that people and beast had died. Then came to this youth the devastating thought which gave it's birth to the meaning of being all alone. Her hurt was unbelievable as the nightmare she had awoken to lingered to a monstrous reality. She stood frozen with her arms still around the water vase. The thought of "all alone" kept coming, over and over again. She let go of the water vase and before it reached it's last usefulness, KARLA had left - running, running, and running!

Tired already from before and not really not the running, the tiny body reached it's limit. It could no longer take Little Karla away from the memory she was trying to leave behind. Creeping, in almost slow motion came the end of her struggle as her last footsteps continued forward to a downward final finish; little KARLA had already pasted out to the welcoming ground.



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# Eslabones Especiales De Una Cadena Hispana De Noticias

Por Raymond Rodriguez

En 1980, Charles Erickson y su esposa Sebastiana Mendoza fundaron Hispanic Link News Service en Washington, DC. Fué la realización de una idea que se convirtió en un sueño en la mente activa de Charlie. Ericksen había comenzado su carrera periodística como muchacho de copias adolescente en el antiguo "Los Angeles Mirror" hacia medio siglo, en 1948, y como muchos otros picados por el insecto del periodismo, él soñaba con llegar ser algún día el publicista de su propio periódico.

Cualquiera que esté en su sano juicio le dirá a usted que el comenzar un servicio de noticias es un modo seguro de ir a la quiebra de prisa. Sin tener clientes alineados, Charlie reunió a sus cinco hijos -- que fluctuaban en edades entre los 17 y 28 años -- para anunciarles que él estaba haciendo un voto de pobreza y que ellos podían despedirse de cualquier herencia. Todos ellos aplaudieron su decisión y le instaron a cumplir la ambición de su vida.

El llamó entonces a Peter Kaye, un antiguo camarada del Ejército que había llegado a ser editor principal del "San Diego Union", y le preguntó si ese periódico se subscribiría a un servicio que destacara perspectivas hispanas sobre los asuntos de actualidad. Kaye dijo que sí, y Hispanic Link empezó a funcionar.

En los años flojos que siguieron, Charlie y Sebastiana, o "Tana" como todos le llamaban cariñosamente, se negaron a darse por vencidos. Ellos eran dos personas obsesionadas por una sola idea. La comunidad latina, sin tener columnistas sindicados propios, necesitaba un eslabón que hiciera oír su voz. Los Ericksen-Mendoza estaban determinados a romper el aislamiento que limitaba la influencia de los escritores latinos. Cubanos, puertorrique-

ños, mexicanoamericanos y otros hispanos ignoraban a menudo lo que estaban atravesando, pensando o escribiendo sus hermanos por todos los Estados Unidos.

No había un medio nacional para recolectar y distribuir noticias importantes para la comunidad hispana, a menudo pasadas por alto por los medios colectivos de información. El servicio de columnas sindicadas del Link, lanzado en febrero de 1980, y el semanario "Hispanic Link Weekly Report", empezado en septiembre de 1983, fueron creados para llenar ese vacío.

El "Weekly Report", ahora más robusto, lo leen todos los que necesitan mantenerse sintiendo el pulso de la comunidad latina. Para los dirigentes, académicos, políticos y otros latinos que trabajan con la comunidad hispana de los Estados Unidos, es lectura obligada.

En ninguna otra parte se puede encontrar un resumen tan completo de noticias, ideas e información que surtan efecto sobre la comunidad latina de costa a costa.

Además de los artículos escritos por sus propios redactores, Hispanic Link distribuye artículos de opinión y análisis oportunos escritos por los latinos más respetados de nuestra sociedad. Muchos son nombres familiares, que van desde secretarios del gabinete hasta autores, abogados, periodistas y dirigentes de organizaciones celebradas.

El "Link" distribuye tres

### Management Development Specialist

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comentarios semanales, en inglés y español, a cerca de 60 medios informativos suscritos, por medio del "Los Angeles Times Syndicate". Ningún otro foro suministra una distribución más amplia de lo que es actual en la comunidad latina sobre una amplia diversidad de asuntos.

Aunque todavía funciona con fondos limitados, Hispanic Link News Service es reconocido como una fuente completa y, lo que es más importante, de reputación y verosímil en cuanto a información. La equidad y la objetividad son preocupaciones primordiales, pero a sus contribuyentes de columnas se les da una libertad completa para decir sus puntos de vista.

En diciembre de 1996, la amada esposa de Charlie, Tana, murió después de una lucha de cuatro años contra el cáncer. Su muerte fué lamentada por los millares de personas que la conocían. Ella y Charlie se habían conocido cuando él, que era entonces un veterano joven de la Guerra de Corea, se encaminó al sur, hacia México, para hallarse a sí mismo y escribir "la gran novela estadounidense".

En vez de eso, en una aldea de la costa de Oaxaca, él conoció a una amable doncel-

la zapoteca y se enamoró de ella. Su matrimonio fué verdaderamente hecho en el Cielo. Sebastiana, que nunca tuvo ni un día de enseñanza formal, se convirtió en la vida e inspiración de Charlie.

Tana se habría sentido complacida al saber que el mes pasado, en el Centro del Times Mirror, de Los Angeles, los colegas periodistas de Charlie le homenajearon por sus años de servicios dedicados para adelantar la conciencia pública sobre el segmento de más rápido crecimiento de la sociedad estadounidense.

Sus colegas, amigos e hijos estaban allí para felicitar y dar las gracias a una persona que se atrevió a vivir su sueño, y que significó una diferen-

encia. Muchos escritores latinos prominentes en las dotaciones de personal de periódicos y revistas, de costa a costa, son antiguos "eslaboncitos" capacitados por Ericksen. Todos nosotros, los que escribimos sobre la comunidad latina, estamos endeudados con él, con Tana y con dos de sus hijos, Carlos y Héctor, que continúan agregando eslabones a la cadena como asociados del servicio de noticias de la familia.

(Raymond Rodriguez, catedrático universitario jubilado, redacta una columna semanal sobre asuntos hispanos en el "Long Beach Press-Telegram", de Long Beach, California.) Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1998. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

## From Page One

estudio que hizo el Centro en 1994 halló que la tasa de fertilidad para las latinas con instrucción superior era comparablemente baja con respecto de las afroamericanas y blancas de instrucción superior.

Algunos atribuyen la tasa de natalidad de las latinas a creencias culturales y religiosas también. Los hispanos tienden a practicar el catolicismo, cuyos principios se oponen sólidamente al uso del control de la natalidad y del aborto.

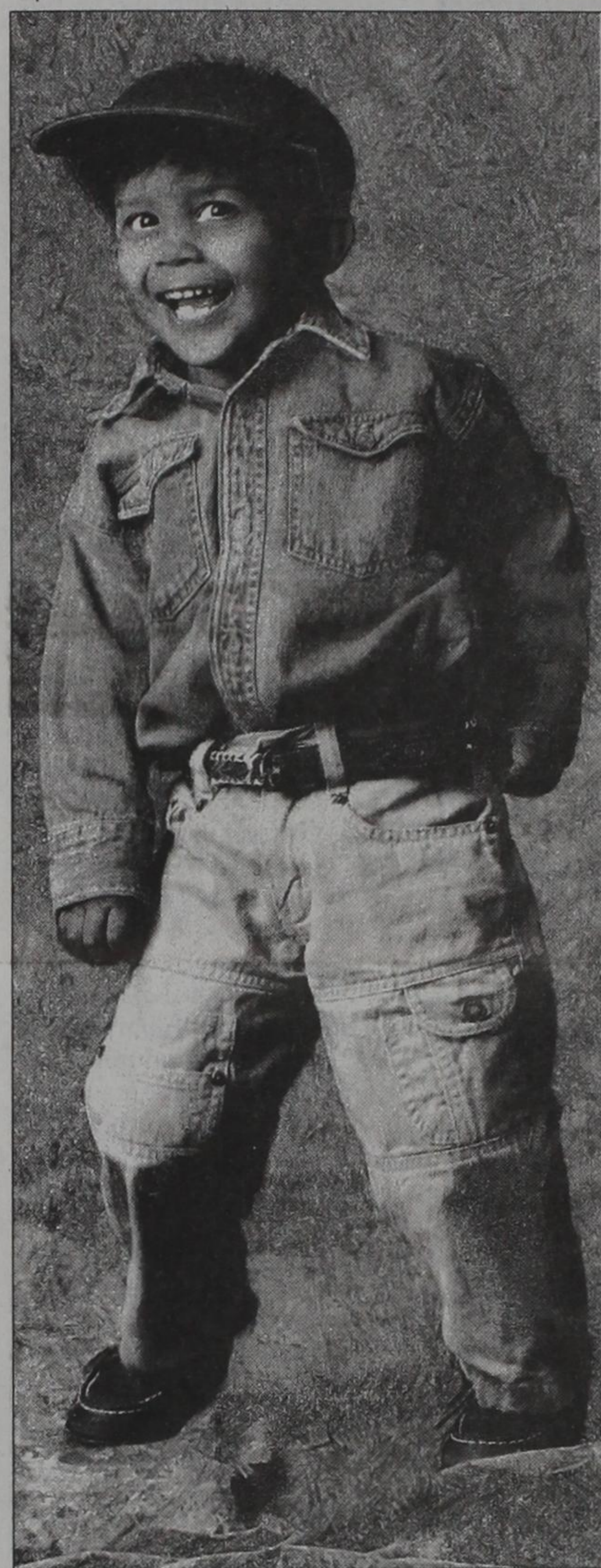
Al observar que las latinas forman el 4.8 por ciento de la población femenina de los Estados entre las edades de 14 y 49 años, Panameño dice que ellas se someten al 13 por ciento de todos los abortos en los Estados Unidos.

(Fernando Trulin IV es reportero del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report en Washington, DC.)



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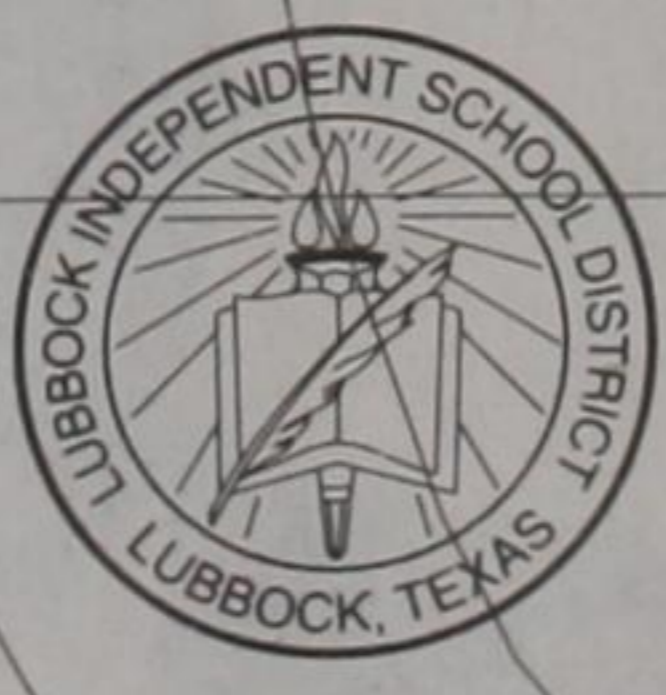
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### City of Lubbock-Community Development Department REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

from all non-profit and for-profit agencies within the city limits of the city of Lubbock and City of Lubbock Departments who are interested in applying for FY 1998-99:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds
- Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Funds
- HOME Investment Partnership Program Funds

All applicants are required to attend one of the following Technical Assistance Workshops where applications will be distributed:

**Tues., March 3, 1998**      **Thurs., March 5, 1998**

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm      OR      9:00 am - 12:00 noon  
City Council Chambers      City Council Chambers  
City Hall-1625 13th St      City Hall -1625 13th St

All Organizations Interested in Applying for 1998 Community Development Funds Should Attend

All Applications Are Due By March 27, 1998 at 5:00 p.m. to Community Development

1625 13th Street, Rm 107 - P.O. Box 2000 - Lubbock, Texas 79457

If you are unable to attend the workshops, call 775-2301 for an appointment