

Delve Deeper into "Farmingville"

A film by Carlos Sandoval and Catherine Tambini

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Lynn Whitehouse of the San Diego Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Farmingville" that premieres on June 22nd, 2004 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings)

The shocking hate-based attempted murders of two Mexican day-laborers catapult a small Long Island town into national headlines, unmasking a new front line in the border wars: suburbia. For nearly a year, Carlos Sandoval and Catherine Tambini lived and worked in Farmingville, New York, so they could capture first-hand the stories of residents, day laborers and activists on all sides of the debate. This timely and powerful film is more than a story about illegal immigration. Ultimately, "Farmingville" challenges viewers to ask what the 'American dream' really means. An Independent Television Service (ITVS) and Latino Public Broadcasting (LPB) co-presentation. An Active Voice Selection. A 2004 Election Issue Special.

ADULT NONFICTION

Hahamovitch, Cindy. *The Fruits of Their Labor: Atlantic Coast Farmworkers and the Making of Migrant Poverty, 1870-1945.* Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1997. Hahamovitch describes the evolving relationships among the states, growers, and farmworkers on the East Coast.

Rothenberg, Daniel. *With These Hands: The Hidden World of Migrant Farmworkers Today.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000. Rothenberg is an anthropologist who was an outreach worker and advocate for a federally funded legal services program that represented farmworkers. Determined to document their world, he left his job and began collecting the stories of individual workers.

Thompson, Charles Dillard, and Melinda Wiggins, eds. *The Human Cost of Food:*

Farmworkers' Lives, Labor, and Advocacy. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2003.

Seeking to end the public's ignorance and improve workers' living and working conditions, this book addresses the major factors that affect farmworkers' lives while offering practical strategies for action on farmworker issues.

ADULT FICTION

Gonzalez, Rigoberto. *Crossing Vines: A Novel.* Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2003.

Insightful novel about a contemporary community of migrant grape pickers in California's Caliente Valley with themes of the squalid living conditions, long and exhausting work hours, separation of families, and the ever-present threat of INS searches.

Viramontes, Helena Marbia. *Under the feet of Jesus.* New York: Dutton, 1995.

Migrant Mexicans shackled to a life of itinerant farm labor form the backdrop for a summer in the life of young Estrella and her family.

NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Ashabranner, Brent K. *Dark Harvest: Migrant Farmworkers in America.* North Haven, CT: Shoe String Press, Inc., 1993. Ashabranner's seminal work on the plight of migrant workers in the United States — with its readable, sympathetic narrative and poignant black-and-white photographs — was an ALA Notable Book and the winner of a Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Award.

De Ruiz, Dana C. *La Causa: The Migrant Farmworkers' Story.* Topeka, KS: Sagebrush Education Resources, 1996. Gr. 4-7. A crisp, clear accounting of the founding of the National Farm Workers Association in the 1960s.

FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Jimenez, Francisco. *The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child.* Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1997.

Jimenez's exquisite autobiographical short story "The Circuit" is widely anthologized. Now he has connected it with 11 more stories that are based on his experience as a child in a migrant farmworker family, from the time they leave Mexico to enter the U.S.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

Legacy of Shame: Migrant Labor, an American Institution. CBS News, 1995.

Dan Rather and Randall Pinkston document the ongoing exploitation of America's invisible laborers while highlighting efforts being made to protect them.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES FOR YOUNGER VIEWERS

Friendship's Field. Dir. Bruce Neibaur. Perf. Kate Maberly and Jonathan Hernandez. Goldhil Home Media I, 2004.

Film about the friendship between a farmer's daughter and a migrant worker's son. The two form an unlikely friendship, opening the girl's eyes to prejudice and local hostility toward the migrant workers.

My Father, My Brother, and Me. Paulita's family are migrant workers, moving from field to field and from harvest to harvest — a difficult way of life made harder by the fear that the authorities will take Paco away from them if they find out that he is retarded.