

Ordinance worries Hispanic residents

By ANABELLE GARAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FARMERS BRANCH, Texas — This Dallas suburb could become the first city in Texas to adopt a sweeping ordinance intended to keep out illegal immigrants, a cause for concern among its large minority population.

More than 50 municipalities nationwide have considered, passed or rejected laws banning landlords from leasing to illegal immigrants, penalizing businesses that employ undocumented workers and making English the local official language.

But until now, that trend hasn't been matched in the Lone Star State.

"This is not just a Farmers Branch problem," Elizabeth Villafranca said of the proposal.

Villafranca, whose family owns a Mexican restaurant in Farmers Branch, said she worries that such laws will spread to other cities if the City Council approves the proposal. The measure is expected to be submitted to the council today, but there

was no indication when it might be put to a vote.

Since 1970, Farmers Branch has changed from a small, predominantly white bedroom community with a declining population to a city of almost 28,000 people, about 37 percent of them Hispanic, according to the census.

It also is home to more than 80 corporate headquarters and more than 2,600 small and mid-size firms, many of them minority-owned.

The local debate over illegal immigration began in August and spawned demonstrations by both sides of the issue. Council members adopted a resolution criticizing the federal government for not aggressively addressing the issue.

A councilman has given city attorneys drafts of an ordinance that would make English the city's official language and proposals to fine companies and landlords who do business with illegal immigrants.



Associated Press

Michigan State University senior Xinh Pham, left, sits on a globe on campus Friday in East Lansing, Mich. Pham studied in Tanzania last summer.

Studying abroad

The number of U.S. students studying abroad rose 8 percent in 2005.

Top foreign study destinations for U.S. students, 2004-05

Britain	32,071
Italy	24,858
Spain	20,806
France	15,374
Australia	10,813
Mexico	9,244
Germany	6,557
China	6,389
Ireland	5,083
Costa Rica	4,887

Top countries of origin of international students in the U.S., 2005-06

India	76,503
China	62,582
S. Korea	58,847
Japan	38,712
Canada	28,202
Taiwan	27,876
Mexico	13,931
Turkey	11,622
Germany	8,829
Thailand	8,765

SOURCE: Institute of International Education
Associated Press

IN BRIEF

Gallaudet seeks input on new president

WASHINGTON — Gallaudet University is inviting students, faculty and staff members, and alumni to voice their opinions on the qualities they want in a new leader, following protests that led to the ouster of incoming president Jane K. Fernandes.

"The board was very attentive," Alexander Zernovoj, president of the Gallaudet Graduate Students Association, told The Washington Post.

Fernandes' appointment was revoked last month after weeks of protests.

EX-PRESIDENTS

Ford becomes longest-living

LOS ANGELES — Gerald R. Ford has surpassed the late Ronald Reagan to become the longest-living U.S. president.

Ford, who turned 93 on July 14, 2006, became the oldest president Sunday by living to 93 years and 121 days. The milestone is based on full days.

"The length of one's days matters less than the love of one's family and friends," Ford said this week from the Rancho Mirage compound he shares with former first lady Betty Ford.

The nation's 38th chief executive was president from Aug. 9, 1974, when Richard Nixon resigned, until January 1977.

Reagan, born Feb. 6, 1911, was 93 years, 120 days when he died June 5, 2004. He had surpassed the longevity milestone of John Adams, the nation's second president, in 2001.

— Associated Press



FORD

Bishops focus on strengthening church

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BALTIMORE — At a national meeting starting Monday in Baltimore, the bishops are expected to channel resources away from broad social pronouncements and focus more on defining Catholicism for an often uninvolved flock.

"It's not that the bishops as a national organization will no longer be interested in sociopolitical issues," said Russell Shaw, a writer on Roman Catholic issues who spent more than 15 years as a spokesman for the

conference. "But the emphasis is shifting to the life of the church itself and its own internal problems."

The bishops will vote on documents explaining the church's ban on artificial contraception and worthiness for receiving Holy Communion. The prelates will also consider new guidelines on ministry to gay Catholics, which explain the theological underpinnings of church teaching that marriage should be limited to one man and one woman.

New trend in study abroad

ASSOCIATED PRESS

American college students are becoming more adventuresome as they study abroad, showing less interest in English-speaking destinations such as Great Britain and more in such alternatives as China, India, Argentina and Brazil.

"I'm sure my friends and family would say 'Why did you pick Africa, a poor coun-

try, why don't you go to Europe or somewhere more glamorous?'" said Xinh Pham, a Michigan State student who took part in a university-sponsored program to study nutrition in Tanzania last summer.

But the trip "totally changed my views of the world," she said.

Allan Goodman, president of the Institute of International Education, said a range of

factors contributed to the trend, from growing awareness of globalization after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to programs such as President Bush's National Security Language Initiative.

Other figures to be released later today tracked the flow of students from foreign countries into U.S. universities and found that, after two years of declines, enrollment was up about 8 percent.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

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ROOF AND EXTERIOR FINISH UPGRADES FOR PORT ORANGE GYMNASIUM
Notice is hereby given that the City of Port Orange, Florida is accepting bids for a Floating Dock System at Causeway Park, Port Orange, Florida. Bids will be accepted in the Purchasing Office, a division of the Finance Department, Port Orange City Hall, 1000 City Center Circle, Port Orange, Florida until 2:30 p.m., local time, on Monday, December 18, 2006 at which time and place they will be opened and read aloud.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference is scheduled to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at the Port Orange Gymnasium, 4655 City Center Circle, Port Orange, Florida 32129. The project consists of: re-roofing of the existing gymnasium, and exterior modification. Exterior modifications include new entry features and finish systems, which will match the architectural character of other structures at the City Center Complex. All bids are solicited and shall be made pursuant to the Code of Ordinances, City of Port Orange, Chapter 2, Article VI, Division 2, and all bids will be evaluated in accordance with the provisions thereof. Code of Ordinances, City of Port Orange is on file in the Office of the

City Clerk, City Hall, 1000 City Center Circle, Port Orange, Florida. Copies of the documents may be obtained from the Engineer, Quentin L. Hampton Associates, Inc. P.O. Drawer 290247, Port Orange, Florida 32129 for a refundable fee of \$25.00. The Engineer can be contacted by telephone (386) 761-6810, facsimile (386) 761-3977, and e-mail address: bblais@qlha.com. A certified check, or bank draft, payable to the City of Port Orange, Florida, or a satisfactory bid bond executed by the bidder and an acceptable surety, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the bid shall be submitted with each bid. NO bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subse-

quent to the bid opening without the consent of the City of Port Orange, Florida. Upon award, the successful bidder will also be required to enter furnish and pay for a 100% Performance and Construction Bond to be recorded by the vendor, with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Volusia County, Florida and to enter into a contract for services with the City of Port Orange, Florida. All bidders are required to complete and submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance, the Public Entity Crime Statement and the Drug Free Tie Bid Preference Statement. NO bids received after the time and date specified for the opening will be considered. The City of Port Orange, Florida reserves the right to waive any and all non-sub-

stantial irregularities in bids received, to reject any and all bids in whole or in part whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the City. Bids should be addressed to Ms. Bobbi Palmer, Purchasing Coordinator, Finance Department, City of Port Orange, 1000 City Center Circle, Port Orange, Florida 32129 in a SEALED

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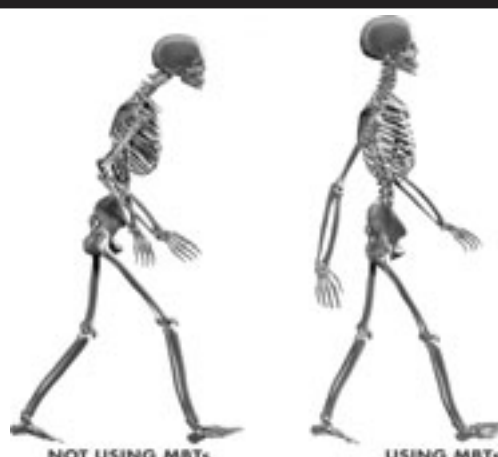
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