

The
Cowtown Humanist

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ICE OFFICERS SPEAK AT HOFW'S MARCH MEETING

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IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS DISCUSS ACTIVITIES OF DALLAS OFFICE AT MARCH MEETING

By Jim Cheatham

J.T. Lawton, Interim Deputy Field Office Director of the Dallas Office of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency's (ICE) Detention and Removal Service, and Patricia Mancha, spokesperson for that office, were guest speakers at our March 16 meeting. ICE was formed from parts of two agencies taken from other federal government departments when the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was created in 2002. Our speakers

emphasized that there had been considerable "teething" problems for the 180,000 person department since its founding in 2002, but this was to be expected given the fact that the new department was being forged from 22 agencies. Nonetheless, the newly created department could be proud of its achievements in foiling further terrorist acts on American soil.

The Detention and Removal's Dallas Office oversees 128 counties in North Texas and the entire state of Oklahoma. It includes two Institutional Removal Program (IRP) sites, one in Big Springs, TX, and one in Eden, TX. These sites have an accumulative population of approximately 7,000 criminal aliens. Detention and Removal strives to develop a capacity to remove all illegal aliens and other aliens engaged in illegal activities or are otherwise undesirable. Chiefly

among the latter are aliens engaged in drug smuggling, arms brokers linked to terrorist groups, child pornographers, persons involved in financial fraud, purveyors of fraudulent green cards, and organizers of human smuggling rings and of contraband smuggling. According to Lawson, some 60 percent of all persons in U.S. prisons are either aliens or are foreign-born. Among the undesirables are as many as 1,100 persons living in the U.S. who are suspected to have been involved in human rights violations in their native countries.

Questioned about aliens being detained under the Patriot Act, they pointed out that non-citizens do not enjoy the rights afforded to U.S. citizens by the constitution. Still, in many instances they are provided with the opportunity to consult an attorney and the prospect of judicial review. The latter, however, does

not extend to persons who illegally return to the U.S. after having been expelled. Asked about the 1.2 million persons estimated to be eligible for worker status under the Bush proposal for illegal aliens employed in the U.S., they observed that some estimates put the number of possible participants as high as four million. A program of this scope would have major social implications given the fact that after five years they would be eligible for citizenship and, with citizenship, rights to bring in relatives.

Seventeen humanists were treated to a very informative program on this occasion. With the numbers of illegal aliens on the rise, the increasing globalization of finance and trade, and the growing sophistication of terrorists, immigration policy will be a top priority political issue for a long time to come.

JONES TO SPEAK ON MEDIA AND MORALS IN APRIL

By Michael Rivera

Dr. Edward F. Jones, CSM, USA (Ret), A 26 year US Army serviceman with 45 Years experience in the theater, now thinking in Fort Worth, will speak on "Media and morals, Fiction and Fact: A Perspective on the influence of print, electronic media and movies on human behavior."

Dr. Jones' talk will cover the influence, or lack thereof, of the dominant "arts" on the morals of the country and it's people.

CORNEHLS TO SPEAK ON PATRIOT ACT FOR MAY MEETING

By Michael Rivera

Dr. Jim Cornehl, Professor and Director of the Graduate Certificate

Program in Law and Public Policy at the University of Texas at Arlington, will give an update on the USA PATRIOT Act and its relation to censorship. You may recall that Dr. Cornehl was originally slated to speak at the January meeting but, because of his teaching obligations, postponed his talk until May. There are some encouraging developments in opposition to the Act, but an equal amount of discouraging developments with regard to its use. In a recent speech, Dr. Cornehl asserted that the PATRIOT Act potentially violates six of the original ten amendments in the Bill of Rights. Don't miss what promises to be an enlightening discussion.

An attorney at law, Dr. Cornehl's expertise includes Civil Rights & Urban Minorities, Urban Economics, Environmental Law & Policy, and Political Economy. He currently holds a professorial position at the University of Texas at Arlington.

LEGAL ISSUES

Compiled by Jim Cheatham

To those who scare peace-loving people with phantoms of lost liberty, my message is this: your tactics only aid terrorists, for they erode our national unity and diminish our resolve.

--Attorney General John Ashcroft

GUANTANAMO: HELLHOLE OR PARADISE?

Detainees shackled hand and foot for up to 15 hours at a time in wire cages open to rats, snakes and scorpions. A foul diet of yellow water and food up to ten years past its shelf-life. Interrogations at gunpoint. Sleep deprivation. Punishment beatings. Botched medical treatment. Amputations of limbs. Forced injections with unknown substances. Psychological torture. Humiliations, including the parading

of naked prostitutes before devout Muslim prisoners. This, and much, much more, is the picture of "unremitting cruelty" (as one human-rights activist described it) to which former British terror suspects say they were subjected during their two-year detention in Guantanamo Bay. Other released prisoners told a different story of rather good treatment, especially the Russian detainees. (Russian prisons are notoriously bad.) It is difficult for an outsider to judge where the truth lies. There are virtually no independent witnesses. No human-rights groups have been allowed into Guantanamo, other than the International Committee of the Red Cross, which does not usually report its findings. Reporters have been allowed in, but no contact was permitted with the detainees. Yet a few facts have trickled out. Last year the Red Cross broke its traditional silence to denounce the "unacceptable" situation in Guantanamo because of the lack of due process and the open-ended detentions. In March Human Rights Watch issued a report on Afghanistan in which it accused the

Americans of carrying out arbitrary arrests, subjecting terror suspects to inhuman and degrading treatment, and of failing to explain the deaths of three detainees in its custody. "While almost certainly largely fanciful, the stories from the British detainees in Guantanamo should not be entirely discounted." (The Economist)

ACLU SUES GOVERNMENT OVER "NO-FLY" ISSUE

Seven people, including an Air Force sergeant and a retired minister, sued the government Tuesday, saying

they had been wrongly placed on “no-fly” lists and subjected to humiliating interrogation and intrusive searches at airports. The national class-action suit seeks to force the federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to develop an effective grievance system for people mistakenly singled out in anti-terrorist screenings. TSA spokesman Mark Hatfield said cases of mistaken identity should drop dramatically under a new computerized passenger-profiling system the government is creating. But that system might not be in operation until next year at the earliest, and critics fear that it also will be flawed. ACLU lawyers said they hoped that the lawsuit would lead to greater accountability and some disclosure of the inner workings of a secretive system. (LAT)

MEXICO WINS CASE ON U.S. DEATH SENTENCES

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has ordered U.S. courts to review the death sentences imposed on 51 Mexicans, including some in Texas, saying the prisoners’ rights under international law had been violated. The decision was seen as a moral victory in Mexico and as a stinging rebuke to the U.S. The ICJ ruled the prisoners’ rights to speak with Mexican consular officials after their arrests in the U.S. had been violated. The U.S. acknowledges the jurisdiction of the ICJ to resolve disputes between it and other nations arising under the Vienna Convention on Consular Rights of 1963, which allows people arrested abroad to meet with representatives of their government. The U.S. regularly invokes the convention to visit Americans in foreign jails. However, federal officials may not be able to compel states to heed the court. In this regard, Gov. Rick Perry commented: “The ICJ does not have jurisdiction in Texas.” (NYT)

JUSTICE DROPS DEMAND FOR ABORTION RECORDS

The Justice Department is dropping its demand, at least for now, that six Planned Parenthood clinics across the country produce medical records on abortions. The decision came in response to a decision by a federal judge in San Francisco who found the government’s demand for the records was an undue intrusion on patients’ rights. The Justice Department sought the records as part of its defense of the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, passed by Congress last year. (NYT)

PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION BAN CHALLENGED

Trials have opened in New York, Nebraska and California in cases challenging the ban on partial birth abortion. Testimony by doctors underscored the law’s core defects—namely, the glaring absence of an exception to protect a woman’s health and its broad reach. Although billed as a prohibition on late-term abortions, its actual wording would criminalize common abortion procedures used after the first trimester of pregnancy, but well before fetal viability. (NYT)

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS ASSAULTED

On April 1, President Bush signed the Unborn Victim of Violence Act. Like numerous similar state laws, the new federal law makes it a criminal act to harm a fetus, separate from the crime of attacking a pregnant woman. Critics claim the new law is a wedge to give rights to fetuses with the eventual goal of criminalizing all abortions. (NYT)

U.S. TO BOOST INTERNET SURVEILLANCE

The Justice Department wants to significantly expand the government’s ability to monitor online traffic, proposing that providers of high-speed Internet service be forced to grant easier access for FBI wiretaps and other electronic surveillance. Law enforcement agencies have been increasingly concerned that fast-growing telephone service over the Internet could be a way for terrorists and criminals to evade surveillance. (WP)

CAN A DETAINEE WITHHOLD ID FROM POLICE?

A Nevada rancher’s refusal four years ago to tell a deputy sheriff his name led to a Supreme Court argument on March 20 whether people can be required to identify themselves when the police have some basis for suspicion but lack the probable cause necessary for an arrest. Civil liberty advocates are worried about further government intrusion if the Court decides against the rancher. The Bush administration has joined the State of Nevada in defending the statute requiring self-identification. Lawyers for the defendant argued that it amounts to an illegal search under the Fourth Amendment and compels self-incrimination in violation of the Fifth Amendment. (NYT)

MILITARY TRIALS AT GUANTANAMO CONTESTED

A military lawyer for a detainee at Guantanamo Bay naval base has filed the first lawsuit directly challenging the military tribunal system that has been set up to try prisoners. It asserts that the Bush administration’s plans for his client

violate the Constitution, federal law and the nation's obligations under the Geneva Conventions. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments on April 20 on a different challenge, dealing mainly with whether the prisoners at Guantanamo are beyond the reach of American law because the naval base is not U.S. sovereign territory. (NYT)

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR TEXAS DEATH PENALTY CASE

On March 22 attorneys representing a Texas death row inmate challenged the defendant's sentence citing two-high court rulings intended to spare feeble-minded persons from execution. Their client Robert Tennard has an IQ of 67. Tennard's case could mark the third time in the last year that the Supreme Court comes down on Texas courts and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals for not taking its death-penalty safeguards seriously. Last spring the justices issued a scathing 7-2 ruling that said the 5th Circuit had too easily disregarded a black inmate's claims that Dallas prosecutors had illegally eliminated African-Americans from his jury. In February, the court chastised the 5th Circuit again for rebuffing a Texas man's appeal even though prosecutors admitted that they hid evidence from his attorneys. In Tennard's case, his attorney said, the justices have the chance to widen the 5th Circuit's view of how two high-court rulings on mentally retarded inmates should be applied. (Knight Ridder)

NO AMENDMENT, PLEASE

In truth, the issue of civil rights for gays and lesbians probably already has been decided on the constitutional level. The Supreme Court's ruling in the landmark 1967

Loving vs. Virginia case declared that marriage is one of our "vital personal rights," the "freedom to marry" belongs to all Americans, and the right to marry is "essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by a free (people)."...to prevent any state, whatever the views of its residents, from dealing with same-sex unions is an over-reach by the federal government. California and Massachusetts already are deeply involved in working through the issue—and that is the proper venue. A constitutional amendment is unnecessary. The fact that the idea is now enmeshed in the 2004 presidential campaign is not only unfortunate but a distraction from issues that are more worthy of the immediate attention of the candidates and the voters. (FWST editorial)

GEORGIA VOTERS TO DECIDE GAY MARRIAGE ISSUE

On March 31 the Georgia House of Representatives approved a measure that will allow voters to decide in November whether a ban on same-sex marriage should be added to the State Constitution. The upper house had given its approval earlier and Gov. Perdue has said he will sign it. Georgia is one of about two-dozen states that already have laws banning same-sex marriage but this year decided to strengthen the prohibitions. In Georgia, surveys have shown that given the chance most residents would support an amendment restricting marriage to heterosexuals.

On March 29, the Massachusetts legislature decided to put a gay marriage ban on the ballot, although such an amendment could not take effect until 2006. Alabama, Mississippi and Michigan are among the other states most likely to put constitutional amendments on the ballot this year. (NYT)

MICHAEL NEWDOW MAKES 'PLEDGE' CASE TO HIGH COURT

Lawyer/doctor Michael Newdow represented himself at the U.S. Supreme Court on March 24 to argue his own case for why the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in his daughter's public school classroom violates the Constitution as long as the pledge contains the words "under God". In repartee with Chief Justice Rehnquist, Newdow observed that the Congressional vote incorporating the phrase had been unanimous "only because no atheist can get elected to public office." The absence of Justice Scalia (he recused himself at Newdow's request) raises the possibility of a 4-4 tie, which would automatically affirm the Ninth Circuit's ruling in Newdow's favor without setting a binding precedent elsewhere. Before the justices can decide the merits of the case, however, they must resolve doubts about whether Dr. Newdow had standing to bring the lawsuit, either on his own behalf or that of his 9 year old daughter. (NYT)

PUNISHMENT FIRST, TRIAL LATER?

(Sami Al-Arian is a former professor of computer engineering at the University of South Florida and a Palestinian, who is in federal prison on terrorism-related charges. Denied bail and his right to a speedy trial, Al-Arian shares a 7-by-13 foot cell with a co-defendant. He is accused of heading the U.S. operations of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, a terrorist group responsible for murdering more than 100 people in Israel and its territories.) But right now Al-Arian is a pre-trial detainee, presumed innocent, and he is being subjected to conditions of confinement so harsh and unjustified that there must be an ulterior motive.

All signs point to a purposeful strategy by the Justice Department to break him down psychologically and make it difficult if not impossible for him to assist in his own defense. This may help the government obtain a conviction, but it will inevitably prove counterproductive in advancing our national security interests. Al-Arian is a well-known Muslim figure, and his treatment by our criminal justice system will be watched around the world—and the Muslim world in particular. What is being done to him is unworthy of our system and lays bare a hypocrisy. We preach great principles of justice, fair dealing and respect for human dignity to Arab nations yet are willing to make them a pick-and-choose proposition over here. —Robyn Blumner, St. Petersburg Times

RELIGION IN THE NEWS

Compiled by Jim Cheatham

GAY STUDENT'S SUPPORTERS RALLY AT BAYLOR

Supporters of a former Baylor University seminary student who lost his scholarship because he is gay rallied March 27 to protest the school's decision. "I believe I am gay and that God made me that way," Matt Bass told about 200 people at the gay-rights rally. "I believe this is a civil rights movement. We're not looking for any special class or treatment but equal protection under the law." (FWST)

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY: RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE

America remains an intensely religious nation and, if anything, the trend since the late 1980s has been toward stronger religious belief. Eight-in-ten Americans (81%) say

that prayer is an important part of their daily lives, and just as many believe there will be a Judgment Day when people will be called before God to answer for their sins. Even more people (87%) agree with the statement "I never doubt the existence of God."

...In the late 1980s, 41% of Protestants and 24% of the population overall identified themselves as born-again or evangelical Christians. Today, 54% of Protestants describe themselves this way.

...Fifteen years ago, 36% of African Americans and 23% of whites described themselves as born-again or evangelical Protestants. Today, fully 50% of African Americans give this description, compared with 28% of whites.

...Most Americans (56%) continue to identify themselves as members of the Protestant faith, with a quarter saying they are Catholic. Less than one-in-ten (9%) say they have no religion, virtually unchanged from 15 years ago.

...The number of young people who say they have no religion has increased slightly (from 12% to 16%).

...While there has always been a correlation between conservatism and religiosity, the relationship has grown notably stronger in the past 15 years. Religious commitment has increased substantially among self-identified conservatives (81% agree with all three statements on faith and belief, compared with 73% in 1987-88). Liberals, on the other hand, have become somewhat less religiously oriented. Just over half of self-identified liberals (54%) agree with all three religious statements, down from 59% fifteen years ago.

...In 1987 and 1988, white evangelical Protestants were split fairly evenly along partisan lines (34% Republican, 31% Democrats).

...Today there is a nearly two-to-one Republican advantage among white evangelicals (43%-22%).

...Today partisan identification among white Catholics is divided almost evenly (31% Democrat, 29% Republican).

...Among white Catholics who attend Mass regularly an 18-point Democratic identification advantage in the late 1980s (42% Democrat, 24% Republican) has turned into a dead-heat today (30% Democrat, 32% Republican).

...There has been a broad increase in at least limited tolerance of homosexuality: the number who believe that schools should not be allowed to fire homosexual teachers has risen from 42% in 1987 to 62% in the current survey.

...Most Americans (57%) say they oppose changing the laws to make it more difficult for a woman to get an abortion, while 36% are in favor, and there have been only slight changes in public opinion on this question over the past sixteen years. (Pew Research Center)

NEWS BRIEFS

TOP OF THE NEWS

Compiled by Jim Cheatham

ABSTINENCE STUDY HAS MIXED RESULTS

Teens who make a one-time pledge to remain virgins until marriage catch sexually transmitted diseases (STD) about as often as those who don't pledge abstinence, according to the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. Those who make a public pledge to delay sex have fewer sex partners and get married earlier, but the two groups' STD rates were statistically similar. One of the problems is that virginity "pledgers" are less likely to use condoms, researchers found. Critics of abstinence-only education saw the findings as evidence that adolescents benefit from sex education. (AP)

MUTATION MAY HAVE LED TO LARGER HUMAN BRAINS

A fortuitous genetic mistake more than two million years ago may have weakened our ancestors' jaws and allowed their brains to grow, says a research team at the University of Pennsylvania. As a result, our ancestors lost their apelike projecting faces and developed higher foreheads and smaller teeth and jaws. The team speculates that the loss of this massive jaw muscle resculpted the human head and allowed the skull to expand over millennia. (Knight Ridder)

ROBERT GATES ON RESTRICTING FOREIGN STUDENTS' ENTRY

Osama bin Laden and other terrorists are on the brink of achieving an unanticipated victory, one that could have long-term consequences for the U.S. ...After 9/11, for perfectly understandable reasons, the federal government made it much tougher to get a visa to come to the U.S. Sadly, the unpredictability and delays that characterize the new system—and, too often, the indifference or hostility of those doing the processing—have resulted over the last year or so in a growing number of the world's brightest young people deciding to remain at home or go to other countries for their college or graduate education. Thousands of legitimate international students are being denied entry into the U.S. or are giving up in frustration and anger. ...applications from China have fallen by 76 percent, while those from India have dropped by 38 percent from last year. ...universities in Australia, Britain, France and elsewhere are aggressively recruiting these students. To defeat terrorism, our global military, law enforcement and intelligence capacities must be complemented with positive initiatives and programs aimed at the

young people in developing nations who will guide their countries in the future. No policy has proved more successful in making friends for the U.S., during the cold war and since, than educating students from abroad at our colleges and universities. (Robert M. Gates, President of Texas A&M University and Director, CIA, 1991-93.)

SURVEY SHOWS HIGHER MISTRUST OF US ABROAD

A year after the war in Iraq, discontent with America and its policies has intensified rather than diminished. (Countries surveyed are the U.S., U.K., France, Germany, Russia, Turkey, Jordan, Morocco, and Pakistan.) Opinion of the U.S. in France and Germany is at least as negative now as at the war's conclusion, and British views are decidedly more critical. Perceptions of American unilateralism remain widespread in Europe and Muslim nations, and the war in Iraq has undermined America's credibility abroad. Doubts about the motives behind the U.S.-led war on terrorism abound, and a growing percentage of European wants foreign policy and security arrangements independent from the U.S. Across Europe, there is considerable support for the European Union to become as powerful as the U.S. ...In the predominantly Muslim countries, anger towards the U.S. remains pervasive, although the level of hatred has eased somewhat and support for the war on terrorism has inched up. Osama bin Laden, however, is viewed favorably by large percentages in Pakistan (65%), Jordan (55%) and Morocco (45%). ...In the four Muslim countries surveyed, opposition to the war remains universal. ...Large majorities in every country, except the U.S., hold an unfavorable opinion of Bush. ...Overwhelming majorities in Jordan and Morocco believe suicide attacks against Americans and other Westerners in Iraq are justifiable.

About half of Pakistanis also say suicide attacks on Americans in Iraq - and against Israelis in the Palestinian conflict—are justifiable. ...Despite concerns about rising anti-Semitism in Europe, there are no indications that anti-Jewish sentiment has increased over the past decade. (Pew Research Center)

HoFW NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

AHA MEETING

The American Humanist Association will be holding its annual meeting in Las Vegas on May 7-9. Log on to AHA for more information if you are interested.

HOFW MEETING

Please remember to bring a can of food for the needy to the next meeting. This will be the meeting to nominate officers to be voted on in the May meeting.

Please remember that the time for dues collection is upon us. See Dolores Ruhs to pay your dues.

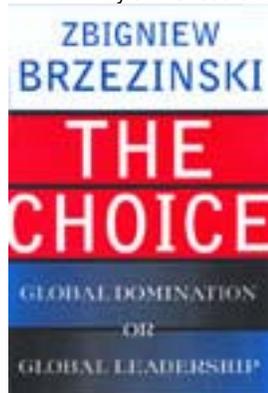
Board meeting immediately follows the regular meeting.

MAY DAY TRASH PICK-UP

Our next Adopt-a-Street pick-up will be Saturday, May 1 at 10:00 a.m. to noon. Those who would like to help but would rather start earlier can go early and simply leave the full bags at the curbside. The organizers will pick up the bags during the regular pick-up. Usual meeting place is at the Osteopathic Family Medicine Clinic parking lot on the corner of Granbury Road and South University Drive. The address is 3750 S University Dr, Fort Worth. Contact Kimberly or Michael Rivera with questions.

BOOK CORNER

by Jim Cheatham



The Choice: Global Domination or Global Leadership by Zbigniew Brzezinski (2004).

Zbigniew Brzezinski was Jimmy Carter's National Security

Adviser and has been a political scientist professor at Columbia University and at The Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of eight previous books, including the national bestseller *The Grand Failure* and, most recently, *The Grand Chessboard*, which was translated into nineteen languages. His service to the Carter administration was characterized by a reputed tense relationship with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who generally favored a somewhat softer approach to conflict resolution than did Polish-born Brzezinski, particularly with respect to the Soviet Union.

Having been outflanked on the right by policymakers of the current administration, he is under no constraint to support a hard-line foreign policy. As the subtitle of his book hints, what we should be aiming for is "global leadership", not the "global dominance" that the Bush administration arguably is striving for. *The Choice* is an ably rendered tour d'horizon of the world's trouble spots and has many sensible suggestions for improving the conduct of our foreign relations, for example, involving our European allies and Japan more wholeheartedly in our

efforts to stabilize the Middle East and East Asia. His criticism of Bush's policy toward the Arab world is particularly well timed. The U.S. inclination, he says, to embrace even the most extreme forms of Israeli suppression of the Palestinian uprising reflects "an unwillingness to recognize a historical connection between the rise of anti-American terrorism and America's involvement

for such a role by our own political ideals, are we prepared to make the necessary economic sacrifices (he who calls the tune pays the piper) and to bear the opprobrium any modern day Rome will have to bear in asserting its hegemony? He argues that American hegemony is a sine qua non for achieving any kind of stability in the world's many trouble spots. Is the U.S.

To see ourselves as the center of political enlightenment and as teachers to a great part of the rest of the world is unthought-through, vainglorious, and undesirable. ... This planet is never going to be ruled from any single political center, whatever its military power.

—George Kennan (1999)

in the Middle East". (The Economist's cover of its April 3-9 issue somewhat crudely avers the same charge: Bush has no cojones on Palestine and Israel.)

While Brzezinski's criticisms in general are well taken, one comes away from his book with the feeling of déjà vu. Isn't it time for a more radical critique of U.S. foreign policy? Brzezinski, at least implicitly, accepts the beneficence of an ever-increasing globalization and the need for American hegemony, albeit of the velvet glove rather than the iron fist variety, to assure a global stability favorable to a capitalist order. Perhaps he is right, however, shouldn't we also be examining the downside of globalization: increasing cultural antagonisms and the ability to express them more destructively in an increasingly interdependent world, growing income disparities particularly within fast developing countries and the political and social instabilities they give rise to, and the environmental damage arising from the faster economic growth in part made possible by globalization? And even if a favorable judgment is rendered on globalization, is American hegemony a necessary precondition for its realization? Are we equipped

contributing, most notably in the last year, to global stability or is it on the contrary making the world, particularly the Middle East, even less stable than it was heretofore? A much more thorough-going multilateralism may be necessary than that implied by *The Choice* to assure the stable, prosperous and "democratic" societies favored by liberals of Brzezinski's kind.

YOUR OFFICERS, AND HOW TO REACH THEM

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HoFW Events

April Meeting

The next regular HoFW meeting will be April 20 at 7:00 pm at West Side UU Church. Dr. Edward Jones will speak on Media and morals, Fiction and Fact: A Perspective on the influence of print, electronic media and movies on human behavior. Mark the occasion down in big red letters on your calendar.

Board Meeting

The next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors is set for April 20, 2004 after the regular meeting.

May HoFW Meeting

The regular HoFW meeting will be Tuesday, May 16 at West Side Unitarian Church. Speaker Dr. Jim Cornhels on the USA PATRIOT Act. This should prove to be a lively discussion not to be missed.

May Day Trash Pick-Up

Our next Adopt-a-Street pick-up will be Saturday, May 1 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Those who would like to help but would rather go earlier can start early and simply leave the full bags at the curbside. The organizers will pick up the bags during the regular pick-up. Usual meeting place is at the Osteopathic Family Medicine Clinic parking lot on the corner of Granbury Road and South University Drive. The address is 3750 S University Dr, Fort Worth. Contact [Kimberly or Michael Rivera](#) with questions.

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