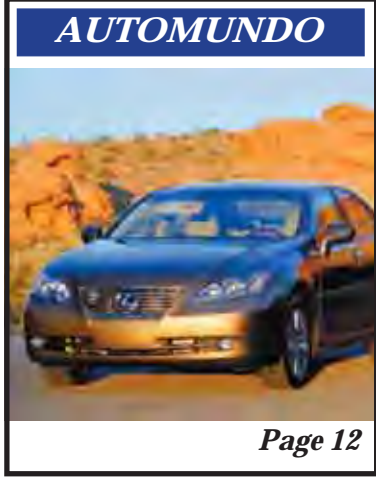


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Over 1 million march for Comprehensive Immigration Reform



Last weekend 500,000 in Los Angeles, 300,000 in Chicago, 50,000 in Denver, 40,000 in Washington, 20,000 in Phoenix, 10,000 in Milwaukee, 7,000 in Charlotte, 4,000 in Sacramento, 2,000 in Kansas City, 1,500 in Dallas, 1,500 in Stockton (only a partial list) - were among those marching against criminalization and for earned legalization of undocumented immigrants. Monday brought a march/rally of religious leaders in Washington, DC and a parallel rally in Boston, MA.

Nation reacts to immigration reform protests

While the *New York Times* reports on the groundswell of pro-immigrant rallies and activities, the editorial pages of America's leading papers are calling on the Senate Judiciary Committee to carefully consider comprehensive immigration reform and establish a path to citizenship for the estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants in the country.

Some examples:

Arizona Republic editorial: It's showdown week on immigration. Senators can do their job. Or they can play this for personal political gain. Their choice. But it's the American people who will suffer the consequences if they act selfishly. (Mar 26)

Cleveland Plain Dealer editorial: In fact, most of what the Judiciary Committee has tentatively arrived at is worth

exploring. Among its points: green cards for undocumented workers who will pay fines and taxes on back wages and pass background checks - cards that would come only after those already in line are served. Increased border security and punishment for those who knowingly hire illegals. Guest-worker provisions to allow up to 400,000 legal entries each year. (Mar 23)

Chicago Tribune editorial: An immigration policy that fosters an enormous underground workforce is not in the country's best interests, which is why immigration reform has moved to the front burner in this election year. But the reality is that we can't deport 12 million workers and would be very sorry if we did. (Mar 26)

Dallas Morning News editorial: Committee members have a chance to fill a gaping

hole in America's security net - and not create a new one in our economy - by approving a guest worker program for immigrants and a plan for once-illegal immigrants to earn US citizenship. (Mar 26)

Los Angeles Times editorial: Reason is still trying to prevail in the Senate, where a compromise bill by Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA) may be considered this week.

The Specter proposal, which is still being fleshed out, incorporates much of the White House's thinking on the issue, as well as features from legislation by Sens. John McCain (R-AR) and Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA). But it faces long odds, especially in light of the split within the Republican Party on immigration. (Mar 26)

La importacion temporal de vehiculos a Mexico

El Consulado General de México en Denver le informa que se une a los 12 Consulados en la Unión Americana donde se puede realizar el *Trámite para la Importación Temporal de Vehículos*.

Si Usted viaja a México con su vehículo y va a realizar su trámite de importación temporal en esta Representación Consular le indicamos, a continuación, cuáles son los requisitos necesarios:

1. El vehículo debe tener placas de Estados Unidos ó Canadá.
2. Es necesario que Usted sea residente LEGAL de los Estados Unidos.
3. Tener un año mínimo de residencia en los Estados Unidos.

A.- Si Usted es Turista: (Una persona nacida en el extranjero y de nacionalidad distinta a la mexicana), los requisitos son los siguientes:

1. En original y copia, Usted debe presentar uno de los siguientes documentos:

Pasaporte, Certificado de Naturalización y/o Acta de Nacimiento.

2. Forma Migratoria VIGENTE.

• FMT: Permiso por 7 días ó por 180 Días.

• FM2: 360-365 Días.

Solo se da el permiso cuando es visa de rentista (Quien tiene inversiones en México y vive de sus rentas).

• FM3: Siempre es por un año y vence cuando vence el pasaporte.

NOTA: De acuerdo al número de días de la VISA, será el número de días del permiso.

B.- Si Usted es Paisano: (Ciudadano Mexicano que radica en forma legal en el extranjero), los requisitos son los siguientes:

1. En original y copia, Usted

Continúa página 5

Participants with the President in a meeting on Immigration Reform

Michael Barrera, President and CEO, US Hispanic C of C (Washington, DC)

Todd Bassett, National Commander, The Salvation Army (Alexandria, VA)

Chalmers Carr III, President and CEO, Titan Peach Farms (Ridge Spring, SC)

Most Reverend Charles Chaput, Archbishop of Denver (Denver, CO)

Linda Chavez, Founder and Chairman, Center for Equal Opportunity (Sterling, VA)

Cindy Clark, Director of Human Resources, The Broadmoor (Colorado Springs, CO)

Reverend Luis Cortes, Jr., President and CEO, Esperanza USA (Philadelphia, PA)

Dr. Ed Feulner, President, The Heritage Foundation (Washington, DC)

Tamar Jacoby, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute (New York, NY)

Bruce Josten, Executive VP-Government Affairs, USC of C (Washington, DC)

Monte Lake, Counsel, Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform (Washington, DC)

Phil Lampert, President and CEO, Custer State Park Resort Company (Custer, SD)

Dr. Richard Land, President-Ethics Issues, Southern Baptist Convention (Nashville, TN)



Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation announces Outstanding Educators of the Year

The Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation, in conjunction with the Latino Chamber of Commerce, is pleased to announce the Outstanding Educators of the Year for 2005-06:

- Gerard Flores, Central High School
- Katherine Frank, CSU-Pueblo
- Linda Garcia, Risley Middle School
- Anna Lozano, Peakview School
- Deborah Walter, Risley Middle School

These individuals were selected as Outstanding Educators because of their passion and commitment to education.

Other nominees for the Educator of the Year Award include:

- Christine Cox, Risley Middle School;
- Miguel R. Elias, Centennial High School;
- Herminia Encina, Risley School;
- Abraham Gonzales, CSU-Pueblo;
- Mark Gonzales, Ben Franklin Elementary;
- Martina Gonzales, Risley Middle School;
- Deborah Griggs, Risley Middle School;
- Marie Harms, Carlile Elementary;
- Scott Herrmann, CSU-Pueblo;
- Mike Howrey, Morton Elementary;
- Aron Jones, Swallows Charter

- Academy; Charity L. Krow, Keating High School;
- Michelle Montoya, Risley Middle School;
- Martin E. Quintana, Roncalli Middle School;
- Sandra Sammon, Fountain Elementary;
- Dr. Michael Wakefield.

All nominees will be recognized at the Latino Chamber of Commerce luncheon scheduled for Fri, Apr 28 at La Renaissance Restaurant beginning at 11:30 am.

Reservations for the lunch may be made by calling (719) 542-5513 by Apr 21.

Pueblo Recycles looking for Recycling Poster Designs

Pueblo Recycles has announced that it is looking for young artists to participate in the annual art contest to design posters that promote recycling in Pueblo. The contest is open to students in kindergarten through the 12th grade, and the entries are organized by grade levels. Students can use any kind of medium to create their posters on an 8x11 piece of paper. Posters can be drawn freehand, and middle and high school students are allowed to submit work created through the use of computer generated graphic design.

Entries must be submitted by April 3, and must include the

student's name, grade, school or organization, teacher's name and home telephone number. Judging will occur on Apr 22 at Central High School as part of Earth Day celebrations. Prizes will be awarded. For more information, please call (719) 549-7900 or (719) 549-7440.

Work has begun on Old Pueblo Road



El Paso County Department of Transportation (DOT) crews are working in Fountain Creek to repair the eroded embankment that washed out Old Pueblo Road, but they are not getting wet.

This is all thanks to aqua barriers the crews are using to reroute the flow of Fountain Creek. DOT will use these barriers until approximately the first week of April.

In Aug 2004, heavy rainstorms significantly damaged a section of Old Pueblo Road, located about

four miles south of Fountain. The embankment has eroded

so badly into Fountain Creek that the road has almost completely washed away, forcing motorists to detour onto private property using a temporary gravel road.

However, a bright future is in store for this washed away road.

In February, the Board of County Commissioners approved funds to fix Old Pueblo Road.

The \$550,000 will be used to repair the eroded embankment and reinforce it against future storms.

Wire baskets, known as gabions, will be filled with

rock to create a retaining wall. Fill material will be placed behind the wall so that the road can be reconstructed at its original location.

Concrete "A-Jacks" will extend out into the creek, creating spur dikes, which will help move the main stream channel away from the wall.

"Old Pueblo Road presently is not only a big inconvenience for motorists, but a safety issue for the residents. I am very excited that DOT is moving ahead, and I look forward to the finished product," said El Paso County Commission Vice Chair Dennis Hisey.

April Baby Fest Event at Babies "R" Us

We're throwing a party for all expectant moms... and family or friends looking for great ideas for planning a Super Baby Shower! At the Babies "R" Us Super Baby Shower you'll find great ideas on how to plan and enjoy a baby shower.

Meet face to face with local business representatives who specialize in the many aspects of shower planning: starting with the location and food, the invitations and centerpieces, and ending with cake and party favors. Plus join our in store shower for tasty food,

terrific fun and games, too! The event will take place Sat, Apr 8, from 11 am to 3 pm, at Babies "R" Us, 3155 S. Citadel Drive, Colorado Springs. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information contact: Babies "R" Us store at (719) 574-7737.

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Don't miss out on getting your message to the thousands of potential customers during this peak period which is very important to our readers. This is also one of the issues that we print extra copies and distribute at The Colorado State Fair Grounds and Memorial Park in Colorado Springs. Call Will or Bill and make your Space Reservations now 1-866-723-2220



COMMUNITY NEWS

What's in store for stormwater

Flooding caused by uncontrolled stormwater runoff not only impacts those living by a drainage way but also does damage to public structures and environmentally sensitive areas that affects both our pocket books and the quality of our community.

El Paso County's Department of Transportation (DOT) has been working with the Highway Advisory Commission (HAC), a citizen volunteer board, to identify cost effective solutions to the county's ongoing need to

maintain and improve stormwater drainage facilities.

The HAC created a subcommittee called the Stormwater Enterprise Task Force, which was charged with creating recommendations for the Board of County Commissioners. After six months of work, the task force presented its recommendations to the commissioners at a work session in January.

DOT and the Stormwater Enterprise Task Force brought forward four options to the Board at its regularly

scheduled meeting on Mar 20. The first option was to accept the task force's recommendation and create a stormwater enterprise, which would assess a fee to property owners. The second was to delay the decision. Other options were to instruct staff that the Board is no longer interested in pursuing a stormwater enterprise, and to put the matter to a vote in the unincorporated county.

The Board preferred the fourth option, and asked staff and the task force to explore

different funding options with the possibility of placing the issue on the Nov 2007 ballot. Costs to residents would be based on impervious surface areas. No specific Board decisions have been made at this time.

If a revenue source is created, it would primarily provide maintenance of current drainage and stormwater systems and reconstruction of deteriorating structures. The current estimated cost of the drainage and stormwater backlog needs is \$66,080,000.

"The unincorporated areas of the county have a backlog of stormwater needs, but no funding mechanism. Once we get a detailed plan of action, we're committed to bringing it before the voters," said Commission Chair Sallie

Clark.

"There's no disagreement that improvements and failing systems must be addressed, but the question is how we fund those needs. I look at Old Pueblo Road by Fountain Creek as the poster-child of erosion, roadway and drainage problems.

"The commissioners want to bring our constituents in on the solution with a vote of the people. While new development pays for new infrastructure, it does not address the continued maintenance and deterioration problems in our older areas. Our county must face the ongoing demands and current deficiencies on our stormwater, drainage and flood control systems now to ensure a safe environment for our residents in the future," she said.

Pass the Torch Academy allows residents to try on a firefighter career

Local residents ages 14 and older have an opportunity to try on a career as a Colorado Springs Firefighter at the annual "Pass the Torch Academy" on Sat, Apr 29.

The Academy is a hands-on, one-of-a-kind experience for local residents to sample one of today's most highly-rated career choices.

During the four-hour academy, attendees will suit up in full protective firefighting gear and learn how it's designed to keep them safe.

Activities will include an aerial ladder climb, victim extrication, hydrant opening,

working a hoseline and the chance to use life-supporting medical equipment on a training manikin.

Participants will share the day's excitement and camaraderie with their teammates, just like real firefighters.

This half-day adventure explores what a career in the fire service is all about and is designed to provide a quick glimpse into a firefighter's job.

Activities will be held at the Fire Department Complex, located two blocks east of Memorial Park at 375 Printers Parkway. Check-in and gear

assignment starts at noon and the last activity will conclude by 5 pm. Attendees should wear clothes designed for physical activity.

For advance registration, call Firefighter Paramedic Lisa Smith at (719) 385-7226. Space is limited.

All participants are required to complete a waiver and those under 18 require a parent or guardian's signature. Same-day registrations will be available on a space available basis only.

The Colorado Springs Fire Department is committed to offering fair employment opportunities for everyone. Minorities and women are encouraged to attend!



Citizens appointed to volunteer boards

The El Paso County Board of Commissioners appointed and reappointed members to the Forestry and Weed Advisory Commission, the Justice Advisory Council of the Pikes Peak Region, and the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department Mechanical Committee at its regular meeting Mar 20.

Michael Ayer and Don Hardin were reappointed to the Forestry and Weed Advisory Commission, which meets every third Wed, at 1:30 pm, at the Solid Waste Management Division-meeting room, 3470 North Marksheffel Road

The commission acts as an advisory group to the Board of County Commissioners, develops and reviews an action plan for the

integrated management of state-mandated noxious weeds, and helps to designate additional weeds that have the potential for becoming problematic in the county.

Alan Griffie was appointed to the Justice Advisory Council (JAC) of the Pikes Peak Region. The JAC meets the second Thursday of each month, noon, in the District Attorney's conference room on the fourth floor of the county's Russel Professional Building at 105 East Vermijo Avenue.

The mission of the JAC is to promote an accountable and well-coordinated justice system that meets the needs of the Pikes Peak area.

Darrell Lackey, a mechanical

engineer, was reappointed to the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department Mechanical Committee.

This committee reviews new applications and renewals of contractor licensing under mechanical codes and registration under plumbing codes, the performance of work, and requests for variances to codes.

It meets the second Wed of each month at 9 am in the Regional Development Center, 2880 International Circle.

"We are pleased that these members of the community have volunteered their time to help maximize the effectiveness of these county boards," said Sallie Clark, Chair of the Board of County Commissioners

Fibromyalgia support group of Southern Colorado

Support meetings addressing fibromyalgia are available in Pueblo. Group sessions will be held on the second Tue of each month, from 2:30 - 3:30 pm, at the Rawlings Public Library, Thurston Room, 100 East Abriendo Avenue, Pueblo. For meeting information call (719) 562-5600. The meetings are free and open to the public, subjects are of interest for anyone with Fibromyalgia, Lupus, Arthritis, or any other rheumatoid disorder, in addition to Chronic Fatigue or Chronic Pain; as well as supporting partners and friends of persons who suffer from these disorders. For more info about ATHTIN contact Sheila at (719) 248-7405.

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NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

VERB.™ Ponte las Pilas.™

La Campaña Mediática Juvenil "VERB. It's What You Do", lanzada por el Departamento Estadounidense de Servicios para la Salud y Humanos (HHS por sus siglas en inglés), es una campaña nacional y multicultural cuya meta es crear un movimiento para promover la actividad física y prosocial (grupo organizado) positiva y para desplazar comportamientos insalubres y riesgosos entre los jóvenes de 9 a 13 años, un grupo de edad al que en términos de mercadeo se lo conoce como "tweens" o preadolescentes.

La campaña, denominada en español "VERB. Ponte las Pilas" es administrada por los Centros para la Prevención y Control de Enfermedades, y utilizará medios masivos e interactivos, sociedades y eventos comunitarios para ayudar a que los tweens aumenten sus niveles de comportamiento positivo.

La campaña anima a los tweens a que encuentren un verbo (tal como correr, pintar, cantar, bailar, saltar, patinar, etc.) o varios verbos que reflejen su personalidad e intereses y que luego utilicen "su verbo" como una plataforma para mejorar la

salud y para hacer de la actividad física y la participación comunitaria habitual un pasatiempo vitalicio.

Un componente importante de la campaña es informar a los padres de familia, líderes de la juventud y educadores acerca de los beneficios para la salud física y mental que brinda a los tweens su participación en actividades positivas. La promoción para los adultos incluirá sugerencias para motivar hábitos saludables entre los tweens tales como mayor actividad física y prosocial.

ACTIVIDADES FÍSICAS Y PROSOCIALES

Los niños que participan en actividades positivas que tienen un objetivo son menos propensos a caer en comportamientos riesgosos. La campaña VERB pone un énfasis en la actividad física y prosocial moderada a vigorosa desarrollada en clubes/grupos, organizaciones, clases, equipos o la familia. **PERO, SIN** excluir la actividad física individual o las actividades no físicas tales como el voluntariado, las artes teatrales, las artes visuales y la gestión estudiantil, por nombrar algunas. La actividad

prosocial se define como la participación activa de los niños en sus familias y en organizaciones o programas positivos, tales como clubes de la escuela y grupos comunitarios o religiosos.

ESTADÍSTICAS Y DATOS HISPANOS

Actividad física y comportamiento sedentario.

- La juventud hispana, de quinto a octavo grado en la escuela, es menos activa que la juventud caucásica. La auto eficacia, la percepción de los beneficios para la salud, el apoyo de los padres de familia y el acceso a programas comunitarios de actividad física influyen en los niveles de actividad (Estudio Bogalusa del Corazón, 1996).
- Los niños que miran más TV son menos propensos a participar en actividades físicas vigorosas. Los niños que tienen TV en su recámara miran 4.6 horas adicionales por semana. Una mayor cantidad de niños hispanos (50%) tiene una TV en su recámara que los niños caucásicos (20%) (Denison, 2002)

Obstáculos para la actividad física.

- Muchos padres de familia hispanos que son nuevos inmigrantes dudan en inscribir a sus niños en actividades organizadas, porque no conocen a los líderes del grupo y por lo tanto se preocupan por la seguridad. Además, ellos tienen recursos limitados para

pagar los programas y el equipo (Grupos de enfoque conducidos por GarcíaLKS360°, 2002).

- Los límites de familia y del género, así como las barreras del idioma, plantean un gran obstáculo para la participación de la población hispana en las actividades. (Grupos de enfoque conducidos por GarcíaLKS360°, 2002).

Opinión de la salud.

- Para muchos hispanos, el concepto de salud implica tener suficiente comida y la ausencia de enfermedades. La conexión entre la actividad física y los beneficios para la salud a largo plazo no ocurre naturalmente. (Grupos de enfoque conducidos por GarcíaLKS360°, 2002)

Comportamiento riesgoso

- El sexo, el consumo de alcohol y los intentos de suicidio han aumentado entre los adolescentes hispanos, mientras que los índices de comportamiento riesgoso han bajado en otros grupos étnicos (Estudios de la evidencia de comportamiento riesgoso en la juventud, 2000). La participación en actividades positivas ocupa el tiempo que de otra manera podría dedicarse a los comportamientos riesgosos. Además, la participación en actividades de la comunidad y los comportamientos

saludables de los pares son factores que protegen contra los comportamientos riesgosos (Hawkins, Catalano, Kosterman, Abbott y Hill, 1999).

Peso y obesidad.

- El 30.4% de todos los niños hispanos que viven en los Estados Unidos tienen sobrepeso, comparado con el 25% de los niños caucásicos; los adolescentes hispanos nacidos en los Estados Unidos de padres inmigrantes tienen el doble de probabilidad de tener sobrepeso que los adolescentes que nacieron en el exterior y se mudaron a los Estados Unidos (Estudio longitudinal nacional de la salud adolescente, 1998). En general, la aculturación o asimilación al estilo de vida estadounidense aumenta los factores de riesgo para la obesidad.

- Los niños hispanos tienen un índice más alto de incidencia de la diabetes tipo 2 que los niños caucásicos. En algunos estudios, el porcentaje de los niños que tienen diabetes tipo 2 ha aumentado de menos del 5% antes de 1994, a un 20% a 30% después de 1994. La obesidad es uno de los principales factores de riesgo para la diabetes tipo 2 en los niños. (Declaración sobre la diabetes, audiencia del Congressional Hispanic Caucus, 1999).

Adiós a la metralleta?

por Isaac Bigio

El ETA inicia un cese al fuego permanente. Así sigue la ruta del IRA nor-irlandés que primero hizo una tregua, luego fue entrando a la legalidad y al gobierno regional y ha acabado yendo desarmándose.

Mientras los conservadores británicos fueron quienes iniciaron el acercamiento con el IRA, en España el Partido Popular (PP) sigue planteando que el ETA debe ser aplastado.

Si el ETA se catapultó hace 40 años con actos audaces contra Franco, el PP post-franquista se consolidó en el poder planteando mano dura contra el terrorismo.

Si bien el rechazo al ETA fue uno de los pilares de Aznar, su partido perdió el poder cuando Aznar creyó que podría sacar más réditos electorales del macro-ataque de Al Qaeda del 11-M-2004 si le echaba la culpa de ello al separatismo armado vasco. El ETA, mas bien, sin disparar un tiro, pudo ayudar a tumbar al PP cuando demostró que eso fue falso.

Tras el 11-M el ETA fue llegando a la conclusión que el terror espanta adeptos y que más podría ganar con la intervención política.

El PP no logró aplastar al ETA, pero al haberla aislado y desarticulado tanto, la está obligando a cambiar. Si el franquismo abrazó la democracia representativa, el gobierno de Zapatero anhela convencer al ETA a que rinda sus metralletas a condición de afincarse en el camino de las urnas y las papeletas.



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NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

26 Ceremonia Anual de Premiación de la Música Tejana

La Asociación de Músicos de Talento de Texas (Texas Talent Musicians Association, TTMA por sus siglas en inglés), productora del evento anual "Premios de la Música Tejana", llevó a cabo la "26 Ceremonia Anual de Premiación de la Música Tejana", el sábado 18 de marzo, en el Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino de Eagle Pass, TX.

Las festividades de la noche se iniciaron con una Recepción de Alfombra Roja, en la que participaron numerosos artistas y grupos de música tejana. Este año, el presentador de la Ceremonia de Premiación de la Música Tejana fue nuevamente Gary Hobbs, sensación de la música tejana y natural de Eagle Pass. Entre otros co-presentadores del evento figuraron las celebridades radiales Stephanie Lynn y Patty López.

Los artistas y grupos premiados fueron los siguientes: Canción del Año: Jimmy González y Grupo Mazz por *Corazón De Fierro*; Vocalista Masculino del Año: Jay Pérez; Vocalista Femenina del Año: Shelly Lares; Animador del Año: Jay Pérez; Animadora del Año: Shelly

Lares; Álbum del Año-Tejano: *Mejor Que Nunca* de Jimmy González y Grupo Mazz; Álbum del Año - Conjunto Tradicional: *El Zurdo de Oro*, de Michael Salgado; Álbum del Año- Conjunto Progresivo: *Milagro*, de La Tropa F; Álbum del Año- Urban Tejano: *Prisoner of the Honky Tonk*, de Vida; Canción Crossover del Año: *Hey Boy*, de Las 3 Divas - grupo compuesto por Stephanie Montiel, Elida Reyna y Shelly Lares; Duó Vocal del Año: Jimmy González & KC Zavala - Jimmy González y Grupo Mazz; Grupo Mas Promisorio: La Fuerza; y Grupo Show del Año: Grupo Vida.

La Ceremonia de Premiación también contó con las presentaciones de Jay Pérez, Stephanie Montiel, Los Texmaniacs, AT Boyz, The Latin Breed con Adalberto, Gary Hobbs, DJ Kane, Jimmy González y Grupo Mazz, Rebecca Valadez, Avizzo con Augustine Ramirez, y Laurita.

Asimismo, el Premio Especial a la Trayectoria Destacada le fue otorgado a Royal Jesters, quienes dominaron el escenario musical de los años sesenta y

setenta con numerosas canciones populares pop y tejanas en inglés. El grupo estuvo representado por dos de sus miembros originales: Oscar Lawson y Henry Hernández.

"Recibir este premio es algo que apreciamos grandemente, pues valida nuestros años de trabajo, y representa a la música que amamos", expresó Oscar Lawson, quien añadió: "Para nosotros siempre fue un placer interpretar nuestras canciones ante nuestros admiradores, porque siempre nos gustó lo que hacíamos".

Según el Sr. Robert Arellano, Presidente de la Junta Directiva de TTMA, "La 26 Ceremonia Anual de Premiación fue uno de los programas más vibrantes y entretenidos. Fue un reflejo del increíble talento que existe actualmente en este género musical, y que vive intensamente en los corazones de los amantes de la Música Tejana de los Estados Unidos.

Los Premios de la Música Tejana siguen siendo el único foro mediante el cual se brinda reconocimiento a los artistas y la música tejana. Por esa razón, TTMA tiene el compromiso de

servir a la industria musical tejana", aseguró el alto funcionario. A principios de este año, se realizó una Sesión de Autógrafos de Artistas Tejanos en el Mall de las Águilas, a la cual asistieron cientos de amantes de la música tejana.

El fin de semana previo, se llevó a cabo en San Antonio la Feria de Admiradores de la Música Tejana 2006, en la cual participaron aproximadamente noventa grupos, y contó con la asistencia de cien mil fanáticos, cifra que rompió todos los récords anteriores de concurrencia.

Los patrocinadores de la Ceremonia de Premiación de este año fueron: The Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino, la Ciudad de Eagle Pass, Diet Pepsi, Ancira Automotive Group, IBC Bank, Mall de las Águilas, Gibson Guitars, Hermes Music, Hispanic PR Wire, Cinemark Theaters, La Prensa San Antonio, Telemundo San Antonio, y BNet Internet Radio. El evento se transmitió en vivo por BNet Internet Radio a miles de militares destacados en Irak, Afganistán, las Filipinas y otras naciones.

Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA) es una

Continúa página 18

La importación Continúa de página 1

debe presentar los siguientes documentos: Pasaporte Americano si ostenta doble ciudadanía, la tarjeta de residente o "Green Card", su Visa de Trabajo y/o Certificado de Naturalización (OBLIGATORIO), (Todo mexicano está obligado a entrar a México como mexicano).

DURACION: 180 Días (Con entradas y salidas múltiples o 180 días de corrido).

NOTA: Si su visa de trabajo es entre 8 y 10 meses, NO se le puede otorgar un permiso por ser una VISA Temporal.

C.- PARA LA ACREDITACION DE PROPIEDAD DE SU AUTO, usted debe presentar uno de los siguientes documentos:

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Para mayor información comuníquese a las oficinas de BANJERCITO ubicadas dentro del Consulado General de México en Denver, en el 5350 de Leetsdale Dr. Denver, CO 80246 y con: MARIA EVA RIVEROS al Tel. (303) 399-0586.

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lunes a viernes. NOTA: A partir del día 29 de marzo al 11 de abril del 2006, Usted podrá realizar el trámite de cancelación de permiso pendiente de regresar si tiene el vehiculo, de no tenerlo debe Usted traer un documento de comprobación que el vehiculo fue ingresado a los Estados Unidos. Después de esta fecha, Usted deberá regresar su permiso al cruzar la frontera en las oficinas de ADUANA.



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NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

Reforma Inmigratoria Integral

El Presidente Bush tiene una visión para la reforma inmigratoria integral. El Presidente respalda la reforma inmigratoria integral para proteger nuestra frontera, mejorar la aplicación de nuestras leyes y apoyar nuestros valores.

El Presidente también habló sobre su propuesta de un programa de trabajadores temporales que rechaza la amnistía, permite a los

trabajadores extranjeros hacer el trabajo que ningún estadounidense está dispuesto a hacer y reduce el contrabando y el crimen en la frontera.

- El patrimonio inmigratorio de Estados Unidos continúa moldeando nuestra sociedad. Nuestra nación está unida por la libertad y una convicción de que todas las personas son creadas con el mismo valor y dignidad. A través de las generaciones, los estadounidenses han mantenido esa visión al acoger a ciudadanos nuevos de todo el mundo. Los inmigrantes han ayudado a determinar nuestra identidad y sostener nuestra economía.

- El Presidente cree firmemente que Estados Unidos es más fuerte y más dinámico cuando acoge a ciudadanos nuevos. El Presidente ha instado al Congreso a aumentar el número de residencias que pueden llevar a la ciudadanía. Respalda que se aumente el número de visas a disposición de trabajadores nacidos en el extranjero en campos altamente especializados. El Presidente promulgó una ley que crea la nueva Oficina de Ciudadanía del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional para promover los conocimientos sobre los derechos y procedimientos de los ciudadanos; la Oficina de Ciudadanía creó una nueva guía oficial para los inmigrantes, y el gobierno está trabajando con los grupos

comunitarios y basados en la fe para ofrecer cursos de cívica e inglés. En julio del 2002, el Presidente firmó un Decreto Ejecutivo que hace que los miembros nacidos en el extranjero de nuestros servicios militares cumplan con los requisitos de la ciudadanía inmediatamente. Durante los últimos cuatro años, más de 20,000 hombres y mujeres uniformados se han hecho ciudadanos.

- Cada ciudadano nuevo promete para toda la vida respaldar los valores y las leyes de Estados Unidos. Los ciudadanos nuevos tienen una obligación de aprender las costumbres y los valores que definen a nuestra nación - incluidas la libertad y responsabilidad cívica, igualdad ante Dios, tolerancia hacia los demás y el inglés.

- El Presidente acoge un debate cortés y digno de la reforma inmigratoria integral. El Congreso ahora está considerando propuestas de reformas inmigratorias. La inmigración es un tema que suscita emociones fuertes, y debemos mantener nuestra perspectiva al realizar este debate.

Para cumplir con la promesa de Estados Unidos, debemos aplicar las leyes de Estados Unidos

La propuesta del Presidente Bush para la reforma inmigratoria integral incluye tres elementos críticos: proteger la frontera, reforzar la aplicación de las leyes en el interior del país y crear un programa de trabajadores temporales. Estos elementos dependen y se refuerzan unos de los otros. Juntos, le darán a Estados Unidos un sistema inmigratorio que atienda las necesidades del siglo XXI.

El primer elemento es

proteger nuestra frontera. Desde que el Presidente Bush asumió el mando, los fondos para la seguridad fronteriza han aumentado 66 por ciento. La Patrulla Fronteriza ha sido ampliada a más de 12,000 agentes, un aumento de más de 2,700 agentes, o casi 30 por ciento. El presupuesto para el año fiscal 2007 del Presidente financia 1,500 agentes nuevos adicionales. Se está dotando a los agentes de tecnología de vanguardia como cámaras de rayos infrarrojos, sensores avanzados de movimiento y aeronaves no tripuladas. Se está instalando infraestructura de protección, como barreras para vehículos y cercas en zonas urbanas. El personal, tecnología e infraestructura están siendo integrados de maneras más unificadas que nunca antes.

- La estrategia del gobierno para la seguridad fronteriza está logrando resultados. Desde que el Presidente Bush asumió el mando, los agentes han capturado y enviado a sus países a más de 6 millones de personas que ingresaban al país ilegalmente, entre ellas más de 400,000 con antecedentes penales. Las agencias de la ley federales, estatales, locales y tribales están trabajando juntas. Más de 600,000 inmigrantes ilegales fueron capturados por medio del Programa para el Control Fronterizo de Arizona (Arizona Border Control Initiative) el año pasado, un aumento de más de 50 por ciento con relación al año previo. Los hombres y mujeres de nuestra Patrulla Fronteriza han alcanzado muchos logros, pero tenemos mucho más trabajo por delante, y no estaremos satisfechos hasta que nuestros agentes tengan pleno control de nuestra

frontera.

- El gobierno está poniendo fin a la práctica de "capturar y soltar". El Presidente ha fijado un objetivo de dejar de "capturar y soltar" durante el próximo año. La mayoría de los inmigrantes ilegales de México pueden ser enviados de vuelta a ese país dentro de 24 horas. Los inmigrantes ilegales no mexicanos representan un desafío distinto. Durante varias décadas, las instalaciones de detención del gobierno no han tenido suficientes camas para los inmigrantes ilegales no mexicanos capturados en la frontera, por lo que eran liberados a la sociedad. Se les asignaba una fecha para comparecer ante los tribunales, pero prácticamente nadie se presentaba. El gobierno está poniendo fin a la práctica de "capturar y soltar" al aumentar en 12 por ciento el número de camas en las instalaciones de detención este año; el presupuesto para el año fiscal 2007 del Presidente propone aumentar esa cifra en 32 por ciento adicionales. El gobierno está aumentando el uso de la "deportación acelerada", lo que nos permite enviar a inmigrantes ilegales no mexicanos a sus países más rápidamente.

- Estamos alcanzando logros en este esfuerzo. El año pasado, tardaba un promedio de 66 días procesar a un inmigrante ilegal no mexicano. Ahora, el proceso está tardando solamente 21 días. Esto nos ha ayudado a dejar de "capturar y soltar" a inmigrantes ilegales de Brasil, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua capturados cruzando nuestra frontera del sudoeste. Desde el verano pasado, el número total de

Continúa página 7



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NEGOCIOS-BUSINESS

Single family mortgage revenue bond program

El Paso County's Finance Department announced that a rate of 5.99 percent has been set for the home loans in its upcoming single family mortgage revenue bond program.

The program also provides a four percent down payment assistance grant.

"We believe that this is an excellent rate. It will continue to provide a tremendous benefit to the low- and

moderate-income buyers, as well as first-time homebuyer families in El Paso County," said Nicola Sapp, El Paso County Financial Services Director.

In addition to loan qualification, there are additional guidelines borrowers must meet. First, under this program qualified borrowers for mortgage loans must be purchasing a home in El Paso County, including the

city of Colorado Springs. Also, borrowers cannot have owned a home in the past three years unless they are purchasing homes in targeted areas, which are neighborhoods where the county would like to increase homeownership.

For families of two or fewer, the maximum family income for targeted areas is \$78,428 and \$65,400 for non-targeted areas.

For families of three or more,

the maximum family income for targeted areas is \$91,560 and \$75,210 for non-targeted areas. The maximum acquisition cost for a single family residence is \$244,892 for targeted areas and \$299,313 for non-targeted areas.

Participating lenders may immediately begin closing loans under this program. Lenders taking part are Auer Colorado Online Mortgage, Classic Mortgage,

Countrywide Home Loans, First Community Mortgage, First Horizon Home Loans, First Mortgage Company, Metro Premier Mortgage, Peoples Mortgage, Premier Mortgage, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, and WR Starkey Mortgage.

Information is available from lenders or El Paso County at (719) 520-6481.

2005 Economic Development Leadership Awards

The Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation presented the 2005 Economic Development Leadership Awards at a lunch held on March 23rd at The Broadmoor Hotel.

Leadership Awards were given for: Community Economic Impact, Community Enhancement, Economic Impact, Outstanding Community Service, and Volunteer of the Year.

The 2005 Community Economic Impact Awards were presented to three companies who made substantial contributions to the Colorado Springs community in 2005.

The first award was presented to Barclays for their decision to locate in Colorado Springs, ultimately employing 450 employees over one year with a \$6.5 million investment. SkyWest Airlines was recognized for their expansion of 200 additional employees with a \$20 million investment.

Intel received an award for their 2005 commitment to invest \$190 million in the local facility.

Governor Bill Owens was recognized with a 2005 Leadership Award for his willingness to take a stand in support of Referendum C and for what he believed was in the best interests of the state. A Community Enhancement Award for the most significant positive impact on the community's economic development was presented to the Referenda C&D Citizens' Coalition.

Congressman Joel Hefley received a Leadership Award in appreciation for 30 years of outstanding service to the people of the Pikes Peak Region and for his role in supporting and expanding the region's military sector.

The 2005 Economic Impact Awards for the largest positive impact on the funding for the EDC program were presented to Colorado Springs Utilities, Nor'wood Development

Group, La Plata Investments, Classic Communities, Inc., and the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs.

The Downtown Partnership and Richard Skorman were honored with Outstanding Community Service Awards. Volunteer of the Year awards were presented to Ralph Braden, Phil Hagen and Jerry Heimlicher.

Steve Schneider, Chairman of the Board of The Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation, commented, "These awards recognize corporations and individuals whose achievements have positively impacted our local economy. Last year saw continued improvement in economic development with 2,460 new jobs assisted by EDC with the support of our investors and community partners."

The mission of The Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation, a private not-for-profit

corporation, is to sustain quality of life through a healthy economy.

It does so by providing economic development services that result in the current and future retention and attraction of primary jobs which provide for economic diversity, replacement of lost jobs and create job opportunities for those entering the workforce for the first time. For more information, check out the website at

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Inmigratoria Continúa de página 6

inmigrantes ilegales no mexicanos liberados a la sociedad ha sido reducido en más de un tercio. Queda más trabajo por delante, y el gobierno trabajará con el Congreso para acabar con las lagunas que dificultan el procesamiento de inmigrantes ilegales de ciertos países y continuará presionando a los gobiernos extranjeros como China para que reciban a sus ciudadanos que ingresan a nuestro país ilegalmente.

El segundo elemento es reforzar la aplicación de nuestras leyes en el interior del país. Desde que el Presidente Bush asumió el mando, los fondos para la aplicación de las leyes de inmigración han sido aumentados 42 por ciento. Estos recursos han ayudado a los agentes a llevar ante la justicia a contrabandistas, terroristas, pandilleros y traficantes de personas. Por

ejemplo, por medio de la Operación Escudo Comunitario (Operation Community Shield), los agentes federales han arrestado a casi 2,300 pandilleros que estaban en Estados Unidos ilegalmente, entre ellos criminales como los miembros de la pandilla "MS-13".

• Mejor aplicación interior requiere mejor aplicación en los centros de trabajo. El año pasado, el Presidente Bush promulgó una ley para aumentar en más del doble los recursos dedicados a la aplicación en los centros de trabajo. El mes entrante, el gobierno iniciará nuevos grupos de trabajos de aplicación de la ley en 11 ciudades para dismantlar las redes que producen documentos fraudulentos.

• El tercer elemento es crear un nuevo programa de trabajadores temporales que no

otorgaría una amnistía. Un programa de trabajadores temporales haría que el sistema fuese más sensato, ordenado y seguro al proporcionar una manera legal de poner a los trabajadores extranjeros dispuestos en contacto con los empleadores estadounidenses dispuestos para realizar los trabajos que ningún estadounidense está dispuesto a hacer. Los trabajadores podrían inscribirse para obtener una situación legal de manera temporal. Si los trabajadores optasen por solicitar la ciudadanía, tendrían que ponerse en cola. Este programa ayudaría a atender las necesidades de nuestra economía en crecimiento y permitiría que los trabajadores honrados mantuviesen a sus familias y a la vez respetasen la ley.

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NEGOCIOS-BUSINESS

2005 Tax Law changes to keep in mind

Every year Congress makes changes to the tax law that impacts many individuals' and businesses tax returns.

Below are some changes for taxpayers to consider before filing.

1. The tax filing deadline is Apr 17 since Apr 15 falls on a

Saturday. 2. The process for filing for an extension has been made very simple this year.

Both individuals and

partnerships can get an automatic six-

month extension to Oct 16 by using Form 4868. This form must be completed and filed by Apr 17.

3. Standard mileage rates were increased to accommodate the increasing cost of gasoline.

For business use of vehicles

from Jan 1 to Aug 31, 2005, the standard mileage rate is 40.5 cents per mile, compared with 37.5 cents a mile in 2004.

Beginning Sep 1, 2005, the rate was increased to 48.5 cents per mile.

4. The contribution limits for IRAs was increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and from \$3,500 to \$4,500 for those 50 and older, within certain income restrictions.

5. Tax breaks for people who helped Hurricane Katrina victims include an increase in mileage deduction – 29 cents per mile from Aug 25 through Sep 1 to Dec 31, 2005 – for vehicles used in volunteer work to help hurricane victims.

In addition, a \$500 exemption (\$2,000 household maximum) for taxpayers who housed hurricane victims for 60 continuous days.

6. There is a Colorado sales tax refund this year. Single filers qualify for a \$15 refund and joint filers qualify for a \$30 refund. "Many taxpayers miss out on deductions because they are unaware they qualify," said Judy Kaltenbacher, CPA, Stockman Kast Ryan & Co. "If taxpayers have any questions about how tax law changes will impact their tax returns, they should contact a tax professional or the IRS."

For more information about Stockman Kast Ryan & Co., visit <www.skrco.com>

School naming policy: "Schools at any level may be named for presidents; statesmen and heroes of national fame; governors; statesmen and heroes of state fame; national and local educators; community and civic leaders; historical people, places, events; geographical locations; near-by subdivisions; or adjacent streets."

I. The name that I would like to submit is: _____
 I would like this name considered for the new:
 Northeast elementary school Southeast elementary school

II. In one hundred words or less tell about this name. (Attach a separate piece of paper or submit online a brief description of the person and his/her accomplishments, a description of the location, event, or site and why it is significant.)

III. In one hundred words or less tell why you think this name should be used for the new elementary school. (Attach a separate piece of paper or submit online.)

IV. Your name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Submit nominations by mail to Elaine Naleski, Office of the Superintendent of Schools, School District 11, 1115 North El Paso, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 or online at www.d11.org. Call 520-2162 for more information.

Deadline for CollegeInvest's \$400,000 in Colorado scholarships approaching

The application deadline is approaching for \$400,000 worth of college scholarships offered to Colorado students by CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource.

Students have until Wed, Apr 5 to visit <www.collegeinvest.org/scholarship> and apply for one of 70 \$1,000 scholarships or 55 \$6,000

service-based college scholarships available to students who will be enrolled in a Colorado college, university or vocational school next year.

Unlike many other scholarship programs, there is no long application to fill out, no grade point average requirement and no need to spend hours honing the perfect essay.

Cont. on page 18



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DEPORTES

“It’s what you do.” VERB

The integrated VERB, “It’s what you do.” Youth Media Campaign (YMC), launched by the US Department for Health and Human Services (HHS) is a national, multicultural campaign intended to create a movement to promote positive physical and prosocial (organized group) activity and to displace unhealthy, risky behaviors among 9 - 13-year-olds, an age group known in marketing terms as “tweens.”

The campaign, which is branded “VERB. Ponte las Pilas.” in Spanish (means “get moving”), is being managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The YMC will use mass and interactive media, partnerships, and community events to help tweens increase their levels of positive behavior.

The campaign encourages tweens to find a verb (such as

run, paint, sing, dance, jump, skate, etc.) or several verbs that fit their personality and interests.

The campaign then encourages tweens to use “their verb” as a launch pad to better health and to make regular physical activity and community involvement a lifetime pursuit.

An important component of the campaign is to inform parents, youth leaders, and educators about the physical and mental health benefits of tween involvement in positive

activity. Adult outreach will include suggestions to encourage healthy habits among tweens such as increased physical and prosocial activities.

PHYSICAL AND PROSOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Kids who are engaged in positive goal-directed activities are less likely to engage in risky behaviors. The VERB campaign places an emphasis on moderate to vigorous physical and prosocial activity with clubs/groups, organizations, classes, teams, or family but not to the exclusion of individual physical activity or non-physical activities such as volunteering, performing arts, visual arts, and student government, to name a few.

Prosocial activity is defined as getting kids involved with their families and/or positive organizations or programs, such as school clubs and community or religious groups.

HISPANIC/ LATINO STATS AND FACTS

Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior

• Hispanic/ Latino youths, grades 5-8 are less active than Caucasian youths.

Self-efficacy, perception of health benefits, parental support, and access to community physical activity programs all factor into the levels of activity (The Bogalusa Heart Study, 1996).

• Children who watch more TV are less likely to engage in vigorous physical activity.

Children with a TV in their bedroom watch an additional 4.6 hours per week; more Hispanic/ Latino children (50 percent) have a TV in their bedrooms than Caucasian children (20 percent) (Denison, 2002).

Barriers to Physical Activity

• Many new immigrant Hispanic/ Latino parents are hesitant to enroll children in organized activities because they don’t know the group leaders and are therefore concerned about safety, and they have limited resources to pay for programs and equipment (GarciaLKS 360 focus groups, 2002).

• Familial and gender-based boundaries, as well as language barriers, also pose a great threat to the Hispanic/ Latino population’s participation in activities (GarciaLKS 360 focus groups, 2002).

Pueblo Chicano Democratic Caucus Golf Tournament

The Chicano Democratic Caucus of Pueblo will host a fundraising event at the Hollydot Golf Course on Sat, Jun 24, at 1 pm in Colorado City, CO. Individual players are welcomed and once registered, will be placed on a team. The cost for the tournament will be \$75 per player and includes green fee, cart, lunch and prizes will be awarded after the tournament:

\$400, 1st place; \$300, 2nd place; \$200 “Hat” Draw. Mulligans will be sold and may be used on any shot, but may not be used on the prize holes. Each individual can have up to 2 Mulligans, 1 on the front nine and 1 on the back nine.

All players should dress appropriately. Only spikeless golf shoes may be worn on the course. Only two players per cart.

Hole sponsors are being solicited for \$100. If you or your company would like to sponsor a hole it would be greatly appreciated. Your business name will be on a sign at the Hole you decide to sponsor.

Exclusive sponsorships of \$500 are also being accepted. For more info contact John B. Cordova at (719) 564-3463 or Sylvia Marez-Fransua at (719) 547-3829.

Ritchie named RMAC pitcher of the week

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs pitcher Amanda Ritchie was named the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference pitcher of the week, the conference announced Thursday.

Ritchie started two games for the Mountain Lions, going 14 innings, giving up just three runs while striking out 16 batters against Montana State-Billings on March 18-19.

The senior from Machesney Park, IL, improved her season record to 8-1 with 69 strikeouts and only 13 walks in 56 innings

pitched. It was the second time this season that Ritchie was named RMAC pitcher of the week, having previously earned the honor for the week of Feb 20-26. UCCS, which is off to a school-best 16-1 start, has now earned five player or pitcher of the week awards this season. Besides Ritchie’s two awards, freshman Angie Heronema has also been named pitcher of the week while senior outfielders Brittni Carlson and Janine Ota have each been named player of the week.

Ritchie became the third Mountain Lion to be honored by the RMAC twice in the same season. Amber Colton was named pitcher of the week twice in 2005, while Crystal Krebs was tabbed player of the week twice in both 2005 and 2004.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Irish dancers continue to celebrate!

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After performing all over town this Saint Patrick's Day, Saint Brendan's Irish Dancers would like to dance for you! They are presenting Mountain Dance! - a Recital of Irish Dance at the Benet Hill Monastery at 2555 N. Chelton Rd on **Sat, Apr 8th at 7 pm.**

Over 100 dancers from Saint Brendan's School of Irish Dance will perform traditional and contemporary Irish dance. Admission for this fine cultural event is \$5 per person all ages.

Saint Brendan's Irish Dance Foundation's goal is to

promote Traditional Irish Dance while preserving Irish Culture. Bring your entire group to this family friendly environment which boasts Irish music, beautiful costumes, intricate dance steps, and more. Dancers range in age from as young as 4 years old to those well over 40 years old. The show exhibits traditional dance forms such as reels, jigs, hard shoe hornpipes and treble jigs, and, of course, team dancing known as ceili (pronounced kay-lee). Don't miss this opportunity to have a family outing and continue your celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

For further info or for tickets, www.stbrendansschool.org

Pre-Dancers prepare for upcoming recital at OJC



Dancers enrolled in the OJC Dance Pre-Dance class include: (Front row l-r): Chloe Craig, Nevaeh Fiser, Reanna Lucero, Shakira Gallegos, and Sophia Perry. (Second row l-r): Anna Berry, Jennisa Peteque, Addison Aragon, Dawn Luttrell, Cassidee Rodriguez, and Amanda Rees. (Back row l-r): Alyssa Melendez, Jacee Espinoza, Espy Salas, Cydney Romero, Sara Noll, and Bianca Good. Not pictured: Abby Guddat, Elly Ludwig, Lexington Summers

Members of the OJC Dance Pre-Dance class have been working on their dances that will be featured in the OJC Dance spring recital. The class is taught by instructor Darrin Nielsen and introduces young dancers to Ballet, Tap and Tumbling.

Each week the class rotates between the different types of dance, allowing the young

dancers to explore three types of movement in each class.

According to Jennifer Jackson, OJC Dance director, the "Grow with OJC Dance" program will present a spring recital featuring all levels of dancers, from the beginning 2-3 year-old Tot Trot class to teenagers enrolled in the advanced levels of dance.

"It is exciting to see children

grow and learn in our program. Many of the dancers who are now in our advanced classes started with us at very young ages," said Jackson.

The OJC Dance spring recital "A Fantasy Spectacular" will be presented at the Ed Stafford Theater at the OJC Humanities Center June 2 and 3.

For more information call (719) 384-6812.

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Cordova Jr and Medina win big in Rocky Ford

by David Finger (FightNews)

In an exciting card that is sure to establish Zef Ramirez as the premier boxing promoter here in the state of Colorado, the tiny town of Rocky Ford Colorado showed impressive support for its favorite sons Marvin Cordova and David Medina. Close to one thousand people showed up to witness Cordova, 146, absolutely destroy trial horse Sergio Vela, 147, inside of one round. Cordova was expected to dominate Vela, who was nearly twenty years removed from his professional debut and nearly eleven years removed from his last victory.

But fans were nonetheless impressed at how dominant Marvin was. It appeared that Marvin threw about fifty punches in the fight and landed every single one of them. Vela showed grit, despite his utter lack of defense, but ultimately it proved irrelevant as Marvin dropped him twice before the bout was mercifully stopped at 1:36 of the opening round. With the win Marvin who is very close to

establishing himself as the best prospect in the state, improves to 9-0 (6) while Vela, who might want to consider calling it a career, drops to 12-9-2 (9).

In the co-main event another local boy, David Medina, 165, won a lopsided decision over surprisingly tough Khalif Shabazz, 165. Shabazz had been in the ring with such legends as former middleweight champion BernPIPing a short night. However, Shabazz proved to all that heart is the last thing that a fighter loses, brawling willingly with his younger foe. After trading bombs with David for three rounds Shabazz was dropped in the closing seconds of the fourth round by a picture perfect uppercut that appeared to knock him into La Junta, but he gamely rose and survived the round. He was quickly dropped again in the fifth. All three judges (Tyrone Short, Novar Garcia, and Jeanne McEvoy) had the fight scored 60-52 for David, who improved to 8-1(5). Shabazz

drops to 11-18 (7).

In a crowd pleasing brawl Tefo Seetso, 152, and Julio Lanzas, 153, threw bombs for the better part of six rounds. There were no knockdowns but also was no shortage of fireworks. After six rounds Judge Novar Garcia scored it 58-56 but he was overruled by judges Tyrone Short and Jeanne McEvoy who scored the fight 57-57. Seetso now sees his record stand at 3-0-1 (0) while Lanzas's record goes to 4-7-3 (1).

In the opening fight of the evening debuting local boy Zack Quezada, 162, won a decision over trial horse Tyree Tidwell, 156. Tidwell drops to 1-11 (1) with the loss. The card was one of the most electric that has hit Colorado is some time and the fans of Rocky Ford showed that they may very well be the best in the state, coming out in droves from there local fighters.

Rumor has it that Zef will be making regular stops to Rocky Ford, a good idea based on the size of the crowd.

ENTERTAINMENT

26th Annual Tejano Music Awards show recognizes the Best in Tejano Music

Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA), producers of the annual Tejano Music Awards, recently held the 26th Annual Tejano Music Awards on Sat, Mar 18 at the Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino in Eagle Pass, TX.

A Red Carpet Reception featuring numerous Tejano Artists and Bands initiated the evening's festivities. This year's Tejano Music Awards were again hosted by Tejano music sensation and Eagle Pass native, Gary Hobbs. Other co-hosts included radio celebrities, Stephanie Lynn and Patty Lopez.

Winners of the various Awards included, Jimmy Gonzalez y Grupo Mazz for Song of the Year *Corazon De Fierro*, Male Vocalist of the Year, Jay Perez; Female Vocalist of the Year, Shelly Lares; Male Entertainer of the Year, Jay Perez; Female Entertainer of the Year, Shelly Lares; Album of the Year - Tejano, *Mejor Que Nunca*, Jimmy Gonzalez y Grupo Mazz; Album of the Year - Conjunto Traditional, *El Zurdo de Oro*, Michael Salgado; Album of the Year - Conjunto

Progressive, *Milagro*, La Tropa F; Album of the Year - Urban Tejano, *Prisoner of the Honky Tonk*, Vida; Crossover Song of the Year, *Hey Boy*, Las 3 Divas - comprised of Stephanie Montiel, Elida Reyna and Shelly Lares; Vocal Duo of the Year - Jimmy Gonzalez & KC Zavala - Jimmy Gonzalez y Grupo Mazz; Most Promising Band, La Fuerza and Show band of the Year, GrupoVida.

Awards Show performers included Jay Perez, Stephanie Montiel, Los Texmaniacs, AT Boyz, The Latin Breed featuring Adalberto, Gary Hobbs, DJ Kane, Jimmy Gonzalez y Grupo Mazz, Rebecca Valadez, Avizzo with Augustine Ramirez and Laurita.

The special Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to the Royal Jesters. The Royal Jesters dominated the 1960's and 1970's with numerous English language pop and Tejano hits. The group was represented by two of its original members, Oscar Lawson and Henry Hernandez. Per Oscar Lawson, "Receiving this award is something we highly cherish

as it validates our years of work and represents the music that we love." Added Mr. Lawson, "It was always our pleasure to perform in front of our fans because we always enjoyed what we were doing."

According to Mr. Robert Arellano, Chairman of TTMA, "The 26th Annual Awards Show was one of the most exciting and entertaining shows. It was a reflection of the incredible talent that exists today in this music genre and that lives strongly in the hearts of Tejano Music lovers everywhere throughout the United States." Added Arellano, "The Tejano Music Awards continue to serve as the only forum by which Tejano artists and the music are recognized and is why TTMA is committed to serving the Tejano music industry." Earlier that day, a Tejano Artist Autograph session was held at Mall de las Aguilas and was attended by hundreds of Tejano fans.

The 2006 Tejano Music Awards Fan Fair was held the previous weekend in San Antonio and played host to over ninety bands on five stages attended by over one-hundred thousand fans which broke all previous attendance records. Sponsors for this year's Awards events included The Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino, The City of Eagle Pass, Diet Pepsi, Ancira Automotive Group, IBC Bank, Mall de las

Aguilas, Gibson Guitars, Hermes Music, Hispanic PR Wire, Cinemark Theaters, La Prensa San Antonio, Telemundo San Antonio, and BNet Internet Radio.

The Awards were broadcast live via BNet Internet Radio to thousands of military personnel serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Philippines and other countries around the world.

Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA) is a non-profit organization whose

purpose is to promote professional excellence; a better understanding and greater appreciation for Tejano music; and to provide a public forum for songwriters, performers and musicians in order to recognize their artistic efforts and achievements through the annual Tejano Music Awards and related events.

They can be reached at (210) 222-8862 or via their website at <http://www.tejanomusicawards.com>

Library district to improve computer and internet access for El Paso County

Pikes Peak Library District has received a \$51,000 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to upgrade computers previously granted to the library by the foundation. The grant will allow the library district to sustain free, high quality access to computers and the Internet for library patrons.

The grant money will be distributed over three years at various PPLD locations. This year, the money will be used for new computers at the Cheyenne Mountain, Ruth Holley, and Sand Creek branches.

Millions of Americans rely on library computers to do research for school or work, take distance-learning classes, find health information, communicate with family and friends, and keep up with current events. In communities with lower incomes, libraries often provide the only Internet access.

"Computer and Internet access has become one of the key services that our patrons demand most," said Carolyn Coulter, PPLD's information technology officer. "It is critical that we have the resources necessary to sustain this service so that our libraries can help El Paso County citizens access the information they need to live engaged, successful lives." The grant is part of the foundation's US Library Program, which supports the efforts of public libraries to offer free access to computers, the Internet, and digital information in US communities. "Libraries deserve to have the necessary resources to provide library patrons with efficient technology," said Martha Choe, director of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Libraries Program.

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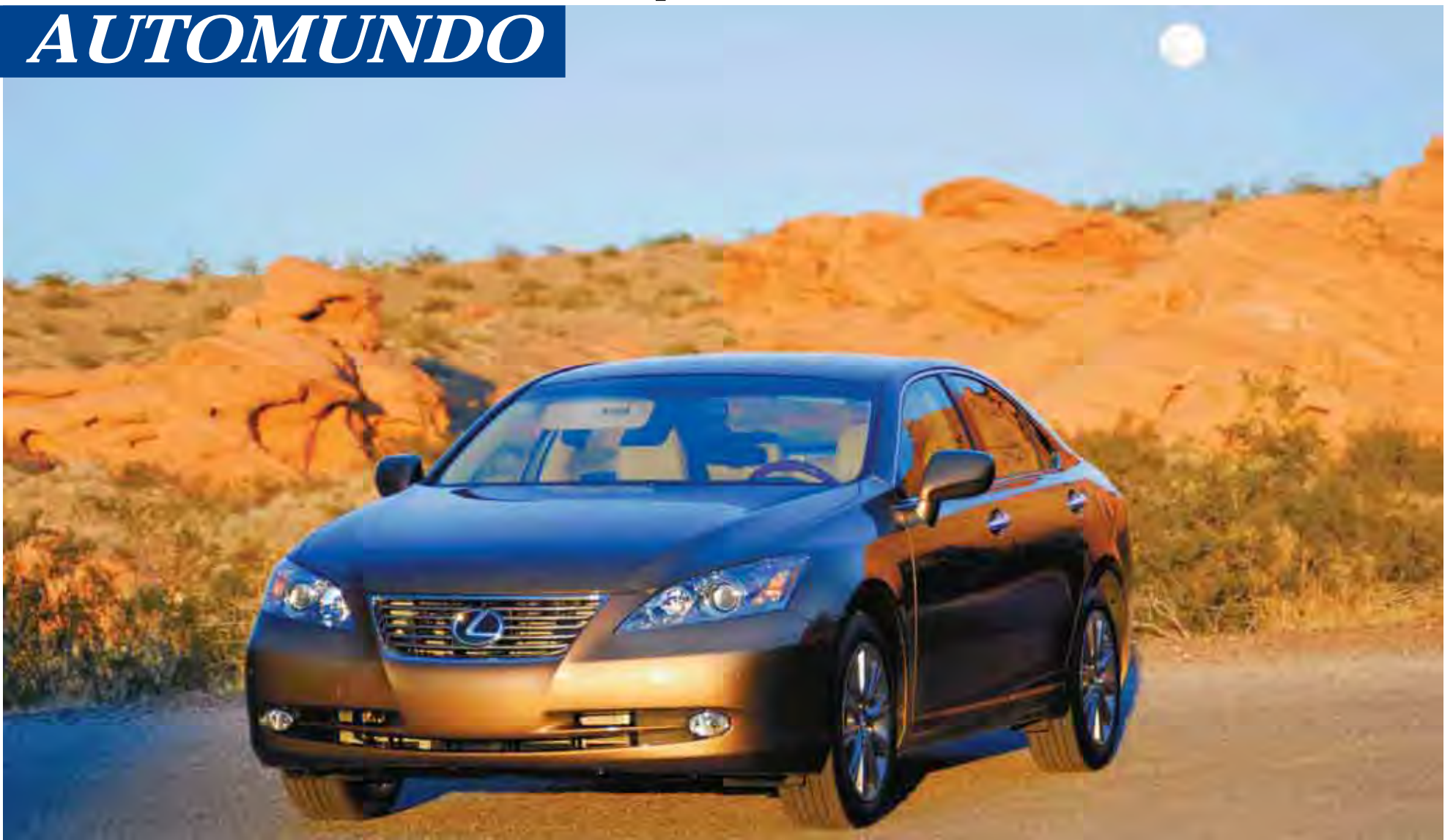
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AUTOMUNDO



All-New Fifth Generation 2007 Lexus ES Sedan Redefines Entry Luxury Segment

The all-new fifth generation, completely redesigned, 2007 ES 350 luxury sedan substantially redefines the levels of comfort, safety, performance and

craftsmanship in the entry-luxury sedan segment. What's more, with its refined L-finesse design theme, the new ES350 solidifies its position as the best selling Lexus sedan.

faster, more powerful and quieter than the vehicle that redefined the prestige luxury segment in the early 1990s."

2007 ES Marks Complete Redesign of All Lexus Sedans

"We believe the new ES 350 is better in virtually every way than our original LS flagship sedan," said Lexus Group Vice President and General Manager Bob Carter. "It's

With its sophisticated restyling, the ES marks the final Lexus sedan to receive a complete redesign emphasizing a more sculptural

Cont. on page 13

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AUTOMUNDO



2007 Lexus ES Sedan Cont. from page 12

direction, one that now reveals a family resemblance across the entire passenger car lineup. With an over two-inch longer wheelbase and more than an inch wider track, the ES has a more confident stance. A long hood, pulled-back cabin and short rear deck are characteristic of the new L-finesse design theme, recalling classic sports car proportions with a contemporary look unique to all new-generation Lexus sedans.

The creation of perceived space in the passenger compartment is central to the new Lexus design direction. Without increasing the overall exterior length, the longer ES wheelbase enabled engineers to increase rear legroom while maintaining the already roomy driver and front passenger compartment.

The interior of the new ES introduces a new level of craftsmanship as well. Premium wood, polished metal and leather accents provide a level of luxury never before seen in the entry luxury segment. Everything inside the ES is designed and styled to

create a comfortable and harmonious interaction, with touch points that convey quality and refinement. The roomy, luxurious cabin is complemented by intelligently designed displays and controls to make driving both simple and pleasurable. Bright, clear



Optitron gauges combined with smartly integrated metallic and authentic brown walnut wood trim help create a luxurious, elegant ambience. **Powerful Technology for New V6**

The ES 350's 3.5-liter V6 engine delivers 272 horsepower and 254 lb.-ft. of torque, resulting in an estimated zero-to-60 mph time of 6.8 seconds, substantially quicker than the model it replaces. The highly sophisticated engine uses electronically controlled

sequential fuel injection, which optimizes the fuel mixture and creates a precise burn, higher output and lower emissions to aid drivability. The result is substantial improvements in engine efficiency with increased power and improved fuel economy.

The engine also benefits from reduced internal friction via chain-driven camshafts and roller-rocker arms that serve to increase efficiency.

Aluminum heads and cylinder blocks feature special cast-in "spiny" cylinder liners to improve liner stability and cooling by increasing surface contact area with the cylinder head.

The new ES comes standard with dual exhaust, which reduces exhaust backpressure at high rpm. Extensive use of stainless steel in the exhaust system minimizes weight and improves durability.

The integration of these technologies contributes to segment-leading efficiency with the ES 350 obtaining a manufacturer-estimated combined fuel consumption of 25 mpg (21 mpg city/30 mpg highway) and is expected to be



certified as an Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle II (ULEV II). **Six-Speed Transmission**

The front-wheel drive ES 350 features a six-speed automatic Electronically Controlled Transmission with intelligence (ECT-i) and sequential shift. Gear ratios are carefully matched to the engine horsepower and torque characteristics. This intelligent transmission is designed to provide very smooth yet responsive shifts for improved drivability.

New Intelligent Luxury

In addition to a new look and feel, the new ES also improves upon the increasingly complex nature of automotive technology. The ES offers numerous standard features such as SmartAccess keyless entry and new push-to-start

ignition system that allows drivers to keep the access fob in their pocket or purse.

Lexus craftsmanship and renowned attention to detail provide true luxury by design. Dual-zone automatic climate control and 10-way power front seats, with available memory, highlight the front cabin.

The supportive standard cloth seats are also available in leather and extra-soft upgraded perforated leather for additional comfort.

The three-spoke steering wheel features easy-to-use controls for the audio system, trip computer and multi-information display in the speedometer. It also adds a voice control switch for the available Bluetooth navigation and features.



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SALUD

Bad apple: the risks of stress for people prone to abdominal fat retention

by Dr. Caroline Cederquist

Back in the bad old hunter-gatherer days, the human species got a lot of use out of the hormone cortisol. That's

the stress hormone activated during the fight-or-flight response, causing our blood pressure to rise and heart rate to increase.

Throw in a little adrenalin and these useful, even essential, physical adjustments made it possible for our forebears to do things like battle marauding tigers on a moment's notice, or scoop up their offspring and flee from raging wildfire.

But in the modern world, there's little need to either fight or flee, yet the cortisol release remains functional in the species, only now, it's activated in response to the stressors of modern society—bad traffic, malfunctioning machinery, domestic discord—rather than natural perils or challenges to survival.

There are some real downsides to this artifact of our rugged past. Research indicates that cortisol is also associated with abdominal fat production. And without the physical release demanded by, say, wrangling an enraged wildebeest, cortisol seems to end up accelerating abdominal fat production.

For virtually anyone, this can lead to higher cholesterol levels, blood sugar levels and elevated blood pressure, all factors for heart disease. But people who are genetically prone to holding their fat stores around the middle are especially susceptible, which makes this a bigger concern for these apple-shaped people than it is for those pear-shaped individuals who tend to carry their extra on the hips and thighs.

And there is other research that shows that abdominal fat retention—distinct from lower-body fat retention—causes specific, recognizable chemical changes in the body that can ultimately lead to lowered metabolism and symptomatic cravings for sweets.

In this way, abdominal fat retention can lead to ever more



Caroline J. Cederquist, MD

weight gain, putting overweight people with a predisposition to the apple shape at a much elevated risk for disease. Add a stressful lifestyle and excess cortisol production to those factors, and you have a time-tested recipe for a heart attack.

The majority of the patients I see have abdominal weight issues, especially the hurried executives, single parents, and those caring for an elderly, dependent parent, and there are many in that category here in Southwest Florida. While we're not likely to be protecting our parents from wild animals anymore, there are so many stresses associated with that care-taker role, that people serving that function are likely to become all too familiar with their cortisol-induced symptoms, including that central weight gain.

Even so, the array of risk factors generated by abdominal fat retention can often be very successfully mitigated solely with a dietary approach.

For instance, many people with abdominal fat retention benefit from limiting foods that aggravate the hormonal imbalances present, things like highly processed carbohydrates, including pastries, cookies, white breads, chips and snack foods, candies and sweetened beverages.

Also, by ensuring that the body's nutritional needs are met in small meals throughout the day, very quick progress can often be made in reducing abdominal fat, and with it, blood sugars, cholesterol, and disease risk.

That can be a real challenge for people entrenched in common habits of the high-stress lifestyle, like skipping meals all day and eating late in

the evening.

People with rushed, on-the-go schedules are often resistant to this simple, apparently common-sense change. Their usual routine may seem necessary, or even desirable, to the efficiency minded go-getter.

But the big picture has to be taken into consideration; a short-term payoff in minutes is no bargain when compared to the long-term cost in health. And these people do find that when they make the necessary adjustments, the stress-gain cycle can usually be broken in fairly short order.

But if dietary and lifestyle intervention are not sufficient, behavioral therapy and medications may be necessary. Often people develop a high-stress lifestyle that feeds on itself, as the anxiety of one stressful obligation provides the energy to get through the strain of the next.

Sometimes a more focused behavioral approach is necessary to help people see how they are unconsciously stimulating their own unhealthy stress responses, but usually, once a person understands the distinct physical dangers of those habits, they're willing to make conscious choices to change them.

That's a win all the way around. Learning simple coping mechanisms can reduce the lifestyle stress quotient, which in turn supports the initial weight loss necessary to cut back the stress-induced weight gains.

That doesn't mean it's easy. But for people with the greatest risk factors and the highest propensity for stress and weight gain, the choices are to commit to that sort of comprehensive improvement, or else get back to ancestral basics, and take up running from tigers.

THROUGH THICK & THIN:

If you're prone to abdominal fat retention, think about reducing stress in your life, and make a point to eat a more scheduled diet, with small intakes of protein throughout the day. While these are good ideas for just about anyone, people prone to cortisol-induced fat production need to be more vigilant than most in guarding against the dangers of both stress and weight gain.

GEMS—A program to guide young girls' eating

Studies at the Children's Nutrition Research Center (CNRC) in Houston, TX, show a link between preteen girls' vegetable consumption and their weight.

The CNRC is operated by the

Baylor College of Medicine in cooperation with Texas Children's Hospital. The center is funded by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the US Department of Agriculture's

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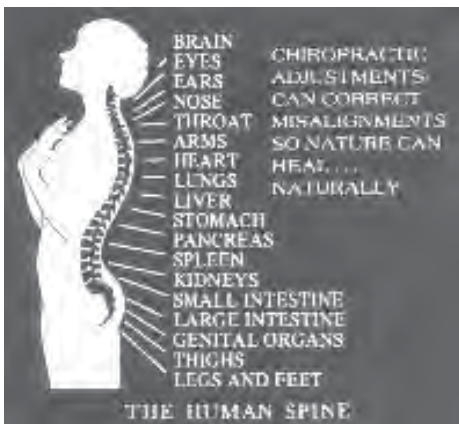
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Genetic variations affect obesity-related risks

Some folks have dreamed of the day doctors would discover a "fat gene" responsible for the stubborn extra weight that just won't seem to come off. Such a gene would be a lifesaver during times of famine. But in a land of plenty, those with the same gene would find a bounty of meals to be a landmine of health risks.

Several scientists at the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging (HNRC) at Tufts University in Boston, MA, have been studying variations of a specific gene that influences obesity and its related disease risks.

Fifteen years ago, physician Andrew Greenberg was involved in the original discovery of an important protein within fat cells that controls the breakdown of fat droplets to provide energy. Greenberg, then a postdoctoral fellow working under federal researcher Constantine Londos, was the first author on the first paper describing the protein, called "perilipin."

For the past 12 years, Greenberg has been studying the perilipin gene at HNRC, where he is director of the Obesity and Metabolism Laboratory.

Greenberg has been collaborating with HNRC nutrigenomics expert José Ordoñas and colleagues to examine the effects of the perilipin gene on body weight, obesity, and related disease risks. Ordoñas heads HNRC's Nutrition and Genomics Laboratory.

New Findings About the Perilipin Gene

Within a species, there are normal variations in particular genes. For example, different people have different eye colors. Scientists call these variations "inherited alleles."

The scientists studied four variations of the perilipin gene—which is located on a chromosome associated with obesity and type 2 diabetes—

GEMS

Cont. from page 14

principal scientific research agency.

The CNRC was one of four US field centers involved in developing and pilot-testing an innovative obesity-prevention program known as GEMS, for "Girls' Health-Enrichment Multisite Studies."

The story is available online at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/mar06/weight0306.htm>

and found two variations that indeed influence body weight in white women.

The perilipin gene determines how much perilipin protein is produced. The protein plays an extremely significant role in whether fat is stored or released for use as energy. The more perilipin protein is produced, the more fat is stored.

Ordoñas determined which of the four common variations of the perilipin gene was carried by each of 734 white study participants. The 373 men and 361 women studied were staying in a residential dietary lifestyle intervention program in California. He then compared the holders of the genetic variants to measurements of their body fat percentage and waist circumference.

Women with two specific variants (AG and AT) tended to have a higher percentage of body fat and greater waist circumference than women with the other two possible variants (TC and GA). The same pattern was not found in men, likely because of hormonal differences.

"We found that these inherited alleles are a significant marker of obesity in women," says Ordoñas. The

study was published in Obesity Research.

A Protective Effect

In another study, Greenberg and collaborators with the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore analyzed the same four perilipin-gene variations among 479 individuals enrolled in the Amish Family Diabetes Study. The investigators compared the frequency of each variant among 137 participants who had type 2 diabetes and 342 who had normal glucose tolerance.

The team found that variants TC and GA—interestingly the two opposite those linked with

hoarding fat in the above study—helped protect their carriers from developing diabetes regardless of their body weight.

"The gene variant somehow protects these individuals in the Amish population against diabetes and obesity," says Greenberg. The results were presented at the 2005 meeting of the American Diabetes Association.

Studies on the perilipin gene—several of which have already been published by HNRC authors—are important first steps in uncovering significant genetic determinants for obesity and type 2 diabetes risk. Learning

more about these genetic variations could eventually help create new—perhaps personalized—treatments for obesity and diabetes.—By Rosalie Marion Bliss, Agricultural Research Service Information Staff.

This research is part of Human Nutrition, an ARS National Program (#107) described on the World Wide Web at www.nps.ars.usda.gov

To reach scientists mentioned in this article, contact Rosalie Marion Bliss, USDA-ARS Information Staff, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705-5129; phone (301) 504-4318, fax (301) 504-1486.



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Infant/Child CPR

Tuesdays, April 4, 11, 18 or 25
Saturdays, April 1 or 15

Baby Care Class

Wednesdays, April 5 & 12
Thursdays, April 20 & 27

Tours

Thursdays, April 6, 13, 20 or 27
Sundays, April 2 or 23

Fathers – Now What?

Thursday, April 6

Prepared Childbirth Classes

Four-week sessions:

Fridays, April 7 – 28

Five-week sessions:

Thursdays, April 6 – May 4

Weekend sessions:

Saturdays, April 1 & 8, A.M.
Saturdays, April 15 & 22, P.M.
Sundays, April 2 & 9, P.M.

Weekend express:

Saturday, April 22 & Sunday, April 23

Using Car Seats: Protecting Your Child

Friday, April 7

Prematurity Prevention Class

Monday, April 17

Sibling Class

For ages 3 and 4 years old:

Tuesday, April 18

For ages 5 to 9 years old:

Tuesday, April 25

Early Pregnancy Class

Wednesday, April 19

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Wednesdays, April 19 & 26

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COMMUNITY NEWS

El Día de César Chávez se Celebra a lo Largo de Estados Unidos

El día 31 de marzo cumpleaños del legendario líder trabajador agrícola, el desaparecido, César Chavez se celebra como un día feriado oficial en ocho estados (Arizona, California, Colorado, Michigan, Nuevo México, Texas, Utah y Wisconsin), y en docenas de ciudades, condados, comunidades y escuelas a lo largo de Estados Unidos esta semana.



Música Tejana

Continúa de página 5

organización sin fines de lucro, cuyo propósito es la promoción de la excelencia profesional; una mejor comprensión y aprecio por la música tejana; así como proporcionar un foro público para compositores, intérpretes y músicos, a fin de dar un reconocimiento a sus esfuerzos y logros artísticos cada año con los Premios de la Música Tejana y eventos relacionados. Para más información, llame al teléfono 210-222-8862 o visite su sitio Web <<http://www.tejanomusicawards.com>>

CollegeInvest's

Continúa de página 8

"This scholarship program is part of CollegeInvest's ongoing efforts to make higher education a financial reality for all Coloradans," said Lynn Tindall, chief operating officer for CollegeInvest student loans. "In its fourth year, the CollegeInvest scholarship program is just one of many ways that we continue to help Colorado students pay for college."

The \$1,000 scholarships, known as the CollegeInvest Opportunity Scholarships, will be awarded to 70 randomly drawn students.

CollegeInvest also is offering students the opportunity to win one of 55 CollegeInvest Service Scholarships valued at \$6,000 each. In order to receive the award, students must attend a Colorado higher education institute as an undergraduate in the fall of 2006 and 2007, demonstrate financial need, and agree to perform at least 40 hours of community service helping young people in an educational setting.

CollegeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. As such, it strives to help Colorado families break down the financial barriers to college. It focuses on providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans to take education dollars as far as they can go. For more information, visit <www.collegeinvest.org> or call 1-800-COLLEGE.



TRIBUNAL DE DISTRITO DE ESTADOS UNIDOS PARA EL DISTRITO SUR DE NUEVA YORK
Causa No. 00-CIV-8330 – Jones, et al. v. Ford Motor Credit Company

AVISO DE ARREGLO PROPUESTO PARA DEMANDA DE GRUPO

A: TODOS LOS CONSUMIDORES NEGROS Y/O HISPANOS que han hecho un contrato a plazos que fue o que será cedido a Ford Motor Credit Company ("Ford Credit") durante el período del 1 de enero de 1990 hasta hoy.

¿Por qué es importante este aviso? Si usted tuvo una cuenta con Ford Credit relacionada con la compra de un vehículo de motor mediante un contrato de venta al por menor a plazos, en algún momento entre el 1 de enero de 1990 y hoy, usted podría ser un miembro de una demanda de grupo certificada en la que se ha alcanzado un Arreglo propuesto. La demanda alega que Ford Credit tiene una política o una práctica por la que los negros y los hispanos pagan más cargos de financiación que los clientes blancos en una situación similar, infringiendo la Ley de Igualdad de Oportunidades en la Concesión de Crédito (Equal Credit Opportunity Act—"ECOA"). Ford Credit niega tener tal práctica o política, niega que los negros y los hispanos paguen más por dicha financiación que los clientes blancos en situación similar, y niega que alguna de sus prácticas o políticas infrinja la ECOA. Ford Credit sostiene, por el contrario, que exige que todos sus empleados, sus prácticas y sus políticas cumplan con todas las leyes, incluyendo la ECOA, y que prohíbe discriminación basada en nacionalidad de origen, estado civil, religión, sexo, color, raza, edad (siempre y cuando el solicitante tenga capacidad para hacer contratos), recibo de beneficios de la asistencia pública, o el ejercicio, de buena fe, de un derecho bajo la Ley de Protección del Crédito del Consumidor. Ford Credit ha convenido en llegar a un arreglo para el litigio como un compromiso para evitar el tiempo, el gasto y la incertidumbre relacionada con el litigio. Las palabras escritas en este Aviso con la letra inicial en mayúscula están definidas en el Convenio de Arreglo.

Este es solamente un aviso resumido. Usted puede conectarse en www.ECOA-settlement.com para revisar una copia del Convenio de Arreglo y todos los documentos presentados al tribunal relacionados con la aprobación preliminar, que contienen información adicional sobre el Arreglo.

El Arreglo: Si el Arreglo es aprobado por el Tribunal, Ford Credit ha convenido en lo siguiente:
(i) **Límite en la diferencia entre la Tasa de Compra y la Tasa Porcentual Anual (TPA):** Ford Credit no adquirirá ni aceptará para cesión ningún Contrato de ninguna agencia de automóviles (a) con un plazo de 60 meses o menos si la TPA es superior al 2.5% por encima de la Tasa de Compra; (b) con un plazo superior a 60 meses hasta, e incluyendo, 72 meses si la TPA es mayor de 2% por encima de la Tasa de Compra; y (c) con un plazo igual a o mayor de 73 meses si la TPA es mayor de 1.5% por encima de la Tasa de Compra;
(ii) **Declaración en el Contrato:** Ford Credit incluirá una declaración en Contratos producidos y distribuidos por Ford Credit informando a los compradores de vehículos de que la TPA puede ser negociable y que la agencia vendedora podrá ceder el Contrato y retener su derecho a recibir una parte del cargo por financiación;
(iii) **Iniciativa de Marketing de Diversidad:** Ford Credit lanzará una Iniciativa de Marketing de Diversidad que comprenderá 2 millones en ofertas de crédito en firme, preprobadas, a consumidores negros e hispanos a lo largo de los próximos tres años con respecto a financiación de vehículos en agencias Ford, Lincoln o Mercury participantes;
(iv) **Educación y Ayuda al Consumidor:** Ford Credit aportará \$2 millones a lo largo de los próximos tres años para proveer fondos para ciertas iniciativas de educación y ayuda al consumidor respecto a financiación de crédito;
(v) **Honorarios y Costos:** Ford Credit pagará un total de \$125,000 a los Representantes del Grupo a cambio de un descargo de cualquier y toda demanda. Ford Credit pagará los honorarios de los abogados asesores jurídicos de los demandantes y los gastos relacionados con el litigio sumas a ser aprobadas por el Tribunal, siempre y cuando tales sumas no sean superiores a \$7.75 millones y \$400,000 respectivamente.

Puesto que este Arreglo solamente resuelve una demanda de desagravio declaratorio y por mandato judicial, no se pagarán daños y perjuicios compensatorios a los Miembros del Grupo. Ustedes estarán liberando de responsabilidad por todas las demandas de desagravio equitativo, declaratorio y por mandato judicial que se hayan entablado, o pudieran haberse entablado en este litigio bajo la ECOA o cualquier otro estatuto federal o estatal o bajo cualquier teoría de derecho consuetudinario que se origine en las prácticas de negocios impugnadas en el litigio, que surgieron o surjan en o antes de la Fecha de Entrada en Vigor. No obstante lo que antecede, ustedes no estarán liberando de responsabilidad por compensación monetaria.

Objeciones: Si usted desea objetar este Arreglo, debe entregar en mano o enviar por correo de primera clase, con franqueo prepago, su posición, con todos los documentos justificativos, de manera que se reciban antes del 8 de mayo de 2006, a:

Coasesor Jurídico de los Demandantes:

National Consumer Law Center
Attn: Ford Credit Settlement
77 Summer Street, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02110-1006

Coasesor Jurídico de Ford Credit:

Thomas M. Byrne
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
999 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

Usted también tiene que presentar los documentos, demostrando prueba de notificación a todos los asesores jurídicos que anteceden, a Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 500 Pearl Street, Room 1640, New York, NY 10007, el o antes del mismo día. Cualquier Miembro del Grupo que no haga una objeción en la manera dispuesta, habrá renunciado a hacer tal objeción y, para siempre, estará privado del derecho a hacer ninguna objeción acerca de la imparcialidad, adecuación y carácter razonable del Arreglo propuesto o a la adjudicación de honorarios de abogados y gastos.

Audiencia sobre Equidad: Se celebrará una audiencia ante el Honorable Paul A. Crotty en la Sala 444 en el Tribunal de Distrito de Estados Unidos para el Distrito Sur de Nueva York, 40 Centre Street, New York, NY, el 31 de mayo de 2006, a las 10:00 a.m. (la "Audiencia sobre Equidad"), para determinar si el Arreglo propuesto es equitativo, adecuado y razonable y debiera ser aprobado; y si debiera hacerse una adjudicación de honorarios de abogados, costos y reembolsos al Asesor Jurídico del Grupo. **Usted puede asistir a la Audiencia sobre Equidad, pero no está obligado a hacerlo.**

Para más información, o para obtener una copia del Convenio de Arreglo según se describe más arriba, puede comunicarse con los abogados que representan al Grupo: National Consumer Law Center, 77 Summer Street, 10th Floor, Boston, MA 02110 (617-542-8010); Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, 38th Floor, NY, NY 10019, (212-554-1400); Law Office of Clint W. Watkins, 5214 Maryland Way, Ste. 402, Brentwood, TN 37027 (615-376-7000); Terry & Gore, 1200 16th Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212 (615-469-0143); o bien Gilmore Law Office, 116 Court St., P.O. Box 729, Grove Hill, AL 36451 (251-275-3115).

Por favor, no se comunique con el Tribunal ni con el Secretario del Tribunal en relación con este Aviso.

Fecha: 27 de febrero de 2006

Por orden del Tribunal

PAUL A. CROTTY
JUEZ DE DISTRITO DE ESTADOS UNIDOS
PARA EL DISTRITO SUR DE NUEVA YORK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
Case No. 00-CIV-8330 – Jones, et al. v. Ford Motor Credit Company

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

TO: ALL BLACK AND/OR HISPANIC CONSUMERS who have entered or will enter into a retail installment contract that was or that will be assigned to Ford Motor Credit Company ("Ford Credit") during the period January 1, 1990 to the present.

Why Is This Notice Important? If you had an account with Ford Credit involving the purchase of a motor vehicle through a retail installment contract at any time between January 1, 1990 and the present, you may be a member of a certified class action lawsuit in which a proposed Settlement has been reached. The lawsuit alleges that Ford Credit has a policy or practice that results in Blacks and Hispanics paying more financing charges than similarly situated white customers in violation of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act ("ECOA"). Ford Credit denies that it has any such practice or policy, denies that Blacks and Hispanics pay more for such financing than similarly situated white customers, and denies that any of its practices or policies violate the ECOA. Ford Credit maintains, on the contrary, that it requires all of its employees, practices, and policies to comply with all laws, including the ECOA, and that it prohibits discrimination on the basis of national origin, marital status, religion, sex, color, race, age (provided the applicant has the capacity to contract), receipt of public assistance benefits, or the good faith exercise of a right under the Consumer Credit Protection Act. Ford Credit has agreed to settle the litigation as a compromise to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty associated with the litigation. Capitalized terms used in this Notice are defined in the Settlement Agreement.

This Is Only A Summary Notice. You can log onto www.ECOA-settlement.com to review a copy of the Settlement Agreement and all documents submitted to the Court in connection with preliminary approval, which contain further information about the Settlement.

The Settlement: If the Settlement is approved by the Court, Ford Credit has agreed to the following:
(i) **Limit on Difference Between Buy Rate and APR:** Ford Credit will not acquire or accept for assignment any Contract from any automobile dealership (a) with a term of 60 months or less if the APR is more than 2.5% above the Buy Rate; (b) with a term of greater than 60 months up to and including 72 months if the APR is more than 2% above the Buy Rate; and (c) with a term equal to or greater than 73 months if the APR is more than 1.5% above the Buy Rate;
(ii) **Contract Disclosure:** Ford Credit will include a disclosure in Contracts produced and distributed by Ford Credit informing vehicle purchasers that the Annual Percentage Rate may be negotiable and that the selling dealership may assign the Contract and retain its right to receive a portion of the finance charge;
(iii) **Diversity Marketing Initiative:** Ford Credit will launch a Diversity Marketing Initiative involving 2 million preapproved firm offers of credit to Black and Hispanic consumers over the next three years with respect to vehicle financing at participating Ford or Lincoln or Mercury dealerships;
(iv) **Consumer Education and Assistance:** Ford Credit will contribute \$2 million over the next three years to fund certain consumer education and assistance initiatives with respect to credit financing;
(v) **Fees and Costs:** Ford Credit will pay a total of \$125,000 to the Class Representatives in exchange for a release of any and all claims. Ford Credit will pay plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and litigation-related expenses in amounts to be approved by the Court, provided that those amounts will not exceed \$7.75 million and \$400,000 respectively.

Because this Settlement resolves a claim for declaratory and injunctive relief only, there will be no compensatory damages paid to Class Members. You will be releasing all claims for equitable, declaratory and/or injunctive relief that have been made, or could have been made, in this litigation under the ECOA or any other federal or state statute or any common law theory arising out of the business practices challenged in the litigation, that arose or that will arise on or before the Effective Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, you will not be releasing any claims for monetary relief.

Objections: If you wish to object to the Settlement, you must deliver by hand or send by first class mail, postage prepaid, your position with all supporting papers, such that they are received on or before May 8, 2006, to:

Plaintiffs' Co-Counsel:

National Consumer Law Center
Attn: Ford Credit Settlement
77 Summer Street, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02110-1006

Ford Credit's Co-Counsel:

Thomas M. Byrne
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
999 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

You also must file such papers, showing proof of service upon all counsel identified above, with the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 500 Pearl Street, Room 1640, New York, New York 10007, on or before the same day. Any Class Member who does not make an objection in the manner provided shall have waived such objection and shall forever be foreclosed from making any objection to the fairness, adequacy or reasonableness of the proposed Settlement, or to the award of attorneys' fees and expenses.

Fairness Hearing: A hearing will be held before the Honorable Paul A. Crotty in Courtroom 444 at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 40 Centre Street, New York, NY, on May 31, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. (the "Fairness Hearing"), to determine whether the proposed Settlement is fair, adequate and reasonable and should be approved; and whether an award of attorneys' fees, costs and reimbursements should be made to Class Counsel. **You may, but are not required to, attend the Fairness Hearing.**

For More Information, or to obtain a copy of the Settlement Agreement as described above, you can contact the lawyers representing the Class: National Consumer Law Center, 77 Summer Street, 10th Floor, Boston, MA 02110 (617-542-8010); Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, 38th Floor, NY, NY 10019 (212-554-1400); Law Office of Clint W. Watkins, 5214 Maryland Way, Ste. 402, Brentwood, TN 37027 (615-376-7000); Terry & Gore, 1200 16th Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212 (615-469-0143); or Gilmore Law Office, 116 Court St., P.O. Box 729, Grove Hill, AL 36451 (251-275-3115).

Please Do Not Contact The Court Or The Clerk Of The Court Concerning This Notice

Dated: February 27, 2006.

By Order of the Court

PAUL A. CROTTY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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BIDS

SEMA Construction, Inc. is requesting sub bids and material quotes from all UDBE/ DBE subcontractors and suppliers to meet the 4.0% UDBE goal for CDOT Project STA 0131-044, C13487 A&B. Project consists of minor widening on SH 13 south of Meeker, CO.

Project bids April 6, 2006 at 10:00 AM (MDT).

SEMA Construction, Inc. 7353 S. Eagle St., Centennial, CO 80112 (303) 627-2600; (303) 627-2626 fax. All UDBE/DBE firms are encouraged to participate. Bonding, lines of credit, and special insurance limits may be required; please contact SEMA for assistance. EOE.

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REAL ESTATE

Louisville

Painted columns link a gallery of arched openings that span the front of the Louisville. This classic parade of arches and columns highlights a long veranda, ideal for catching summer breezes. The octagonal nook on the left adds gazebo-like charm. A nostalgic weathervane ornaments its peak.

In addition to an abundance of outdoor living areas, this plan offers nearly 4,000 square feet of interior living space. Another 400+ sq. ft. is in the bonus room, and close to 1,500 sq. ft. is in the garage.

Once inside the wide foyer, you have three choices. Double doors on the right open into a den with a fireplace. An arched opening on the left leads into the stately, octagonal dining room. Or, walk straight ahead into the lofty, vaulted great room, which also has a fireplace.

French-style windows fill most of the rear wall and slide open to provide access to a partially covered patio. Colorful flames in the wood burning fireplace serve as a focal point when skies are dark.

The kitchen's large central work island has a veggie sink, a six-burner cook top, raised eating counter, and plenty of storage below. Other noteworthy kitchen features include: a phone desk, walk-in pantry, trash compactor, and sunny, octagonal nook.

Two large walk-in closets are in the Louisville's luxurious owners' suite, which has direct access to a private sun porch. The sumptuous private bathroom has a deep soaking

tub, walk-in shower, two lavs, corner vanity and totally private toilet.

A bedroom, generously sized utility room and large guest suite fill the opposite wing. Two bathrooms and another bedroom are upstairs, along

with a sitting room and a large bonus room.

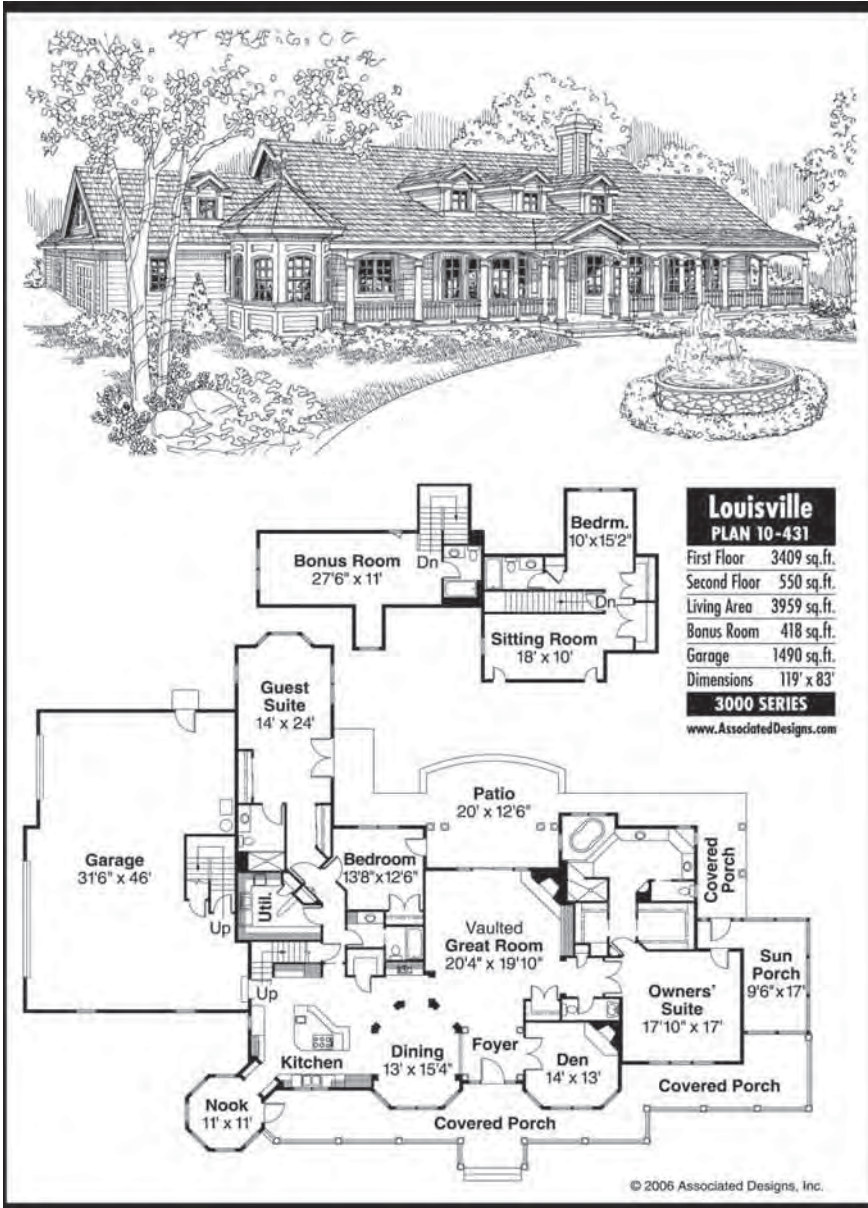
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