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PP en DC

 **DESTACADOS** **Elecciones presidenciales en Estados Unidos - Candidatos****John McCain**

John McCain has a remarkable record of leadership and experience that embodies his unwavering lifetime commitment to service. First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona in 1982, John has led the fight for reforming Washington, eliminating wasteful government spending, and strengthening our nation's armed forces.

John McCain's reform agenda to reduce federal spending and lower taxes quickly elevated him to statewide office and he was elected to the United States Senate in 1986, after serving two terms in the U.S. House.



In the Senate, John continued to demand that Congress put an end to loopholes for special interests and fix the broken system in Washington that too often allows lobbyists to write legislation and members of Congress to waste taxpayer money. In November 2004, Senator McCain was overwhelmingly reelected with nearly 77 percent of the vote.

As the son and grandson of distinguished Navy admirals, John McCain deeply values duty, honor and service of country. John attended college at the United States Naval Academy, and launched a 22-year career as a naval aviator upon his graduation. He continued the McCain tradition of service to country passed down to him from his father and grandfather when he asked to serve in the Vietnam War.

On July 29 1967, John narrowly survived the first of many near-death experiences during his lifetime while preparing to take off on a bombing mission over North Vietnam from his ship, the USS Forrestal. A missile accidentally fired from a nearby plane struck the fuel



tanks on John's plane and created a deadly inferno aboard the ship. John barely escaped the fiery disaster that killed 134 men, injured hundreds more and destroyed 20 planes.

Instead of taking the option to return home after the Forrestal disaster, Senator McCain volunteered for more combat duty - a fateful decision that stopped the clock on his life and separated him from his family, and country, for five and a half years.

During his 23rd bombing mission on October 26, 1967, a missile struck John's plane and forced him to eject, knocking him unconscious and breaking both his arms and his leg. John was then taken as a prisoner of war into the now infamous "Hanoi Hilton," where he was denied necessary medical treatment and often beaten by the North Vietnamese. John spent much of his time as a prisoner of war in solitary confinement, aided by his faith and the friendships of his fellow POWs. When he was finally released and able to return home years later, John continued his service by regaining his naval flight status.

Senator McCain's last Navy duty assignment was to serve as the naval liaison to the United States Senate. John retired from the Navy in 1981. His naval honors include the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Senator McCain has seven children and four grandchildren, and currently lives in Phoenix, Arizona with his wife Cindy.

Source and more information:

<http://www.gopconvention2008.com/> and <http://www.johnmccain.com>

Barack Obama

Barack Obama was born in Hawaii on August 4th, 1961. His father, Barack Obama Sr., was born and raised in a small village in Kenya, where he grew up herding goats with his own father, who was a domestic servant to the British. Barack's mother, Ann Dunham, grew up in small-town Kansas. Barack grew up with his mother in Hawaii, and for a few years in Indonesia. Later, he moved to New York, where he graduated from Columbia University in 1983.

Remembering the values of empathy and service that his mother taught him, Barack put law school and corporate life on hold after college and moved to Chicago in 1985, where he became a community organizer with a church-based group seeking to improve living conditions in poor neighborhoods plagued with crime and high unemployment. The group had some success, but Barack had come to realize that in order to truly improve the lives of people in that community and other communities, it would take not just a change at the local level, but a change in our laws and in our politics.

He went on to earn his law degree from Harvard in 1991, where he became the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review. Soon after, he returned to Chicago to practice as a civil rights lawyer and teach constitutional law. Finally, his advocacy work led him to run for the Illinois State Senate, where he served for eight years. In 2004, he became the third African American since Reconstruction to be elected to the U.S. Senate.

It has been the rich and varied experiences of Barack Obama's life - growing up in different places with people who had differing ideas - that have animated his political journey. Amid



the partisanship and bickering of today's public debate, he still believes in the ability to unite people around a politics of purpose - a politics that puts solving the challenges of everyday Americans ahead of partisan calculation and political gain.

In the Illinois State Senate, this meant working with both Democrats and Republicans to help working families get ahead by creating programs like the state Earned Income Tax Credit, which in three years provided over \$100 million in tax cuts to families across the state. He also pushed through an expansion of early childhood education, and after a number of inmates on death row were found innocent, Senator Obama worked with law enforcement officials to require the videotaping of interrogations and confessions in all capital cases.

In the U.S. Senate, he has focused on tackling the challenges of a globalized, 21st century world with fresh thinking and a politics that no longer settles for the lowest common denominator. His first law was passed with Republican Tom Coburn, a measure to rebuild trust in government by allowing every American to go online and see how and where every dime of their tax dollars is spent. He has also been the lead voice in championing ethics reform that would root out Jack Abramoff-style corruption in Congress.

As a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator Obama has fought to help Illinois veterans get the disability pay they were promised, while working to prepare the VA for the return of the thousands of veterans who will need care after Iraq and Afghanistan. Recognizing the terrorist threat posed by weapons of mass destruction, he traveled to Russia with Republican Dick Lugar to begin a new generation of non-proliferation efforts designed to find and secure deadly weapons around the world. And knowing the threat we face to our economy and our security from America's addiction to oil, he's working to bring auto companies, unions, farmers, businesses and politicians of both parties together to promote the greater use of alternative fuels and higher fuel standards in our cars.

Whether it's the poverty exposed by Katrina, the genocide in Darfur, or the role of faith in our politics, Barack Obama continues to speak out on the issues that will define America in the 21st century. But above all his accomplishments and experiences, he is most proud and grateful for his family. His wife, Michelle, and his two daughters, Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, live on Chicago's South Side.

Source and more information:

<http://www.demconvention.com/> and <http://www.barackobama.com/index.php>

Para más información sobre las convenciones republicana y demócrata:

<http://www.demconvention.com/> y <http://www.gopconvention2008.com/>

The Wall Street Journal:

http://online.wsj.com/public/page/election2008.html?mod=2_1309

The Financial Times:

<http://www.ft.com/indepth/uselections2008>

Washington Post:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/politics/elections/>

 **WASHINGTONIANS** 

Noticias y actividades en la capital

Brookings Institution**FORO**

Friday, September 05, 2008

10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

1775 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC

“The Future of US Homeland Security”

On September 5th, the Brookings Institution will host **Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff** for a discussion of America’s homeland security. With the upcoming anniversary of the September 11th attacks, Secretary Chertoff will reflect upon the department’s progress to date while also outlining future challenges we may face over the next five years, with a particular focus on our nation’s critical infrastructure. He will broaden the scope of the discussion to include a forward-looking view of homeland security, and how best to address certain vulnerabilities as we advance into the twenty-first century.

Michael Chertoff was sworn in as the second Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on February 15, 2005. He formerly served as United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and was previously confirmed by the Senate to serve in the Bush Administration as Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division at the Department of Justice. As Assistant Attorney General, Chertoff helped trace the 9/11 terrorist attacks to the al-Qaida network, and worked to increase information sharing within the FBI and with state and local officials.

Brookings Senior Fellow Michael O’Hanlon will provide introductory remarks. After the program, Secretary Chertoff will take audience questions.

RSVP: events@brookings.edu

Más información:

http://www.brookings.edu/events/2008/0902_chertoff.aspx

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - CSIS:**FORO**

Martes, 16 de septiembre de 2008, 2 pm - 4 pm

CSIS B1 Conference Room 1800 K St. NW; Washington, DC 20006

The Asia Division of the CSIS International Security Program will introduce its newly published report on confidence-building measures (CBMs) across the Taiwan Strait and discuss the recent developments in China-Taiwan relations. The advent of a new administration in Taiwan under the leadership of president Ma Ying-jeou and his Kuomintang party has been accompanied by promising prospects for improved relations with the mainland. Recognizing that the role of CBMs is critical to the process of establishing mutual trust, reducing the dangers of accidental conflict, and

stabilizing cross-strait ties, authors Bonnie Glaser and Brad Glosserman led a delegation of experts to Taipei and Beijing in April 2008 to hold meetings with experts and officials on potential CBMs in the military, health, and environmental spheres. The authors and moderator Ralph Cossa will share findings from the project and recommendations for China, Taiwan, and the United States, as well as discuss prospects for and obstacles to continued improvement in cross-strait ties and implications for the United States.

Para más información:

http://www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_events/task,view/id,1764/

FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION

FORO – JORNADAS

September 23-24, 2008

The St. Regis Roof, 2 East 55th Street, **New York City**, at the corner of 5th Avenue

“World Leadership Forum 2008”

Hosted by the Foreign Policy Association and coinciding with the opening session of the United Nations General Assembly, our annual World Leadership Forum will take place September 23 and 24, 2008.

Join us to hear leading experts discuss the most important issues and challenges that confront the United States and the world today.

Key note Speakers: H.E. Felipe Calderón (President of Mexico); **H.E. José Luís Rodríguez Zapatero** (President of Spain); H.E. Lech Kaczynski (President of Poland); H.E. Jan Peter Balkenende (Prime Minister of the Netherlands)

Más información:

http://www.fpa.org/calendar_url2420/calendar_url_show.htm?doc_id=696887

ARTE

“DIEBENKORN IN NEW MEXICO”



Is on view from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, to Sunday, Sept. 7 at the **Phillips collection**, 1600 21st st. nw. \$12. (202) 387-2436.

It's not just color that sets **Richard Diebenkorn's** New Mexico works apart from the rest of his oeuvre, though their hues could come from nowhere else. Diebenkorn, a Californian who first dabbled in figure painting, landscapes, and geometric abstract shapes, moved to Albuquerque for artistic inspiration and a master's degree in 1950, when he was 28. The two-and-a-half years he spent there ushered in his period of abstract expressionism and changed his palette to desert tan, sunset red, cactus green, and Navajo turquoise. The

influence of Clyfford Still is apparent, as is the artist's time spent as a cartographer for the military—many of the paintings are intended to be aerial views, with jagged brushstrokes as their dusty patches of desert. One gem in the exhibit is a rare untitled sculpture, thought to be one of only two by the artist existing.

Más información: <http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/display.php?id=35986>

LECTURAS RECOMENDADAS:

"Isaiah Berlin: Un liberal en perspectiva" (Fundación FAES)

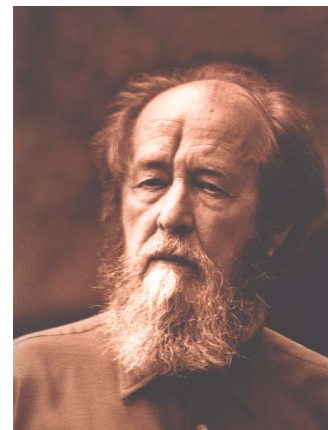
Para descargar el libro:

http://documentos.fundacionfaes.info/document_file/filename/1977/Isaiah_Berlin_2-6-08.pdf

Isaiah Berlin (6 de junio de 1909 - 5 de noviembre de 1997) es uno de los grandes pensadores liberales de la segunda mitad del siglo XX. Nacido en Riga, Letonia, en el seno de una familia judía de origen ruso, y educado en Oxford, su experiencia vital, plena de vicisitudes, le ayudó a no excluir nunca la opinión del otro. Su visión de la libertad parte de esta aceptación de la autonomía individual y del respeto a la opinión contraria. En su famosa conferencia de 1958, "Dos conceptos de libertad", Berlin distingue entre libertad positiva y libertad negativa. Ésta última es la esencial para él porque confiere a la persona autonomía y gobierno de sus decisiones

"The Gulag Archipelago, 1918-1956: An Experiment in Literary Investigation" by Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn

The Gulag Archipelago is Solzhenitsyn's attempt to compile a literary-historical record of the vast system of prisons and labor camps that came into being shortly after the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia in 1917 and that underwent an enormous expansion during the rule of Stalin from 1924 to 1953. Various sections of the three volumes describe the arrest, interrogation, conviction, transportation, and imprisonment of the Gulag's victims by Soviet authorities over four decades. The work mingles historical exposition and Solzhenitsyn's own autobiographical accounts with the voluminous personal testimony of other inmates that he collected and committed to memory during his imprisonment. Upon publication of the first volume of *The Gulag Archipelago*, Solzhenitsyn was immediately attacked in the Soviet press. Despite the intense interest in his fate that was shown in the West, he was arrested and charged with treason on February 12, 1974, and was exiled from the Soviet Union the following day.



Para más información: <http://www.amazon.com/Gulag-Archipelago-1918-1956-Experiment-Investigation/dp/0813332893>


 TRIBUNA

Por Ignacio Ibáñez,*

Tras el maratón, ¿la muerte?

Enciendo la televisión. Himno chino, bandera ondeante, asiático de oro al borde de las lágrimas. Cambio de canal y no entiendo nada. Me considero una persona amante del deporte -incluso de aquél gran desconocido llamado "curling" que uno sólo puede ver a altas horas de la madrugada en Eurosport- pero sólo alcanzo a entender que hay un deportista dando saltos en un trampolín, como si se tratara de una cama elástica del parque de atracciones, y que ya será suficiente triunfo el que no se parta la crisma después de tamañas piruetas. Voy a por el tercer canal en menos de 20 segundos. Himno chino, bandera ondeante, estadounidense bañado en plata con cara de resaca y pocos amigos.

¿Es este el mundo que nos espera? ¿Una China dorada cuyas intenciones pocos llegan a entender -sobre todo los argénteos Estados Unidos de América-? La incongruencia radica en la misma pregunta, pues el análisis de un resultado a futuro no debería centralizar el análisis del presente sino ser un factor más de éste. Vamos, la misma incongruencia que el que yo esté delante del televisor en lugar de estar disfrutando de la playa o la montaña en el mes de agosto.



Source: The Economist -KAL

http://www.economist.com/research/articlesBySubject/displaystory.cfm?subjectid=8717275&story_id=109268

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* Ignacio Ibáñez es el editor de esta Newsletter.



El resurgir del imperio chino y su pronta (personalmente tengo grandes dudas acerca de la prontitud, pero dejémoslo ahí) primacía en la escena internacional no es el asunto que debe centralizar nuestro debate hoy, lo es el actual funcionamiento del sistema político chino y su recurrente violación del derecho internacional y del derecho internacional de los derechos humanos. La sociedad internacional está equivocada al creer que la permisividad y la vista gorda van a atraer a la clase dirigente china hacia un aperturismo socio-político. No lo han hecho las olimpiadas, sino todo lo contrario. Lo hubiera hecho una condena global y conjunta; un sabotaje de la pantomima que galvanizara aún más el descontento de esos individuos –pues es siempre el individuo, parafraseando a Locke- que conforman la sólida clase media de la costa sureste de la República Popular.

Las clases dirigentes chinas están instaladas en un status quo que no tienen la más mínima intención de modificar, lo pretenden perpetuar. De ahí la tergiversación del concepto de democracia por el que abogan. No, no es un “mandarinato democrático” ni una “democracia a la china”, como dicen algunos, pues ello es una *contradictio in terminis* manifiesta. La denominación es dictadura maoísta combinada con aperturismo económico. Sin duda términos mucho menos comerciales pero mucho más apegados a la realidad.

La democracia liberal tiene unas reglas del juego claras, y el atentado constante al derecho a la vida y a la seguridad de los ciudadanos, a la libertad de expresión, al Estado de Derecho, a un juicio justo (innumerables son los ejemplos de barbaridades procesales y de fondo en los tribunales locales de las provincias chinas del interior, incluso en asuntos penales) y a los principios básicos de la libertad negativa, siguiendo a Isaiah Berlin, no se conjuga en absoluto con el deber ser y el ser de una sociedad abierta.

La táctica de dar “zanahorias” en lugar de “palos” a China para que se acerque a la protección de esos derechos fundamentales es errónea. Las “zanahorias” habría que dárselas a la clase media china a la que antes hacía referencia, y los palos, por ejemplo bajo la forma de un boicot a los Juegos Olímpicos de Pekín, a los dirigentes comunistas. Y no son válidos los argumentos relativistas contrarios a la validez universal de los derechos humanos pues, entre otras muchas razones, China, para ser miembro, firmó la Carta de las Naciones Unidas donde se recoge su protección y primacía. En este sentido, y a través de su aceptación universalizada por los 192 países miembros de Naciones Unidas, se puede defender que esos principios forman parte de la costumbre internacional y que deben ser respetados como principios de derecho imperativo. Y es que sobre todo, además son un imperativo ético.

La sociedad internacional ha de trabajar en ayudar al cambio democrático-liberal en China hoy, no sentarse en el palco o ante el sillón para mañana escuchar el marcial himno, contemplar la encarnada bandera ondeante, y deleitarse con el baño en oro de unos sonrientes ojos rasgados. Porque tras esa sonrisa, tras ese Potemkin olímpico, millones de almas están esclavizadas. Si ha de ser, contemplemoslo, sí, pero en libertad.

CARTAS Y FOTOS

Para contribuir a esta sección con información, opiniones o críticas, por favor escriba un correo electrónico a: ppwashington@gmail.com

¡Envíenos también su mejor foto de Washington D.C.!

En cada número publicaremos la fotografía ganadora y el nombre del artista.

**Ganadora de la quincena: Por Isabel F. Izkaola
"Lafayette Square"**



INFORMACIÓN

Depresión postvacacional, algunos trucos para hacerla más llevadera

“El mes de septiembre es un mes fatídico para muchos, y es que significa la vuelta al trabajo y a nuestra rutina diaria. Debido a esto muchas personas sufren lo que se conoce como **depresión post vacacional**. Un estado de ánimo que puede mitigarse si sabemos en qué consiste y como combatirlo.

La depresión post vacacional es un estado de ánimo en el que nuestra conducta y predisposición se ven afectadas por tener que volver a retomar nuestras responsabilidades. Este estado influye de forma importante en nuestro organismo, y es que **nos encontramos tristes y sin fuerzas** para afrontar de nuevo la rutina. Normalmente tiene mucha importancia cómo nos sentimos en nuestro puesto de trabajo.

Este estado de ánimo se produce cuando el ambiente de nuestro trabajo es demasiado absorbente, estresante o deshumanizado. Es **importante que nos sintamos a gusto con lo que hacemos** para que no suponga un duro trago regresar a nuestro puesto de trabajo. Pero cuando esto no es así lo único que podemos hacer es ser positivos para evitar tener un estado de ánimo bajo que empeorará nuestra salud general.

Lo que es cierto es que la tristeza al volver al trabajo es más común de lo que pensamos, pero para mejorar nuestro estado y que esta vuelta no sea tan traumática es importante seguir unas pautas. Debemos **anticipar progresivamente la vuelta** al trabajo. Es importante regresar unos días antes a nuestra casa para comenzar a habituarnos a la rutina.

Tenemos que tener en cuenta los objetivos que queremos conseguir en el trabajo para concentrarnos en conseguirlos, eso sí, tienen que ser reales y accesibles. En este ámbito debemos enfocarnos en mejorar nuestras deficiencias. Es importante pedir ayuda a los compañeros. Es primordial tener **amigos** en nuestro entorno laboral en quien podamos confiar y con quien podamos descargarnos.

Es aconsejable **reducir la ansiedad** con ejercicios de relajación, paseos, deporte, yoga... Las actividades gratificantes nos ayudarán a eliminar el estrés. Pero ante todo es importante **mantener un ambiente de trabajo bueno** y agradable. No es aconsejable crear climas de tensión ni tener enemistades en el trabajo, pues esto nos hará más cuesta arriba el día a día.

A partir de ahora debemos **mantener una actitud más positiva frente a la vuelta** de vacaciones si queremos tener una buena salud. Para ello simplemente basta con seguir estas pequeñas recomendaciones, aunque es normal sentirnos algo decaídos los primeros días.”

Más información: <http://www.vitonica.com/2008/08/26-depresion-postvacacional-algunos-trucos-para-hacerla-mas-llevadera>

http://www.medicinageneral.org/revista_89/pdf/695-697.pdf



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