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

Si se Puede - When Hispanics Vote as One

According to the US Census Bureau there are about 11 million Hispanics registered to vote in the United States and 10 million more who are eligible but not registered. In past Presidential elections the winning candidate garnered a strong percentage of the Hispanic vote; indicating conclusively that the 11 million are enough to swing national elections even when Hispanics do not vote as a block. President Bush won 35 percent of Hispanic voters in 2000, and about 40 percent in 2004. The race was so close, that without Hispanic support George Bush would have been elected President in 2000.

national candidate could ever win of. It was the Hispanic vote that helped elect Barack Obama President 2008.

Another very significant fact is that Hispanic voter turnout has been steadily increasing by about 2.5 million new voters each Presidential election. This means that the Hispanic turnout in 2012 will be

without the Hispanic vote. For the present it is consolation enough to know that in the last election with 10 million Hispanics voting, 70% of the vote went to the winner. History records that the winner won by about 10 million votes. This statistic indicates that 70% of the winning votes were Hispanic. If you're a Hispanic voter this fact is certainly something to be proud

will elect or reelect the President. The winning candidate must get about 7 million Hispanic votes to capitalize on the Hispanic voting vote. This is a reality no one can ignore; Si se Puede - When Hispanics Vote as One.

Smart money says both political parties will be winning and dining us and it also says this should be happening now. But, winning the Hispanic vote is a delicate matter. Analysts warn that Republicans could alienate Hispanics if its right-

by taking them for granted and delaying action on issues important to them.

Another curious statistic from the US Census Bureau, is that except for men 65 and older, Hispanic women vote in larger numbers than Hispanic males. No one can say what motivates women to take 5 minutes out of their busy day to cast a ballot or why a Hispanic male can't find 5 minutes during his day to do likewise. Perhaps politicians should take a cue from this and recruit women to help with voter registration and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) drives.

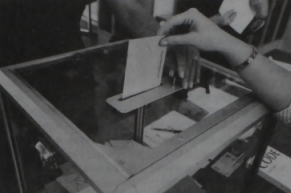
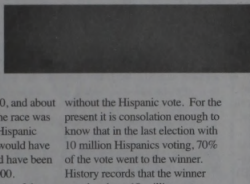
Hispanic voting habits in Lubbock appear to closely shadow National trends. There are enough registered Hispanic voters to swing a county wide election as was evident in the 2008 Primary when Hillary Clinton won due in large part to Hispanics who voted in her favor. This is clear evidence that turnout is the essential element in Lubbock. Perhaps Hispanic women are the key to getting the vote out. If each woman were to take their significant other to the grocery store on the pretense of needing eggs, milk and bread; Lubbock would experience an immediate 10% increase

delaying action on issues important to them. Ladies, tell him you would like his company and then take him to vote.

Hispanics will be the majority in Texas in a few years. Cities where huge numbers of Hispanics currently live are Austin, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, as well as heavily populated counties in the valley. Lubbock too will soon see a majority Hispanic population. Most agree that this will occur in about 10 years. An increase in enrollment of Hispanic students in Lubbock public schools are evidence of the inevitable minority-majority status of Lubbock. Hispanics need to take this opportunity to make the best use of their numbers for the positive networking of their community, to benefit and to represent them inclusively in the community and to become as politically active as their neighbors around them.

The US Census Bureau says that Hispanics are the nation's fastest growing minority and projects they will make up about 30 percent of the population by 2050. This is a voting bloc 110 million strong. What will happen when Hispanics vote as one.

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about 13 million strong. Analysts examining these statistics must conclude that the Hispanic vote

wing faction takes control of the debate with anti-Hispanic rants. Democrats risk losing Hispanics

Social Security to Enter Deficit in 2010

Everybody knew it was coming, but it arrived faster than almost anyone expected. As of this year, Social Security will be running in the red for the first time in a quarter-century. The recession has pushed Americans by the hundreds of thousands onto benefit rolls. That, in turn, has sped up the day of reckoning when the baby boom generation burns through the money set aside for its retirement. More than 2.7 million piled into the program last year as job prospects dwindled, up almost half a million from a busy year in 2008. "This is the biggest jump in modern times," a spokesman for the agency observed. Now what? Very likely, nothing. After getting bruised in the fight over health care reform, the party in power will be staying far away

from the proverbial "third rail" of politics. Maybe after the presidential election of 2012, meaningful reform could make it back on the agenda - maybe. Meanwhile, the finances of this important program will keep deteriorating, raising the cost of an eventual fix. "The longer you delay, the harder it will be," said Ron Gebhardt, who heads the actuarial science program at Pennsylvania State University. "Congress fiddles while the budget burns." Fixing Social Security inevitably involves raising taxes and cutting future benefits, and that's the problem. Doing one and not the other would fail politically, and no fancy new gimmick can take the place of those hard decisions. Only one group of Americans can expect to feel no pain: During the failed effort to reform

Social Security in 2005, all sides agreed that current beneficiaries and those on the verge of retirement would be protected. So the 55 and older crowd can count on getting paid in full, at least with more confidence than younger Americans. Congress last reformed Social Security only as it was going broke in 1983. That legislation has raised much more money than the system has been spending. So even though Social Security will run in the red again this year, it won't blow through the \$2.5 trillion "trust fund" it has amassed for a long time - 2037 at the latest. Running Social Security to the brink of failure once more, however, would be courting big trouble. Higher taxes on the young and middle-aged would be a given. Many economists believe that diverting resources from those Americans to older citizens on a large scale would undermine economic growth. As the young increasingly support the old, something has to give. Could it be spending on housing and education?

Investment in workplace technology and other productivity enhancements? Overall standards of living? Would a stagnant U.S. birth rate fall, as in much of Europe and Japan? "We'll be Italy without the good food," Gebhardt said with a laugh. Yet another Chicago economist Robert Dederick believes spending down Social Security until it's broke would boost inflation and undermine the nation's prospects to some extent. "It's not to suggest the nation can't get richer over time, just not at as high a level as it otherwise would," said Dederick, an 80-year-old who receives Social Security benefits and also pays its taxes on his consulting income. "A fix will have to come sooner or later," he said. "The question is whether we'll do it in a sensible way, or if we'll be driven to it by a crisis." Given the gridlock on Capitol Hill, it might be merciful if the crisis comes soon.



SU VOTO ES SU VOTO

Ysidro Gutierrez, candidate for State Representative District 84, took the opportunity to vote early at Amigos. Su Voto Es Su Voto!

Reforma Migratoria: Del dicho al hecho

La semana pasada la presidenta de la Cámara Baja, la demócrata Nancy Pelosi, refrendó su compromiso con una reforma migratoria amplia que ha tenido el apoyo de su colega republicano de Florida, Lincoln Díaz-Balart, quien anunció su retiro, pero espera, afirmó, que Pelosi lleve al pleno un proyecto de reforma migratoria amplia.

Es más fácil decir que hacer. Pelosi y el resto del liderazgo demócrata siempre se han escuchado en que el Senado tiene que actuar primero.

Pero quienes esperamos a que el presidente del panel senatorial de Inmigración, Charles Schumer, senador demócrata de Nueva York, presente, de hecho, una medida, según él, de apoyo bipartidista, hemos tenido que buscar una silla porque de pie nos estamos cansando. La espera data desde su promesa de presentarlo el año pasado, en septiembre, para el Día del Trabajo.

Entendemos que es muy cierto aquello de que el hombre propone, y en este caso, las circunstancias políticas disponen.

Barack Obama propuso y prometió no sólo una reforma migratoria sino una de salud y muchas otras cosas en medio de una economía déprimida y lidiando con oposiciones republicanas y demócratas a cada paso. Si usted le pregunta a algún demócrata, sobre todo de la Cámara Baja, dirá que es Obama el que no ha enfrentado debidamente al Senado donde han ido a estancarse o a perder medidas avanzadas en la Cámara de Representantes.

El Senado, a la mitad de febrero, sigue enfrascado en una pelea por la reforma de salud y ahora por un plan de estímulo económico y creación de empleos. Con todo, los grupos pro reforma siguen presionando y lidiando con oposiciones republicanas y demócratas en el 2008, y que este año hay elecciones de medio periodo.

Al tema migratorio lo rodean una serie de cálculos políticos, a veces destinados, que entorpecen lo que debería suponer una buena oportunidad para hacer un bien social, para ayudar a nuestra economía, y para acabar preciosados puntos políticos con una comunidad y un sector electoral, los hispanos, que pueden ayudarlos a mantener mayores, en el caso demócrata, o a volver a la palestra nacional, en el caso republicano.

La Cámara Baja, con su mayoría demócrata sostenida en moderados y conservadores de la clase del 2006, fuerza el ceño en año electoral, o no electoral, cuando se vislumbra la discusión de una reforma migratoria que ellos tienen les cueste el escudo.

Y como en elecciones de medio tiempo el partido del ocupante de la Casa Blanca siempre pierde escudos, estarán tratando de minimizar el daño evitando lo que consideren controversial. El viernes un sondeo del Pew Research Center encontró que el 81 por ciento de los votantes es similar a elecciones de medio periodo en 1994 y 2006, años en que el Congreso cambió de mando.

De ahí que Pelosi diga que apoya la reforma y que se opone a las redadas, pero hasta ahí.

Díaz-Balart, por su parte, es una anomalía dentro de su Partido Republicano, un legislador que ha dejado su marca en medidas migratorias que ha apoyado la reforma migratoria integral.

Me pregunto si ahora que ya no busca la reelección y que no tiene ataduras, enfrentará a los realcitrantes de su Partido Republicano en la Cámara Baja que han entorpecido un debate racional del tema migratorio y en el proceso han ofendido a toda la comunidad hispana; si ejercerá influencia para convencer a otros de apoyar una medida que no sólo les necesita necesidades humanitarias y familiares, sino que supone beneficios económicos para el país, y políticos para su partido.

Pelosi, la demócrata, dice que quiere la reforma migratoria, y Díaz-Balart, el republicano, dice que quiere trabajar este año para que Pelosi lleve esa reforma al pleno.

En teoría suena muy bien. Demostrar la voluntad política y el valor por ir más allá de las palabras y llevar la teoría a la práctica, sonaría mucho mejor.

Commentaries - Opiniones

Latino voter bloc confounding all, even though it's really simple to comprehend

A headline published on the website of the Miami Herald newspaper struck me as worthy thinking on the part of the Republican Party. "GOP hopes to capitalize on Latino discontent with Obama," read the headline (<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics/AP/story/1481552.html>). It seems that some Republicans think that Latinos are going to start supporting GOP candidates because of the fact that Congress has failed thus far to move forward with anything resembling reform of the nation's immigration laws.

In SHORT, Latinos are going to "punish" President Barack Obama by putting more Republicans in Congress - which in today's political atmosphere would guarantee that he would be unable to achieve much of anything of substance.

There's just one problem with that kind of logic - it makes no sense. For the reality is that the base of the Republican Party these days has done so much to express hostility on ethnic-related issues that Latinos understand that it is Republican officials in Washington who are our obstacle to anything being accomplished.

If there is a level of disgust, it is with officials who use the Democratic Party label and enjoy the benefits that come about with the high level of Latinos who vote for their candidates, but then refuse to support such issues and seem more concerned with not offending the Republican opposition.

IF IT READS like I'm saying that Latinos think the "blue dogs" (the conservative Dems who usually come from rural communities) are the problem, you'd be correct.

It is the reason I believe that many people who are so eager to lambast Obama for partisan reasons are misguided. I couldn't help but notice the Gallup Organization, which on Monday released its weekly job approval rating.

Overall, he gets a 51 percent approval rating. But I couldn't help but notice that when they broke it down among various types of people, Obama's Latino approval rating was 67 percent - and that was a 3 percent hike compared to last week.

In fact, the two "groups" that had less than half of their members supporting Obama were white people (42 percent) and southerners (49 percent). GEE, that's a shock. The white people from southern states (although I realize that those two statistics are not a combination in and of themselves) who were never that enthused about Obama in 2008 (that is where Republican John McCain got the bulk of his 200 electoral votes) still aren't enthused about him.

Two-thirds of Latinos still think favorably about Obama, yet Republican political observers now want to think we're going to dump on him. Perhaps it is that kind of politically partisan thought that Sen. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., finds so repulsive that he cited it as his reason for not wanting to run for Washington for a third term in the Senate.

On a certain level, I appreciate the predicament that Obama and Democratic Party partisans face these days. The mood among the Latino electorate is that it is time elected officials start doing things on our behalf. After all, we voted for them. We supported them.

It's time for them to do their "jobs" and include us in the "people" they refer to when they talk about their job as doing "the people's business." THIS COMES AT the same time that the conservative activists are trying to get us to call for a "Tea Party" movement that wants to elect as many social conservative political people, in part as a direct opposition to the Obama Administration.

Which means that a loud, obnoxious portion of the electorate is going to openly resist anything done on behalf of the growing Latino population (a factor they consider to be a part of the "problem") and will be motivated all the more to back GOPers.

But if they try to tone things down to keep the "Tea Party" people calm, they offend the Latino voter bloc.

I think we're at a key point in determining the political partnership of Latinos (who are expected by 2050 to comprise nearly one-third of the nation's overall population).

I BELIEVE THAT the Republican establishment has blown just about any chance they had (and it was a good chance) to gain the support of Latinos. But now, Democrats by showing apathy could very well wind up doing the same thing.

Could it be that the political "independent" of the future is primarily going to be those of whose ethnic origins trace back to Latin American nations (if not Spanish proper)?

It could be, particularly if Democrats don't come to the realization that the "medication" to the Tea Party virus that is spreading through parts of our nation could very well be the Latino voter.

Taking steps to acknowledge the numbers and importance of Latinos in this country could be what enables Democrats to overcome those voters whose use of Revolutionary War imagery makes me wonder if they would prefer our country socially to take steps backward a couple of centuries to the 18th Century?

PRESUPUESTO DE OBAMA INCORPORA PROGRAMAS VITALES A LOS HISPANOS

Luis Carlos López

Desde que el presidente Obama le pegó unos símbolos de dólar este mes como apoyo a las propuestas de su administración para el año fiscal venidero, muchos departamentos federales están creando o ampliando programas diseñados a beneficiar a los latinos y otros grupos desaventajados.

Entre estos departamentos se encuentran los de Trabajo, Energía y Educación.

El Departamento de Trabajo, por ejemplo, está colaborando de cerca con el Departamento de Energía para asegurar que todo grupo étnico y racial, muchas veces aglutinados en los rubros de bajos ingresos, tengan acceso a la capacitación en empleos de energía eficiente y verdes.

Joe García, quien encabeza la Office of Minority Economic Impact del Departamento de Energía, le dijo a Hispanic Link que su departamento colabora de cerca con colegas del Departamento de Trabajo para educar a los empleados latinos sobre la tecnología verde y en nuevas pequeñas empresas.

"La mayor parte de nuestra labor de capacitación en trabajos verdes recibe fondos del Departamento de Trabajo, donde hemos estado coordinando con la secretaria Hilda Solís en gran parte", dice García.

En enero, Solís anunció subvenciones "Pathways Out of Poverty", diseñadas para ayudar a poblaciones de bajos ingresos a encontrar empleos dentro de los sectores de energía eficiente y renovable.

Solís está aumentando la plañilla de investigadores bilingües del Departamento de Trabajo para ayudar a su Occupational Safety and Health Administration con áreas como el hurto de salarios, y que continúe a asegurar que los trabajadores tengan acceso a programas de asistencia durante la recesión.

Pero quizá lo más beneficioso a la población joven de latinos a nivel nacional es el presupuesto propuesto para la educación. El Departamento de Educación está proponiendo un aumento de \$3.000 millones en financiación competitiva para la ley Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

La administración también anunció la creación de unos \$9.300 millones en subvenciones competitivas a los estados durante los siguientes

10 años para mejorar la calidad de educación infantil y para preparar a los niños para el kínder, un paso que Lily Eskelsen, vicepresidenta de la Asociación Nacional de Educación, dice es crucial al éxito académico de los niños latinos.

"En el presupuesto está diciendo, 'Vamos a poner un enfoque láser sobre los niños que más lo necesitan'", dice Eskelsen. "Si se enfatiza la educación infantil, se les da un impulso a esos niños que va a durar. Está mostrando que el presidente entiende dónde hay que poner el dinero".

El presupuesto también enfoca el mejorar las oportunidades para los niños de completar la universidad. En un estudio en el 2005 que realizó Rick Fry del Centro Hispano Pew, encontró que los estudiantes latinos pre-grado eran la mitad de probables en acabar su educación pos-secundaria que sus pares blancos.

Antonio Flores, presidente de la Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) elogió a la administración por su voluntad de escuchar y trabajar con instituciones al servicio del hispano, como HACU.

Flores citó un programa de participación directa en el que los Departamentos de Educación y de Agricultura estadounidenses les darán a los estudiantes latinos la oportunidad de graduarse con títulos de agricultura y desarrollo urbano.

Bajo esta iniciativa, dijo, los latinos que estén cursando ambos programas de estudio participarán en la creación de comunidades en lo que trabajan en sus campos respectivos.

Los estudiantes recibirán becas, consejería y admisiones a programas de otra manera fuera de su alcance, dijo Flores. "Les ayuda de varias maneras".

La evaluación del director ejecutivo de La Liga de Ciudadanos Unidos Latino Americanos, Brent Wilkes, fue mezclada. "La propuesta del presidente sí ofrece algún aumento en el apoyo a los temas de prioridad para la comunidad latina", dijo, pero "se cortó demasiado de una sola vez. Está congelando el resto del presupuesto. Nos preocupa que muchas cosas van a sentir el impacto". Concluyó,

"Vamos a estar trabajando con la Casa Blanca y con el Congreso para asegurar que no se corte innecesariamente a las comunidades latinas".

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JAIL UNDER BUDGET? IT'S TIME FOR THE TRUTH!

It is time that Lubbock County officials told citizens the real truth about the cost of the long-delayed jail and quit hiding behind ever-changing numbers.

Lubbock voters in 2002 approved \$83 million of bonds to construct a new jail near the airport. Now, the price tag is approaching \$100 million—an astounding \$17 million more than the voters were told would be spent—and the facility is still not open for inmates.

As reported Feb. 6 in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, county officials claim that the jail, which is almost 18 months late in opening, "is at least 7 million dollars under budget."

John Leonard, a Lubbock City Council member who is a candidate for Lubbock County Commissioner, Precinct 4, in the upcoming Republican Primary election, believes that any county official who says that the jail is "under budget" is simply not telling citizens the truth.

Here is how elected officials have determined that an \$83 million jail that has increased to \$100 million in cost, despite being almost 18 months late in opening, is "under budget":

1. The commissioners court quietly and without fanfare issued an additional \$12,765,000 in Certificates of Obligation for the new jail to be added to the \$82 million approved by the voters in 2002.
2. Numerous county officials have said the county is being reimbursed \$4,000 per day for being late. However, the interest alone that is being paid on the unopened new jail's debt is approximately \$9,000 per day.
3. Property tax revenues at Lubbock County have increased from \$15 million to \$45 million (205%). Where's the money?

In addition to these issues, Lubbock County is paying dozens, if not hundreds, of employees to "work" at the unopened jail. Where are these employees now and what are they doing for the citizens of Lubbock County?

The bottom line is that the Lubbock County commissioners court has been playing with numbers and quietly increasing its debt in order to make the claim that a \$100 million jail, originally budgeted for \$83 million, is "under budget." It's time for our country's elected officials to tell the truth about the jail. The meter is still ticking and the new jail is still not open.

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Hispanic Vote Could Be Telling In Midterm Congressional Elections

Momentum for candidates in 37 competitive congressional races and three gubernatorial contests this coming fall will hinge heavily on Latino voters, according to a report released Feb. 8 by America's Voice reveals.

On average over the years, Latino voters have supported Democratic candidates in presidential race years by at least two-to-one margins. The Latino turnout for the November 2008 election shot to 10 million - up nearly 2.5 million over four years earlier, with a similar or stronger turnout for Democratic candidates in congressional races.

Exit surveys by the polling firm Bendix & Associates found that Latinos cast their presidential ballots for Barack Obama over the GOP's John McCain by a 75%-25% margin.

The strong presence - or absence - of Hispanics in the November mid-term elections can keep Democrats in power on Capitol Hill or yield a shift to Republicans, says AC executive director Frank Sharry.

Eight Senate and 29 House seats spread across 12 states, plus gubernatorial contests in California, Texas and Colorado, are very much up for grabs.

"All these things have to play

The expected candidates for California are Democrat Jerry Brown, the current state attorney general who served two terms as governor (1975 -1983) and former E-Ray CEO Merv Whitman.

In Colorado, Denver's Democratic Mayor John Hickenlooper will face off against either Scott McInnis or Dan Meas, both of whom served in Congress.

In Texas, former Houston Mayor Bill White will compete against U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison or current Gov. Rick Perry.

The America's Voice study stresses that Hispanics now comprise at least 25% of the population in 79 of the nation's 435 congressional districts.

Of those, 54 are represented by Democrats and 25 by Republicans. Of the 27 Hispanic voting members in Congress, 23 are Democrats and four are Republicans. They are concentrated in three states, California, Texas and Florida. (See chart.)

The success of either party is largely based on how well it addresses the issue of immigration, Sharry states.

out," he explains. "There's going to be a major mobilization in favor of immigration reform. The final chapter has not been written as to whether immigration is going to happen in 2010."

Sharry and the panel that participated in releasing the report do not speculate on how many Latinos will turn out this fall. However, they point out that Latino participation significantly increases even in non-presidential election years.

Eliso Medina, executive vice president of the U.S. Council on Foreign International Union, points out with emphasis, "Latinos want to see comprehensive immigration reform and they'll fight to get it."

He warns that complacency or obstruction by either the Democratic or Republican Party,

"If any party thinks that not acting is going to work to their advantage by depressing turnout, they are mistaken. And at the same time, any party that believes they have a lock in this community because they don't have anywhere to go is also mistaken."

Medina says, "This is a constituency that is highly motivated and will participate."

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¿Que Pasa?

RETREAT FOR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

On February 27, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Covenant Teens of the Amarillo Diocese will host a retreat experience at St Michael Church in Levelland. Registration is \$15 (includes two meals, a 1-shirt and retreat materials). Liability and medical release forms (Form E or A & B) are required. Contact Sadie McNitt at 806-894-2268 or 201-2102. Sadie.rachas@gmail.com or Oscar Guzman at 806-383-2243. Oguzman@diocama.org

Library Events

Learn to Knit at the Groves Branch Library

Come to the Groves Branch Library, 5520 19th Street, and learn the basics of Continental style knitting on Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m. Bring size 8 knitting needles and worsted weight yarn. For more information, please call the library at 767-3733.

After School Chess at the Patterson Branch Library
Teens, come play chess at the Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, on Wednesday, February 24 from 4 to 6 p.m. Players of all skill levels are welcome, including beginners. For more information, call 767-3300.

Teen Program at the Patterson Branch Library

The Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, invites teens to play Wii Sports on Thursday, February 25 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Call 767-3300 for more information.

Goedeke Branch Library Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting
The City of Lubbock is pleased to announce the Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of the Goedeke Branch Library located in South Plains Plaza, 6707 Slide Road, on Thursday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m.

In October, the City negotiated the lease of the old Barnes & Noble location as a new location for the Goedeke Branch Library. Although the new location officially opened on February 11, the City has been putting the finishing touches on the new 18,000 square foot Goedeke Branch Library, which is more than 50 percent larger than the old location.

The old location, at 6601 Quaker Avenue, was closed last year after mold was discovered in many parts of the building. It will be demolished later this year, but the parking lot, footings and slab will remain in place as this site will be utilized for the construction of the Public Safety Memorial. The Public Safety Memorial will honor public safety professionals from Lubbock and the surrounding 14 counties who have lost their lives in the line of duty, and will serve as a tribute to public safety professionals who protect the citizens of the region every day.

SPC Alterra TV releases performance schedule

Alterra TV, the rock ensemble in the Creative Arts Department at South Plains College announces its spring performance schedule. The band will play at 8 p.m. Feb. 25 (Thursday) in the Tom T. Hall Studio.

Admission is free and doors open at 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited. The live rock performance is performed, recorded and filmed by SPC Commercial Music students. The two-hour show is broadcast live over SPC-TV Channel 10 in Levelland, Littlefield and Morton. The show also will stream live over the Internet at www.southplainscollege.edu/sptv. For more information, call Sonny Borba at (806) 716-2010.

GOP hopes to capitalize on Latino disappointment with Obama

As one of the first Latinos in the nation to endorse Barack Obama, Democratic state Sen. Gilbert Cedillo of Los Angeles campaigned hard for the president, but he's disappointed now.

The reason: Obama has yet to do anything on a comprehensive overhaul of immigration laws, as he promised to do when he ran for president.

"I think he's in danger of breaking the spirit of solidarity and hope," Cedillo said. "More than a broken promise, it's the danger of breaking people's sense of hope in the Latino community."

While the president carried the Latino vote by large margins 15 months ago, many Republicans are out to capitalize on Latino dissatisfaction with Obama and Washington's Democratic leaders. They think that could help them immensely in the 2010 elections.

Republican candidates will gain ground from Latinos once Latinos realize "that what the Democrats offer is just a bunch of empty promises," said Hector Barajas, a communications consultant for the California State Senate Republican Caucus.

He noted that the president spent only about 10 seconds on immigration at the very end of his State of the Union speech last month. Barajas said the issue had been particularly hot on Spanish talk radio ever since Obama gave that speech.

"It's what didn't happen," Barajas said. "I mean, he spent more time talking about gays in the military than he did about providing some immigration reform plan."

The White House said that it remained committed to passing a comprehensive overhaul of immigration laws.

White House spokesman Adam Abrams said the president wanted

to sign a bill that strengthened border enforcement and cracked down on employers "who exploit undocumented workers to undercut American work-

year for Obama."

Regalado said Republicans were exploiting the issue "with good reason," because it was a no-win situation for Democrats:



ers." He also said the president wanted to resolve the status of 12 million people who were in the U.S. illegally, "but that should have to register, pay a penalty for breaking the law and meet other obligations of legal immigrants such as paying taxes, or leave the country."

"The president told members of both parties that if they can fashion a plan to deal with these problems, he is eager to work with them to get it done," Abrams said.

Jaime Regalado, the executive director of the Pat Brown Institute, a nonprofit public-policy center at California State University, Los Angeles, said that Democrats, particularly the president, faced "a scary situation."

"It's really a colossal hassle for the administration, that there is so much impatience from so many groups — including Latinos — that are hellbent on having an immigration reform package in 2010, an election year," he said.

"It's difficult in any season in any year, but this is a very precarious

They lose votes from Latinos if they don't come up with a comprehensive solution to immigration, or they lose votes from more conservative members of their base if they do."

"It's fraught with political peril," he said. "There's no question about that."

Cedillo, who campaigned for Obama in California, Texas and Nevada and debated on his behalf on Spanish radio, said the president and Democratic leaders needed to show Latinos that they were committed to them "not only during the campaign, but after the election."

He predicted that Latinos will provide the determining vote in every upcoming presidential election. Obama was hugely popular among Latinos, receiving 75 percent of the more than 10 million votes they cast in the 2008 presidential election.

Latinos are gearing up to be big players this fall. Earlier this month, a report by America's Voice, a group that backs new comprehensive immigration

policies, said that immigration could be the deciding factor in as many as 40 congressional races in November.

Noting the electoral strength of Latinos, Cedillo said, "I would be concerned if I was the White House, 'if I was a member of Congress."

Immigration has taken a back seat to a host of tough issues for Obama, including two wars, the struggling economy and a yearlong effort to get Congress to pass a health care overhaul. The president's defenders say that it would be politically impossible to add the volatile issue of immigration to the mix right now.

Cedillo doesn't buy that argument. He said the president knew that he'd be dealing with big issues when he made the promises to the Latino community during the campaign.

"Those were the conditions that he was campaigning under," Cedillo said. "It's not like those were surprises... I was so proud of him, at how firm and clear he was in those presidential debates. He really provided leadership."

Barajas said Latinos recognized that it had been a tough year for Obama and an immigration plan might not be fully implemented immediately, but he said there wasn't even a plan for proceeding, let alone introducing legislation.

"I think the Democratic Party needs to wake up and realize that you can only fool the Latino community for so long," Barajas said. "There's a great sense of frustration, there's a great sense of anger and there's a big letdown" that will drive more Latinos to the Republican Party.

Regalado said he didn't believe that Democrats would switch to the Republican Party in big numbers. "What it does threaten is that Latinos stay home" on Election Day, he said.

Stimulus Leaves Out Latino Arts Organizations

President Barack Obama's stimulus package allocated \$50 million for the country's cultural sector, but only a few tens of thousands have gone to Latino organizations. Many were the called, few were the chosen. According to the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC), only 14 artistic and cultural organizations in the United States received support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), with funds allocated from the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). ARRA, one of President Obama's first legislative victories, was designed to create new jobs and save others that were jeopardized as a result of the economic crisis. "We acknowledge that it was a competitive process, but 14 Latino organizations, out of more than 630 beneficiaries of the NEA, constitutes only two percent," said Maria Lopez de Leon, Executive Director of NALAC, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the development of Latino arts in the country. In the state of Texas, according to Lopez de Leon, only two Latino organizations received ARRA funds

through the NEA: Houston's Arte Publico Press, and NALAC itself, based in San Antonio (see attached list). Where did the money go? ARRA included several initiatives for stimulus purposes. In the arts sector, one of the chief measures included a package of \$50 million, to be distributed by NEA, the largest government entity dedicated to supporting the arts in the United States. 60% of ARRA funding for the arts was awarded directly by NEA (\$29,925,000), and the remaining 40% was awarded through local and state agencies.

According to the NEA, of the 2,424 organizations that requested funds directly from them — museums, symphony orchestras, art schools, dance academies, and opera companies, among others — only 636 art institutions received some aid. Most awards were in the \$25,000 - \$50,000 range. "I am not sure that the number [14 Latino organizations that received funding, according to NALAC] is accurate," said Sally Gifford, spokeswoman for the NEA. "The details of how the funds were awarded are

much more complex." According to Gifford, more Latino cultural organizations received funds through regional and state arts agencies, which redistributed some ARRA funds for the arts. Altogether, those entities would have granted 63 awards, for a total of \$19,790,000. "Many such funds were channeled directly to Latino organizations through local or regional art agencies," the spokeswoman said. "Another element that has not been taken into consideration is how many of the awards support Latino art, and reach Latino audiences," she added. But NALAC's Lopez de Leon argues that a Latino arts organization should be defined as one whose mission is focused on Latino art and culture, one whose executives and directors are of Latino origin, or one whose board of directors is at least 51% Latino. "Simply because an organization serves a Latino population does not make it a Latino organization," she said. According to NALAC's database, there are more than 500 Latino cultural organizations and more than 5,000 Latino artists in the United States. "We know that

funds were allocated at the local and state levels also, but what we observed is that there was a lack of fair representation in the distribution at the federal level (through NEA). In addition, federal funds were greater than those distributed at the state and local levels," said NALAC's Executive Director. A matter of perspective: Regarding the question of whether or not Latino presence was lacking during ARRA funds distribution, Jim Bob McMillan, deputy director of the Texas Art Commission (TAC) said "with such a small amount of funds allocated to the arts in general, there were some limitations." McMillan said his agency received just \$427,300 from ARRA to support art organizations in the state. So TAC set up a series of criteria to screen who was eligible for ARRA funding. The chief selection criterion to request stimulus dollars was that applying institutions had received funding from NEA in the last four years. In Texas, of the 300 organizations that requested funds from ARRA through TAC, only 26 received grants of \$16,000 each. According to the arts commission, this amount

helped to keep or create 47 art-related full- or part-time jobs, of administrative, technical, or educational nature. According to McMillan, of these 26, five were Latino organizations. Winners and losers: "Our objective is not to attack NEA just to see what comes of it," said Lopez de Leon. "We understand that they did what they could, but they should have been more inclusive when awarding federal funds to minorities. Especially because of the social and economic repercussions that it will have on the Latino arts, as well as on artistic Latino organizations." In 2009, NALAC conducted two surveys. One, in which 64 organizations and more than 120 artists were interviewed, centered on the effects of the economic crisis on Latino organizations. The second — with participation of 34 Latino organizations — focused on the economic stimulus awarded by ARRA through NEA. Preliminary results from the second survey, shared exclusively with RUMBO, show that 99% of the organizations that did not receive ARRA dollars were forced to carry out a series of cutbacks, including layoffs.

57.9% of those organizations reported programming cutbacks, 31.6% had to lay off some staff or reduced overall labor time, and 36.8% took other measures. "The decision not to fund minority organizations carries grave consequences for many communities. Many of these organizations will be forced to close their doors, doing away with venues for cultural expression. The creation of art will also be affected," added Lopez. NALAC, which initially was not approved for funding from ARRA through NEA, received \$50,000 from the stimulus in a subsequent round, which was used to save two jobs and keep a contract to make improvements to its website. "We estimate that the money awarded by ARRA directly through NEA will help maintain or create 4,000 full or part-time jobs in the country, which is a great contribution to the Arts," said NEA spokeswoman Victoria Hater. For now, the 50 million in funds awarded by the ARRA in 2009 through NEA were one-time award packages, and it has not been decided if similar resources will be available in 2010.

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Out of the barrio: Chicano exhibit debuts

Cenelli De-Arlian cannot help thinking of herself as a beneficiary of the 1970s Chicano movement.

De-Arlian, 29, recently earned a master's degree in divinity from Harvard University.

"I would have been able to do that without the Chicano movement happening," De-Arlian said, referring to Hispanic civil-rights struggles in El Paso that led to improvements in education, housing, health and other areas.

De-Arlian was among El Pasos recent visiting "Chicano Power: Legacy of the Chicano Movement in El Paso," a new multimedia exhibition running through August at Museo Mayachén inside Mercado Mayapán.

Myrtle. "I cried when I first walked in," De-Arlian said. "You see so many familiar faces, and they're still doing the good work they promised to do 30 years ago."

De-Arlian's parents were student activists at the University of Texas at El Paso. La Maja Otrera assembled the exhibition of artwork, posters, banners, oral histories and other artifacts to help tell and preserve the story of Chicano grass-roots activism in El Paso, where neighborhood organizers routinely fought to eliminate substandard housing in some barrios and challenged inequalities in schools, politics and the work force. La Maja Otrera was formed 27 years ago to retain low-income women displaced from their

jobs in the border garment industry. The group is still accepting artifacts and memorabilia and plans to establish a permanent Chicano history archive that can be accessed by scholars and researchers. Irma Montoya, executive director of La Maja Otrera, tells others that the group's labor-rights struggles were strongly influenced by various civil-rights efforts waged earlier by Mexican-Americans and Chicans in El Paso.

"For us, it is important to recognize and exhibit these struggles," Montoya said. "Without struggle, our community would not move forward. The Chicano movement was an example, a model for us to follow." Jesus Guerrero, 57, of far East El Paso, retired from the U.S. Air Force and now works as a mechanic at Fort Bliss. He was impressed by the quality of the artwork and information in the exhibit. He credits his parents, though poor, for inspiring him to seek a better life outside of El Paso's Segundo Barrio. "I am disappointed by the lack of advancement the Chicano has made," he said. "I have always tried to share with others and let them know it is possible to make it out of the barrio and not lose your identity."

Oscar Martinez, an El Paso-area scholar and historian who has written extensively about the border, notes in a video film shown at the exhibit, "I was especially aware of the need for us to undertake research on the history and

the culture of people of Mexican descent in the United States. If we didn't do it, who was going to do it?"

Ramon Arroyo, a volunteer with La Maja Otrera, lent some artifacts to the exhibition, including editions of El Mestizo, a Chicano publication he edited in the 1970s.

"The whole civil-rights movement was an awakening for us," Arroyo said. "People began to realize they could do something and bring about change." Arroyo suggests that grass-roots activism helped reduce substandard housing in South El Paso, inspired community development in Ysleta after El Paso annexed the Lower Valley community, and led to the first Hispanics in El Paso television.

Dennis Bickler-Minquez, director of Chicano studies at UTEP, pointed out that the exhibition showcases often neglected contributions made by countless community activists.

"It's important to remind people where we were," Bickler-Minquez said. "Now we have a beneficiary generation that has inherited the fruits of those activists who brought about change in the '60s and '70s."

Make plans: The multi-media exhibition "Chicano Power: Legacy of the Chicano Movement in El Paso" will be on display from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday until late August at Museo Mayachén inside Mercado Mayapán, 2101 Myrtle. El Paso, TX.

1970 Coming of Age for Mexican American/Chicano Boomers

If you are from the Boomer Generation, those born after the end of WWII and the Korean military action, when large numbers of young men returned to

in the state Senate. Poverty levels were far higher in the barrios than in the general population, and opportunities for the growing numbers of boomer Chicanos coming

points resisted at first, attempting to protect the elderly and children being crushed in the panic created by the Sheriff's actions. But then, in anger, some began to break store windows. There were fires. As thousands sought ways to get away from the batons and tear gas, a few hundred of the protesters pushed aside the non-violent principles of the demonstration.

On that day, Ruben Salazar was covering the march and rally as the news director of KMEV-TV, then the only Spanish language station in Southern California, and as a Los Angeles Times syndicated columnist. Salazar was one of the most respected and honored Mexican American journalists of the time, having headed up the Times' Mexico City bureau and as a star reporter stationed in Vietnam in the mid-sixties. As the police began stampeding the crowd out of the park, he told community leaders Bert Corona and Rudy Canales "they can't blame us (Mexican Americans) for this." He never got a chance to return to the States.

It is also a day of infamy, for the rally was broken up brutally by Los Angeles County Sheriffs and other federal, state, local police and by some accounts, undercover military forces. Sheriff's said at the time that they had chased suspected beer thieves to the eastside park where thousands had gathered for a peaceful rally following the Vietnam march, but were blocked from half of their general population counterparts, however, were in college and able to avoid the draft.

Although the Mexican American population in Los Angeles County numbered over a million at the time, only one congressman, one assemblyman and one school board member were Mexican American. There were no Mexican Americans on the City Council, Board of Supervisors, or

and arguably the whole Chicano movement.

They drove people onto the streets. Some of the rally participants


shared at the Silver Dollar bar, a Sheriff's deputy

shot off part of his head with a tear gas projectile, "by mistake."

Absent Salazar's voice, the Sheriff's were exonerated for the violence that day and in the deaths of Ruben Salazar and two others, Lynn Ward and Gilberto Diaz. In 2008, Salazar was honored with a commemorative U.S. Postal stamp. The stamp erroneously gives the impression he was killed "during" Chicano protest rally in East Los Angeles.

He was not killed at the rally, but hours later and miles away, and by a sheriff who shot him. Such is the official history of the Mexican American, the Chicano struggle for social justice.




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New Musical Tells the Story of Civil Rights Leader Cesar Chavez

The Chavez Family Vision debuts "Let The Eagle Fly: The Story of Cesar Chavez" in Silicon Valley on March 5, 2010. This inspirational musical tells the story of Cesar E. Chavez, one of the most influential civil rights leaders of our time and a crusader for non-violent change. It traces Chavez's life from his childhood, as the son of migrant farm workers in the Great Depression, through his founding of the farm workers union and commitment to the non-violent struggle for social and economic justice. Silicon Valley, once an agricultural area known as "The Valley of Heart's Delight" is where Chavez began his community activism. The musical focuses

primarily on the five-year grape boycott which brought nationwide attention to the farm workers' plight.

"I find 'Let The Eagle Fly' a first-rate musical drama," says Sheldon Harbick - TonyQ, GRAMMY® and Pulitzer Prize winner for Fiddler on the Roof. "The book and the score are remarkable, heartfelt, touching and inspired."

"Let The Eagle Fly: The Story of Cesar Chavez" was authored by John Reeger, music and lyrics by Julie Shannon and is being co-directed by Richard Falcon and Claudette Olvera. The Chavez family worked very closely with Reeger and Shannon to give justice and reality to the story of the man

behind the headlines and the boyhood which brought nationwide attention to the farm workers' plight. The production and performance are factual, authentic, moving, and so real for me that it made me relive the events and times of my early childhood, says Chavez's nephew Rudy Chavez Medina. "The moments I lived all came to life again when the curtain opened and the emotion flowed from my heart through my tears and into my spirit."

The musical will run March 5, 2010 - 08 March 21, 2010 at San Jose City College Theatre in San Jose, CA. Chavez's family members will be present at the opening and closing performances. For more information and to purchase tickets visit www.LetTheEagleFly.com

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Foreman, Cotto to be headed to Yankee Stadium

Jewish boxing champion Yuri Foreman hopes to defend his title at Yankee Stadium in June - unless a bar mitzvah gets in the way.

The 154-pound champion would fight former welterweight titleholder Miguel Cotto on June 5 at the ballpark in the Bronx, promoter Bob Arum told. The Associated Press on Tuesday. Arum has been hoping to bring a fight to Yankee Stadium for years.

"The Yankees want to make a deal, we know we can make a deal, they're just working through a problem at Yankee Stadium," Arum said. "Obviously you can't do that if I told you."

He's not kidding. "They've leased out some lounges for this bar mitzvah and part of the deal was for a half hour or so, so they could use the big screen in center field to show pictures and all that sort of stuff," Arum said, laughing. "Obviously you can't do that if there's fights going on."

Ramping up the irony, Foreman is studying to become a rabbi.

Arum said he's hopeful that something can be worked out, perhaps by giving the families holding the bar mitzvah credentials for the fight. If the conflict can't be resolved, Foreman would defend his WBA junior middleweight belt on June 12 at Madison Square Garden - the eve of the annual Puerto Rican Day parade in New York City.

Top Rank president Todd DuBoef has said that he has the arena, where Cotto has fought some of his most thrilling bouts, on hold for that date.

Either way, the fight on a mid-summer Saturday night creates another logistical problem. The Jewish sabbath does not officially end until sundown.

"Because of the sabbath ending late, we would announce that the main event would not start until after 11:30 p.m.," said Arum, himself a devout Jew. "There's a lot of great things we would have to do around it."

Foreman, a New York-based native of Belanus, would be mak-

ing the first defense of the title he won from Daniel Santos on the undercard of Cotto's loss to Manny Pacquiao last fall.

While he doesn't have tremendous name recognition, Foreman (28-0) does have substantial backing from the large Jewish population that makes up the New York metropolitan area.

"The magnitude of this event cannot be overstated," said Foreman's confidant, David Eflane. "It may be the biggest Jewish sporting event of all time, certainly since David fought Gellatly." While the logistics of holding a fight in Yankee Stadium are unclear, Arum hasn't shied away from staging fights in massive venues. He promoted the final bout at the old Yankee Stadium across the street when Muhammad Ali fought Ken Norton on Sept. 28, 1976, a fight remembered more for the chaos caused by a police strike than anything else.

On March 13, Arum is taking Pacquiao's title defense against Joshua Clottey to the \$1.2 billion Cowboys Stadium just outside Dallas. The facility will be configured for about 40,000 fans, although Top Rank is hopeful that up to 70,000 show up the night of the fight.

Arum has approached the Yankees several times over the past 30 years about staging another event at the stadium, but George Steinbrenner and club boss had always been tepid about erecting a ring and seating on the immaculate infield grass.

Scheduling also created problems because a fight would have to be staged when the team is on the road. All of those concerns seem to be washing away as the new leadership of Hal and Hank Steinbrenner work to maximize revenue from the luxurious ballpark.

"I'm very excited to defend my title in New York, which is the Jewish capital of the Diaspora," Foreman said in a statement. "Having the fight in Yankee Stadium would be the icing on the cake, so please God it is finalized."

Screw the groundhog, that negative and depressing little rod. Six more weeks of winter? I don't think so.

We've got pitchers and catchers on the field Thursday.

flip-flops and coconut oil (in the suitcase now) and Grape-Nuts and Cactus League games (on the schedule soon).

We have extra catches (reporting now) and we have dinner reservations (but, sadly, not at Richardson's Cuisine of New Mexico, which was gutted by a fire last July and no longer will be serving those great Prickly Pear margaritas and blackened scallops).

Blizzards may be blanketing the East Coast and Midwest, but by Thursday, when the Pittsburgh Pirates officially will have been eliminated, pitchers and catchers from 11 clubs will run through their first workouts, you'd better believe spring will be here. And not a moment too soon.

Five key spring storylines

Batter up ...

1. St. Louis' new hitting coach: If the game has emerged from the Steroid Era, then riddle me this, Batman: Why is this the third consecutive spring that camp will open under its shadow? Mark McGwire as St. Louis' new hitting coach this year. Alex Rodriguez last year. Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte two springs ago.

2. Joe Mauer's contract negotiations: Come on. If he doesn't re-sign with the Twins, it will be

the biggest upset in the Twin Cities since Mary Richards and crew were fired from WJM.

3. Age discrimination: Nothing says collusion "wretched economy" quite like high-priced veterans John Smoltz, Pedro Martinez, Jermaine Dye, Russell Branyan, Gary Sheffield and Carlos Delgado all still knocking on doors.

On the other hand, turns out Frank Thomas was retired for nearly two years and didn't even realize it until this month. Brother, can't a geezer get a break?

4. War of the McCourts: Two days after the Dodgers were eliminated by Philadelphia in the NLCS last October, owner Frank McCourt fired his wife, Jamie.

Within days of that, she filed for divorce. The trial is due in May. They will be auditioning for custody this spring.

5. Team Steinbrenner defends its title: Now that the Yankees have their 27th World Series manager Joe Girard is changing his jersey number this year from 27 to 28. Because tailors just couldn't make "\$200 million payroll" fit.

Five best spring storylines

Non-paparazzi diving ...

1. The difference between the Twins and Hooters? Imagine the Twins, prepping to move into new Target Field this year, with a \$96

million payroll. The cute and cuddly Twins' It's disconcerting, like learning your shy old girlfriend has gone crazy with a Corvette and a boob job. It may take Mauer and Justin Morneau all spring to get over the sight of Orlando Hudson at second, J.J. Hardy at short and Jim Thome making a pit stop here on his way to head the Shady Acres Retirement Home for Designated Hitters.

2. The burgeoning Phillies dynasty: Having just missed becoming the first NL team to win back-to-back World Series since the 1975-1976 Reds, the Phillies bagged ace Roy Halladay and again have positioned themselves as NL favorites. And if closer Brad Lidge bounces back from knee and elbow surgeries and Placido Polanco can play third base, they'll really be scary.

3. Boston's market Choking yet again on the vapor trails of a Yankees World Series triumph, the Red Sox have reconfigured their club with what they hope will be better pitching - add John Lackey to Josh Beckett and Jon Lester - and an improved defense. Mike Cameron in center field bumps Jacoby Ellsbury over to left. Marco Scutaro at shortstop. Adrian Beltre at third. Mike Lowell at ... hey! Wait! They forgot to trade Lowell!

4. Cubs under new ownership: Because the old ownership employed Milton Bradley, Phew, I think manager Lou Piniella is going to get along with the new ownership just fine.

5. The tightening of the AL West: The Angels have won five of the past six division titles, but the Mariners (Cliff Lee, Felix Hernandez, Ichiro Suzuki, Chone Figgins) and Rangers (Nelson Fe-

liz, Derek Holland, a healthy Josh Hamilton, fleet center fielder Julio Borbon, Elvis Andrus) are closing the gap quickly.

Five most improved clubs

While the NL mostly inherited ...

1. Mariners: Cliff Lee will thrive in a pitcher's park and, for manager Don Wakeman, having Lee and Felix Hernandez atop the rotation will be more luxurious than a Lamborghini. Chone Figgins adds a dimension the M's need to score runs and, who knows, maybe even Milton Bradley will thrive under the wing of wise man Ken Griffey Jr.? Or not.

2. Yankees: Two key upgrades in Curtis Granderson and Javier Vazquez. And here's the key with Vazquez: He has a lot better chance to flourish in the No. 4 slot in the rotation than he did in his previous New York tour when he was up higher.

3. Orioles: Kevin Millwood alone is not a savior, but as a piece of a puzzle that includes lots of young players on their way up - Brian Matusz, Adam Tiltman, Matt Wieters, Adam Jones etc. - he works.

4. Red Sox: The rotation depth is ridiculous: Josh Beckett, Jon Lester, John Lackey, Daisuke Matsuzaka (though I fall asleep just typing his name, let alone watching him nibble at the plate), Clay Buchholz, Tim Wakefield. A defense that is significantly improved. Now all they need is a healthy David Ortiz to top it off.

5. Twins: Not only for the new double-play duo of Orlando Hudson and J.J. Hardy, but because one-time ace Francisco Liriano, now a couple of years past surgery, re-gained confidence in his slider this winter and could be on the cusp of a killer season.

Spring training preview: Forget snowballs, it's time for baseball



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Smile

Not Valid With Any Other Offer

Maj. Francisco Efrain de Leon, (USAF)

Maj. Francisco Efrain de Leon, (USAF), of Baker, Fla. formerly of Lubbock, passed away on Feb. 7, 2010. He was born on Feb. 1, 1941 in Linares, N.L. Mex. to Francisco and Maria Guadalupe de Leon and married Raymond Harwell in 1970 in Germany.



Decorations and Medals: Meritorious service medal AF Commendation medal Distinguished presidential unit citation AF outstanding unit award w/OLCS Armed forces expeditionary medal AF overseas short tour ribbon Maintenance officer AF overseas long tour ribbon w/OLCS AF longevity service award ribbon w/OLCS Armed forces reserve medal Small arms expert marksmanship ribbon w/OLCS AF training ribbon Korean presidential unit citation

While an undergraduate student at Texas Tech, he and some classmates published a students' magazine, SCAPSUDS, in 1965. He was the main illustrator and writer. He wrote and illustrated Adventures of the Crony. Maj. de Leon, (USAF), is survived years. Raymond, his daughter Tyler and Mya, his mother, Maria Ester, Maria T. Hangel both from brothers, Hector F. de Leon, from San Antonio, Tex., and Alexander, Va. Antonio, Tex., and two grand nephews and a niece.

His family and friends remember Francisco for his passion for flying and his fearlessness while testing jets after maintenance. They remember the many stories he narrated about his flying experiences. May he rest in peace. Decanse en Paz.

Poesia

Escrita para mi hijo Francisco Efrain Maria Guadalupe de Leon Xochil

Sep. 27 de 1956 Rio Grande City, Tex.

Brother

(Capt. Francisco "Cisco" De Leon, fighter pilot) copyright by Nephall from the South Texas fields to the fields of Korea. Turkey, Iraq and Iran you flew high much speed sonic booms migrant worker in the sky fighter pilot flying high I will not hear your voice again you read my poetry in the rain sometimes too young to understand but I loved your attention my brother there will never be another!

Manuel "Javan" Lucero Garcia

Jan. 3, 1953-Jan. 11, 2010

Javan of Lubbock passed away on Jan. 11, 2010, preceding in death are 2 brothers; Patricia and Juan Garcia, parents; Jesus Garcia Sr.

and Eupelia Lucero Garcia, and a great-niece Claudia Garcia Valdez. Javan was a native and resident of Lubbock, Tx. He attended in all Lubbock schools during his time. Javan was a very unique person, full of different talents. He worked for El Editor newspapers for over 10 years, was a car salesman, was involved in different play roles that were performed locally and statewide. He enjoyed music and just being around all kinds of people. He was a person full of life. He shared his poetry and rap music with everyone.

He was a catholic and shared his love for God within others around him.

Survivors are two brothers, Alfredo "Fum" Garcia of Lubbock and Jesse Garcia, Jr. of New Mexico, two sisters Rosemary Garcia and Ester Rodriguez, both of Lubbock.

He also leaves 29 nieces and nephews, 59 great-nieces and nephews and 23 great-grand nieces and nephews.

Javan will be missed for his joyful personality. May he rest in peace. Decanse en Paz nuestro amigo para siempre. Love always-Your Family!

ODESSA CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECT "UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL PARTIES" The Odessa Civic Engagement Project (OCEP) in a continuing effort to engage local citizens has created a program aimed at giving the local citizens of Ector County an educated look into the Republican and Democratic Parties with a program entitled "Understanding Political Parties". This portion is in conjunction with the upcoming primary elections. This part of the OCEP series will seek to give those that attend a better understanding of the major political parties, stated Isidro Gonzalez, coordinator of the event. "The participants should walk away knowing what the similarities and differences are between the Democratic and a Republican". The Ector County Democratic and Republican chairs, Bobby Duncan (D) and Shane Marler (R), will each give a presentation followed by a question and answer session. The "Understanding Political Parties" session will be held on February 18, 2010 at 6:00pm in Annex B of Odessa College north of the main campus, 201 W University. Currently OCEP is taking reservations for those wishing to attend the program. Participation is free. Please send your name, address, and phone number to kcep@unavozuidas.org or call (432)853-6197 or (432)349-1280. For more information, visit www.unavozuidas.org <http://www.unavozuidas.org/>

Republican for State Representative HD 84 MY PLATFORM FOR LUBBOCK AND TEXAS IS ABOUT JOBS The most important issue for us in this District is to create new permanent jobs. Our top priority is to keep Texas a business friendly State through low taxes, fiscal restraint and regulatory reform. Government must get out of the way of business and allow them to grow and prosper. Successful businesses create new jobs. Good jobs mean Texans can buy a home, send our children to college, get health insurance and enjoy life. Another top priority for us is to achieve Tier-One status for Texas Tech. This will create new and permanent jobs. Each additional \$10 million in research funding creates about 330 new jobs. Because I am not indebted to any special interests in Austin, I bring a fresh approach to find innovative common sense solutions. The people of Lubbock are my only special interests. YSIDRO GUTIERREZ My life has been devoted to public service, retiring after 20 years in the U.S. Army and serving in Red Cross emergency management. On the County Commissioners Court, I consistently fought tax and spend proposals and commissioner pay raises. Website: www.ysidroforlubbock.com

Tú puedes hacer progresar tu comunidad en unos 10 minutos. United States Census 2010 ESTÁ EN NUESTRAS MANOS PARA PROGRESAR LO TENEMOS QUE ENVIAR. Pasado por La Oficina del Censo de los Estados Unidos.