

CENTRAL COUNTY

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Fighting hunger

With the recent global disasters resulting in more than 100,000 deaths, the response by countries and individuals sending aid speaks well of our humanity.

However, the number of people suffering globally from malnutrition was estimated to be 844 million in 2007.

With today's soaring food costs, an additional 100 million will be forced into starvation. Imagine, if you can, more than 1 billion poor people living on less than \$1 a day and mothers having to make the impossible choice of feeding their children, sending them to school or giving them medicine.

The United States should install a Cabinet-level department of global development that, with the support of Congress, would make the next administration work more efficiently toward ending poverty for all human beings.

**Bill Nicholson
Martinez**