

Agents raid six



By GREG PIERQUET

TIMES-REPUBLICAN Friday evening's town hall meeting at St. Mary's Church served as a time for a community to come out of hiding and

catch its collective breath.

On hand were state and

local officials, faith leaders,

school representatives and

local Hispanic Community raid on Swift & Company.

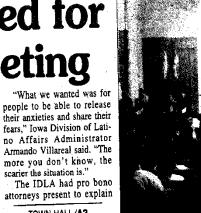
Feagan of Hispanic Ministries of St. Mary's, Sam Carbajal and Martha Garcia. The Iowa Division of Latino Affairs coordinated the

Hispanic families still reeling

their anxieties and share their fears," Iowa Division of Latino Affairs Administrator Armando Villareal said. "The more you don't know, the meeting and provided pro bono lawyers to advise the

scarier the situation is." The IDLA had pro bono after Tuesday's Immigration attorneys present to explain and Customs Enforcement

TOWN HALL/A2





Gifts of Christmas." FRONT . A1 The Marshall County Board of Supervisors adjusted a number of different fees on Tuesday. FRONT . A1

City Council beaths work on filling vacancy created with the death of council member John Cahill. LOCAL . A2

WEATHER Mostly Sunny

Low DETAILS • A2 INDEX * *

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When words matter:

The discourse about Latino immigrants in Marshalltown, IA

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The raid in Marshalltown, IA

Operation Wagon Train

- December 12, 2006
- Six different locations (Greeley, Colorado; Grand Island, Nebraska; Cactus, Texas; Hyrum, Utah; Worthington, Minnesota)
- 1,282 individuals were detained
- In Marshalltown, Iowa 90 people were arrested

Did the raid that occurred in December 12, 2006 contribute to greater division of the Anglo and the Latino community in Marshalltown, IA?

- The discourse of editorials and letters to the editor of the local newspaper.
- The analysis is focused on Latinos and immigration issues six months before the raid occurred on December 12, 2006 and its change in the first six months after the raid.

About Marshalltown

- Meatpacking town
- In 1990, there were 291 Hispanics in Marshalltown, which had a total population of 25,178.
 - They were just over 1% of the population.
- In 2007, the total population was estimated at 25,815 and the estimated Latino population around 5000
 - —nearly 20 per cent of the total.

The Times-Republican

- 86.4% of Iowa adults read a local newspaper, 73% are subscribed to their local newspaper.
- A circulation of approximately 10,189 copies.
- A readership of 20,378 persons (lowa Newspaper Association, INA 2009).
- Distributed in more than 26 cities in Iowa, 90% of its sales occur in the city of Marshalltown (Dedman, B. and Step Doig, S., June 2005).

Methods

- Editorials and letters to the editor were accessed through the newspaper's microfilms.
- A year of editorial pages July 2006 to July 2007- were scanned to identify items relating to immigration.

Letters to the editor and editorials

- Editorials and letters to the editor were chosen as the primary data of analysis.
 - The sections where the readers and the newspaper can speak their minds;
 - They reflect opinion in the community.

Letters to the Editor

- Letters to the editor is the section where readers have the opportunity to share their opinions about topics of the day.
- Among the best read sections of a
 Newspaper, Rystrom (1983), Stonecipher (1979), Spencer (1924), and Macdougall (1973)
- Influence public policy, Ede (1984) and Habel (2006)

Editorials

- Written with the same purpose as letters to the editor but in this case by the editorial board or by the staff.
- When editorials are not signed by a specific author, they could be considered as the point of view of the entire editorial staff.

The discourse

- Three different categories;
 - Legalist, where the authors express that they are in favor of maintaining the law and order and the homogeneity of the community;
 - Pluralist, authors see cultural diversity as an asset and immigrant as a resource for the community (Flora et al., 2008), and finally
 - Pragmatist, which do not prescribe specific linguistic practices but the authors have a practical view of the presence of the undocumented immigrants, in this case, "they are aware of the legal status of the immigrants, but they recognize the economic contributions of immigrants in general" (Flora et. al., 2008).

Number of editorials, letters to the editor, and Talk Back calls

Journalistic Piece	Number
Editorials	7
Letters to the editor	26
Printed phone calls/ Talk back section	126
Total	159

Bill limiting local police involvement is bad idea

Now it has come to this: Congress is considering a bill that would prohibit local and state police from enforcing some laws.

If you guessed that political correctness concerning illegal immigration is involved, you're right. The bill in question, being considered by both the Senate and the House of Representatives, would prohibit local and state police from arresting illegal immigrants simply for being in this country illegally. In order to make arrests, they would have to find some offense not involving immigration law.

For some time now, federal immigration officials have made it clear that they don't want to work with local and state law enforcement officials.

Now, some members of Congress want to make that attitude the law of the land.

Given the ineffectiveness of federal immigration agencies in

THE ISSUE

Congress is considering a bill that would keep local and state police out of the illegal immigration issue. It would be one thing if the federal immigration agencies were effective in dealing with illegal immigrants, but considering their track record, we think any limit on law enforcement involvement in the illegal immigrtion issue would be a big mistake.

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apprehending illegal aliens, one might expect that they would welcome help from local and state authorities. Not so.

Given the fact that one concern about the ranks of illegal aliens is that some of them may be terrorists, one might think that federal immigration officials would be delighted to have local and state cops working with them. Again, not so.

The measure should be referred to as the hands-off-ille gal-aliens bill. It is one of the most idiotic ideas to surface in the debate over illegal immigration. Congress shouldn't even be discussing it.

Discourse	Before the raid	After the raid
Legalist	2	0
Pragmatist	1	3
Pluralist	0	1
Total editorials analyzed	3	4

Congress is considering a bill that would keep local and state police out of the illegal immigration issue. It would be one thing if the federal immigration agencies were effective in dealing with illegal immigrants, but considering their track record, we think any limit on law enforcement involvement in the illegal immigration issue would be a big mistake.

Before the raid, July 21, 2006

Editorials after the raid

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Times-Republican, Marshalltown, Iowa

OUR VIEW Real reform could begin in Marshalltown

he pain caused last week after Immigration and **Customs Enforcement** agents swept into Marshalltown this country isn't working unannounced and apprehended scores of workers at the city's largest employer has still not subsided. 'Operation Wagon Wheel,' as the raid was termed, was repeated across the country in five other communities besides Marshalltown.

But at least one lingering question continues to be asked throughout this city - and presumably in the other cities that also experienced a raid — what did it all accomplish?

By the government's own account, there are an estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants thought to be in the United States illegally. Last week's raid on the six communities nationwide by ICE apprehended about 1,200 people, or one 10.000th of that number.

It would take ICE 27 years conducting the exact same raid daily with identical results to

and that's assuming no other

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sure the fire doesn't spread then attack the fire.

Our immigration policy in because the government is concentrating on a small shed while block after block of buildings are burning out of control.

We have a suggestion.

We believe there should be a summit on immigration policy and that it should be held in Marshalltown.

We suggest the city invites all the appropriate government agencies and Congressional decision makers to hear from people who are directly affected by useless raids like the one performed on our town and provide input in an attempt to obtain a better, more effective policy.

We think Hispanic community leaders, our mayor, city council members, the board of supervisors, the school superintendent, Swift officials, chamWe think Hispanic community leaders, our mayor, city council members, the board of supervisors, the school superintendent, Swift officials, chamber of commerce leaders, MEDIC members and church leaders should all be heard. Their insight could help lead to a common sense policy that will

keep families together, provide needed workers for businesses and eliminate senseless raids that accomplish nothing.

WEDIC Includers and church leaders should all be heard.

The readers Letters to the editor

	Before th	e raid	After the raid		
	Marshalltown	Outside M'town	Marshalltown	Outside M'town	
Legalist	1	0	5	8	
Pragmatist	1	0	3	1*	
Pluralist	1	0	3	1*	
NA	0	0	2	0	
Total	3	0	13	10	

Letters to the editor

is control the perimeter to make to start is now.

- The raid gave the community an opportunity to be more vocal about their position on immigration.
- After the raid, 23 letters were published.

YOUR VIEW Don't forget where we are Lisa L. Smith Marshalltown

Have we forgotten that this is America? America was built on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Our forefathers, as I read, wanted diversity butwanted it the legal way.

Here's a quote from former President Theodore Roosevelt that might strike some interest. "In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American ... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag ... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language ... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people." Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

Write Us The Times-Republican welcomes letters from readers on any subject of current interest. Letters must include the writer's signature, address and a phone number for verifi-

cation purposes. Concise and legible letters have a better chance of being published. Letters should not exceeed 200 words. All letters are subject to editing. We reserve the right to shorten letters and reject those deemed libelous, in poor taste or of a personal nature.

Every American citizen needs to read this often. Why do we have to go back almost 100 years to get the big picture?

As an American citizen of this country, I feel we have not only allowed this to happen, but we have forgotten our roots. God and Country. Please remember what our American men and women soldiers are doing in the Middle East. They are dying for these very freedoms.

Thank you, God, for our freedom!

Just saying what's on mind Sandy Roop Marshalltown

Isn't it terrible every single family that is getting deported for being here to work is because we have so many of our own people sitting back and getting fat living off the welfare (children). We need to get them all off their fannies (men and women) and make them

work, unless there is some reason (health) that they can't work. Don't ask them, tell them. We wouldn't see so many families that are getting deported or split up. These kids are being punished and it's not fair to them.

They can get medical insurance through the companies and won't have to get food stamps. Besides the food stamp card only buys the groceries — for the ones that only want the money in exchange for the food.

The Department of Human Services has a list of good daycare providers that they can get a sitter through.

So many people wouldn't be bored and out making drugs, because they wouldn't have time for it. They'd be too tired. At least there would be more money for other things that kids and the elderly could use.

Thank you for letting me say what's on my mind.

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Latinos and the Letters to the editor

Just one letter

- On March 16, 2007, the author thanked the Times-Republican for their article titled "Response on Rights, Responsibilities and the Roadblocks to Living", which addressed the conditions and circumstances immigrants in the area face.
- "Many of the immigrants that are not always welcome in the Marshalltown community have done stuff for our communities, made changes in our community, and are still trying to make changes. Many of us are going to college trying to get an education so that we may contribute more to the community," thus reflecting a pluralistic point of view.

The Catholic church

- The Catholic Church was one of the more active institutions advocating on behalf of the Latino community, writing three letters.
- The immigration summit



ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

he recent raids at Swift and Company have brought into sharp focus the basic human needs in our midst crying out for our empathy, understanding, support and prayers.

It should also prompt us to become better informed citizens with regard to what our immigration laws and processes currently are and what needs to be improved for the sake of the needs on all sides of the issue.

We realize the immigration issue has many layers and complexities, and begs for wise and thoughtful deliberations and actions. Presently, there are economic needs' being met on both sides of this issue or it wouldn't be happening in the first place. However, this recent raid, with its devastating effects on so many decent, hard-working people



Letters to the editor as a response to community events

	The raid		The summit on immigration		n	Lt. Gov. Judge's visit to Mexico		Other	
	Marsha ll-town	Outside M'town	Marshall- town	Outs M'to	side Jwn	Marshall- town	Outside M'town	Marshall- town	Outside M'town
Legalist	3	2	2	1		0	4	0	1
Pragmatist	3	1	0	C)	0	0	0	0
Pluralist	1	0	1	1		0	0	1	0
NA	1	0	1	0		0	0	0	0

TALK BACK

I see the Democrats got their ridiculous immigration bill. If Democrats take control of everything we will be a socialist country!

Not A Social Call

Our young people are at war trying to protect this country and at home lawmakers are trying to give it away to lawbreakers.

Upset Caller

Why did I fight and kill to keep this country

Speak Up

Talk Back is a 24-hour phone line for opinions of anonymous callers. Just leave a message on the recorder. Call 641-753-0070.

protected in WWII and now the politicians are giving it away.

Upset Vet

The only reason we need more workers is because all our young workers are overseas fighting.

Cure Worker Shortage

The only reason you work there is because no one else will hire you.

Unemployable

Now would be a good time to form a third party. We didn't elect Democrats to give 'away the country.

Upset With Dems

The Talk Back section

- The discourse of the talk back section was not analyzed in this paper;
- The reasons of why we did not consider this section in the analysis were because readers can call as many times as they wish, without identifying where they are from.
- Before the raid 16 phone calls regarding immigration were published, after the raid the number of phone calls printed was of 113, a sixfold increase.

The talk back section

- 01/03/2007. I think the governor of New Mexico is on the wrong side of the border. -Borderline
- 01/05/2007. It's about time the government does something for the people and gets people who are stealing identities. - Kudos to Government
- 01/05/2007. I think the government should change the law so kids born here are automatically citizens. - Kid supporter
- 01/05/2007. Doesn't our government have bigger things to worry about besides arresting hardworking families? - Upset
- 01/7/2007. If someone is deported they can return in a few days with new documents.-

Did the raid that occurred on December 12, 2006 contribute to greater division of the Anglo and the Latino community in Marshalltown, IA?

 When a controversy arises, members of the community, and even outsiders, use this outlet not only as a way to express their point of view, but also to discuss with other members of the community the events that are happening around them.

- Although there was an increment in all three types of discourses, we found that the legalist discourse had a bigger increase than the pluralist and pragmatist views, but when the outsiders were taken out, the change was modest.
- Given that the legalist discourse reduces immigrants to their legal status, we find that this situation contributes to the division of the Anglo and Latino communities.