

Save the Date! 76th National Convention in Little Rock, June 27-July 2, 2005

# LULACnews

May/June 2005



**LULAC National Legislative Gala**

**Texas LULAC Forms Coalitions  
for Legislative Success**

**LULAC Housing Commission and  
GMAC Promote Homeownership**





May | June 2005

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LULAC National President Hector Flores addressed attendees at the Annual Women's Conference this past April. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones)

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# LULACnews

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## A MESSAGE from the President



(Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in LULAC,

It is only June and it has already been a very full year of accomplishments and challenges. One of LULAC's main issues is the protection of Social Security from privatization. LULAC is very concerned because the President's plan would be devastating to the Latino community which depends more heavily on Social Security in retirement than many other demographic groups. As there is more power in numbers, LULAC recently helped to form a coalition with the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) and other national leaders to save Social Security. For more information on this coalition please visit our website at [www.latinosforsecureretirement.org](http://www.latinosforsecureretirement.org). Let us make our voices heard on this important issue before it is too late.

Another issue of concern for LULAC is immigration reform. For several years now LULAC has asked the Department of Justice to put an end to the growing threat of vigilantes along the U.S.-Mexico border. Unfortunately, recent comments by California's Governor Schwarzenegger have only inflamed the anti-immigrant movement. We must all call on our lawmakers to put pressure on the Department of Justice and insist that no one should be allowed to take the law into their own hands.

On the other hand, LULAC was very happy to see bipartisan legislation for comprehensive immigration reform. Recently, legislation was introduced in both the House and Senate and authored by Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and by Representatives Jeff Flake (R-AZ), Jim Kolbe (R-AZ) and Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) that seeks to regularize the immigration status of many undocumented workers and facilitate the legal entry of future workers, while strengthening the security of the United States. Accordingly, LULAC is optimistic that we can move forward and be successful in finding the best means to address the needs of those seeking a pathway to legal permanent residency and ultimately for citizenship.

On the issue of judicial nominees, LULAC was pleased to see that civility was restored to Congress through the compromise on Senate rules. LULAC is hopeful that in choosing to uphold the rule of law and the principle of playing by the rules, Senate leaders can now get back to the important business of governance. We hope that President Bush will take into the account the many needs facing our country and be sensitive to the Hispanic community when selecting judicial candidates.

LULAC has most recently formed a new coalition called "Latinos for Justice in Trade and Development" to open dialogue on the importance of elevating Latin America and finding new economic models that are fair and just and take into consideration poverty, labor rights and environmental justice. Finally, LULAC has been on the forefront of the fight to stop the voucher movement in the public school system in Florida and Texas. LULAC understands that vouchers will only further the deterioration of our current public school system and therefore we must stop this movement from progressing.

As you know, at the end of this month we will hold our National Convention. I hope to see all of you in Little Rock for this important event that promises to inspire and energize you to become true leaders in your community.

Sincerely,

*Hector M. Flores*  
Hector M. Flores

## LULAC Honors Legislative Leaders During National Gala

by Ken Dalecki, special contributor to the LULAC News. Ken is a retired senior editor for Kiplinger Washington Editors.

Four distinguished elected officials were honored for their strong commitment to the Hispanic community at the Eighth Annual LULAC National Legislative Awards Gala in Washington, DC, this past March.

"We hope that in acknowledging their efforts we strengthen everyone's convictions that Latinos represent a valuable and powerful contribution to this great nation: intellectually, economically, socially and politically," said LULAC National President Hector Flores. The LULAC National Board of Directors selects two Legislative Award recipients each year, and the LULAC President selects recipients of the President's Award.

Senators Orrin Hatch of Utah and Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas received LULAC National Legislative Awards for their work in improving the lives of Hispanics through federal legislation. Senator Hatch, who is the ranking Republican member on both the Senate Judiciary and Finance committees, was cited for his sponsorship of legislation (the DREAM Act) to let U.S.-raised undocumented immigrant children regularize their immigration status and be eligible for in-state college tuition. Senator Lincoln, a Democrat who serves on the Finance and Agriculture committees, was honored for her



Raquel Egusquiza of Ford Motor Company Fund, a Gala Diamond Sponsor, with Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT). Ms. Egusquiza introduced the Senator during the Gala.

Gala, continued on page 4.



Gala, continued from page 3.



Arkansas State Director Shawn McGrew, VP for the Southwest Rosa Rosales, Al Zapanta and Ana Hart of Tyson Foods, Inc., a Gala Diamond Sponsor, present Representative Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) (center) with one of the LULAC Legislative Awards during the Gala. Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



Representative John Salazar (D-CO) received one of the Presidential Awards. Salazar gave a moving speech about Hispanics in the military. Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

support of the DREAM Act and other immigration reform efforts.

In accepting his award in the ballroom at the J.W. Marriott Hotel, Senator Hatch praised the contribution of immigrants in general and Hispanics in particular to the nation's well-being. Senator Lincoln noted that Arkansas has had the highest growth in Hispanic immigration of any state over the last decade. She said Hispanic workers are vital to the growth and development of many of Arkansas' industries and farming communities.

Two Hispanic-American Democrat lawmakers from Colorado, Senator Ken Salazar

and his brother, Representative John Salazar, accepted LULAC Presidential Awards. Speaking without notes, the Salazar brothers spoke with emotion about their family's devotion to serving the nation, including their father's military service during World War II and the death of an uncle in Europe during that war. The Salazar's have made improving veteran's benefits a major part of their legislative agendas. Among the special guests in the audience recognized by master of ceremonies David Cruz, NBC Channel 4 anchorman of Los Angeles, were three Hispanic veterans of the war in Iraq.

Gala attendees included members of Congress, ambassadors, federal officials and celebrities as well as representatives of program sponsors, including Ford Motor Company, Tyson Foods, Inc., AARP, AT&T, General Motors, Univision Communications, Verizon Communications and Yum! Brands.

Among those who spoke at the Gala were William D. Novelli, CEO of AARP, who argued against private Social Security accounts being proposed by President Bush as part of his Social Security reform plan, and U.S. Treasurer Ana Cabral, who spoke in favor of the Bush proposal.

Overall the Gala was a huge fundraising success for LULAC. The event inspired and energized the Hispanic community and the organization looks forward to next year's event.



Top: Senator Ken Salazar (D-CO) received one of the Presidential Awards. He is pictured with past VP for the Southeast Elsie Valdes (left) and Haydee Rivera current VP for the Southeast. Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Middle: Orlando Padilla of General Motors, a Gala Platinum Sponsor, with U.S. Treasurer Ana Cabral. Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Bottom: Attendees attentively listen at the Gala. Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)





### *LULAC National Housing Commission Partners with GMAC Mortgage to Make Homeownership a Reality*



Last year, the LULAC National Board created the National LULAC Housing Commission (LNHC) to promote affordable housing for low and moderate income Hispanics. Through a partnership with GMAC Mortgage, the LNHC launched a national initiative to provide home-buyer education in a number of cities around

the country. Adequate and affordable housing is a nationwide problem and stems from many factors that impede the achievement of the American dream of owning a home. These factors include access to information, predatory lending, credit scoring, access to low cost loans and lack of education on the home-buying process.

"Our goal, in partnership with LULAC, is to provide the Latino community with the tools they need to make their homeownership dreams a reality," said Ennio Garcia-Miera, Vice President, New Markets Group, GMAC Mortgage. "Education is the great equalizer and, therefore, we believe that this financial literacy education program will increase consumers' knowledge of the home financing process and thus their potential to achieve their goals."

The Dallas-based housing organization will focus its efforts on providing information and services via the LULAC Home Buyer Centers, a one-stop concept with a full range of services. These Centers will be established throughout the country over the next two years to serve the potential homeowner with basic information and tools needed to buy and retain a home.

"We are very proud to bring the LULAC National Housing Commission to Dallas to create a more progressive environment to promote homeownership for Hispanics and other groups," stated Beatrice Alba Martinez, National Chair of the Commission and real estate broker. "The LULAC Home Buyer Centers will make a significant difference in how Hispanics purchase their homes."

According to LULAC National President Hector Flores, "It is time to focus our efforts on creating wealth among the Hispanic community. Owning your home is a great way to build equity so that families can send their kids to college and start a business."

The first Home Buyer Center opened to the public on May 5th in Dallas at 6500 Greenville Suite 515. The services that are provided include credit counseling, pre-qualifying for loans, home buyer seminars, preferred lenders, preferred real estate

agents, title services and other services that a home buyer will need. Services are free. The LNHC will feature a Home Buyer Fair from June 29th through July 1st during the LULAC National Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The National LULAC Housing Commission has formed a Corporate Advisory Council to assist with the development of programs, services and products that will facilitate home buying and development of housing stock that appeals to Hispanics. Founding Corporate Partners include Countrywide Home Loans, Wells Fargo, Washington Mutual, GMAC, JPMorgan Chase, Wachovia, Stewart Title, Schaumburg Architects, Delgado, Acosta, Braden & Jones and Capital Consultants.

For more information on the LULAC National Housing Commission, please call 214-750-8194 or contact us via email [email@lulachousing.com](mailto:email@lulachousing.com). Please visit our website: [www.lulachousing.com](http://www.lulachousing.com)

LULAC members can also learn more by contacting their local councils or calling 866-586-4794 for further assistance.





# David's Dream is Fulfilled

## Community leaders present handicapped accessible van to paraplegic teenager

**T**he journey that began back in January of 2004, when Luis Nuño Briones of Hispanic Journal while visiting family in Mexico was asked by Father Efrén Díaz García to help him find a van for David Argeo Marquez, a quadriplegic teen, was completed this past March. Community leaders arrived in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico to present the remodeled and refurbished handicapped accessible van to David and his family during an official ceremony that took place on March 4, 2005.

The Díaz family faced a difficult challenge. David was born healthy and strong but at four months old contracted encephalitis. This produced a series of complications that led to his current vegetative quadriplegic state. Since then, David has relied one hundred percent on his family to assist him with all the basic necessities. Throughout his life, there have been many doctor visits and extensive therapy. These visits became more difficult and arduous each year as David grew. Getting David into their 1983 Nissan without hurting him or themselves became a grueling task that was not over once they finally got him settled inside; they still had to try to fit in the rest of the family in the small vehicle.

After five years of soliciting various charities to assist them in buying a van, hope was born when Father Díaz, David's uncle, made contact with Nuño Briones. Nuño Briones was moved by the story and called his friend Hector Flores, National President of LULAC. He figured that as the head of the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States, Flores would have the



clout and contacts to make something happen. He was right.

Through Flores, Nuño Briones met Chris Lengmayer, general manager of ATC, a transportation services company, who immediately said yes when asked for help and got El Dorado Bus Sales to donate the van. This started the ball rolling and in the end several community and business leaders, including Mexican Consul Carlos García Alva, came together to make this dream come true for David and his family.

"Today we are celebrating the beauty of what a community can do for the livelihood and well-being of one child in need" said Lengmayer. "I'm honored to

be a part of this team that not only saw a worthy need, but came together to fulfill this with only one question, 'How can I help?'"

On December 21, 2004 a press conference was held at the Dallas Latino Cultural Center in Dallas, Texas, to unveil the newly refurbished van and present it to Father Díaz, who came on behalf of the Argeo family. On March 4, 2005 the van was presented to David and his family at an official ceremony in Guadalajara. Team members Hector Flores, Chris Langmayer, Carlos García Alva, Luis Nuño Briones, Jay Holzner, Juan Rios, Mauricio Navarro, and Rosy Ceballos were in attendance alongside Governor of Jalisco Francisco Javier Ramírez Acuña and other Mexican officials.

"Such a notable gift can only be made possible when communities come together under a unified agenda, in this case, a family in need," said Flores.

"This is an example of how it is possible to change people's lives for the better, one person, one life at a time," added Nuño Briones.





## NEWS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

### Arizona Governor Celebrates Legacy of Cesar Chavez



President of PPEP Farmworker Council 1088 Dr. John Arnold with Governor Janet Napolitano during the event.

Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano hosted a gathering at the Arizona State Capital in Phoenix, Arizona in honor of Cesar E. Chavez. Several hundred persons gathered on March 31, 2005, at the capitol lobby for a Mexican dinner, ballet folklórico and other entertainment.

Governor Napolitano also honored Raul H. Castro, the first Hispanic Governor of Arizona. Governor Castro also served as the United States Ambassador of Argentina during the Carter Administration. A member of LULAC PPEP Farm worker Council 1088, Governor Castro spoke about the impact of Cesar's legacy and the importance of the migrant farm worker who toils the fields to put food on our tables. Castro recognized Cesar's vision to improve the quality of life of these farm workers. Farmerworkers suffer the nation's highest infant mortality rate and have a life expectancy of only 47 years due to their hazardous work conditions. Castro said that the quality of life for these people is being threatened by the Bush administration's failure to fund the National Farm Worker Jobs Program WIA 167. Accordingly, several important programs, including farmworker job training, housing, youth, and micro loan programs, have been eliminated. Castro also discussed the armed vigilantes that have negatively affected the farm workers living in Arizona.

LULAC would like to thank Molly Mickinak for her tremendous contributions to this issue. Molly is a junior at Kenyon College where she majors in Spanish. Molly is currently participating in the Washington Seminar Program entitled "Transforming Communities" at the American University. Molly plans to attend graduate school upon completing her undergraduate degree.

Thank you also to Ken Dalecki, special contributor to the LULAC News. Ken is a retired senior editor for Kiplinger Washington Editors.

### LULAC Calendar

- LULAC National Convention

WHEN: June 27 - July 2, 2005

WHERE: Little Rock, Arkansas

CONTACT: (202) 833-6130

[www.lulac.org](http://www.lulac.org)

- LULAC Youth Leadership Conference

WHEN: October 21-22, 2005

WHERE: California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, California

CONTACT: [DaveRodriguez@hotmail.com](mailto:DaveRodriguez@hotmail.com)

### LULAC Council 4619 Honors Military



Armando Gonzales, LULAC National President Hector Flores, Council 4619 President Elia Mendoza and LULAC Labor Advisor Jaime Martinez during the event.

San Antonio LULAC Council 4619 and its president Elia Mendoza recently honored 26 military persons from the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and the Texas National Guard with a banquet and an awards ceremony at Ft. Sam Houston.

Guest speakers included Army Brigadier General Charles Rodriguez and Ft. Sam Houston Commander Major General George Weightman, who praised the troops for their service. Rodriguez was recently appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve as the Texas National Guard's first Hispanic leader. LULAC National President Hector Flores gave opening remarks for the ceremony. The ceremony was attended by 200 District XV members as well as members from the community including members from the American GI Forum, the American Legion and USO Director Col. Raymond Holmes (Ret) was one of the distinguished guests present at this memorable event.



# LULAC

## Profile

### *Angie Garcia, National Vice President for the Elderly*

Each issue we profile a LULAC member who has exhibited strong leadership within LULAC and in his or her community. In this issue we are featuring Angie Garcia.



(Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

#### **When and where were you born?**

On May 31, 1934 in a small town called Gonzales, Texas.

#### **How long have you been involved with LULAC?**

I joined LULAC in 1975, 30 years ago. Dario Chapa, the LULAC Housing Commissioner at the time, invited me to join and I instantly fell in love with LULAC's mission. I have been volunteering with LULAC ever since.

#### **If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be and why?**

Cesar Chavez

#### **Who do you admire most?**

My grandmother.

#### **What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?**

Education continues to be the most pressing issue for Latinos. We need to ensure that Latinos and Latinas have better opportunities to advance themselves.

#### **What is your most memorable LULAC moment?**

When Rosa Rosales was elected the second state director of Texas. Many of us worked very hard to see a Latina fill this office.

#### **What is your favorite dish?**

Any kind of seafood

#### **Who is your favorite musical artist?**

Luis Miguel

#### **What is your favorite movie?**

Dr. Zhivago

#### **What are some of your hobbies?**

Gardening, baking and watching the Spurs play.

#### **What do you believe is the most important leadership characteristic?**

To be frank. I tell it like it is even when it makes me unpopular.

#### **What advice would you give young Latinos/Latinas?**

Get involved in community service organizations, especially LULAC, and obtain the best education you can.

#### **What do you feel are the main issues facing Hispanic elderly today?**

The proposed privatization of Social Security I believe could create a major crisis for Hispanic elderly. It is frightening to think how close we are to losing this vital system. The high cost of prescription drugs is another major concern for Hispanic elderly. Many people are forced to forgo groceries in order to pay for their medicine.



Angie Garcia with Actress Jackie Guerra during the Women's Conference this past April. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

#### **What do you do when you are not involved with LULAC?**

I enjoy spending time with my family. I also volunteer with several other organizations in the community.



Angie Garcia meets with CEO for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) William Novelli (left) and LULAC National President Hector Flores during the National Legislative Gala this past March. LULAC is working closely with AARP to see that Social Security is not privatized. AARP was a Diamond Sponsor of this year's Gala.





# Retratos

2,000 YEARS OF LATIN AMERICAN PORTRAITS

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Elisa Saldivar de Gutiérrez Roldán (detail), Diego Rivera, oil on canvas, 1946, Colección Pascual Gutiérrez Roldán, Mexico, D.F. © 2004 Banco de México  
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## POLICY and Legislation

### Texas LULAC Forms Coalitions Resulting in Legislative Victories

By Ana Yanez-Correa and Erick Farjado



Austin, TX—The 140-day-long 79<sup>th</sup> Texas legislative session included a multitude of debates over legislation that could have had potentially devastating effects on the citizens of Texas, particularly the state's Latino population. At the beginning, however, there was hope that the climate at the capitol would reflect a change this time around.

But with each new bill filed, it became clear that the proposed pieces of legislation would leave advocates working "damage control" on critical areas of policy such as education. Issues like criminal justice, on the other hand, seemed to be in an ideal position for advocates to take a proactive approach on creating change in Texas.

#### Coalition Building and Bipartisanship

In a hostile environment, organizations that advocate for change must make lemonade out of lemons. An effective tool utilized throughout the legislative session was the art of coalition building. In a historical joint effort, Texas LULAC and the Texas State Branches of the NAACP headed to the capitol to seek real change for concerns that affect the collective communities. LULAC and NAACP young adults gathered with over 100 of their adult counterparts to meet with their legislators during the LULAC & NAACP Legislative Mobilization Day. As that day would come to demonstrate, the courage and strength of its organizational members is directly responsible for LULAC's successes in Texas.

With the help of United Farm Workers, People for the American Way, the ACLU, the Intercultural Development Research Association, the Center for Public Policy Priorities, MALDEF, and thousands of grass-roots activists, Texas LULAC volun-

teer legislative liaisons acted swiftly when it came time to block potentially detrimental legislation from passing. Such harmful measures included several proposals to implement a private school vouchers program; a bill that would have prohibited the use of a matricula consular as a valid form of identification; several proposals to either undo or cap the Top Ten Percent Plan; over 100 bills that would have enhanced certain low-level misdemeanors to the category of felony; and a bill that would have allowed the State Board of Education to omit certain historical facts from high school textbooks.

But civil rights groups like LULAC were not alone in their struggle. Groups from all over the state headed to the capitol to obtain support from state legislators to address reforms for outlined issues with the state's criminal justice system. These groups advocated for improvement of community conditions through effective policy solutions. Together, a group of unlikely coalition partners, including ministers, civil rights groups, and formerly incarcerated persons made an impact on public opinion and Texas legislators. These groups included Restorative Justice Ministries Network, Winner's Circle Peer Support Network, Mothers (Fathers) for the Advancement of Social Systems, the Ministry Advisory Council, Texas Inmate Families Association, 2000 Roses, and Texas Justice Network.

As a result of the coalition's efforts, House Bill 2193 was written. The bill focuses the state's resources on the most dangerous

offenders while giving judges more discretion to place nonviolent offenders in treatment and community supervision. HB 2193 makes sure people on probation have positive incentives to earn back their rights through good conduct, while freeing up millions for public schools, healthcare and drug treatment. It also gives back to judges the authority and duty to determine who should get probation, what the conditions of supervision should be and when and how supervision should be ended.

In addition to refurbishing the probation system, LULAC, NAACP, ACLU, the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) and the National Rifle Association (NRA) banded together to formulate a legislative proposal that would further protect Texans' fourth amendment rights – the right to be free of unlawful searches and seizures. The collective work of coalition members at both the capitol and the grassroots level ultimately contributed to the passage of SB 1195.

Advocacy groups over the years had learned that many Texans do not realize that they have the right to say 'no' to a consent search. As a result, they are consenting to searches in instances where officers have no legal basis for conducting a search. But more importantly, it became apparent that these "no cause" searches have been wasting tax dollars. In fact, Texas data reveals that nearly 90% of these searches do not expose any wrongdoing, while in the meantime other crimes go unsolved. Many jurisdictions have already banned consent searches, thereby shifting their officers' focus towards criminal behavior – and, in effect, shifting their time and energy away from ineffective and inefficient policing practices. Though SB 1195 would not ban consent searches, the bill would require police officers to obtain written consent before searching a vehicle – allowing citizens to learn of their rights before being searched.

Another piece of legislation that was years in the making and made it through this session was HB 3152, a bill addressing the in-



## **POLICY** *and Legislation*

equities in the court system for the indigent. It has been no secret that Texas courts are disproportionately punitive to low income individuals, especially for those who are unable to pay for their own attorney. In over half of Texas counties, fewer than 10% of defendants facing possible imprisonment receive their appointed counsel. Unfortunately, it is not unusual for prosecutors or judges to encourage a defendant to enter an uncounseled plea, despite that defendant's request for appointed counsel. Such clear violations of constitutional law create the risk that warranted convictions might be overturned because they were illegally obtained. In the end, every defendant facing imprisonment should have access to counsel. Without the protected right to an attorney in Texas, families are harmed, public confidence in the criminal justice system is undermined, and taxpayers waste money on repeated trials and wrongful incarcerations.

These bills that represent a major correction in Texas criminal justice policy are a positive step forward. HB 2193, HB 3152, and SB 1195 now await a decision from Texas Governor, Rick Perry.

### **The Success of Activism**

The support and activism of our organizational members in Texas inspired our legislators to create policy that makes Texas a better place. Beyond legislative victories, it is important to note that the coalition building that successfully occurred in Texas can serve as a model for others to use. This strategy can have a boundless impact on the ongoing struggle to advocate for change and can be used as a national model.

### **Latinos for a Secure Retirement: An Update**

In March, LULAC launched Latinos for a Secure Retirement, a coalition of Hispanic organizations concerned about protecting the Social Security Trust Fund. With support from AARP, LULAC joined with the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) and invited other organizations, including the Hispanic Federation, the American G.I. Forum, ASPIRA, UNITE-HERE and the Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA), to collaborate and inform the Latino community about the importance of Social Security for Hispanics.

The first phase of the project includes a series of town hall meetings to discuss the carving out of private accounts from the Social Security Trust Fund and what that would mean. LULAC and its partners feel strongly that personal accounts would seriously damage the Trust Fund and hasten its insolvency. Instead, the coalition supports finding ways to shore up the Trust Fund. Noting that Social Security Administrators feel that the Trust Fund will be in crisis around 2042, LULAC proposes that efforts be focused on reinforcing the Trust Fund through a series of reforms that include, but are not limited to, raising the cap on earnings subject to Social Security taxes from \$90,000 to \$140,000, re-examining recent tax cuts and reducing the federal deficit.

For more information about the coalition and town hall meetings being held around the country and how you can participate, please go to our Web site at [www.LULAC.org](http://www.LULAC.org), or contact the LULAC National Office at 1-877-LULAC-01.



# HISPANIC LEADERS

## Leading the Way

### *A Latina's Courageous Journey, From Death Threats to the American Dream*

by LULAC National Intern Molly Mickinak



At times, it would have been easy for Luz Nagle to lose faith in herself and in her dreams, but she never gave up. Today, she can take pride in being the first Hispanic to become a full professor at the Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Nagle began her journey in Colombia, where she was born and raised. She knew from a young age that she wanted to make a positive impact on peoples' lives. As a youngster, she tried to teach the children on her parents' farm how to read. She felt torn by the division of rich and poor, and she wanted to do something about it. This concern led her to a career in law.

Professor Nagle earned her Colombian law degree at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana and began her career as a criminal defense lawyer and counsel for an agribusiness corporation in Medellin. From 1983 to 1986 she served as judge for civil and criminal cases and coordinating law enforcement operations in prosecution of the war on drugs. She received numerous death threats and survived three assassination attempts connected with the drug trade. Those brushes with death made her appreciate life and democratic government.

Frustration with narco-terrorists prompted her to flee Colombia for the United States in 1986. She and her husband, Jerry, were

married in California. They had met in 1982 when she was visiting her sister in Santa Barbara.

Nagle feels that her greatest accomplishment in life has been "to be able to overcome obstacles as they come. It was very difficult to leave Colombia behind." She said coming to the U.S. was a very humbling experience. She had to learn a new language, and she experienced prejudice. Dealing with hardships "gives (one) more energy to continue," she said.

Nagle's Colombian law degree was not valid in the U.S. and she had to begin her studies anew. She received two master's degrees from UCLA, one in Latin American studies and another in comparative law. She went on to earn a law degree at William & Mary School of Law in 1995. She served as a law clerk for the Supreme Court of Virginia and has authored many law review articles. After her clerkship, Nagle worked on international business issues for Microsoft Corp. and a Colombian law firm. She joined Stetson in 1998, focusing on international law, drug and human trafficking and Latin American business law.

Nagle frequently returns to Colombia for business and to visit her family. She has been working with Colombia's defense department and human rights groups on a variety of issues. She has also published papers on terrorism in Colombia after 9/11, and on land mines and illegal paramilitary groups. Florida District Court of Appeals Judge Emiliano Jose Salcines says of her accomplishments: "She is certainly a role model for others to follow. It encourages Hispanic-Americans that the American dream is still very much alive."

Nagle encourages her students to believe in their dreams and never give up. Nagle says you should "never let others make you feel inferior." Nagle strongly feels that individuals have the power to solve many of their own problems. She has followed her own advice, reaching goals through persistence and determination.

*Nagle, continued on page 16.*

### *Judge J. Manuel Banales, Community Leader*

by LULAC National Intern Molly Mickinak



Judge J. Manuel Banales' story provides an excellent example of how LULAC can help a young person become a leader in his or her community. Banales has been involved with LULAC since he was 15. He joined Junior LULAC (now known as LULAC Youth) in El Paso, where he was born and raised. In 1967, he was elected president of Junior Council No. 26. And in 1968 and 1969, he served as the national president of Junior LULAC.

As national president, Banales organized Junior LULAC councils in the Southwest and Midwest. He also served as a member of the LULAC Supreme Council. During this time, his future wife, Peggy, was the national treasurer. He subsequently organized and was the first president of a LULAC council of young adults. He served as the deputy director for youth activities until leaving to seek a law degree.

Judge Banales graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1972 and the University of Houston's Bates College of Law in 1974. He established his own law practice in 1980, specializing in criminal law. He is a founding member of the Hispanic Issues Section of the State Bar of Texas and the Mexican-American Bar Association. Banales

*Banales, continued on page 16.*





**Swan Community Center just got new curtains, a second coffee pot, and version 9.0 of its streaming video software.**

Since 1984, through our corporate and foundation giving, we have contributed more than \$1 billion to increase access to information sciences, broaden education opportunities, and support technology where it hasn't been before. To build community development. Community pride. Community, period.





# HISPANIC LEADERS

## *Leading the Way*

### *Congressman Joe Baca Leads Corporate America Task Force*



**O**n the forefront of the many challenging tasks that lie ahead for Congressman Joe Baca, the 43<sup>rd</sup> district representative from California, is increasing the opportunities for Hispanics in leadership positions throughout Corporate America.

Following the formation of the Corporate America Task Force in September 2003, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus selected Congressman Baca to steer the groundbreaking task force. With a strong belief that it's not enough to have Hispanics in lower-level positions, Congressman Baca has pushed to ensure that Hispanics are at the top, in positions to make decisions that determine the course of companies.

Since its inception, Congressman Baca has generated and promoted the task force's mission: to assure Hispanic representation on corporate boards and in senior management positions; to increase recruitment, support and procurement for Hispanic-owned businesses; and to provide programs and scholarships for Hispanic students.

The task force is strongly committed to making sure that the face of the corporate world and its boardrooms look like the face of today's America. Hispanics are currently the largest minority group in the nation, comprising 14 percent of the total population. With adamant vigor and fervent efforts the task force is persistently working to bring diversity to the forefront. With over \$650 billion in purchasing power, Hispanics make

significant economic contributions in this nation. Congressman Baca emphasizes the need to explore ways to help Hispanics obtain senior management positions, and positions commensurate with Hispanic purchasing power. The task at hand is to raise the consciousness of corporate America and to help them see that Hispanics add value to their products and services.

At the top of the task force agenda is preventing and curing the inequalities that take place in corporate America's hiring and promoting processes. Congressman Baca is urging corporate America to invoke a program that will remedy the process and yield equality.

The time to reinforce this message to the corporate world is long over due. There are 38 million Hispanics in this nation, yet there are few Hispanic CEO's, chairmen, and board members.

By helping corporate America to recognize that the \$653 billion hispanic market - whose two million businesses have grown at three times the U.S. average - is crucial to the economy and their business. America's economy has grown in leaps and bounds because of the dynamic Hispanic buying power. Hispanics must now, more than ever, focus their attention on the bottom line.

Combining Hispanic talent with diverse perspectives is a powerful combination and one that will ensure unparalleled business opportunities. The Corporate America Task Force is creating a better understanding of what this complex culture has to offer.



### **Former LULAC Vice President is Honored**

**Immediate Past National Farwest Vice President Richard Fimbres was honored by the Mexican government during last year's LULAC National Convention in San Antonio, Texas. Fimbres received the prestigious Ohtli Award from the Office of Foreign Relations of Mexico for his service as an advocate on behalf of Mexican immigrants. He has worked to raise awareness of the tensions that exist between ranchers in Arizona and Mexican immigrants along the U.S./Mexico border.**



**The Ohtli Award is the highest recognition given to Mexicans or Mexican-Americans by the Mexican government for outstanding support and dedication to improve the well-being and prosperity of Mexican nationals living abroad.**



# FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN DRIVE AWAY IN A NEW 2005 CHEVY EQUINOX!



Vehicle shown above is not the actual prize vehicle.

General Motors has donated this raffle vehicle to the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) to help raise funds for LULAC's programs nationwide.

Each ticket costs \$10<sup>00</sup>

Random drawing will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2005 during the Texas LULAC Awards Banquet at the Hilton Airport, San Antonio.

Call LULAC at 202-833-6130 or 915-577-0726 for more information.

## ¡GRACIAS POR SU APOYO!



#### THE VEHICLE

GM will donate one (1) 2005 Chevy Equinox LT and 1SD Package to LULAC. VEHICLE has a Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) including destination and handling charges of \$25,825.

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- Designated recipient is solely responsible for all taxes, title, registration, licensing, and insurance that may be associated with the donation. All withholding and reporting obligations associated with the donation are solely the responsibility of the Organization.
- VEHICLE is not eligible for GM incentives of any type or GMAC vehicle financing.
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#### THE PROCESS

In order to effect delivery of VEHICLE, Organization must provide the designated recipient information to GM on or before June 6, 2005 to begin the vehicle fulfillment process. At that time, the name and contact information for the recipient / winner must be confirmed to GM in writing.

- VEHICLE ordering specifications and delivering dealer information must be provided to the organization/GM by June 24, 2005.
- The VEHICLE must be titled to Organization or its authorized recipient within 15 days after GM or its authorized dealer notifies the Organization that the VEHICLE and all necessary paperwork are at the dealership and ready for delivery. If a designated recipient refuses or fails to take delivery of, and title the VEHICLE within 15 days after notification, it will be titled and delivered directly to Organization. If Organization refuses or fails to take delivery of VEHICLE then General Motors has no further obligation to Organization.



## LNESC Puerto Rico Celebrates its 10th Anniversary



Puerto Rico Center Director Zaida Vazquez and LNESC Executive Director Richard Roybal.

Puerto Rico's LNESC Center celebrated its tenth Anniversary on April 30, 2005. The center opened its doors and invited target schools, students, parents, alumni and community leaders to participate in the festivities, which included educational booths, workshops, conferences and music. LNESC Executive Director Richard Roybal joined Center Director Zaida Vazquez and center staff to celebrate the anniversary.

LNESC Puerto Rico was established in 1995 with the collaboration of the Department of Educa-

tion under Title IV, Drug Prevention Program. It provide educational services to 82 public schools from the Bayamon and San Juan Regions. The center's mission is to provide essential tools to promote school retention and provide motivation to youngsters to proceed to post secondary studies.

Through the years LNESC has developed various projects, such as the Young Readers program and vocational and legislative programs to meet the needs of underprivileged communities. The center incorporated the arts into their projects for cultural enrichment. The center has presented four theatrical plays that depict program objectives involving students, teachers and communities.

Today the center has a Talent Search Program and the first Upward Bound Program. Both programs provide students the opportunity to successfully complete a high school education and enter a post secondary institution. After a decade of goals and accomplishments, the center's commitment to Puerto Rico's youth and communities is even stronger. LNESC Puerto Rico looks forward to another successful 10 years.



LNESC of San Antonio recently participated in the LULAC-Alamo Community College District Career Fair. Pictured are (L-R) LNESC Director for Corpus Christi Feliberto Valdez, Jr.; one of the career fair organizers, National Vice President for the Elderly Angie Garcia; the San Antonio Mission Mascot and LNESC San Antonio Program Coordinator Orlando Blancas. The career fair targeted Latinos in the area.

Nagle, continued from page 12.

Nagle has won various awards from Stetson, and is the 2001 winner of the Wings of the Americas Award from the United States Air War College for her article in the *Aerospace Power Journal en Espanol*. She has no political aspirations, but when asked she said with a laugh, "unless somebody is going to push me!" She hopes to see the United States become a less divisive society, where everyone works toward the same goals.

She makes time in her busy schedule for her family, including playing with her two daughters and attending their activities. Professor Nagle has been an avid runner for 25 years. She has covered a lot of ground, physically and figuratively, since her days as a young girl when she ran through the mountains of Medellin.

Banales, continued from page 12.

was chairman of the State Bar's Court Interpreters Committee and a member of its Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Committee. He is a member of the Corpus Christi Bar Association and has served on its board of directors.

Since 1987, Banales has been District Judge of the 105<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Texas, which covers Kleberg, Neuces, and Kennedy counties. Banales has presided over several high-profile cases. In 2003, he oversaw the multi-million dollar settlement of a class-action lawsuit in which H&R Block Inc. agreed to compensate mostly lower and middle-income taxpayers for taking advantage of them on loans made in anticipation of tax refunds.

Banales gives credit to LULAC for many of his leadership qualities and encourages other young people to join LULAC so that they can learn how to become tomorrow's leaders.





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## New Massachusetts Sweetheart is Crowned



(L-R) Katherine Bringas (Massachusetts LULAC Sweetheart 2004), Regla Gonzalez (Massachusetts State Director), Medely Ortiz (contestant), Marlin Calderon (Massachusetts LULAC Sweetheart 2005), Amalfis Cespedes (contestant), Stephanie Molina Chacon (contestant and Miss Congeniality), and Esther Degraives (Massachusetts LULAC Sweetheart 2003).

Recently LULAC crowned Marlin Calderon Massachusetts LULAC Sweetheart 2005. Marlin is a 14 year old Dominican from Lawrence, Massachusetts and member of LULAC Youth Council #1300. As Massachusetts sweetheart she will serve as youth representative for LULAC Massachusetts at the National Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas. In addition, Marlin will compete for National LULAC Sweetheart along with other young women from across the country during the convention.

Marlin aspires to study communications in college with the hopes of becoming an anchorwoman. She would like to serve as a positive role model for youth and advocate on their behalf.

LULAC Massachusetts has focused on education since its inception 10 years ago and has been able to give over \$90,000 in scholarships to Latino students who are graduating from high school. This year, over 20 candidates competed in this annual Sweetheart Fundraising event. Ultimately, four very talented young Latinas made it to the finals and were an instrumental part in the fundraising efforts. Lets congratulate Marlin and the other three finalists for being advocates for education through LULAC in the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## Submission Criteria

We would like to include as much as possible in the LULAC News. To ensure quality and accuracy please be sure to properly label all information that you submit. If sending photos, please send high-resolution photos and be sure to provide sufficient information on each photo. Please email to [lquiroga@lulac.org](mailto:lquiroga@lulac.org) or mail to LULAC, 2000 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, Attn: LULAC News. All information is subject to editing.

## LULAC Holds Career Fair



To encourage young Hispanics to pursue a college education, LULAC and the Alamo Community College District (ACCD) recently sponsored a career fair. The tremendously successful event was attended by over 1,000 students from local and area high schools. Colleges provided information, including how to earn college credit while still in high school. Entertainment and refreshments were provided for the students as they gained valuable information to assist them in reaching their career goals. Due to its success, LULAC and ACCD plan to hold the career fair again next year and are currently in the planning stages. The event was coordinated through LULAC National Vice President for the Elderly Angie Garcia, LULAC member Lydia Martinez and the ACCD.

## LULAC Holds Youth Volleyball Slam



Several LULAC Youth councils gathered together to participate in a volleyball tournament in Fort Worth, Texas. The popular annual event was hosted by Fort Worth Council 4568 and coordinated by Mr. Alberto Govea. Approximately 80 young people participated in this event. The tournament was one of the highlights of a health fair that provided local residents with free health screenings and tips to live a healthier life. The purpose of the volleyball event was to encourage young people to exercise. Mr. Govea hoped the event inspired young people to live a healthy lifestyle. In a society where fast food and video games are the norm, LULAC Council 4568 hopes that young people will realize it is more fun to live a healthy lifestyle which includes eating right and exercising.



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**Rights.**

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**76<sup>th</sup> National LULAC Convention. Powered by**



**At the 76<sup>th</sup> National LULAC Convention, Tyson and LULAC will join forces to power important issues.**

Tyson has been an active sponsor of LULAC since 2001 and is dedicated to taking a leadership role in partnering with LULAC to resolve crucial issues and social and economic challenges that face Hispanics today. Tyson is also fully committed to supporting LULAC with its community-based programs. Tyson is proud to have a workforce of diverse team members. And we see it as not just a duty, but an honor to strengthen communities, lift spirits, offer opportunities and help empower Hispanics to succeed all across America.



## WOMEN'S CORNER

### Latinas Hold Annual Women's Conference in Vegas

by LULAC National Intern Molly Mickinak

(Photos by Luis Nuño Briones.)



Keynote speaker Secretary of State for New Mexico Rebecca Vigil Giron with the Mistress of Ceremonies Actress Jackie Guerra.

**L**atinas Leaders on the Pathway to the Future was this year's theme for the 2005 LULAC National Women's Annual Conference. The theme so aptly recognized the reality that Latinas are indeed the leaders of the future. This year's memorable event was held in Las Vegas, one of the most exciting cities in the United States. The conference included workshops and inspirational speeches aimed to assist Latinas in becoming future leaders in our communities.

National Vice President for Women Margaret Moran and National President Hector Flores gave welcoming remarks at the Friday evening opening reception. The reception was followed by a silent auction that included jewelry, an original oil painting and a trip to Mexico.

The Saturday morning workshop covered legal issues, pay equity and Social Security as they affect Latinas. Speakers included



nutrition. Speakers included Yolanda Rodriguez-Escobar, founder of a nonprofit organization for Latinas impacted by AIDS; Monica Marquez, a representative of Patterson Dental; and Sylvia Melendez-Klinger, founder of Hispanic Food Communications.

Actress, author and comedienne Jackie Guerra, who became the first Latina to star in her own television series, "First Time Out," was the inspirational luncheon speaker. She told Latinas that "we need to be our own best friends." Keynote speaker was Rebecca Vigil Giron, Secretary of State for New Mexico, who urged Latinas to dare to pursue their dreams.

The importance of pursuing one's dreams, honing one's skills and being one's own boss were important themes in an afternoon session presented by writer/editor Robyn Moreno, reporter Michelle Herrera Mulligan, and yoga instructor Rosie Valenzuela Johnson. They also discussed methods of motivation, the value of alone time, and the need for inspiration. Stretching and breathing exercises for relaxation were also covered.

Administrative Hearings Officer for the Colorado Parole Board Judge Celeste C. de Baca; Blockbuster Vice President Ana Rivera and Director of Policy and Legislation for LULAC Dr. Gabriela Lemus.

Other sessions focused on issues affecting young women, youth and health, including AIDS, oral health, diet and



LULAC Vice President for Women Margaret Moran (far right) with participants of the Women's Conference.

The closing plenary "round table" brought together nationally recognized Latina leaders, who talked about cultivating future generations of Latina leaders. Speakers included California State Sen. Liz Figueroa, MANA National President and CEO Alma M. Riojas, fashion designer Marisol Deluna, U.S. Department of Labor intergovernmental affairs officer Maria Cristina Fuentes, and Sylvia Melendez-Klinger. Ms. Deluna talked about the lessons she learned while starting a business that can be applied to other aspects of life. "Don't get discouraged if you make mistakes," she said. Capturing the spirit of the conference, Melendez-Klinger urged Latinas to "follow your dreams and never give up."

Latinas look forward to next year's conference which is sure to be another successful reunion of bright and talented Latinas from around the country.





## Nationwide Asthma Screening Program Targets Hispanic Communities



Winder, M.D., chair of the Nationwide Asthma Screening Program. "By offering resources and materials in Spanish, we are working toward fuller participation by Spanish-speaking adults and children."

Asthma affects an estimated 20.3 million Americans and is more common in children than adults, with about

6.3 million children suffering from the disease. In addition, asthma is responsible for nearly 4,500 deaths each year. Although the exact cause of asthma is unknown, many treatment options are available to control this chronic inflammation of airways in the lungs and related symptoms.

"Too many people suffer from undiagnosed or undertreated asthma without realizing it," said Dr. Winder. "Not only are these adults and children making unnecessary lifestyle compromises, but they also are putting themselves at risk for irreversible lung damage. The screenings increase asthma awareness and help people recognize the signs of the disease, which might only be a chronic cough."

During a screening, participants who are experiencing breathing problems complete a 20-question *Life Quality (LQ) Test* developed by ACAAI for the program. Children under the age of 15 take a special test called the *Kids' Asthma Check* that enables them to answer

questions themselves about any breathing problems. Another version of the *Check* is available for parents of children up to 8 years of age to complete on their child's behalf.

Participants also take a lung function test that involves blowing into a tube, and meeting with an allergist to determine if they should seek a thorough examination and diagnosis.

Adults and children can find out if symptoms such as a chronic cough, wheezing and shortness of breath might be a sign of asthma through the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) ninth annual Nationwide Asthma Screening Program.

Free asthma screenings for people who are experiencing breathing problems will be held at more than 300 locations across the country beginning this May during National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month. Supported by AstraZeneca, the program has screened more than 80,000. In addition to helping people find out if they might be at risk for asthma, the screenings also provide an opportunity for those who already know they have asthma to talk with an allergist about their disease and how to keep symptoms under control.

Allergists, who are asthma specialists, conduct the free screenings at shopping malls, civic centers, health fairs and other accessible locations throughout the country. This year, an expanded effort will be made to reach ethnic minorities, including those in the Spanish-speaking community.

"Asthma is extremely prevalent in the Latino community, with more than half a million children suffering from the disease and the population at increased risk for emergency visits and hospitalizations," said John

To obtain a list of asthma screening sites and dates or to take online versions of the *LQ Test* and *Kids' Asthma Check* in English and Spanish, visit the ACAAI Web site at <http://www.acaii.org>.





## PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



LULAC National President Hector Flores with participants of the Women's Conference.



Young ladies celebrate Cinco de Mayo in Oak Cliff, Dallas, Texas. LULAC participated in this event.



The Lucy Acosta Awards Ceremony served as a fundraiser for Project Amistad. Lucy Acosta (middle) with her husband. Also pictured (right) is LULAC National Chaplain Queta Fierro.



Celebrating and honoring Project Amistad in El Paso, Texas.



LULAC National President Hector Flores and Sara Flores during the Cinco de Mayo celebration at the White House.



Victor Cabral of NBC/Telemundo, LULAC VP for the Southeast Haydee Rivera, US Treasurer Ana Cabral and LULAC President Hector Flores.



## PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



Texas State Director Roger Rocha during the LULAC Texas State Convention in San Antonio, Texas.



LULAC officials met with Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings. (L-R) Manny Isquierdo, Secretary Spellings, LULAC President Hector Flores and LULAC Executive Director Brent Wilkes.



LULAC President Hector Flores, Hector Barreto and Representative Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX) during the Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Mexican Cultural Institute.



Opening of the LNEsc Dallas LULAC/SBC Technology Center. (L-R) SBC Executive Director - External Affairs Bob Garza, Janey Camacho Carpenter of 7-Eleven and LULAC President Hector Flores. The technology labs were made possible through a partnership with SBC.



Left: General Motors, a long-time supporter of LULAC, was a major sponsor of this year's Texas LULAC Convention in San Antonio. Informative workshops on financing and credit by a newly launched program called SmartEdge, were presented by GMAC Financial Services. GM also made information available on GMAC Mortgage, GM Safe Kids, XM Satellite Radio and OnStar. As a highlight to the event, GM donated a 2005 Chevy Equinox to Texas LULAC, in order to raise funds for their various programs. The vehicle was raffled during the Saturday Awards Banquet. The winner, Gabriel Rosales accepted his new Chevy Equinox with much excitement. (L-R) Roger Rocha, Texas LULAC State Director, Hector Flores, LULAC National President, Andrew Segovia, GM Legal Staff and Gabriel Rosales, winner.





Vice President for the Southwest Rosa Rosales, LULAC National President Hector Flores and Cesar Monzon enjoy a moment at the National Legislative Gala. (Photos by Luis Nuiño Briones.)



LULAC National Chaplain Queta Fierro (L) and Chief Financial Officer Carolina Muñoz with Representative Xavier Becerra (D-CA) who recently discussed CAFTA at the LULAC Corporate Alliance meeting.

## Yes! I want to be a LULAC member!

All persons who are residents of the United States or are U.S. citizens residing abroad, are 18 years of age or older, and whose loyalty to our country is unquestionable, are eligible for membership in LULAC. LULAC members receive a copy of the LULAC Constitution, a membership card, a membership pin, and a complimentary subscription to the *LULAC NEWS*. Please mail the below card to LULAC National Membership Office, 201 East Main, Suite 605, El Paso, TX 79901.

- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an active member. Please send me information on councils in my home area.
- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an associate member. Please find a check of \$25 enclosed.
- ☐ I want to become a lifetime member of LULAC. Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$1,000.
- ☐ My company would like to join LULAC as a corporate associate. Enclosed is a contribution of \$1,000.
- ☐ Please send me information on how I can start a LULAC council in my hometown.

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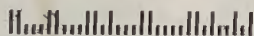
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