

El Editor

**Celebrating
34 Years of
Publishing**

**"El Respeto al Derecho
Ajeno es la Paz"**

Lic Benito Juarez

**Afghan
Casualties of
War
in Iraq
4,365
as of Nov.
12, 2009**



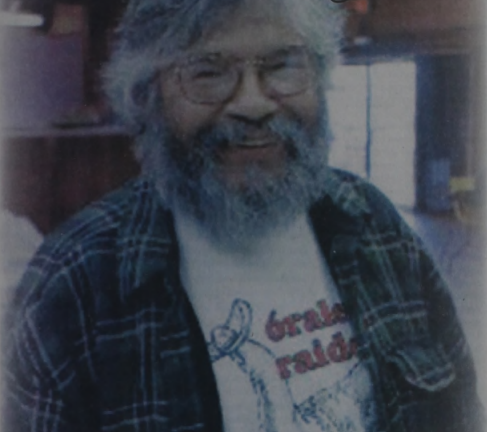
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Lubbock/West Texas Region

Goodbye



Old Friend

by Rudy Alvarado

When Bidal's wife Olga emailed me to call her immediately, I feared that my dear old friend, Bidal Agüero had left us. Since I had left Lubbock in the summer of 1995, Bidal and I had spoken less

than a handful of times, but that was Bidal and that was our relationship. I always knew that he was a phone call away, and if I needed him, all I had to do was give him a call. When we talked, he was a man of few words, but that was the type of man Bidal Agüero was, a

man of few words. Most men have to deliver a grandstand speech to deliver their views to the world, Bidal only had to write a sentence, and everyone knows where he stood on a political, social, or personal issue. When I spoke to him for the last time late last year, he shared

with me the story of his failing health. I could hear that the Bidal I had left behind so many years ago was starting to fade. We spoke about the good times of driving to Buffalo Lake in his camper, hoping we'd eventually stop at the bottom of the hill at the entrance to the lake and make it up the hill at the end of the day. We spoke about organizing the Lubbock folklorico contest and of the challenges of that first year. We spoke of the Mexican dramas we produced throughout West Texas. I was often the director and Bidal, Olga and the rest of my dear friends in Lubbock played the parts in the plays. The plays themselves were written by Bidal. It was through those dramas that Bidal Agüero spoke volumes. His love of Mexican culture permeated these dramas as did the themes of love for family, love for humanity and love of country. Most of all, the theme of giving to one another and accepting each other was always at the core of his plays. It was a lesson my good friend, Bidal Agüero, spent his life trying to teach to the residents of Lubbock, Texas. Some learned the lesson well, and others did not. Some will, in time, come to understand that when Bidal took a stand on a particular issue, it was always with the understanding that we have to learn to live together, accept each other for who we are, but mostly importantly, we had to learn how to treat each other like family. Bidal, understood that family does not see eye-to-eye one hundred percent of the time, but he knew that a family sits around the table, voices their opinion, and then makes a fair and honest decision regarding the question at hand. Everyone in the family was not going to get their way; Bidal understood this better than all of us. Yes, the importance did not lay in the outcome; the importance lay in having a seat at the table before anything else because if a

member of a family is not invited to the table not all sides of an issue are voiced, a view point remains unheard. For Bidal Agüero this was unacceptable. Everyone deserved a place at the family table and luckily for the under-represented of Lubbock, Texas, they were represented by Bidal Agüero. He represented with grace and dignity, and while others raised their voices in anger, or shouted to have their points heard, Bidal spoke in a steady tone, his comments full of reason and a clear understanding of the issue at hand. He was our father at the table, and like a father to all, he always took the time to listen to all us and to do something about the concerns we laid at his feet. It did not matter if you were the richest of the rich, or the poorest of the poor, we all knew that Bidal Agüero was only a phone call away. The story of our lives will fade, but the name of Bidal Agüero will live on. When an injustice occurs and the under-represented of Lubbock stand back and say, "If Bidal was here, he'd be standing up for us," the true legacy of Bidal Agüero will be not lost. Because more than anything else Bidal spent his life trying to teach us that in this world we can make a difference. It doesn't matter if you're the richest of the rich, or the poorest of the poor you can touch and you can change the world around you. Bidal Agüero touched and changed the world around him, not only through his dramas, and his eagerness to represent us, he also impacted the world around him through his weekly newspaper, El Editor. If the residents of Lubbock, Texas, need a forum through which they could voice their opinion when it comes our newspapers, or members of the media did not offer them the time of day, they knew that they could voice their displeasure in El Editor. It did not matter if Bidal saw eye-to-eye with them, or their stance on a particular issue, if

they needed their voice heard then Bidal gave them that opportunity. It is not by accident that El Editor was a success and that it flew off the shelves when the paper hit the streets. People were eager to get their hands on the newspaper because they wanted to read the truth about a particular issue, they did not want to hear the "spin" of the local politicians, they wanted the truth and they knew that the truth would be found in El Editor. A few years ago, a scholarship fund was established at Texas Tech University in Bidal's name, I urge all of us to make a donation to that fund in honor of our good friend. Furthermore, when the Cinco de Mayo celebration takes place in the coming year, the citizens of Lubbock should dedicate the festivities to the memory of Bidal. I know that Bidal would have preferred for his passing to be marked by quiet prayer and tears shed in the comfort of our homes, but do so would be to deny him a celebration of his life and a public showing of how much he truly touched and changed our lives. People whose lives he touched should take to the streets and march with heads held high chanting Bidal's name at the top of their lungs. Flags in the city should fly at half mast and speeches should be delivered in his honor. History is marked by milestones and this celebration would mark the passing of an individual who was nothing short of an American hero. If Bidal was here, he would say, "No, no, no," and then he'd lower his head and look up smiling. I would then tell him, "Bidal, look, if this celebration inspires one of the young in the audience to take up the fight then it will all have been worthwhile." He would have smiled knowing that I was right. Let us gather then during the Cinco de Mayo festival in 2010 and let us celebrate the life of our dear old friend, Bidal Agüero. Until we meet again, my dear friend, I will miss you.

Escucho tu Grito Llorona I hear your Cry

(Dia de los Muertos Poem By Bidal Agüero)

Escucho tu grito Llorona as you walk through a mass of crosses

all painted a wretched white alike your hair Llorona, as it flies wildly, deprived of life.

I hear your cry Llorona I hear your cry so full of agony and hopelessness a grito that mimics the

blare of an untuned trumpet

full of tears in its metal body,

so alike your tears Llorona,

falling from your deep, blank empty eyes,

tears flowing freely from an uncapped valve,

a valve made to hinder the sorrow of death

spilling mysteriously down from two tall buildings

into a black bizzare sticky sea of grief of an immoral war

and, onto crosses in rows that denote young boys and girls,

American and British, Italian and Spanish, Mexican and

Iraqi whose children also lay dying, alike your children Llorona,

left victims with no fault

yet still victims of an immaculate sin and an immoral war prompted by the hate and stupidity that some call intelligence?

I hear your cry, escucho tu grito Llorona



We will never forget your journey

The Wondrous Santa Suit

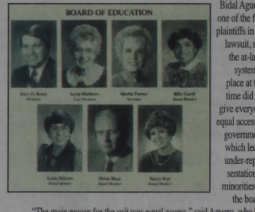


"The Wondrous Santa Suit" was written by Bidal Agüero. It is a children's book about family, faith, and love and in the world that we live in, we often seem to forget the true meaning of Christmas. Because Jose had very little money, he had to depend on the love of his family as he worked as a "wash man" to provide for his children and his wife Mariela. One day while at work, Jose finds a "wondrous Santa suit" which turns out to capture the attention of his daughter Teresita, and works to provide more than a miracle at Christmas. "The Wondrous Santa Suit" can be bought online at Lulu.com

Bidal also produced "The Wondrous Santa Suit" as a play each year when funds were available.



Bidal was blessed to have friends always surrounding him while coordinating the fundraisers for the needy and the homeless. In photo Bidal with wife Olga seen to him take time to take photo with her friends: Nelson Rios, Ontivero brothers Lalo, Richard, Johnny, Ferrel "Rif", and Andres Del. con.



"The main reason for the suit was equal access," said Agüero, who has owned and operated the Hispanic newspaper El Editor for 35 years. "At that time, we saw it was unfair on our part to try and elect our representatives. The only way to get representation on the school board was to go to single-member districts."

A change for the better Single-member districts beat LISD By Doug Hensley for the Anahuac Journal

April 18, 1997 Los Premiers were inducted into the Buddy Holly Walk of Fame Los Premiers was formed in 1996 by Jorge Salasica and Julian Ota. After a recording contract with Little Joe Hernandez on the Beena Stereo label, the group toured extensively in the region. Their first album "Injunta Movida" hit the tops of the Tejano music charts. Another album "Mi Cal de las Nubes" was recorded in 1998. Plans were made for another tour in 1979, but were interrupted by the Lubbock tragedy. Some of the dates were played before the band broke up in 1971. Band members included: Jorge Salasica, Julian Ota, Bidal Agüero, Cecil Puente, Cantano Mujica, Santos Prieto, Luzmar Aguilar, Joe Chavez, Sonny Aguilar, Frank Dimas, Benito Juarez and Jose Reyes.



The Pancho Cero program is organized by the Lubbock American G.I. Forum and provides candies and fruit for poor children in West Texas. The program was originally created through the efforts of Gus Medina, Jesse Reyes and Bidal Agüero. The original Pancho Cero story was written by in Spanish by Jesse Reyes from Lubbock, Texas. The story was based on a song recorded by Curo Sanchez about a black bearded Santa named Pancho who has burritos that pull his sleigh instead of reindeer.

Comentarios - Opiniones

SOME VAROOM FOR EDUCATION

By Jose de la Isla
After trying for laughs in Hollywood nightclubs, game shows and the Latino comedy TV circuit, comedian Emie G. got a chance to make some stand business and government types chuckle at a National Council of La Raza conference a few years ago. He told them how he got to college. His message: "Nowadays, you got to go to college, especially if you want a nice ride." Today, it's a TV spot for community college recruiting.

Addressing present realities is the antidote to decades of scripply papers forecasting economic doom and decrying student attitudes. Glum talk is virtually a light industry in education circles. Yet rarely has anyone come up with a comprehensive plan to do what's needed.

Rarely. That is until Tough Choices or Tough Times: The Report of the New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce.

Unlike other policy reports, its focus is not a complaint and half-measures, as if Archie Bunker headed a think-tank. Instead, it lays out a scenario about how to make things right.

For instance, unlike a number of countries, ours does not assume students are college-ready at 16. "So let's start out assuming that we can match or even exceed their performance," this report says. And it outlines a redesign plotting how that can be done.

The report is not a prescription for stumbling around reinventing students. Rather, it redesigns the system so it has the look and feel of the future.

The commission came up with its prescription by working its way back from the goal, as smooching as a Michael Jackson moonwalk, with an eye to how 95 percent of students can meet, without remediation, community college entrance standards.

Some people can show the aptitude for college-level work at 16 through an exam. Those who don't can have another chance (or as many as they need) to become college eligible. Those who take the community-college avenue conceivably can begin their four-year college work later at the junior level. (Details about the redesign can be found at www.skillscommission.org/executive.htm.)

Defenders of the current system will say that some school districts

already have something like it and have a hissy fit insisting this is no magic bullet.

The report has ten steps, each worthy of consideration for implementation. These can save \$50 billion because the new system virtually eliminates dropouts, redundancy, and ineffectiveness. The savings can be redeployed to recruit and train a new teaching force, coming from the top third of high-school students going to college. High-quality early childhood education, and providing disadvantaged students with needed resources to meet international standards.

Teachers would be very well paid. In return they would meet rigorous new teacher licensing by the state. Hired by districts, they would be encouraged to form professional organizations the way law, architecture and doctor partnerships work to provide their services.

The old system of education, intended for a disappearing industrial economy, required relatively low-level literacy to do mechanical, often repetitive, work. But the science and math information age is a natural world niche for the United States, producing high-quality goods and services that result from highly educated workers, who are trained for creativity and innovation.

From the point of view of those who want to stay in the 19th century's little red school house, here's the rub. The system of school districts becomes that of writing performance contracts with funded "contract schools" funded by the state, monitoring them, and

assuming they meet performance standards. The new schools could be operated by teacher colleges, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and teacher collaboratives. Apologists ran out of gas long ago tinkering with the old system's carburetor and incremental changes. The engine stalled out, especially with so-called "minority" students in low-performing schools who are becoming the new majorities. The small gains made during the past decade have slowed. The old system is the wrong vehicle for our times.

That's why it makes sense that comedian Emie G. would link going to college with a nice ride. Now a commission has provided an interesting vehicle for getting there.

THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY NEXT DOOR

By Rob Paral
Looking for a low-cost solution to many of our most intractable problems in the United States? Maybe you'd like to see urban neighborhoods prosper, and watch the working poor find better jobs, buy homes and invest in their own education? On top of all that, just maybe you'd like to see those benefits spread across society by breaking barriers that separate the haves and the have-nots.

Interested? It's cheaper than you realize, faster than you know, better than you'd expect and - here's the kicker - we know how to do it because we've done it before.

It's called L-E-G-A-L-I-Z-A-T-I-O-N. Not hard to spell, pronounce or remember, and it should flow trippingly from the tongue when someone asks you for ways to improve the economy.

Before I do the numbers, as they say, let's go over the basics of why the U.S. economy should benefit from the legalization of undocumented immigrants. The immigrants themselves would find better jobs, have access to credit, lending and saving, and finally obtain professional licenses now denied to them in many locales. They'll take off economically. The general public shares in the prosperity, getting more taxpayers, more business creation, and a leveled playing field with no one working for artificially low wages. Along with that, the nagging fact of life - social disparities between rich and poor - should ease somewhat when we all play on the same field.

If only we could demystify these things with numbers it would be so helpful. As it turns out, we can.

Using data representing immigrants who went through the

legalization program of the late 1980s and early 1990s, my colleagues and I asked the question of whether the legalized immigrants improved their own economic situation and whether they began to catch up with the rest of society.

Our research - published recently by the American Immigration Council - suggests strongly that legalized immigrants lowered their poverty rate, raised their wages and purchased homes in a remarkable way.

For example groups with poverty rates near 30 percent saw their poverty level fall by half. Their hourly wages rose by 70 percent. Their home ownership rate almost quintupled.

Much of the legalized immigrants' progress seems to have come with the added benefit of narrowing at least some of the gap between them and the rest of society. The immigrants' poverty rate edged much closer to that of the general population. Their property ownership level made them almost indistinguishable from the rest of us. So while our nation's economic mandarins seek ways to turn the U.S. economy around, let's begin talking about immigration reform as a way to continue toward that goal.

As economist Sherrill Kossoudji of the University of Michigan says, noting the price that undocumented families pay for their lack of legal status, "legalization would be the cheapest federal workforce development and anti-poverty program for children in history."

It's time to use findings such as these to reform the discussion on undocumented immigration. The twelve million are not a problem but a potential. Immigration reform isn't something you do in spite of the economy; it's something you do for the economy.



Special Thanks to Everyone who has supported El Editor and the Aguero family throughout the week! You are truly appreciated!
Special coverage about Bidal: El Bilingüe News, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, Abel Cruz, Christy Martinez-Garcia, Rudy Alvarado
Donations for Dinner: Guadalupe Economic Service Center, Diana Jimenez, Ballet Folklorico Aztlan parents, St. Elizabeth's Parishioners.
Rosary: Mr. & Mrs. Alcorca, Jose Rijoas & Nephals
Ceremony: TJ Patterson, Ester Sepeda, Todd Klein, Wendell DeLeon, Msgr. Carlos Hauffman, Fr. Jim O'Connor, Deacon Ben Brilio, Deacon Joe Martin, Penny Morin, Mariachi Amistad (Armando Flores, Carlos Merlo, Eddie Treviño, John Cain, Paul Guzman, Rick Martinez) & Guest Musicians: Paul Y. Flores, Ruben Lopez

Lou Dobbs leaving CNN for 'new opportunities'

NN's Lou Dobbs, a lightning rod for criticism following his transition from a business journalist to an opinionated anchor on such issues as illegal immigration, told viewers on Wednesday that he was quitting his nightly show to pursue new opportunities.

"This will be my last broadcast," Dobbs said after giving the day's headlines. Dobbs, who hosts a daily radio show unrelated to CNN, said the network had allowed him to be released early from his contract.

Dobbs was a CNN original, signing on when the cable network started in 1980. For much of that time, he hosted a nightly business broadcast that became one of the most influential shows in the corporate world, and CNN's most profitable show for advertising revenue.

But Dobbs said his world view changed after the 2001 terrorist attacks and corporate corruption scandals, and he began to more freely express his opinions. He was particularly persistent in bringing the immigration issue to the fore, winning him both higher ratings and enemies. Latino groups had an active petition drive seeking his removal.

His presence became awkward for CNN, particularly as it began emphasizing reporting and non-opinion shows. He angered management this summer by pressing questions about President Barack Obama's birth site after CNN reporters determined there was no issue.

Dobbs said the decision came after months of discussion with CNN U.S. President Jon Klein. Dobbs said he wanted to concentrate on his role as a commentator and on advocacy journalism.

Klein hailed Dobbs' "appetite for big ideas, the megawatt smile and larger-than-life presence he brought to our newsroom."

"With characteristic forthrightness, Lou has not only carried the banner of advocacy journalism elsewhere," Klein said. "We respect his decision."

Dobbs said he was proud of his role in helping to build the first cable news network. He said some leaders in media, politics and business "have been urging me to go beyond my role here at CNN and to engage in constructive problem-solving." Seated at

anchor desk in front of a screen with a fluttering American flag. Dobbs mentioned his interest in issues such as health care, jobs, immigration, climate change and the wars.

"Unfortunately, these issues are now defined in the public arena by partisanship and ideology rather than rigorous empirical thought and forthright analysis and discussion," he said. "I will be working diligently to change that as best I can."

His resignation was hailed by activists who were seeking his ouster.

"Our contention all along was that Lou Dobbs, who has a long history of spreading lies and conspiracy theories about immigrants and Latinos - does not belong on the most trusted name in news," said Roberto Lovato, co-founder of Presente.org. "We are thrilled that Dobbs no longer has the legitimate platform from which to incite fear and hate."

Tom Saenz, president of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the leading Latino legal organization, said, "The Latino community can well celebrate that Lou Dobbs is no longer on CNN."

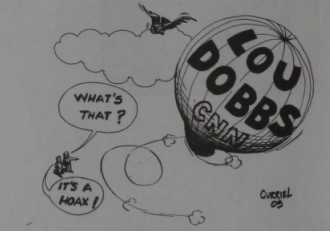
U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, a Democrat from Dobbs' home state of New Jersey and the Senate's only Hispanic member, called it "addition by subtraction" for CNN.

Dobbs did not immediately return telephone and e-mail messages to talk with his critics.

Although he joined CNN in 1980, Dobbs left the network for two years in 1999, after angrily complaining on the air about a decision by then-CNN President Rick Kaplan to switch away from his show to a live news event. An Internet venture failed and when Kaplan left CNN, Dobbs returned.

Dobbs' ratings had cooled from the height of the immigration discussion. But his 870,000 viewers on Tuesday still eclipsed MSNBC's Chris Matthews (Fox News Channel's Shepard Smith had more than double the audience) and even beat Campbell Brown's CNN show, which followed Dobbs at 8 p.m. ET in prime-time, according to the Nielsen Co.

A decision on who will replace Dobbs is expected to be announced Thursday.



A Look at some of the forums Bidal created throughout the years

"Freedom of Expression"
An Open Forum Where Readers Express their Views and Opinions
Submitted to eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Letters to the Editor
Send Mail to: eleditor@sbcglobal.net

El Hijo Del Alacrán
(The Son of the Scorpion)

Back in the 70's and 80's "El Alacrán," the scorpion that stings with his tail "was a regular guest on the pages of this newspaper. Many years have passed, "El Alacrán" has now retired his poisonous pen, but now along comes his son...and as they say, "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree".

READ EL EDITOR ON THE INTERNET AT ELEDITOR.COM
Questions? Comments? Send them to eleditor@sbcglobal.net

El Editor would like to thank the community for your kind words and prayers. Bidal dedicated his life to serve you. We think it was a job well done! Salud to our Community Leader! Descanse en Paz



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¿Quien es Billy? A Poem by Nephtali De Leon

Bidal Agüero, Lubbock, Texas (Newspaper Publisher, Playwrite, Video maker, Political Activist and sometime, borachito.) Upon his passing away on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009, at six o'clock in the afternoon, one day after "El Dia de Los Muertos," because even La Pelona couldn't tell Bidal Agüero what to do... when to do it
Copyright by Nephtali De Leon

I first met him as Billy
Quien es Billy?
Who's this gordito that shows up
Everywhere?

I didn't know Billy
He'd talk to me about
his mom And how his
dad worked
For the city as a
trash collector
The way he talked
I could imagine
them both
Full of courage
and of pride to be
the humble
People that they
were only they didn't
know

They were proud-but
Billy saw that and he talked
to me about them-pride gleaming
in his jolly eyes
This goes back some 35 to 40
years...
The happy spring of youth still
sparked in our gait
For strait is the gate and narrow is
the way
It was all before Nixon and the Wa-
tergate tapes
when I first met Billy...

By the time I met him, and I didn't
know it
Billy ya habia tenido un conjunto-
"Los Premiers,"
And I didn't know it back then
That he had music in his soul
underneath
His real Chicano politics...
their first big hit was "Nada con-
tingo..."
then he went to Texas Tech
joined the first Chicano Raza
group,
Los Tertulianos,
Vice president in '70, President in
'71



He took off north
and he returned
with a masers
degree
In what
else? but
music, yet
he never
really talked
about
it...
And I didn't
know he had
music in his
soul

What I saw was
his concern for
everybody born
In Lubbock, West Texas
and around...
Billy was Texas bound...although
he'd gone to Fargo,
North Dakota, I saw him there, and
Wisconsin.
You figure it out, Billy was a for-
ward scout for the Indios
Not for the cavalry of Uncle Sam...
or anyone else close to the man...

Time went on and that was Billy
know it
But he changed and one day he
turned into Bidal
Like many people changed in West
Texas
The quiet ones became loud, the
meek ones became proud
And Raza, poor lost Raza, was not
lost anymore
They stepped out as lions from
their casa
And Billy - I mean Bidal, was in
the middle of it all
As if he suddenly turned into an
orchestra conductor

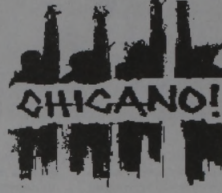
Only he had no instruments and
never spoke of music
I never knew it then spoke of music
I never knew it then but we were
all playing
For and with a master of fine arts, a
virtuoso director
A natural Barrio conductor of the
symphony of justice
This was no longer Billy the gordito
I had met
This was Bidal...the music maker
of our new Chicano times!
Bidal changed, and as he changed
he changed the streets
He changed the way that people
met and where they met
Oh, it was still to drink a beer, but
it was where we met that things
turned cool
We met at the cantinas where we
organized, or at the dance halls
where
Botellitas were raffled, or sold-
even cakewalks con bironga were
allowed
No day was without purpose or de-
cree, or battle plan for change

That was Bidal...his house became
the central station of defense!
Times are so different now when
we compare them to the ways back
then

There's more participation now, to-
day quality begins to sound
- Like a just maybe possibility
around the block - back then it was
a dream
That we survived thru several de-
cades of West Texas nightmares
Bidal - he had his hand and soul and
heart in every change that came
As well as pockets worn so thin
- Bidal had to drink beer to look
gordito!
The 70's were times of movement
frenzy - of Raza on the go,
Chicano! Chicano!
people marched, people walked
out of school, people boycotted,
screamed basta! There was a Raza
Unida Party,
Brown Berets,
Teatro Chicano,
the re-birth of
Aztlán, and
Bidal, Bidal was
in the midst of it
...pulling the
strings, waving
his conductor's
magic wand!
May I reflect
upon his vision
of our king?
He wouldn't let
us be a Raza with
no mind
Bidal had always wanted us to
build a statue
Of the wisest and the funniest bor-
rachito de Lubbock
Because he taught us how to read
and write like in the books
And turned us into journalists and
barrio stenographs of truth
"Noticias" would come out depend-
ing on how much he drank
He did it at his own expense and
then invite us to a succulent cook

out
beyond the tracks - of beer and
chicken necks!
We never built a statue for
Agustin Medina, - Gus, the wisest
borrachito in our town
New Lubbock needs at least to stat-
ue
For two of the wisest borrachitos in
our town
One for Bidal and one for
Agustin Medina
It was such folks that best portrayed
the facts
Humble and real - no matter at
what cost
Ah, Lubbock, city of a brave and
adventurous Raza
Far flung into the flatlands of the
dust bowl!
Living and surviving in the racist
bible belt of middle America
Little did the good the bad and the

local and State
office, go fishing, porear con la fami-
lia and his friends, invent a Raza
chamber of
commerce, (unheard of in those
days!), create a menudado,
And a baseball team, maybe do a
Pancho Clovis play, an Adelita play,
Or a cabrito movie - oh, and have a
six pack barrio political campaign!
And afterwards, well actually, be-
fore all this,
Go hug and love his nietos, - la ra-
ru-ruru-ru-ru!
Oh Lubbock - precious people in a
precious town,
pueblo de la Raza Cosmica, I carry
you, my friends,
As lovely rich pieces of gold in the
pockets of my heart
Look you upon the native son you
nurtured - and gave birth to
Barrio bato, from the Raza side of
town, with a conscience colored
brown
The color of the sacred earth from
whence we come to which we will
return...



Let his poor simple footsteps echo
in the volumes of our mind
Let his lighthouse Chicano actions
burn forever in our hearts
That we may tell our children, and
they in turn their children tell
There was a one, my children, who
taught us how to live a conscientious
life
With unassuming care with un-
assuming love, his star rises and
shines forever
In the skies!
Oh Pueblo mio, pueblo de orgullo y
corazon gigante
Blessed are we to live upon these
times, to walk upon these Lubbock
streets
For we have lived and witnessed
legendary days when giants walked
the earth
To teach us lesser folks how to be
real - I knew of one, his name is true
His name is real - Bidal Agüero!

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Susan Combs Contralora de Cuentas Públicas de Texas

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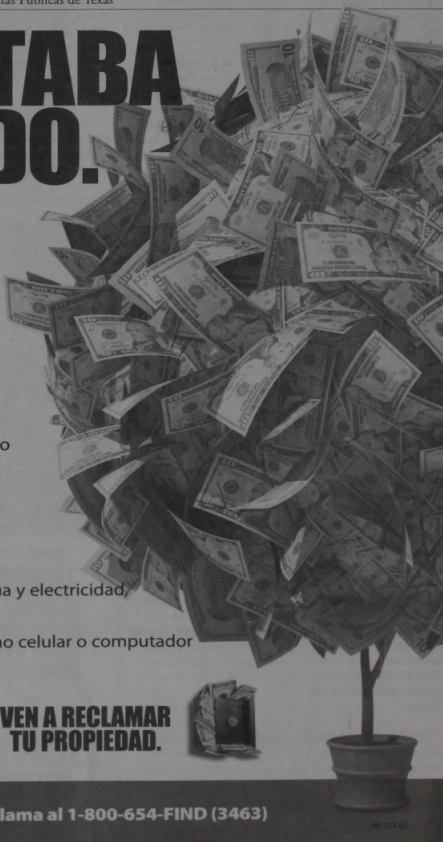
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- ✓ Obtenido intereses minerales o derechos de regalías
- ✓ Hecho pagos adicionales a algún seguro, facturas de agua y electricidad, o alguna otra factura
- ✓ Recibido reembolsos por compras, tales como un teléfono celular o computador
- ✓ Tenido acciones, bonos o fondos de inversión
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Bidal Aguero's Remarkable Journey

*By Abel Cruz
(This is a re-run from last week. El Editor wanted to share his story one more time.)*

If it is an individual's personal history and of bringing that forms his goals, aspirations and approach to life itself; then it is easy to understand why Bidal Aguero dedicated his life to being an advocate for equal rights, social justice, and social change; and most importantly to giving of himself for the greater good.

It is indeed a sad moment in the history of Lubbock's Mexican American community and for the many people throughout Texas and other parts of the country who knew him, when a community and civil rights leader like Bidal Aguero passed away.

Mr. Aguero passed away on Tuesday November 3, 2009 and already many people in the community are wondering how the void he leaves will be filled. But they are also remembering the life of a remarkable man who came along at a time when he was most needed by his community.

Years from now, when the history of this city is read by future generations, one name will stand out as the person who not only worked for the causes he believed in but also lived his life trying to improve the lives of others.

Born to migrant working parents Ignacio and Eulalia Aguero, Bidal was born on July 23, 1949 in present day Acuff on a farm known as the Goodnight Farm. The family was like most others of that era; following the cotton crop around the state of Texas and surviving a life of hardships through hard work.

Many of Lubbock's social, business, political, civic, educational, cultural institutions, and especially the field of Chicano/Hispanic journalism bear one distinct fingerprint; that of Bidal Aguero.

While his accomplishments and awards which he received during his lifetime are too numerous to mention, some of Bidal's most important contributions to this community and the greater Lubbock community were the ones he involved himself in at a time when opposition to these barriers which existed at that time. He knew that if nothing was done, change would not come.

Ultimately graduate from Texas Tech University. While at Tech in the late 60's and early 70's Bidal was instrumental in two student led organizations. He served as Vice President and President of "Los Guerrilleros" in 1971. Later on he founded another student organization known as MECHA which served to encourage Mexican American youths to get an education. And he also worked for LEARN Educational Talent Search; a federally funded program designed to help identify youth from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and help them attend college.

With a Bachelors Degree for several political offices and eventually became active in the Democratic Party and worked tirelessly in many, many local and regional election campaigns. In 2007, he was awarded the Lubbock County Democratic Party's "Unsung Hero" award.

In the field of newspaper journalism, Bidal was extremely proud of his and his wife Olga's ownership of El Editor. "Bidal's paper" as it was often referred to by readers plays an important role in the community and Bidal made sure that it was published week after week.

Bidal was armed with something he strongly believed a person needed in order to influence social change; and that was an education. Considering Bidal's background and the obstacles he faced back then, his educational achievements become even more notable.

Many Mexican American youth did not graduate from high school for one reason or another during those times and Bidal saw that as a problem which needed to be addressed. In the late 1970's, he joined with 3 other Lubbock residents as one of the plaintiffs in a lawsuit filed against the Lubbock Independent School District to change the way school board members were elected. He was convinced that equal access to our governing institutions was equally as important as getting an education.

In the field of business: in the 1970's he was one of the founders of a business chamber of commerce made up of all Mexican American owned businesses known as "Com-



Bidal enjoyed fishing more of all the things he would enjoy of life. In this photo Bidal poses in front of fake fishes in Port Isabel making people think he caught all those fish.

erciantes Organizados Mejico Americanos, or COMA, which later became the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce until recently merging with the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce.

In the field of education, it is fitting that Bidal was only the second Mexican American from Lubbock to go through the LISD school system and

advertising dollars but keeping his basic principles intact. In other words, he never sold out his values to make a dollar.

It was not easy and throughout his lifetime his life took a toll for his beliefs. He was called a "radical" and a liberal more than a few times. He was called an "activist"; and not in a positive way. But in many ways he wore those labels as his badge of courage from the many battles he had had to fight in order to bring



Bidal with his favorite ladies of his life: Mother Eualia Aguero, wife Olga and daughters at the time Zenaida and Amalia Aguero. Marisol would come later and win his heart over just as these girls did!

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El Editor was served as that lonely voice representing the opposite view than what is in the mainstream media.

Bidal would often say that the Hispanic community too often felt disconnected and disenfranchised from the mainstream media because their views and their communities were not seen and much less heard.

Those who shared part of his life's journey with him will never forget him or his remarkable contributions. And though he will be missed: Bidal Aguero will be remembered as a person who stood up for the causes he believed in; strived diligently for equal rights and social change, never forgot where he came from, and fought the good fight until the very end.

May he rest in peace - "Que descanse en Paz".

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Bidal & Olga during a dance reception for their wedding. They renewed their vows during his last stay in the hospital by Father Curtis Huffman.



One of the many times that Bidal and Olga enjoyed to get away and attend conferences in Las Vegas. Good times.



Bidal with Pinta who enjoyed life with him for the past 17 years. Pinta was the joy of Bidal's life.



One of the best cars he enjoyed was his famous MG.

types of social changes was greatest. That in itself is what makes his accomplishments all the more remarkable.

from Texas Tech University and his Masters Degree in Education from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater,

referred to by readers plays an important role in the community and Bidal made sure that it was published week after

week. Bidal Aguero and El Editor are two well known names in political and Hispanic journalism circles around the state of Texas and Bidal accomplished something that very few publishers/newspaper owners had accomplished. His was the oldest Hispanic owned publication in West Texas and he enjoyed a prominent place in journalistic organizations like the National Association of Hispanic Publications.

Olga, My Friend,

© by Nephthai

he was a leader to the end
leading the way in Lubbock streets
in Lubbock barrios under siege
our land our culture and our speech
— held hostage for 500 years

he left so many positive good deeds
each time we breathe new hope
for liberated Lubbock to be free
by acts we could not see
to help the people you and me

Olga, my friend,
he was a leader to the end
he walked in life ahead of us
in death he takes a quicker step
perhaps to chart us a new map
to join him in his new dimension
is it the open clouds or a large mansion?

we shall not darkly go
into that mantle that will fold
upon our earthly body when it's cold

we have a leader now to take our hand
we're merely changing plans
it is, it could not be the end
not with a barista leader that God sent
sent down to us, Bidal, true friend,
to help us see, to help us understand!

Welcome Tertulianos Reunion Departa El Editor Newspaper Órale Raiders!

Bidal Agüero – Presente!

Compañero Bidal Agüero's passing is indeed a sad day for La Raza de Lubbock and for Texas Chicano Movement activists. His passing is indeed a great loss for La Raza in Lubbock and elsewhere.

Billy dedicated his adult life to the struggle for social and racial justice for Latinos in Lubbock, in Texas, and, by extension, the whole nation. Bidal was a person of strong character and unwavering humanitarian principles. These personal qualities were quite evident in his work with various organizations in

the Panhandle and all over the State, including the Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO) and La Raza Unida Party. Yet these qualities transcended the boundaries of his activism and on behalf of the Chicano community. These qualities allowed him to establish intellectual solidarity and passion for the just struggles of other oppressed peoples in Texas, the nation, and the whole world. As a young child and teenager I worked the cotton fields with my family in Lub-

bock and the surrounding area. I have vivid memories of the rigidly segregated society that existed at that time when "mexkins" and Blacks were relegated to a status no higher than dogs. This is the context that gave rise to the Chicano Movement in Lubbock and elsewhere. This is the context that produced Raza heroes with the character, qualities, and fortitude so strong and visible in Bidal Agüero. Of course Billy was not alone. There were/are many others, Chicanas and Chicanos, who stood with him in La

Lucha por la Justicia. They too are Bidal Agüero. It is with profound sadness that I bid a final farewell to Compañero Bidal. I was privileged, honored, and fortunate to have crossed paths and worked with him. Yet I celebrate his life and his life work. The best honor I can bestow on him is the Chicano Movement salute to its fallen heroes.
Bidal Agüero – Presente!
Que en Paz Descanse, Mario C. Compean San Anto Tejas, Aztlán November 5, 2009

¡QUE VIVA BIDAL!

Bidal and Viva Aztlán just celebrated their 15th Anniversary of Ballet Folklorico competitions in Lubbock. We look forward to 15 more years of celebrating our culture!



Viva Aztlán 15th Anniversary Dance & Mariachi Festival

Estamos para que confien que le ayudaremos en esos momentos delicados y tan importantes para su familia

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Buelo, we know you want the best for us!
We love you and will miss you always!

Bidal thought the world of his nietos!
He watched them excel in school, sports & ballet folklorico.



Keep up the great work kids!
Buelo will always be with you!

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Community Health Center of Lubbock
Prenatal Classes

WHERE: Community Health Center of Lubbock, 1318 Broadway (2nd Floor in the SMK room)

WHEN: Every Thursday beginning October 29, 2009 - November 19, 2009 At 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Light Refreshments will be served. Childcare is not provided.

For class information and registration, please call Estela at 765-2611 ext 1018.

March of Dimes
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF LUBBOCK
STORKS

Public Housing Waiting List Opening for 1 and 2 Bedroom Low-Income Elderly Housing

The Lubbock Housing Authority (LHA) announces the opening of the Waiting List for one and two bedroom elderly housing. A qualifying elderly household must be one in which:

- a person or family whose head or spouse, or sole member is at least 62 years of age; or
- two or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living together; or
- one or more persons who are at least 62 years of age living with one or more live-in aides.

• Combined income of all household members must be 80% or less of the area median income. These amounts are: 1 person - \$29,600, 2 person - \$33,850, 3 - person \$38,050

Waiting List Opening Date: Monday, November 16, 2009. Completed pre-applications will not be accepted by the LHA prior to this date.

Waiting List Close Date: LHA will post and publish a notice in the future to close the waiting list.

Applicants will be placed on the Waiting List on a first come, first served basis determined by the time and date completed pre-applications are received in the Lubbock Housing Authority office listed below.

Location: Pre-applications may be picked up in person at: Lubbock Housing Authority, 1708 Crickets Ave, Lubbock, TX 79401, by contacting 806/762-1191 or at www.lubbockha.org. Persons requesting reasonable accommodation in the application process are urged to contact 806/762-1191. Additional information may be obtained at the Lubbock Housing Authority at the address above or at www.lubbockha.org.

Equal Housing Opportunity

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