

Huellas del Pasado

... Footprints from the Past

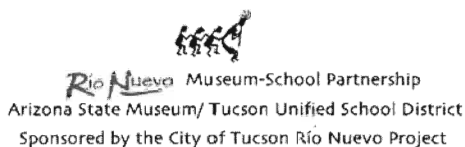


A bilingual school and community oral history collection
by the students of Davis Bilingual Magnet School

RECONOCIMIENTOS

Este proyecto fue cordialmente patrocinado en parte por la Sociedad Escolar de El Proyecto Río Nuevo con el Museo del Estado de Arizona, el cual apoya la exploración que realizan los estudiantes sobre la herencia histórica y cultural. La Sociedad es un componente educativo de El Proyecto Río Nuevo de la Ciudad de Tucson, el cual está haciendo una investigación minuciosa sobre las raíces históricas de Tucson, al tiempo que planea el futuro de la Ciudad. A través de los esfuerzos de Desert Archeology, Inc., el pasado de Tucson está siendo descubierto e interpretado; a través de la sociedad, estudiantes locales son invitados a ser testigos y a participar en cómo una ciudad celebra su pasado para definir y crear un futuro mejor.

“Huellas del Pasado” fue hecho posible gracias a una generosa beca de Arizona Humanities Council. Este proyecto de un año incorporó clases para maestros, viajes de estudios, una Noche de Historia Familiar Oral, clases de foto periodismo, actividades de arte y escritura, extractos de proyectos de previas historias orales no publicadas, así como esta publicación culminante.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project was kindly sponsored in part by the Arizona State Museum Rio Nuevo School Partnership, which supports student exploration of local history and cultural heritage. The Partnership is an educational component of the City of Tucson's Rio Nuevo project, which is searching for Tucson's historical roots as it plans for the City's future. Through the efforts of Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson's past is being uncovered and interpreted; through the Partnership, local students are invited to witness and participate as a city embraces its past to define and create a better future.

“Huellas del Pasado” was made possible by a generous grant from the Arizona Humanities Council. This year-long project incorporated teacher workshops, fieldtrips, an Oral History Family Night, photojournalism classes, student art and writing activities, excerpts from previously unpublished oral history projects, as well as this culminating publication.

Agradecemos sinceramente a los siguientes participantes que compartieron historias, tiempo y experiencias:
We sincerely thank the following participants who shared stories, time, and expertise:

Ginger Arzani	Familia Benitez	Leonard Chana	Estella Dalton
Isiaac Dickens	Steve Lew	Frank Moraga	Cecilia Marmion
Ramón Olivas	Ted Ramírez	Alberto Ranjel	June de los Santos-Torrero
Joanne Schneider	Emilio Verdugo		

Agradecemos también a los miembros de la facultad de Davis que ayudaron a hacer este sueño una realidad:
We thank the Davis faculty members who helped make this dream a reality:

Pilar Atjian	Elizabeth Arnot-Hopffer	Esperanza Canales	Nora Delgado
Cecilia Valenzuela Gee	Christine Lara	Ellen Murphy	Sylvia Olivas
José Olivas	Janice Postiglione	Elizabeth Rodríguez-Quihuis	Dr. Guadalupe Romero

Y a los siguientes estudiantes de Davis. And the following Davis students:

Mariah Adkisson	Lisa Alfaro	Klara Armendáriz	Décio Arnot-Hopffer	Al-Jamil Arzani
Kenia Beltrán	Alejandra Benítez	Diego Bravo	Crystal Caro	Giovanna Ciulok
Mercedes Cortez	Antoinette Dickens	Kyron Eldridge	Martín Encinas	ZZ Mae Haggerty
Max Layman	Arielle Marmion	Flor Martínez	Antonio Mézquita	Raúl Antonio Miranda
Jacob Moeller	Rodolfo Moraga	Anthony Moreno	Nyla Moristo	Mariam Nawid
Jennie Piccarreta	Freda Rodríguez	Eli Schneider	Zoe Warren	

Also: students from both third grade clases, and students who participated in: the Chinese Community in Barrio Anita Project, April 2000; the Photojournalism Project, 1996; and the Barrio Garden Photojournalism Project (with Dr. Elizabeth Garber), Fall 2001.

Un agradecimiento especial a la Sra. Elizabeth Arnot-Hopffer por haber coordinada esta publicación; a la Sra. Beth DeWitt, Coordinadora de la Sociedad Escolar del Proyecto Río Nuevo; a la Sra. Kimi Eisele por diseñar este libro; y a la Dra. Elizabeth Garber, División de Educación en Arte de la Universidad de Arizona, por su apoyo profesional y instrucción fotográfica.

A special thanks to Elizabeth Arnot-Hopffer for coordinating this publication; Ms. Beth DeWitt, Rio Nuevo School/Museum Partnership Coordinator; Ms. Kimi Eisele for designing the publication; and Dr. Elizabeth Garber, University of Arizona Art Education Division, for professional support and photography instruction.

FRONT COVER: *Left photo*-Friends and family of Estela Dalton, courtesy of Estela Dalton; *Right photo*-Photojournalism students from the University of Arizona and Davis School with Mrs. Soledad Martinez, in her Barrio Anita garden, 2001.

BACK COVER: Photo of Davis students by Nyla Moristo.

Huellas del Pasado

...Footprints from the Past

A bilingual school and community oral history collection
by the students of Davis Bilingual Magnet School

2002

Contenido

Introducción

El principio: Tucson, Arizona

Los alumnos del tercer grado preguntan a los mayores cómo era la vida del Old Pueblo en el pasado.

6

Barrio Anita

Una exploración del barrio por los alumnos del quinto grado. Las entrevistas con residentes del barrio hoy y en el pasado: Ginger Arzani como Laura Banks, Ruth Benítez, Estela Dalton, Teri Gonzalez, Sra. León, Steve Lew, David Lee, Ramón Olivas, Berta Rico, Mario and Grace Soto, y Alfredo Tellez.

10

Corridos

Los alumnos del cuarto grado emulan a la tradición mexicana de escribir corridos-- canciones que funcionan como cuentos que tratan de eventos y personas importantes.

19

Las familias de Davis

¿Quiénes son las familias de Davis? En este capítulo los alumnos del quinto grado se presentan a ellos mismos y a sus familias.

24

Plantas medicinales

Hace tiempo atrás, los vecinos de Barrio Anita y de otros barrios en Tucson sembraban jardines curanderos. Los alumnos del cuarto grado entrevistan a unos jardineros y curanderos del pasado.

33

Los trabajos de arte fueron hechos por los estudiantes de la Escuela Davis en el salón de la maestra Postiglione. Las fotografías contemporáneas del Barrio Anita fueron tomadas por estudiantes de la Escuela Davis durante dos proyectos de foto periodismo. El primer proyecto fue dirigido por M.L. Lincoln, Artista-en-Residencia en la Escuela Davis en 1996, y auspiciado por Arizona Commission on the Arts. El segundo proyecto fue dirigido por la Dr. Elizabeth Garber, profesora de la Universidad de Arizona, Division de Arte, durante el año 2001. Durante la Noche de Historia Familiar, el Sr. José Olivas dirigió el proyecto de las fotografías. Fotos históricas aparecen cortesía de los entrevistados.

A los lectores:

Manteniendo la filosofía de la Escuela Bilingüe Davis, lo escrito en este libro, aparece en inglés y en español, sin utilizar una traducción directa de palabra por palabra, ya que nuestros estudiantes pueden leer y escribir en los dos idiomas.

Contents

Introduction

The Beginning: Tucson, Arizona

6

Students from the third grade ask elders about life in the Old Pueblo back in the day.

Barrio Anita

10

A look at the neighborhood by students of the fifth grade. Interviews with neighborhood residents (then and now): Ginger Arzani as Laura Banks, Ruth Benítez, Estela Dalton, Teri Gonzalez, Mrs. León, Steve Lew, David Lee, Ramón Olivas, Berta Rico, Mario and Grace Soto, Alfredo Tellez

Corridos

19

Fourth grade students borrow from an old Mexican tradition writing story-songs about important events and people.

Davis Families

24

Who are the families of Davis students? In this chapter students from the fourth and fifth grade reveal themselves and their families.

Medicinal Plants

33

Back in the day, neighbors in Barrio Anita and elsewhere in Tucson planted gardens of healing. Here students from the fourth grade interview some old-time gardeners and curanderos.

Original artwork was created by Davis students with Ms. Postiglione, art specialist. Contemporary photographs of Barrio Anita were created by Davis students during two photojournalism projects. The first was directed by M.L. Lincoln, Artist-in-Residence at Davis School in 1996, and funded by the Arizona Commission on the Arts. The second was directed by Dr. Elizabeth Garber, University of Arizona Art Education Division, in 2001. Student photography of Davis Oral History Family Night was directed by José Olivas. Historic photos appear courtesy of interviewees.

Note to readers:

In keeping with the philosophy of Davis Bilingual Magnet School, this book includes text in both Spanish and English. There are no direct translations as Davis students read and write in both languages.

Introducción

Por cada trabajo de fotografía y literatura, hay cientos de miles de historias y fotografías en las cuales la gente ha invertido una gran parte de sus genios creativos. La tradición familiar es uno de los grandes depósitos de cultura. Contiene claves de nuestro carácter y [da una visión] dentro de la estructura de nuestra familia (Zeitlin, Kotkin, and Baker, 2000).

Tucson es una ciudad rica con la mezcla de tradiciones de algunas culturas que han vivido aquí por siglos. Desde que la escuela Davis se convirtió en una escuela de atracción bilingüe de TUSD en 1981, la comunidad local ha sido un gran recurso para compartir historias e historias personales con nuestros estudiantes. En agosto de 2001, Davis se convirtió en miembro de la Sociedad Escolar del Proyecto Río Nuevo con El Museo del Estado de Arizona, la cual fue desarrollada para promover conciencia sobre los recursos culturales del área de Río Nuevo. Como una parte integral de la Sociedad, este proyecto de historia oral fue planeado para celebrar la familia y la cultura así como para rendir honor a nuestros antepasados y nuestro pasado compartido.

La historia oral es un método de coleccionar y preservar información histórica en forma hablada e incluye conocimiento obtenido entrevistando familias y miembros de la comunidad. A través de este proyecto de historia oral, la historia misma se ha hecho más real para nuestros estudiantes porque no son fechas de un libro de texto, sino gente y familias. Nuestros estudiantes han investigado

su herencia, su ciudad, sus vecindarios, su escuela y sus familias. Los niños que participaron en este proyecto desarrollan un gran sentido de ellos mismos. Ya que los jóvenes historiadores de este proyecto serán adultos en el siglo 21, es importante que ellos entiendan de dónde vienen y a dónde necesitan ir.

Este proyecto se convirtió en un lugar donde la escuela y la casa se unieron. La investigación sobre el cerebro indica que cuando se conecta lo emocional a lo físico, el aprendizaje se realiza. Así es necesario integrar el conocimiento nativo (autoctono) con el currículo escolar, para que los estudiantes se sientan involucrados emocionalmente al currículo. En este proyecto hemos definido conocimiento nativo como conocimiento que viene de una comunidad local y como conocimiento creado en comunidad.

Algunos momentos fueron difíciles para nuestros estudiantes investigadores. Tomar notas de discusiones y usar grabadoras tomó tiempo y fue algunas veces difícil hacerlo, pero se probó que éste fue un estudio poderoso y energético. Estamos muy orgullosos de que vaya a concluir con esta publicación.

*-Elizabeth Arnot-Hopffer
Especialista de Currículo
Escuela Bilingüe Davis*

Introduction

For every famous literary and photographic work, there are hundreds of thousands of stories and snapshots in which people have invested a large portion of their creative genius. Family tradition is one of the great repositories of culture. It contains clues to our national character and insights into our family structure (Zeitlin, Kotkin, and Baker, 2000).

Tucson is a city rich with the blended traditions of the many cultures that have lived here for centuries. Since Davis became TUSD's bilingual magnet school in 1981, the local community has been a great resource for sharing stories and personal histories with our students. In August, 2001, Davis became a member of the Arizona State Museum's Rio Nuevo School Partnership, which was developed to promote awareness of the cultural resources of the Rio Nuevo area. An integral part of the Partnership, this oral history project is intended to celebrate family and culture as it honors our ancestors and our shared past.

Oral history is a method of gathering and preserving historical information in spoken form and includes knowledge gained by interviewing family and community members. Through this oral history project, history has become more real for our students because history was not dates from a textbook, but people and families. Our students have done research investigating their heritage, their city, their neighborhoods, their school and

their families. The children involved in this project came away with a greater sense of themselves. Because the youth historians from this project will be adult leaders in the 21st century, it is important that they understand where they come from and where they need to go.

This project became a place where home and school merged rich in indigenous knowledge. In this project we have defined indigenous knowledge as knowledge that comes from a local community and as knowledge created in community. Research on the brain indicates that when an emotional or physical connection is made to learning, that learning is greatly enhanced. Thus the need for the integration of indigenous knowledge in the school so that students can feel emotionally connected to the curriculum.

Sometimes it was difficult for our students to be researchers. Taking field notes of discussions and using audiotapes was time-consuming and sometimes awkward. But this has proven to be a powerful, energetic study. We are proud that it will conclude with this publication.

*-Elizabeth Arnot-Hopffer
Curriculum Specialist
Davis Bilingual Magnet School*

The Beginning: Tucson, Arizona

by students of the Third Grade (Mrs. Olivas, Mrs. Gómez, and Mrs. Cruz)



Drawing by Alex Layman and Gloria Martinez

Barrio Anita

We did a unit of study about Tucson. To get information about what it was like to live in Tucson many years ago, we asked people we knew to fill out questionnaires about things we wanted to learn about. We had to find someone who lived in Tucson between 1930 and 1970. We asked grandparents, parents, and friends who were born during those years. Some questionnaires were returned. We learned a lot about the things that interested us. We found out about how people lived, what people

did and how things were very different in Tucson many years ago.

When the questionnaires were returned, we divided the information into three parts. Each group of students studied the answers to questions that were assigned to them. We summarized what we learned and commented on some of the interesting information we learned about. We drew pictures to illustrate what we learned. We were surprised by some of the information. We wish we could still enjoy some of the things from the past today.

How Long Have You Lived in Tucson? Where Did You Live? What School Did You Attend?

People of many different ages answered our questionnaires. The average age was 48 and-a-half years. The youngest was 25. The oldest was 75. The person who had been here the longest was Josephine Garcia, abuelita de Anissa Soto.

None of the people interviewed lived near each other. Two people lived in National City. Others lived in Menlo Park neighborhood. Most of the people lived on the south and west sides of town.

Two people went to school at Menlo Park. One went to school in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico. Edgar's Nana Vaughn went to school in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico. Back then the only middle schools were Safford and Roskruge.

—*Damian Carbajal, Briana Cuestas,
Chelsea Haro, Gabriela Rincon,
Edgar Switzer, Demi Verdugo*

Which restaurants were popular? What do you miss about the time when you were little? Did you feel discriminated against for any reason?

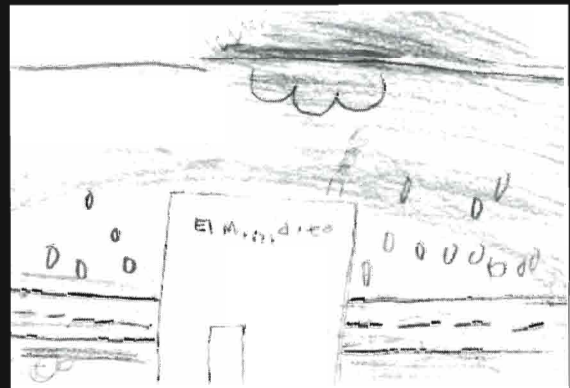
People didn't go out to eat very often. The Small Mexican Restaurant was one of the popular restaurants. The people who visited the Small Mexican Restaurant ate tacos and menudo. Another popular restaurant was Mi Nidito. People from high school used to go to Kippy's or Woolworth's after school. Another restaurant was Pickle Barrel.

Back then only some people used to go on vacations. People really missed friendships with their old friends. They missed riding their bicycles when they were little. Some people mentioned that they missed their parents' love. They also said that there was not much violence. There was not as much traffic back then as there is now.

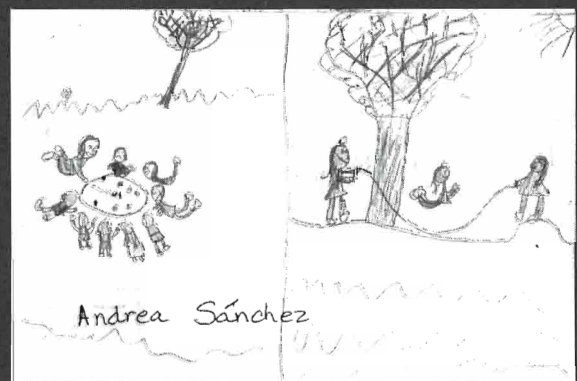
—*Marisol Basurto, Rachel Cruz,
Jacob Freitas, Darcy Hernández, Anissa Soto*



Chelsea Haro



Rachel Cocío

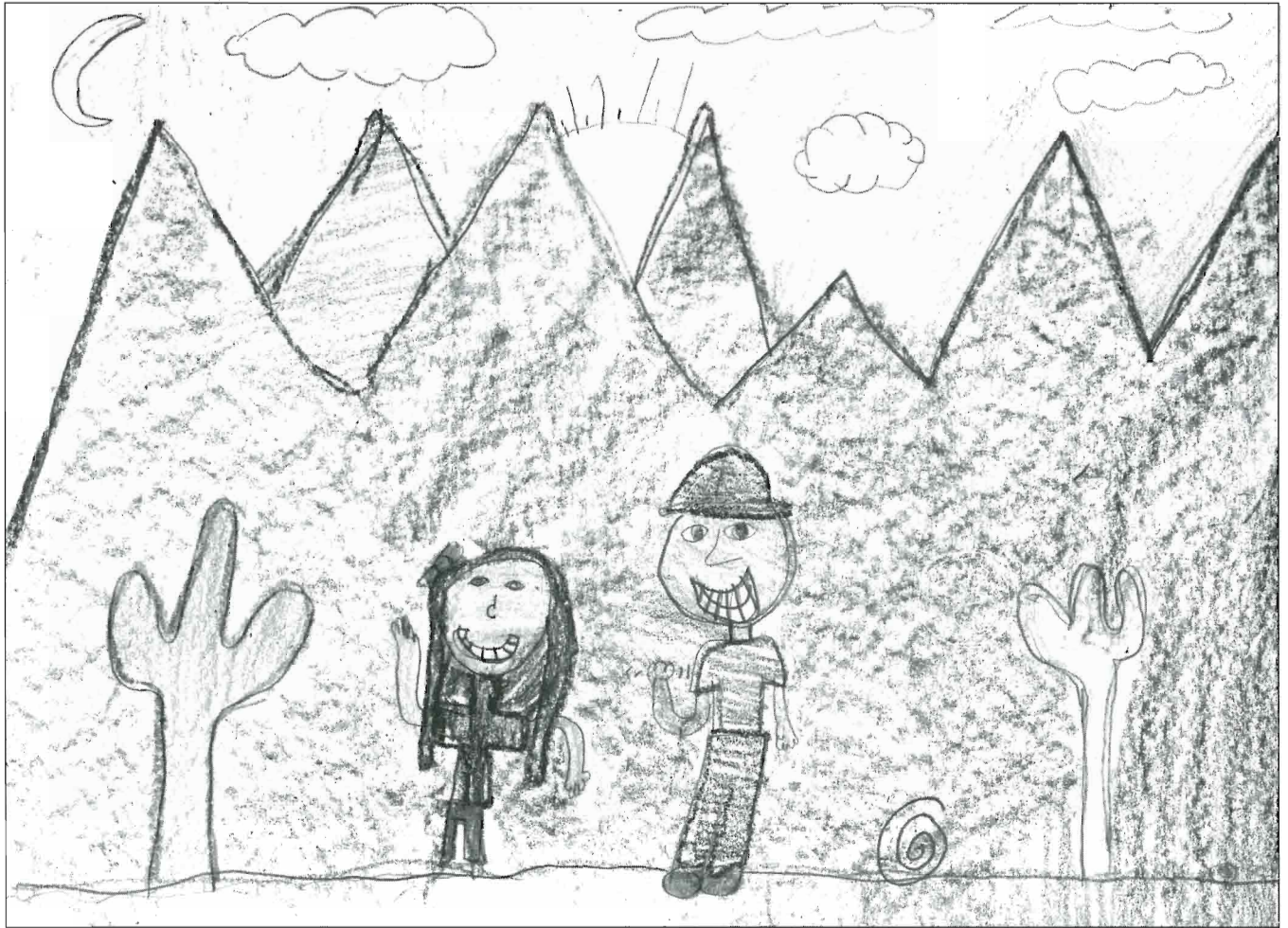


Andrea Sánchez

Andrea Sánchez



Natalie Quíroz y Nora Maldonado



Drawing by Abriana Romero y Alina Cocio

What was one of the most popular children's games at that time? What was one of the most popular toys? What could you buy with a dime? What did your family do in their spare time?

Many games were played with groups of people. People played some games we don't play now. "Ron Chiflón," slingshots, and Chinese jump rope were all popular then, but not anymore. Many of the games played were sports.

Some people don't know about the toys people used to play with. We had never heard of dolls called "Baby Go Bye-bye" or "Holly Hobbie." Many kids played with plastic cars, bicycles, and scooters, like we do. Plastic guns are still played with today, and pogo sticks are still popular, too.

Ten cents was worth much more many years

ago. We were surprised to hear you could buy three sodas or a toy for 10 cents. Today many toys cost at least 10 dollars. We wish our cool toys only cost 10 cents.

In their spare time, people did lots of things that didn't cost money. We spend a lot of money to go to the movies. It costs \$15.00 to go to "Breakers," a water park, today. They used to go swimming for free at "*las pompitas*," one of the irrigation ditches. They used to listen to *novelas* on the radio because not everyone had a television back then. Sometimes they spent money buying *pan de huevo*.

—Otis Baldwin, Anthony Chávez,
María García, Alan Keeme,
Vanessa Moraida, Andrea Sánchez

Susy Navarro ha vivido en Tucson 12 años. De las personas que entrevistamos, ella ha vivido menos años. Eduardo Gradillas ha vivido en Tucson por 92 años. El vivió en Tucson el número más grande de años que todas las personas que entrevistamos. Las demás personas han vivido en Tucson entre 21 a 63 años.

-Abriana Romero y Alina Cocio

De las personas que entrevistamos, tres de ellas viven en Barrio Anita y tres viven en Barrio "Hollywood." Las otras personas viven en Barrio Sur, Mountain View, Granada y Sam Hughes.

-Gloria Martinez y Alex Layman

La mayoría de las personas que entrevistamos fueron a "Davis Elementary." La mayoría fueron a "John Spring Middle School." Todos excepto una persona fueron a "Tucson High School."

-Bobby Camacho y Alexis Rodriguez

Los juguetes más populares era brinca cuerda, escondidas, canicas, patear el bote, beisbol, futbol, jugando con muñecas, patear la pelota, natación, "Chinese checkers," y "hop-scotch."

-Nataly Quiroz y Nora Maldonado

Lo que las familias hacían en su tiempo libre era ver la television, iban al parque para jugar béisbol, jubaban cartas, leían libros, escuchaban a Jack Benny en la radio, platicaban, tenían fiestas e iban a la iglesia.

-Mandla Kunnie

Los restaurantes más populares del pasado eran El Charro, A y W, Burger King, Pinnacle Peak, Pat's, Lyl Restaurant y MacDonald's.

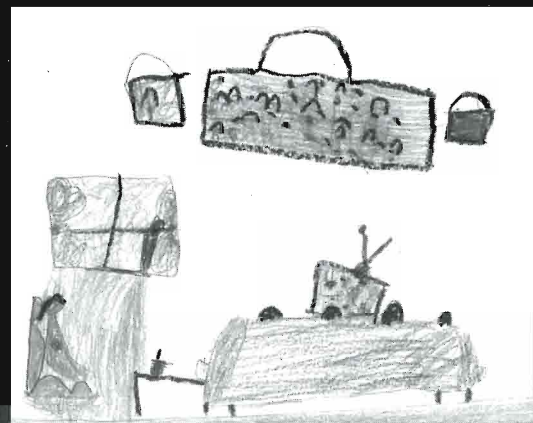
-Vivian Colter

Con un centavo podías comprar una hamburguesa y también una soda, nieve, "hot dog," chocolates, dulces, brinca cuerdas, pan, chicle, boletos para una película, semillas de flor, un periódico y más.

-Celeste Rodriguez, Hailey Hagan y Ricardo Flores



Briana Cuestas



Chelsea Haro



Demi Verdugo



Vanessa Moraida

Barrio Anita

Memorias de Otros Tiempos

by students of the Fifth Grade (Mrs. Gee)

...Escucha, aprende: el tiempo se divide en dos ríos: uno corre hacia atrás, devora lo que vives, el otro va contigo adelante descubriendo tu vida.

-Pablo Neruda, Oda al Pasado

From our classrooms, several times a day, we hear the long howling of the trains rolling down the tracks that cross Barrio Anita. This is the barrio of Davis School, with roots in the early 1900s, and a precious storage of living memories of the old days. As time passes, these images become more vulnerable and threatened by the mere passing of time, and by people moving away. As teachers, we have wanted to delve into the richness of the stories of real people who have left their imprints on these streets. As students, we wanted to hear the stories from the people themselves. We wanted to ask open ended questions, and were interested in scary, interesting stories—stories about the school, tales of old styles of life, of the abundant and long gone Chinese

stores of the old barrio; memories of games, nursery rhymes, gardens, celebrations, and hot nights sleeping outside. Together with the students, we became oral historians with a passion for the everyday life of the past. We recognized heroes and heroines in those who could tell us that they had attended Davis or lived in the barrio so many years ago, before refrigerators and inside bathrooms, before coolers and cafeterias. Those who could remember when the Santa Cruz River and the acequia carried water year round, and ice, milk, and wood were delivered by horse. These are some of our discoveries, passed on in this book through their voices, as heirlooms for those who will come after us with more questions.

-CeciliaValenzuela Gee,
5th Grade Teacher, 2002

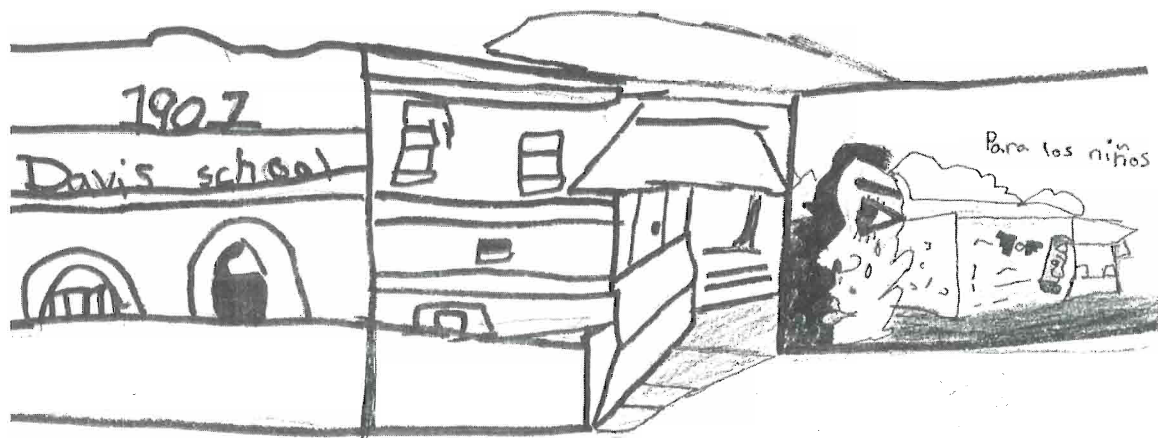


Photo by Aran Canally



El Barrio

SRA. TERI GONZALEZ, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

“We were like family, one big family, and we had very good times. There was no pavement, no cars parked in here. We had an irrigating ditch, full of water. It would run from, I think 29th Street. We all learned to swim there. When Día de San Juan came along, we used to go real early in the morning and swim there.”

*Student Interviewer: Elizabeth Beamer
4th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

RAMÓN OLIVAS, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

Ramón Olivas was born in 1956 in Tucson, Arizona. He was raised in Barrio Anita. He participated in the life of Barrio Anita with family members who lived here.

“My grandma and my great-grandmother lived in Barrio Anita for a very long time, and also about three or four of my aunts. My grandmother lived to be 104 years old. I think she came over in a covered wagon many years ago. When I was a child, if I did something wrong, it was O.K. for neighbors to discipline me. And then, they would call my mom or my dad, or my grandma, and tell them I had done something wrong, and I would get disciplined at home again. So, I think people have changed a little bit.”

“There was a swimming pool behind my mother’s house where people used to go swimming. Before TV was invented, people used to listen to the radio and go to Herrera Quiroz Park. It was called Oury Park back then. (They just changed the name this year) That’s where they had dances, and that’s where they had baseball games. They had all these different activities at the park because it was a way of getting people together. After T.V., people didn’t go to the park as much as they did before.”

Although Ramón did not attend Davis he was accepted by the people who lived in the barrio and knows a lot of things about it. When the question of how old the barrio was came up, he



Margarita Olivas, grandmother of Ramón Olivas. Courtesy of Ramón Olivas

Barrio Anita

answered, "I think it's over a hundred years old. Barrio Anita is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Tucson. So there's a lot of history here." When the subject of Herrera Quiroz Park came up again he said, "The pool they have at Oury Park now is the new pool. They used to have another pool, and sometimes it was segregated where only African Americans were allowed on one day and then, Mexicans on other days."

*Student Interviewers: Kenia Beltrán, Diego Bravo,
Flor Martínez, Family Night, 2002
Summary by Jacob Moeller*

SRA. TERI GONZÁLEZ , BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"We used to know everybody and everybody knew each other. We used to sleep outside in the summer. There were no coolers, and we trusted everybody. Even now, when I am outside watering the plants in the evenings or in the mornings, the smell of tortillas brings back the memories, because at that time, around

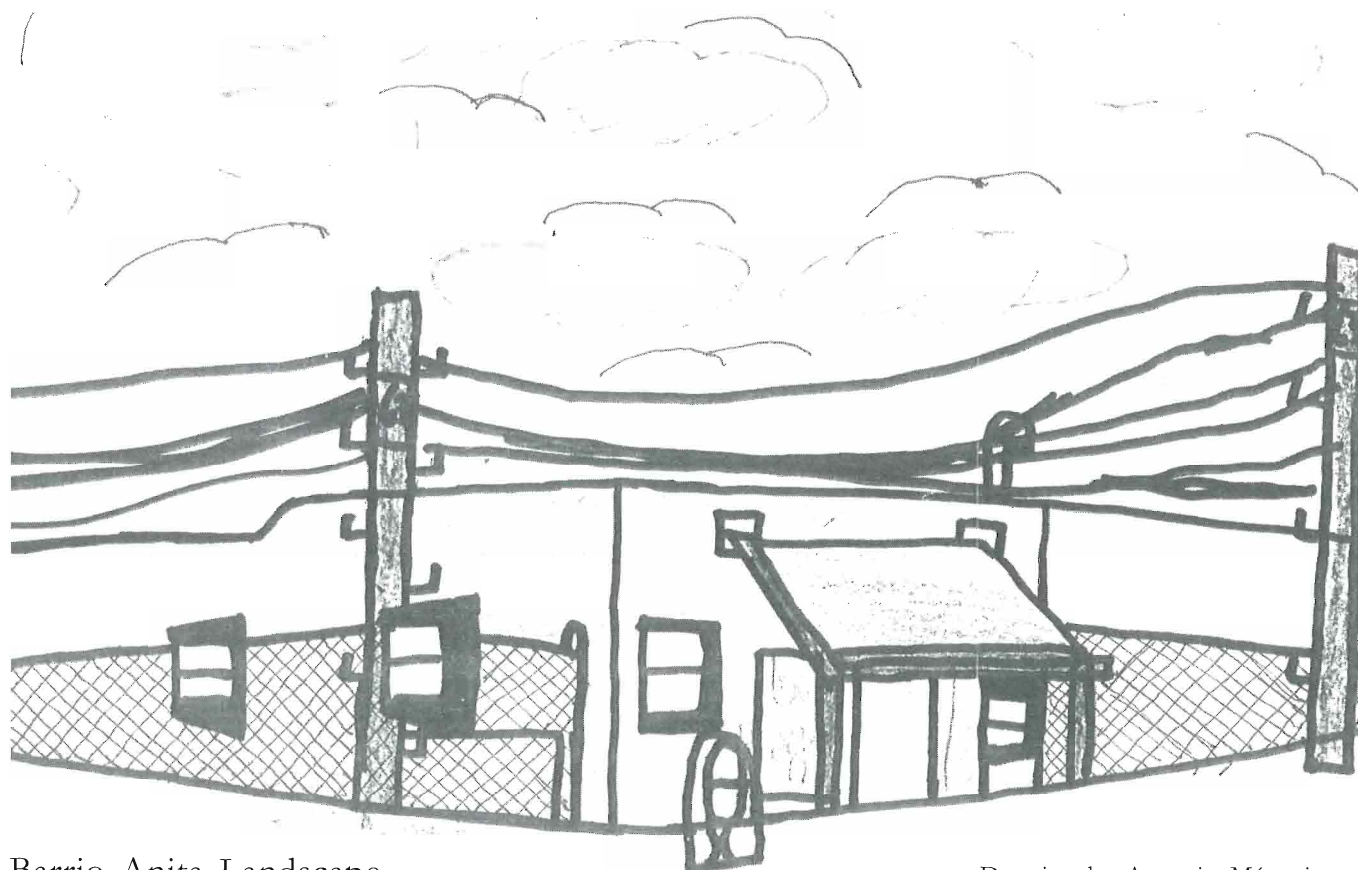
three or four o'clock, the mothers would build a fire. They had wood stoves. Then, the little "*humito*" would be up there, and the smell of tortillas, chorizos, and papas, and everything! *Era* wonderful!"

*Student Interviewer: Elizabeth Beamer
4th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

ESTELA DALTON, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

Estela Dalton has lived in Barrio Anita since she was a child. She has many stories of her experiences living there. One of her scary stories was about a witch that lived behind her house. Estela wasn't scared of her. In fact she always went to her house and helped her in her garden. "This one day, she told me, 'When you go back home, don't take the shortcut to your house. Go around out the front of my door, go up the street, then three turns, and then go into your house, but don't take the shortcut.'"

But Estela didn't obey the witch and between



Barrio Anita Landscape

Drawing by Antonio Mésquita



Elena B. Dalton, mother of Estela Dalton, ca. 1936. Courtesy of Estela Dalton

the shed and that row of outhouses that were there, a huge dog came at her, and he had red eyes and had a lot of foam coming out of his mouth. Estela froze. “All of the sudden I heard her yelling. ‘I told you not to go through there.’” Then she turned around and looked and there was a cat, and the cat attacked the dog. “I started running towards the alley, and as I turned around to see what was happening, the dog had scratched across the cat’s face. I heard somebody yelling at me again. “Run!” So I ran to the corner and I did the three corners and I went into my house.”

After that Estela did not see the lady for a long time, so she was getting pretty scared. Estela started looking for the cat, but she never found it. “I went and knocked on her kitchen door, and she didn’t come out, so I noticed that the door was open, so I came in.” Then Estela saw her in bed, and she said that the dog had scratched the cat. The lady had scratches on her face, and Estela asked her what had happened. The lady said, “I was trying to protect you. Would you do me a favor and cook these beans for me? I can’t get up.”

So Estela cooked the beans for her. The lady said, “That was the devil after you ‘cause you’ve been a naughty girl.”

*Student interviewers: Cristina Acuña, Mariah Adkisson, Freda Rodríguez, Family Night, 2002
Summary by Lisa Alfaro*

SRA. BERTA RICO, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

“My mother’s father used to sell wood. Tenía una carretela con un caballo blanco. El se llamaba Toribio Felix y era viejito ya. El es el que nos ayudó a mi mamá , a nosotros y a los hijos a que viniéramos de Cananea. Vivía con seis hijos. Todos los días iba a entregar leña. Cabían cinco cargas de leña en la carretela atrás. Costaban \$0.50 cada una. Ahora la venden en el Safeway en saquitos. Siempre que la veo me acuerdo de mi papá.”

*Student interviewer: Nina Lara
5th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

SRA. LEÓN. BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

“En el rincón donde está ahora el Sabino Canyon, mi papá tenía mucho terreno. En esos tiempos la mujer no tenía ninguna clase de derechos, todo era del hombre. Vino el gobierno y le dijo a mi papá que tenía que dejarlos porque el gobierno necesitaba esos terrenos. Tenía ganado y ya él estaba muy mal y muy enfermo y no le dieron nada a mi mamá. El gobierno se quedó con todo. Yo tenía cinco años cuando murió mi papá. La gente no tenía la educación que están teniendo estas criaturas. Lo que la mamá o el papá decía se hacía. Mi papá compró un terreno en Barrio Anita donde yo nací. Mi mamá batalló mucho.”

*Student Interviewer: Nina Lara
5th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

SRA. RUTH BENÍTEZ, NATIVE TUCSONAN

“I remember the streets were a lot smaller. Tucson wasn’t so extended. Going to Mount Lemon was like going really far out! I really can’t even remember going past Wilmot. When I was growing up in Tucson, the houses were very old. They kept the same kind of architecture. Then, the newer houses were being built out East. As the houses went farther East, they were more expensive, so a lot of people whose families were working, they just stayed close in

Barrio Anita

the city, in the downtown area, because that was more affordable, and they didn't move very much."

*Student Interviewer: Alejandra Benítez
Family Night, February, 2002*

Stories of the Railroad

SRA. BERTA RICO, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"My sister was here. She had three girls and I had two boys. We were in the kitchen and I heard the train. I can tell the train, the noises it makes when something is happening. And I got away from the stove and went up there in front, and the train had stopped. I don't know why. It was carrying cattle, but the gondolas were not covered, so you could see the cattle's heads. And I saw them jumping from that side. I don't know what happened.; they must have gotten scared. They were jumping away, running on Main and this street onto Oury Park, in every direction. We couldn't believe it. A friend with a pick up was here and he went after them. It was funny to see the cattle scared, and running, jumping to get away."

"También me acuerdo cuando el tren chocó con dos tanques de aceite negro. Venía el tren y yo venía de la tienda del chino en la calle Davis with my friends. It was about twelve in the morning and I thought I was late for my lunch. My husband used to come home for lunch. I saw the truck fast on the tracks trying to beat the train. Al pegarle el tren se reventó un tanque de aceite. Just imagine the flames! I still remember that I could see the smoke and I saw the flames rolling down Main, toda la calle Main. It burnt a whole block of houses. Then it came down on St. Mary's Rd. and the oil, when it was running, was just a ball of fire."

*Student Interviewer: Nina Lara
5th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

Los Almacenes del Barrio

RAMÓN OLIVAS, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"We used to have at least three or four Chinese markets in the neighborhood, and there aren't any now. Mario's store used to be a Chinese market before it became Anita's Market."

*Student Interviewers: Kenia Beltrán,
Diego Bravo, Flor Martínez,
Family Night, February, 2002*



Una Casa en Barrio Anita

Drawing by Martín Encinas



Left to right: Joe Wee's Market, Steve Lew as a boy; Steve Lew today. Courtesy of Steve Lew.

STEVE LEW, FORMER NEIGHBOR OF BARRIO ANITA AREA

Steven J. Lew was born on June 16th, 1942. He grew up behind his father's store, which was on Main St. and St. Mary's Rd. "It's a vacant lot or a parking lot now; it's empty. It's by the arroyo, and we used to go down there and play in the water. It was slippery and slimy, and pretty dangerous, actually."

Nosotros le preguntamos si nos podía decir algo de la tienda de su papá. "Oh, la tienda de mi papá. En el pasado, las personas no iban a la tienda una vez por semana. Iban cada día."

Cuando preguntamos por cuántos años su papa tuvo la tienda nos dijo, "Tuvo la tienda desde los 1930s hasta el año 1955. The name of the store was Joe's Daylight Market, or Joey's Market. That was my dad's name. It went from a brick front to where they put plaster on it. People would come in and get five slices of bologna, and a little bit of lettuce, and they usually had credit with my dad, too. People would get paid once a week or once a month and they would write it down on a piece of paper, and then come in and pay you later. And, of course, you could buy soda for a nickel, and there were no canned sodas. You had to bring a bottle or pay a two-cent deposit and bring the bottle back. And candy, a penny would get you quite a bit of candy, actually. The potato chip bags were all made of wax paper. We didn't have any plastic back then, and no air conditioning."

*Students Interviewers: Décio Arnot-Hopffer,
Max Layman, Anthony Moreno
Family Night, 2002*

Summary and translation by Décio Arnot-Hopffer.

SRA. TERI GONZALEZ, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"One time we had five grocery stores here, just on Anita Street. We had a man who used to sell real good menudo! People would come from all over! And there was another lady who used to make tacos. She used to live across the street from Davis. We had the market, so we didn't have to go outside of the barrio, unless we went shopping to Congress Street to buy clothes."

*Student Interviewer: Antonio Ortiz
5th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

DAVID LEE, FORMER DAVIS STUDENT

Mr. Lee has been a pharmacist in Tucson for many years. His parents used to own a store in Barrio Anita. "I was born here in the West side. The place was Barrio Hollywood. My mom and my father owned a grocery store so I primarily worked there. Later, after school, I would go to the grocery store and work. When we closed, we all swept the aisle, and on the weekend we would again work at the store. When I became sixteen, I was able to drive, and I started delivering groceries."

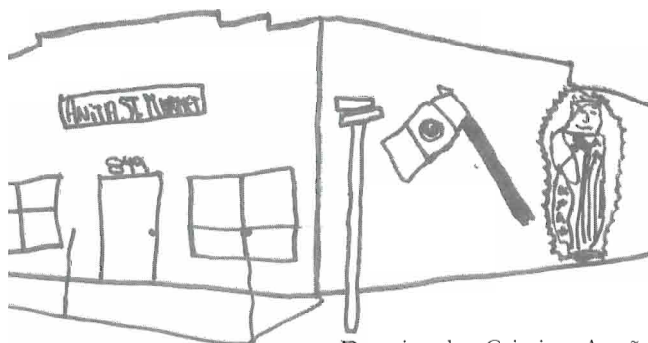
*Student Interviewers: Murphy Gershman,
Ruben Torres, Andrew West
Photojournalism Project of the Chinese
Community in Barrio Anita. April 2000*

MR. AND MRS. SOTO, OWNERS, ANITA STREET MARKET

"When we first started, we had only sixty five dollars. The landlord gave us two months free rent to get us started. The tortillas were made by hand. My wife and my daughter would come at six o'clock in the morning to make the tortillas, and that was just a few dozen. We sold ten to fifteen dozen a day. Then, later, there were 20, 30, 40 dozen in a day. Then 300 dozen a day, Monday through Thursday. Friday and Saturday, more production. We worked very hard!

"My uncles and I made a little machine and we started using it. A couple of years later, someone sold me some more equipment and I paid a little at a time, what I could, and I paid it all."

*Student Interviewer: Elizabeth Beamer
4th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*



Drawing by Cristina Acuña



Mario and Grace Soto, owners of Anita Street Market.
Photo by Sara Bustamante

La Escuela Davis: Founded 1901

RAMÓN OLIVAS, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"Davis school is one of the oldest schools in Tucson. At one point, they wanted to shut Davis down, and the people in the neighborhood and in the surrounding areas didn't allow that to happen."

*Student Interviewers: Kenia Beltrán, Diego Bravo
Flor Marínez, Family Night, February, 2002*

SRA. TERI GONZALEZ, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

"I used to go to Davis. We had no cafeteria, no elevator. We played outside and we didn't have any play areas. We just had those big trees that had a little bulb on them that you could suck and it was real kind of sweet when you chewed it. My husband was born in 1913 and he used to go to Davis too. One of the school principals committed suicide and hanged himself on the second floor. It wasn't Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis was a person who contributed money to the school but he wasn't a teacher or a principal.

*Student Interviewer: Antonio Ortiz
5th Grade Photojournalism Project, 1996*

STEVE LEW, FORMER NEIGHBOR OF BARRIO ANITA AREA

"My whole family [went] to Davis, Roskruge, and Tucson High. Four of us graduated from the University of Arizona. I came to Davis in the third grade. I had Mrs. Banks as a teacher in sixth grade. She was wonderful. Mrs. Banks was the first black teacher I ever had and she was just brilliant.

"We used to meet in front of the school every morning. All the classes would line up and we would raise the flag and salute the flag. We had a principal by the name of Mr. Burr, who was a huge man. And we loved to hear him walk on the sand. We would throw dirt and little rocks and we'd hear crunch, crunch, crunch. He never realized we were listening to his footsteps.

"After school, my cousin and I would take off for home, but not get home for an hour, 'cause

we'd go down into the arroyo and throw rocks in the water, do things which boys would do, you know, chase lizards, etc."

"I can remember Gilbert Cota-Robles and my cousin decided they were gonna stay longer throwing rocks in the water. So I went home, and about an hour later, I opened the door, and Gilbert was being helped, being carried almost by my cousin, and he was bleeding from his head. Gilbert got hit in the side of his head.

"We used to have apartments across the street from Davis and some of the kids lived there. They were directly across the street."

Preguntamos si había sido difícil para él aprender español y dijo, "Yo traté de aprender el español pero los niños me enseñaron cómo decir malas palabras y yo me metí en problemas."

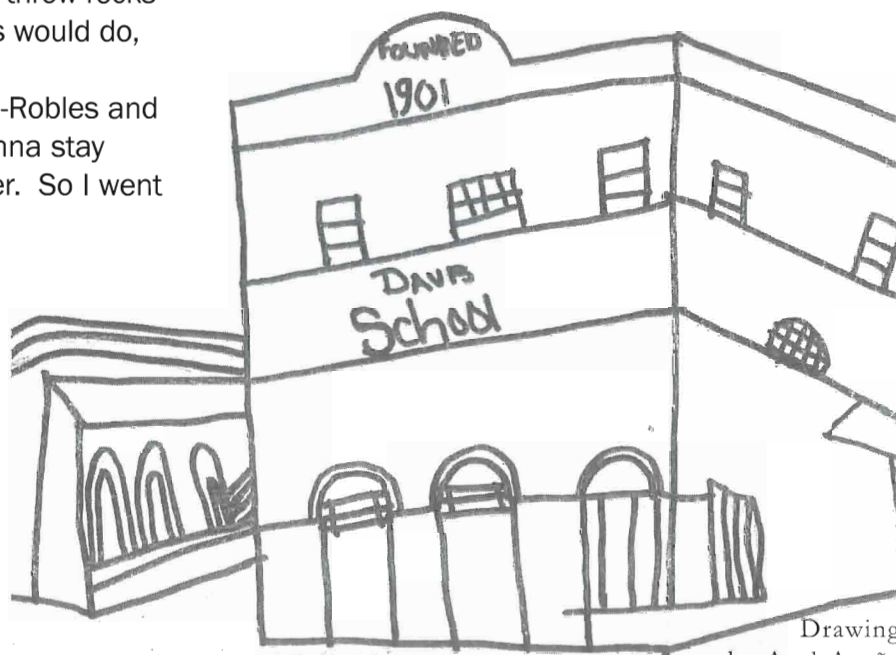
-Summary by Jacob Moeller

LAURA BANKS, FORMER DAVIS TEACHER

Laura Banks was born in Barrio Anita in 1921. Su familia sembró un jardín. There were a lot of African American families y había muchas familias Latinos también. There were lots of Chinese families too. Había mucha diversidad en el Barrio. Everybody worked together.

Laura Banks quería mucho a Barrio Anita. Vivió con su mamá, su papá, y con sus hermanos y hermanas. Ella es más cerca de su hermana. Laura Banks always wanted to be a teacher. She started at the Old Spring and Dunbar schools because a long time ago African American children and Hispanic children couldn't go to school with white children. So they started out at Spring and Dunbar. Laura Banks loved school. She was always ready to learn and eager to read.

Laura Banks wanted to meet new people. She wanted to go to far away places and to experience the world. Familias Africanos



Drawing by Anel Acuña



A younger Steve Lew and friends on the Davis school playground. Courtesy of Steve Lew.

Americanos, Chinos, y Hispanos no tenían mucho dinero pero ellos tenían muchas oportunidades para ellos mismos.

Laura Banks quería graduar del colégio. Ella enseñó tercero, cuarto, y quinto y también dedicó su tiempo a mejorar la biblioteca de la Escuela Davis. So after she left teaching she became a reading specialist and then she got into administration.



Laura Banks

One of the most exciting things for her was when she got married to Jack Banks, and they



Barrio Anita resident and World War II veteran, Mr. Tellez.
1996 Photojournalism project.

became partners and opened up a barbecue business here named “Jack’s Original Barbecue.”

Laura Banks era presidente del NAACP. She was also a community volunteer, and she was one of the board members for the YMCA. She has received many awards and civic awards. Ella trabajó en el United Way. She’s worked at the Tucson Guidance Clinic, Big Brothers-Big Sisters, the Urban League, and numerous other positions.

The biggest event that she remembers growing up in Tucson was when finally the laws changed so that all of the services in Tucson were integrated and she was able to go to schools, and the law was on her side because it was a big struggle here in Tucson for African American families.

I think that Laura Banks would say that the most important thing that she wants to leave young people is the ability to develop a goal. You’ve got to be able to look at yourself, look at your skills, and develop skills. Plan what you want to do with your life. Don’t let your life just happen. Always have a plan. I think that’s one of the most important lessons that she wants

young people to remember. Always have a goal and never, never, never give up.

For all her hard work and effort they named a school after her.

*-Information provided
by Ginger Arzani*

*Summary and Interview by
Alejandra Benítez, Mercedes
Cortez, and A.J. Arzani*

ESTELA DALTON, BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

“Back in those days when I went to school here, if you were bad, you got a paddle. The principal could paddle you, and when you got home, if you were not a lucky child, you would get

another paddling for having the principal paddle you! See that closet next to the stairs? Well, this one day I had behaved so bad they locked me in that closet, but they didn’t check to see if I had matches with me. It was dark in there, and I was afraid of the dark, so guess what I did. I pulled down the paper from off the shelf, put it in a pile, and I put a match to it. I almost suffocated myself with smoke, and that taught me a lesson: don’t ever start a fire in a room!!”

*Student interviewers: Cristina Acuña,
Mariah Adkisson, Freda Rodríguez
Family Night, 2002*

MR. ALFREDO TELLEZ, LIFE-LONG BARRIO ANITA RESIDENT

Mr. Tellez attended Davis more than 80 years ago. “One thing they had back then was water fountains outside. They had pot-belly stoves in every room. We used to go into the basement to get coal. We didn’t like to go down there because it was too dark. They had no lights, only one room had one light.

*Student Interviewer: Jonathan Confer
Photojournalism Project, 1996*

Corridos



Boys playing guitar. Courtesy of Estela Dalton.

Corridos give the writer the liberty to write about anything. Corridos can be based on historical facts or events or they can be pure fantasy. Corridos can be written to protest against inequality or to praise heroes. They can be written about anything from romantic feelings to immigration. Alberto Ranjel, director of Mariachi Tapatio in Tucson said that corridos have their own origin. They usually rhyme, teach a lesson or have moral value.

According to Dr. Celestino Fernández, corridos can also be poetic writings based on historical facts or events, people or places. Dr. Fernández said that during the Mexican Revolution corridos were used as oral newspapers documenting events and news about how the war was going. Corridos are songs that give the writer's perspective.

*-Esperanza Canales
Maestra Bilingüe*

Francisco Moraga

por su hijo, Rodolfo Moraga

Este es el corrido de Francisco Moraga;
es un héroe y muy trabajador.
Es un hombre honesto y noble;
un hombre inteligente y encantador.

(estribillo)

Trabaja de jardinero;
así es Francisco, sí señor.

Francisco nació en Tucson, Arizona;
es un buen padre y proveedor.
Trabaja él muy duro
para que sus hijos vivan mejor.

(estribillo)

Trabaja de jardinero;
así es Francisco, sí señor.

Es un hombre muy alegre
nunca está de mal humor.
Sueña que sus hijos salgan adelante,
les da consejos y mucho amor.

(estribillo)

Trabaja de jardinero;
así es Francisco, sí señor.

Que Dios nunca olvide a Francisco
y lo cuide hoy y siempre.
Aquí termina mi canción
de un hombre muy valiente.

(estribillo)

Trabaja de jardinero;
así es Francisco, sí señor.



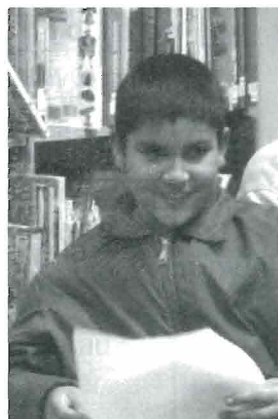
Rodolfo Moraga entrevista a su padre, Francisco Moraga, para poder escribir su corrido.

I like to rhyme so I thought writing my corrido was a lot of fun. I learned things about my dad I didn't know before; things he did when he was little. I didn't write everything in my corrido. I didn't think I was going to get it done but I worked real hard and finally finished it. It was hard putting it together. It took a long time and I was very happy at the end. I wanted to do it in Spanish because I thought my dad would like it better. I think my dad will be very proud when he finds out that my corrido is done.

My corrido rhymes every forth verse. I had to use the dictionary to look for words that would describe my dad and would rhyme. I changed words around many times until I found the right ones. Some of the words I found, I had never heard before. I learned lots of new words and their meanings.

My dad loves Mexican music. When he hears the music he dances all around the house. I am happy I wrote the corrido about my dad, he's the most special person to me.

- Rodolfo Moraga



Joanne: The Mom Song

by Eli Schneider

This is a story about a gentle soul,
her name is Joanne Schneider, so let's roll.

(Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
she's always there and the only way to go.

Nothing is more important to her than Eli and Ben,
she's loving and proud of her two young men.

(Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
she's always there and the only way to go.

Joanne is a mother and provider;
she's a honey and you can confide in her.

(Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
she's always there and the only way to go.

She's always funny and happy;
she's a businesswoman and snappy.

(Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
She's always there and the only way to go.

This is the end of my story,
and the beginning of my mother's glory.

(Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
she's always there and the only way to go.

(Repeat Chorus)

She's a very special lady, that's my Jo;
she's always there and the only way to go.



Eli Schneider with his inspiration--his mother, Joanne Schneider.

I was really not excited or happy about doing this *corrido*, but at the end I had fun doing it. It was sort of hard to do the interview with my mom because people in my family were really sick. I learned stuff that I didn't know about my mom that was pretty cool.

Writing the *corrido* was hard but fun. I had to think of words that rhymed and tell the truth about my mom. I had to write a lot and change words so many times. I don't really like to write that much but I'm glad I did it. I learned that it is really important to finish what you start.

A *corrido* is a song that tells a story about a person, place, animal, or something that happened. I learned from Celestino Fernández that I could rhyme the last words if I did a two line verse. It was fun and I plan to write another *corrido* about my family.

- Eli Schneider

Davis Families

by students of the Fifth Grade



Este capítulo se trata de las familias de Davis. Algunas familias son Africanas-Americanas, otras son Latinas, algunas son Nativas-Americanas y otras Anglos. Muchas personas que viven en Barrio Anita van a La Escuela Bilingüe Davis. También hay familias que no viven en Barrio Anita. Hay muchos niños y niñas en la Escuela Davis que tienen

hermanos o hermanas en nuestra escuela. A las familias de Davis les gusta hacer diferentes cosas con sus hijos.

There are kids at Davis that speak mainly Spanish or only Spanish. Some kids don't speak Spanish, so Davis has a time on Tuesday through Thursday called Exito Bilingüe where we only speak Spanish. Kids go to different Exito Bilingüe classes depending on how much Spanish the child knows.

Davis is a very different and exciting school. Davis families like this school a lot.

-Klara Armendáriz and Jennie Piccarreta



Family photographs. *Top:* Wedding in China. Barrio Anita resident, fifth from left. Courtesy of Estela Dalton. *Middle:* Estela Dalton family and friends. Courtesy of Estela Dalton. *Bottom:* Steve Lew family. Courtesy of Steve Lew.

Issiac L. Dickens

Interviewed by Miriam Nawid

Mr. Issiac Dickens is married to Mrs. Verma D. Eldridge and is the father of Antoinette, (5th Grade), Kyron, (3rd Grade), and Benjamin, (1st Grade). He was born in a small farm community called Two Egg, in Florida. He spent summers with his grandmother, lola, and lived in Port St. Joe, Florida.

Mr. Dickens attended George Washington High School where he was considered an outstanding student. He also worked very hard. "When I was with my grandmother during the summer, I primed tobacco, picked cotton, shook peanuts, picked peas, pulled corn, picked watermelons and took care of farm animals to help around my grandmother's farm to earn money for school clothes."

Mr. Dickens related to us his experience of having moved from a predominantly black school, where every teacher knew and supported him, to a much bigger, predominantly white one. "At William Boone I spent two years in a state of cultural shock."

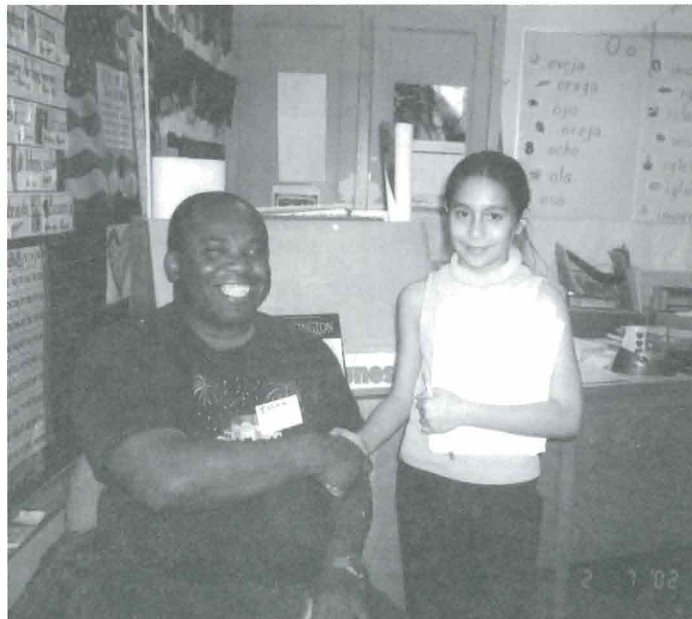
Mr. Dickens remembers well the days of segregation. "Black people ate in black restaurants, which were few and far between. Water

fountains and bathrooms bore signs like 'For whites only.' In theaters, black people sat in the back or in the balcony."

He personally suffered indignities when dealing with white people while trying to get a liquor license for his uncle Allen's Cafe, and seeing his mother say "Yes sir," to a much younger white man who was selling her insurance. In the end, it turned out to be a rip off.

Mr. Dickens works as a juvenile detention officer, where he counsels, listens to, attempts to teach, and provides for the care, safety, and security of youth between the ages of

eight through seventeen. He tells us how different his youth years were compared to the life of most children today. "I feel that families were more cohesive when I was growing up, and children had more opportunities to make mistakes and to learn about self control on their own. It was easy to be alone sometimes and listen to your own thoughts. There was open space, and a person could take off running and run until he got tired while bothering no one. People seemed to be more willing to help each other." F



Issiac Dickens with his interviewer, Miriam Nawid.

Mi Autobiografía

por Klara Armendáriz

Mi nombre es Klara Armendáriz. Yo tengo ojos cafés claros y mi cabello es café. Tengo nueve años. Yo nací el siete de agosto de 1992, en Tucson, Arizona.

Yo soy muy buena con las personas. Yo soy tímida algunas veces. A veces unos niños o niñas me hacen enojar pero no les digo nada. No digo nada porque no quiero que me digan algo que me haga llorar.

Mis metas son las siguientes: Yo quiero ser una diseñadora de ropa. Voy a diseñar ropa para que las personas puedan ponerse. Otra de mis metas es ganar mucho dinero para comprar una casa en el desierto. Las casas en el desierto son muy bonitas.

Mi familia: Yo tengo una hermana que se llama Alma, y tengo un hermano que se llama Carlos, y mi papá y mamá. Yo comparto mi cuarto con mi hermana. A veces mi hermana y yo nos llevamos bien. Mi papá es consejero y mi mamá es maestra de español. Mi papá es el que me dice de responsabilidad cuando pierdo algo o se me olvida. Mi mamá me lleva a comprar cosas, comprar los mandados y cocina. Algunas veces mi hermano, hermana y yo limpiamos. Pero sí juego mucho con mis hermanos.

Lo que me gusta: A mi me gustan los animales. Como los perros y los perritos, como los Malteses, y los French poodles. Mi tía tiene dos perritos. Uno se llama Charlie y el otro se llama Gizmo. Charlie es el papá de Gizmo.

También me gusta la música de N'Sync, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera y otros. Todavía me gustan las barbies. Tengo una caja llena de barbies. Me gusta ver la televisión. Los canales que me gustan son ABC Family, Disney chanel y Nickelodeon. En el canal de Nickelodeon me gusta ver "Sponge Bob." En Disney Chanel me gusta ver "Lizzy Mcguire." Y en ABC Family me gusta ver "So Little Time." Mi comida favorita es pizza, espagueti, y sopa de pollo con noodles. Los dulces que me gustan son el dulce de algodón, los Jolly Ranchers y los chocolates.

Mis amigas: Yo tengo muchas amigas. Con las amigas que juego mucho son Alejandra, Arielle, Emily, Jennie e Yvette. Jugamos mucho al obstacle course. Mis amigas son muy buenas. Pero sin Olivia es un poquito aburrido.

Mis talentos: Mis talentos son cantar, bailar y tocar el piano. Yo bailo porque voy a clases de baile. Cada año bailamos dos bailables. Bailamos uno de baile español o mexicana y una de baile moderno. Me gusta cantar pero



Klara Armendáriz, self-portrait



Familia de Klara Amendáriz, por Klara Amendáriz

no enfrente de personas. Otro talento es tocar el piano. Mi abuelita me enseña.

Mis aventuras: Las únicas partes a las que he ido es a Los Ángeles, Phoenix y México. Yo voy a Phoenix para visitar a mi tía. Allí hay un centro comercial y tiene un restaurante que se llama Rain Forest Café. Allí puede uno ver a peces en una pecera muy grande. Hay una tienda en donde puede hacer uno su propio oso de peluche. Esa es mi aventura a Phoenix.

Mi aventura a México: Yo voy a Cananea, Sonora porque mi abuelita vive allí y también mi tío, mis tías y mis dos primas. Una de mis primas se llama Alejandra y mi otra prima se llama Marianita. Mi hermana Alma, Alejandra y yo vamos a la tienda de dulces que está en la esquina. Hay muchas tiendas de dulce allí. Cada vez que vamos a Cananea hay un concierto de piano y yo toco. Mi abuelita es la maestra que nos enseña a tocar.

Mi paseo a Los Ángeles: Yo voy a Los Ángeles para ir a Disneyland y a visitar a mis primas Karina y Cristina. En Disneyland mi paseo favorito es Space Mountain. Pero también me gusta Fantasy Land. Después de cuatro o tres días en Disneyland voy a la casa de mis primas y duermo allí. Alunas veces mi tío Antonio Carlos hace carne asada y otra comida. Muchas personas dicen que hace la carne asada más buena. Esas son todas mis vacaciones.

Este es el final de mi autobiografía. Espero que les guste. 🐾

The Benítez Family

Tina Benítez was born October 16, 1956 in Tucson, Arizona. She remembers Tucson being a lot smaller than it is now. "I remember the streets were a lot smaller; they weren't as big as they are."

Mrs. Benítez first started school at a Catholic school and then moved to public schools. She graduated from Tucson High School and went to college at the University of Arizona. She remembers not having computers or calculators and feels that the students today are fortunate to have these resources.

When Mrs. Benítez attended school, girls were required to wear dresses and were prohibited from wearing pants. Boys were not allowed to wear shorts even during the hot summers.



Left to right: Sra. Ruth Benítez, Alejandra Benítez, Tina Benítez. Holding portrait of Alejandra's great grandparents.

My Grandpa, the Artist

by Christina Chana

Mgrandpa, Leonard Chana is an artist. He is nice and polite. He came to my school to show my class the kind of work he does. He talked about what kind of materials he uses. He also gave my class a signed copy of his artwork. My teacher, Mrs. Gee, really enjoyed his stay. When my class went to lunch most of the teachers came to see some of the work he brought. Some of the teachers bought drawings and t-shirts. He gave me a pack of nice greeting cards he did and more drawings.

CC: Do you have strong memories you can share about your childhood life?

LC: I have a lot of memories. When I first went to school I didn't know how it was run. That was the most memorable part. The other one was the time I went to public school for [only one semester.] That was one of the higher points in my childhood life.

CC: Have you ever been out of the state?

LC: I went to school in California, so I guess that's out of state. I went to boarding school at Sherman Indian High School, which is in

Riverside, California. I've been in San Francisco and in Denver, Colorado—mostly the southwestern states.

CC: Can you tell us about your book?

LC: The book is called "The Way To Make Perfect Mountains." It's written by Byrd Baylor, this was one of the books that I did illustrations for. They're short stories of different tribes of how they started out when the Earth was young. Just different myths and the magic and culture [that] took place back then. 🐾



Leonard Chana speaks about his artwork.



Christina Chana interviews her grandpa, Leonard Chana.

June de los Santos Torreros

Summary and interview by Klara Arredáriz and Jennie Piccarreta

June de los Santos Torreros was born in Tucson, Arizona at St. Mary's Hospital. She was baptized at St. Augustine's Cathedral by Monsignor Carrillo. He's also the same priest who married her and her husband.

June's grandparents lived on the other end of Granada. Her family still lives there. She spent a lot of time with her grandparents, Luis Alberto and Michaela. "My grandmother ... lived just right over here on the other end of Granada on the other side of Fourth Street. We used to come and visit her and we used to go shopping downtown."

They didn't have a television so they told her a lot of stories instead. Her grandfather would tell stories of when he was a child. "He'd tell us different stories about him growing up and we'd sit on the porch and then we'd sing songs, and we'd play cards, and watch the cars go by. That was our form of entertainment."

June also remembers going with her Tata to the wash by the TEP plant. Her grandparents lived right across the street from the train tracks. "We would make my Tata take us down to the wash ... and we'd go walk, crawl down the wash and go all the way into the wash. We'd wait for the train to pass then we would wave to the people on the train."

Sra. De los Santos-Torreros began writing corridos right after she got out of college. She has written about her family and the animals she has. "Just experiences we've done," she said.

Normally her corridos start off as a joke. She and her husband just start singing and playing around. They pull out the guitar and before you know it they come up with a song. She loves writing corridos. ♪



June de los Santos-Torreros tells her story to Klara Arredáriz and Jennie Piccarreta.

Nancy the Tomboy

by Nancy Freitas

My name is Nancy Freitas and I am in fourth grade. I have brown hair, with red and golden highlights. My blue eyes show off my hair, at least that's what my mom says. I was born December 19, 1991, at Northwest Hospital. My dad's name is Robert, my mom's name is Halley, Jacob is my brother's name and he is eight, and last but not least is my youngest brother Samuel, he is five. I am the oldest of three. My brothers and I share a kitten named Angel.

I am going to turn ten tomorrow. I'm four-foot-six and a half. I'm known for being a tomboy and I like it. See, the thing is I want to be a boy. Being a boy would be amazingly cool. You can get dirty, horse around, and do a ton of stuff girls can't do.

Girls are supposed to be proper, love makeup and all that. Well, I've got to tell you I hate it all. First of all I hate makeup. Second, I hate being a girl (you can ask Marianna!)

Some of my adventures are going to Hawaii, going fishing, going to Sequoia National Park, and getting my very cute kitten Angel. Some of my other adventures are really cool but too long to tell.


My neighborhood is big. Let me give you an example: we have weddings there. William is my next-door-neighbor. William and I have a ton

of neighbors. We live on the northern part of Main Ave. For one, I really like my neighborhood. My neighbors are great, and considering the facts, we've got good looking houses. There

was this house called the Chaney House. The Chaney House used to be the most rundown house on our street, but this one man fixed it up, so now it's the most beautiful house on my street. It has stained glass windows, a chandelier, a beautiful garden, and a ton of other cool stuff.

The things that I want to be or that I want to accomplish is to become a police-woman, a soccer player, and be good at sports and music. Sports are one of the things that I love most; they are cool, entertaining, and fun. When I say cool I mean neat. I also love music—I'm in the

mariachi group Las Aguilas de Davis. In the Aguilas you play mariachi music and go around playing for people. Once we even played for the governor of Arizona. It was pretty fun. When we play we also sing. I love it.

My favorite colors are navy blue and bright yellow. My favorite foods are pizza, chocolate chip cookie dough ice cream, and Chinese food. The best place for pizza is Peter Piper Pizza. Baskin Robbins is my favorite place for ice cream. Last but not least is Chinese food, I don't know where we get it, but it's the best. 



Nancy Freitas, self-portrait

Who I Am

by Jennie Piccarreta

My name is Jennie Piccarreta. My background is Italian. My great grandmother was all Italian. I'm not sure where in Italy she was born but I know for a fact she was born in Italy. My grandfather speaks a lot of Italian.

I was born August 20, 1992, at 8:30 p.m. in Tucson, Arizona. I'm not an only child—I have 3 sisters. Their names are Roxanne Garcia, Andrea Borchia, and Danielle Piccarreta. My sister Roxanne has a different last name

because she has a different dad. My sister Andrea is married. Danielle and I belong to my dad Carl Piccarreta.

My best friends are Yvette Sabala, Jasmín Fimbres, and Diego Bravo. Jasmín has been my best friend since the third grade. Yvette has been my best friend since the beginning of the school year. Diego and I always used to fight but now we get along great.

I don't like Barbies. My least favorite food is fish. My favorite food is anything to do with potatoes. I love mashed potatoes with butter. I'm not a vegetarian but I don't eat cows or lambs.

I have three pets—a dog, a bird, and a hamster.

My dog's a girl, her name's Meg. My bird's name is Cheesy. He's a boy. I named him Cheesy because he's orange like cheese. The hamster really belongs to Roxanne. He's a boy too, and his

name is Hampton. Its funny because he climbs like a monkey, digs like a dog, and way more.

I've gone to so many places. I practically always go to San Diego, because my cousin lives there. I've been to Mexico once. I've never been anywhere out of North America.



Jennie Piccarreta, family portrait

My school is 100 years old. Every year my school has a Halloween carnival. The carnival has a haunted house, booths, and food. Each class has to think of a fun activity for the carnival. This year my class made a Wildcat football toss and *cascarones*. We sold all of our *cascarones*.

When I grow up I'm going to be a lawyer. I also think it's a good idea to be a lawyer because I'm already good at arguing.

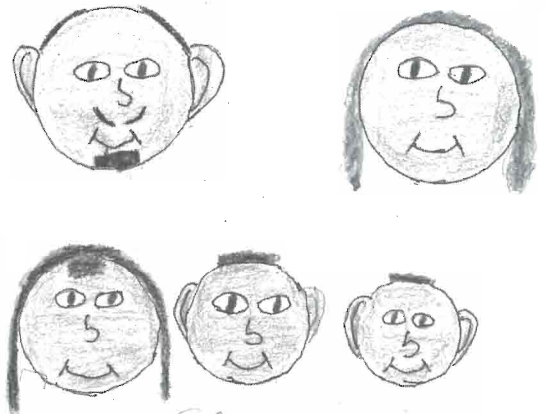
My house is very big. It has a pool and a small backyard. My front yard has two big palm trees. The rocks in my front yard are red. I think it looks really cool. ♣



EMILY

Cabello café, ojos verdes, 54 pulgadas, rara
 Hija de Teri y Steven
 Amante de pastel de chocolate,
 perros y alcachofa
 Que se siente feliz cuando hay
 antojitos los viernes,
 Que se siente triste cuando sus
 perros están lastimados,
 y se enoja cuando tiene que volver
 a hacer su trabajo.
 Que le tiene miedo a las serpientes,
 las alturas y a estar sola.

DERKS



KYRON

Niño, platicador, mediano, bueno
 Hermano de Antoinette y Benjamin
 Amante de deportes, fiestas,
 dulces y canto
 Que se siente feliz, contento, triste
 Que le tiene miedo a mi papá,
 otros perritos y Mariana
 Quien quiere ver al Presidente,
 Snoop Dog, Harry Potter
 Residente de Tucson, Arizona

ELDRIDGE



La Familia Martínez
 Yesika Martínez



The Moraga Family
 Rodolfo Moraga

Medicinal Plants

Our fourth-grade bilingual class began a study of medicinal plants by brainstorming what they knew about the use of plants as medicine. Many of the children had experience with or had heard of using aloe vera to help heal burns or cuts, chamomile (*manzanilla*) tea for stomach pain or upset and for a calming effect, and mint (*hierbabuena*) tea, also for the stomach.

The next step was to ask for help from family and friends. Students collected information from people they knew and from the internet about medicinal plants, and we compiled a list of the plants and their uses.

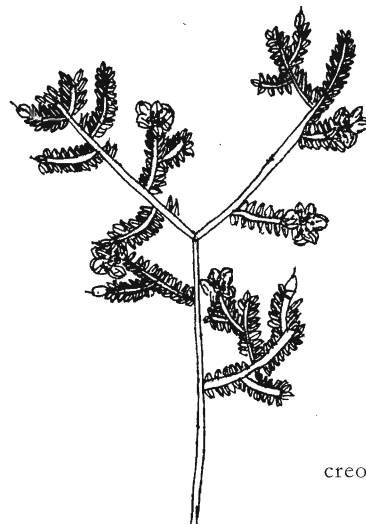
Finally, during a photojournalism project at our school and as part of Davis Oral History Family Night, students interviewed individuals about their knowledge of medicinal plants. It is our good fortune that Sr. Emilio Verdugo works at Davis as a monitor, and is also a practicing healer, or *curandero*, who has vast knowledge of how plants are used for medicinal purposes. Sr. Verdugo is very gracious in sharing this knowledge with others. Students also interviewed residents of the school neighborhood, Barrio Anita, as well as some family members.

In this chapter we share some excerpts from the interviews. Students are in the process of creating a bilingual web page about medicinal plants and a play that will include some of the information they have learned. Some students are putting their new knowledge to practical use, requesting mint or chamomile tea in the classroom when they have stomach troubles, rather than making a visit to the school nurse.

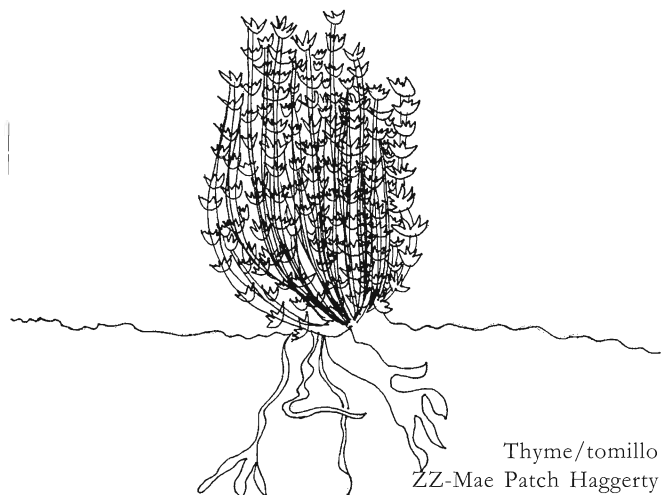
-Mrs. Murphy
Maestra Bilingüe



rosemary/romero
Marilia Mena



creosote/hediondilla
Jasmín Fimbres



Thyme/tomillo
ZZ-Mae Patch Haggerty

Gardens in Barrio Anita

Interview with Estela Dalton

Estela Dalton has lived in Barrio Anita all her life. She attended Davis Elementary, right across the street from her house, which is the only home still standing on her block. Ms. Dalton's house is also right next to the Barrio Anita/Davis garden.

There were three kinds of gardens back then. There was the medicinal and herbal garden, where they had the *romero*, the *hierbabuena*, the lemon balm, the lemon mint. They had the *orégano*, they had the *ruda*. I can't tell you what the name of that in English is, and that was for earache. They would crush the leaves, put it in olive oil, put that in a cotton ball, warm it up a little bit, put it in your ear. You slept with it overnight, and some people would even cover the ear with a handkerchief. So you slept through the night with it stuffed in your ear. The following morning you would wake up without an earache! I'm telling you right now, it was good!

Anyway, most gardens had the herbal and medicinal garden, and then they had the vegetable garden. Most people planted vegetables that were hardy, like the peas, string beans, okra, pickles, 'cause a lot of people did their own pickling. They pickled their own pickles. They pickled the okra and tomatoes, of course, and onions, the green onions, and the brown onions. I heard that somebody in the neighborhood had potato plants. That was really awesome to see them, picking the

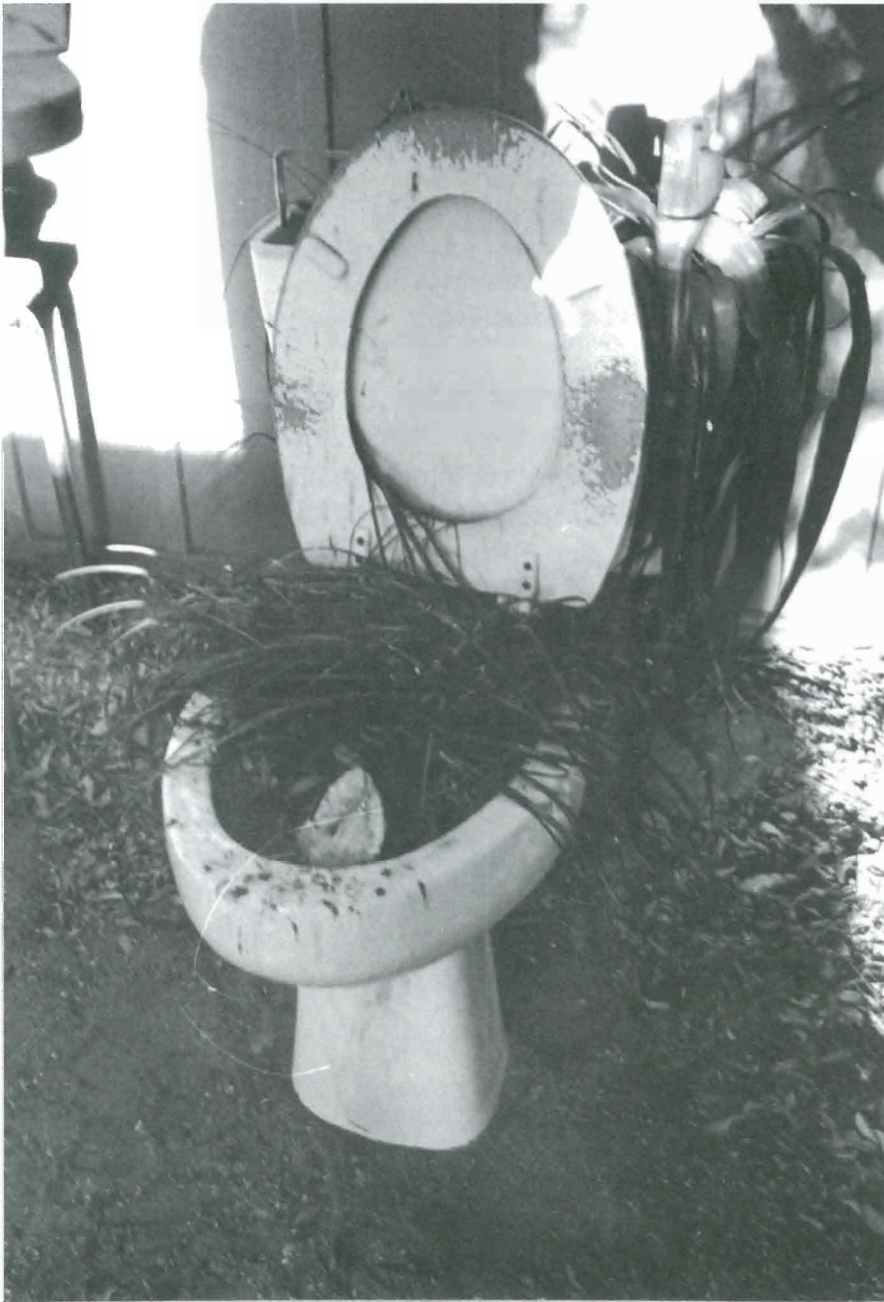
potatoes, you know, because they're a root. Beans, they had beans in their vegetable gardens. There was a whole bunch of swapping—if you had planted something and the neighbors didn't, you could swap them for whatever you didn't plant that year. So nobody was hungry.

Then there was the third garden, the flower garden—the roses, the sweet peas, succulents, all the variety of flowers. It was so cool, because back when I was a kid, we used to have May Day. But it was through the whole month of May. We had rosaries every day to honor Our Lady, Mother of Jesus Christ. Half an hour or forty-five minutes before we went to church to say the rosary, we all got our little baskets, and we went house to house, gathering roses, gathering

carnations, lilies, whatever the neighbors were willing to give us. They would cut the flowers for us, and we'd put 'em in baskets. And here we were, dressed in our little white dresses, with our little veils. We'd go to church and offer up flowers to her. They were recycled throughout the rosary, because at each mass we would take flowers to lay before her feet. So



Estela Dalton remembers gardens in Barrio Anita.



Estela Dalton's recycled planter. Photo by ZZ Mae Haggerty-Patch

that was really cool, because you would be going to church, and you would have all these jasmine, succulents, smelling the roses, the carnation, everything. Sometimes some of the women from the neighborhood would make flower crowns. So we would all go; we would take our veils off and go with our crowns. We were glad we had crowns.

But there were three kinds of gardens. And every house had them, almost every house. Usually the flower gardens would be either in

the front or at the side, around the house. The vegetable garden would be way in the back yard, and the herbal/ medicinal garden would be close to either the back door or the window.

The kids weren't malicious. They wouldn't go around tearing up everybody's gardens, you know? I think the worst thing that we had was kicking the dogs out of the garden, and the cats. But there was no maliciousness, like I see now. We have two gardens, and I've seen them go up and tear the fruits and vegetables. You know, no respect. That's what I see a lot of today. Which was not so back then.

Everybody that had gardens also had chickens. Some people had rabbits. Some people had pigs in the back yard. That was a daily, normal, animal thing. The chickens were not pets; the rabbits were not pets. People had goats, people had pigs. And they weren't pets because we knew we were gonna eat 'em eventually, some of us. We had turkeys. Mean! (Laughs.)

Turkeys are mean! They *will* attack you! Some women had geese in their gardens. But they're a little bit more negotiable than the turkeys. Turkeys are mean.

[The gardens in the neighborhood] were larger. The gardens that they have now in the neighborhood, and they're very few, too, are smaller. And people are older, too, and the younger kids don't have time for gardening. ♣

[Herbs mentioned: *romero*-rosemary; *hierbabuena*-mint; *orégano*, oregano; *ruda*-rue.]

Interview with Cecilia Marmion

by Arielle Marmion



We interviewed Cecilia Marmion, grandmother of Arielle Marmion. We asked Mrs. Marmion which medicinal plants she recommended most and why? She responded, "Chamomile tea because you can use it for babies. Also the Aloe Vera helps

everybody, even animals."

We also asked her, "¿Cómo puede usar alovera para animales? Cómo puede hacer para que puede comer la alovera?" She said, "Pues, no comen la alovera pero sí se usa para las quemadas."

Our next question was, "Where do you get the medicinal plants that you use?"

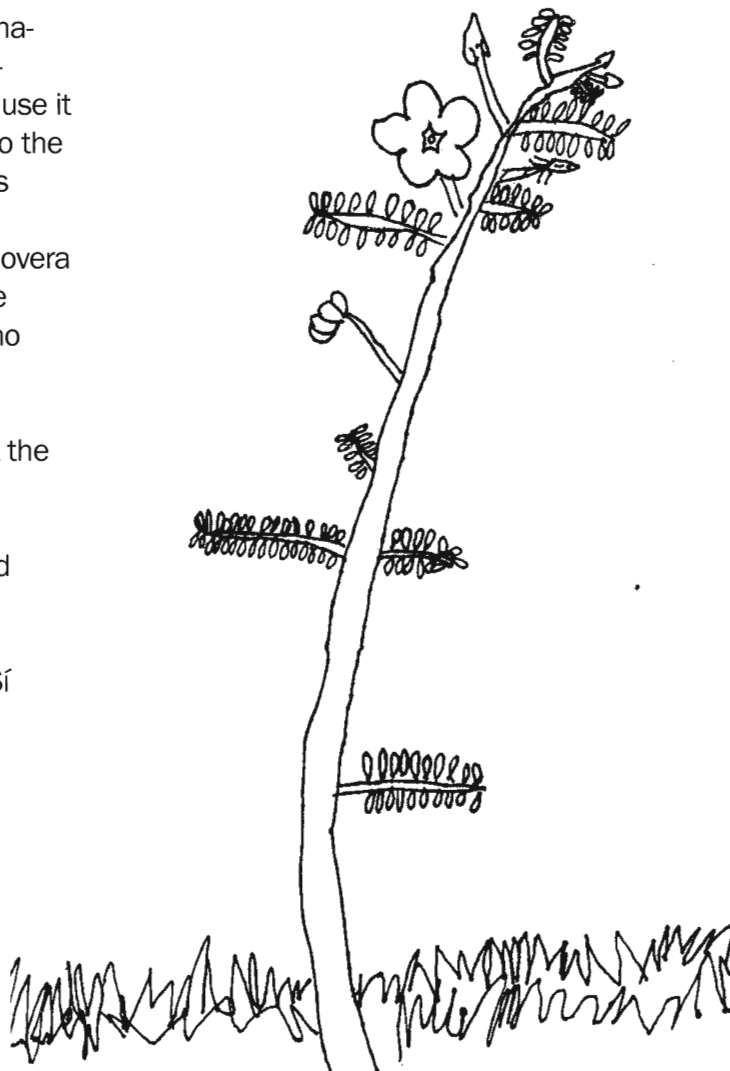
"You can get the plants at nurseries. You can also get them from people you know, and you can also plant them yourself."

We asked, "¿Hay diferentes plantas que puedes usar por otro propósito?" She said, "Sí hay."

We asked, "Which medicinal plants are also used as food?" She said, "When you use the corn to make corn on the cob you get the silk. You get it, you dry it, and when you need it because you have a kidney infection or something then you can boil the silk and drink the tea."

We asked, "How do you get the silk into the tea?"

She said, "What you do is, you take off the silk. You take it off. Then what you do is you put it outside to dry in the sun and then you save it in a plastic bag when it's dry. You have to make sure it's dry. Then when somebody has something wrong as far as like a kidney infection, the kidneys hurt, then you just get it, put it in water, boil it, and strain it and you sip it like a tea." ¶



scurf pea/contra yerba blanca

by Sean Sanderson

El Curandero

Una entrevista con Sr. Emilio Verdugo
por Crystal Caro, Zoe Warren, y Giovanna Giulok

El Señor Verdugo, 89, es una persona muy interesante. Trabaja en la Escuela Davis. Tiene mucho que decir porque tiene muchos años de vida. El Señor Verdugo es muy amable y muy activo. El Señor Verdugo quiso ser doctor, pero su papá se murió y tuvo que cuidar a su familia. La familia del Señor Verdugo es muy grande y han usado las plantas medicinales por muchos años.

APRENDIENDO A HACERSE CURANDERO

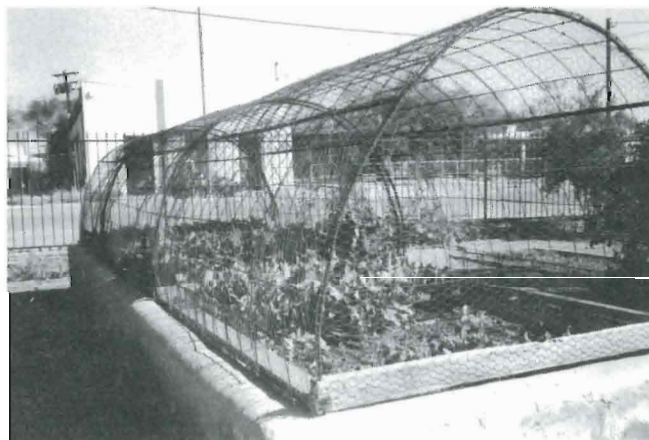
CC: ¿Cómo aprendió usted a usar las plantas medicinales?

EV: Bueno, yo todo el tiempo he sido fanático de la medicina y un Yaqui que se llamaba Roberto Hernández, me enseñó a trabajar con las hierbas. Me ha gustado y he seguido al pie de la letra lo que él me indicó.

Cuando yo terminé la escuela, me preguntaba mi padre: "¿Qué quieres ser tú cuando seas grande?" Doctor. Pues él le platicó a un amigo que tenía en la mina, Cándido Gamez, con el gobierno. Pues sí, le

dijo, el muchacho está entusiasmado, pero para agarrar una beca ahorita, 1926. "No," le dijo, "a ver si se la consigo". Me la consiguió.

Yo tenía todo arreglado para salir a México, D.F., el día 15 de octubre de 1926. Mi padre se



Barrio Anita community garden. Photo by A.J. Arzani



Photo by Christina Acuña

mató en la mina el día primero de octubre y vi truncadas mis ambiciones.. Mi madre sí quería que me fuera, pero había una crisis inmensa, no nomás en Cananea sino en todos los países. Yo le dije, "Mamá, yo me voy a quedar," y me dijo: "No, vete, tienes todo arreglado". Pero éramos diez en la familia. "No," le dije, "yo no quiero que usted ande lavando y planchando para damos de comer."

Pero después ya conocí ese viejecito y ya me inducí. La primera curación que hice yo en Cananea, era un niño como de unos ocho años y

obraba el niño y se le salía el intestino. Entré yo y le dije a la señora, "¿Qué le pasa al niño?" "Somos muy pobres, mire como está mi niño." "¿Me permite que lo ayude?" "Sí".

Pues lo agarré de mi cuenta al niño, y con



Sr. Emilio Verdugo

puro aceite de palo caliente. Cuando el niño obraba, la señora le limpiaba primero el intestino y luego en un algodón ponía aceite de palo calentito y empujaba el intestino. Creció, después lo veía yo en Nogales, y me decía tío.

EM: ¿Y cuando fue eso?

EV: En 1937, estaba mi hija recién nacida.

HABLANDO DE LAS PLANTAS MEDICINALES

ZW: ¿Cuál planta medicinal ha recomendado usted más y por qué?

EV: Bueno mira, yo tuve un hijo muy enfermo, el más chico se me murió, dispensa no voy a dar nombres pero hubo dos doctores que le diagnosticaron que el necesitaba un

transplante de corazón inmediatamente y él dijo, “Yo no me he sentido enfermo; ¿qué pierdo yo si me hago el transplante de corazón inmediatamente?” Y yo le decía, esto, esto y esto. “Pues no lo quiero; si estoy enfermo del corazón yo me quiero morir completo. ¿Qué tiempo me dan de vida?”. Tres meses te damos de vida.

Entonces me dijo: “Papá, usted que conoce tanto de hierbas, ¿hay medicinas para el corazón?”. Sí, sí hay. Mira, compra la cayena; es pimienta caliente; duele al comerla, arde la lengua. La gutucola, el pino y silium. Y con esas vitaminas que yo le di a mi hijo, Dios me lo prestó cuatro años y cinco meses, cuando los doctores le daban tres meses de vida.

CC: ¿Cuál planta medicinal ha usado usted más y por qué?

EV: Bueno, la planta medicinal que he usado más yo, tuve algunos pacientes, aquí había una maestra que llegó a mi casa un día llorando porque llevaba toda la cara torcida. Era parálisis parcial, y me dijo: “Mira como vengo.” Se le salía la saliva y la lengua y todo. Y yo le dije: “Pues yo no he curado esta enfermedad, pero a ver”.

La estuve tratando 31 días, le di masajes, porque también doy masajes, y le di una hierba que lleva por nombre “valeriana” y después ella se alivió; ahorita la ven que parece que nunca tuvo nada.

CC: ¿Es mejor usar las plantas medicinales o medicina moderna?

EV: Pues hay muchas plantas modernas ahorita. Por ejemplo en el Perú han descubierto “la uña de gato,” pero últimamente no la recomiendan mucho muchos curanderos porque parece que había como una propaganda. Como no hace ningún efecto malo, pues mucha gente la tomaba.

CC: ¿Hay una enfermedad que se pueda tratar con las hierbas o con la medicina moderna?

EV: Pues esa medicina que les dije ahorita que se llama valeriana, que de ahí los químicos



Barrio Anita Garden. Photo by A.J. Arzani

hacen el valium, y con el valium las personas se habitúan a él. Pueden estar tomándolo cada momento porque ya tienen el deseo de eso. De ahí de esa planta hacen el valium y con la planta tomándolo así en cápsulas o en té no se habitúa a él.

CC: ¿Cuáles plantas medicinales se usan para comer también?

EV: Ahí tienes por ejemplo el quelite, osea la acelga, el rábano, el apio; el apio es muy bueno para la alta presión, y tienes otras plantas más.

EN SUS PROPIAS PALABRAS:

Vinieron dos señoras de México, hace algunos años, y dijeron: “¿Dónde está Don Emilio Verdugo para curarnos?” ¿Que se les ofrece? Dijeron: “Venimos muy asustadas; nos tomaron unos rayos x, y dicen que tenemos principios de tuberculosis. ¿Nos pudiera usted sugerir alguna hierba?” “Sí,” les dije, “aquí en

Tucson hay bastante de esa hierba; es el pino ese que da una como bolita, y pueden tomarlo como té, y la otra bebida es leche de chiva. Y la estuvieron tomando y como a los seis meses vinieron las señoras muy contentas, y me dijeron que habían ido con los doctores, les habían tomado rayos x, les hicieron unos análisis y que les dijo el doctor que qué había pasado. “Entonces, las medicinas que nos dió el doctor las ignoramos y tomamos lo que usted nos dió.”

Hay otra hierba también que yo sugiero para el hongo. ¿Saben ustedes lo que es el hongo? El hongo es como el pie de atleta; salen unos granitos en los pies, en las arcas, en las partes vaginales, tanto del hombre como de la mujer. Da mucha comezón y despide un líquido y ese líquido va haciendo daño y yo sugiero usar el nogal silvestre, ese que da la bolita verde, la más verde, que lo tomen como té y que se pasen con algodón donde tienen el hongo, y les



Photo by Antoinette Dickens

sugiero unas pastillas de patente que las recetan los doctores. Pero yo tengo un amigo en Nogales, farmacéutico, y las mando allá que les venda una pastilla que se llama "Fungiforte" y con eso tiene.

Ahorita la ciencia esta muy adelantada, como dice usted, las computadoras hacen maravillas, pero tenemos gente que tenemos mucha creencia en las hierbas y tenemos gente que no las apreciamos. Cuando yo salía con esta señora Elvira, fue a graduarse lentes a una clínica de oculistas que está por la Pima para el este. Encontramos ahí a una señora, y se ofreció de las hierbas. Y me dijo la señora, "Fíjese señor, yo vivo en Ciudad Obregón y mi esposo es hombre de negocios y ya está perdiendo la vista por el diabetes. ¿Cree usted que pueda sugerirme alguna hierba que le ayude a mi esposo?" "¿Toma su esposo?" le dije. "No, no toma mi esposo" "Sí hay una hierba, es muy mala, muy amarga; désela." "¿Con dulce?" "No, así désela para que le quiebre el azúcar en la sangre." Y al año volvió la señora y estaba otra vez yo ahí, y me dijo: "Don Emilio, es usted?" "Sí yo soy, y Usted es la señora del esposo enfermo en Obregón ¿no?" "Vengo a felicitarlo y a graduarme lentes por

que mi esposo ha mejorado mucho de la diabetes y de la vista".

Yo cuando estaba joven sufría mucho del estómago. Cuando me casé con mi esposa seguí sufriendo del estómago. Una mañana salí muy enfermo y le dije, "Yo creo que esto es. Los papeles de mi jubilación están a nombre de usted, tengo una aseguranza de cien mil pesos, las casas están a nombre de los dos, pero al fallecer yo, tú quedas como dueña absoluta de ellas." Fui

con el doctor y qué tan enfermo no iría que los enfermos que estaban ahí me dieron el paso, y me dice el doctor, "Lo que tiene usted son úlceras." Ese día me inyectó para las úlceras y está mal, y yo otro día me fui con el Doctor Froilan Fausto, un español y me dijo: "No, lo que tiene usted es mala digestion," y luego me fui con el Doctor Antonio Maldonado, muy amigo mío, y le dije y me dió el mismo diagnóstico, y luego me fui con el Doctor Sánchez que era el jefe de la Clínica Obrera. Me tomó rayos x, me examinó perfectamente bien: "Lo que tiene usted es mala digestión".

Otro día fui con Delgadillo y le dije, "Tres diagnósticos no se pueden equivocar," le dije, "Yo no tengo úlceras, tengo mala digestión." "Ah," me dijo, "si tienes mala digestión toma el estomacuro; pues ese polvo ha hecho maravillas aquí en Tucson.

Yo lo sugiero mucho para el hígado, los intestinos, dolores cólicos y yo todo el tiempo tengo. Cuando como alguna comida dudosa, agarro en la puntita de una cuchara y le hecho en medio vaso de agua.

Y va a obrar uno de este color, pero no hay que asustarse y tiene un sabor como a cal remojada; es maravilloso. 🍌

Oral History Night



Photocollage by José Olivas. Images from Davis Oral History Family Night, 2002

