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June/junio 24, 2011 Spanglish Lazo Cultural Edition Vol. 7, No. 6 (LP1)

Special Edition of La Prensa for Lazo Cultural

Michigan ElvisFest gets ready to rock Ypsilanti, July 8-9

Well, it's one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, now go, cat, go... to the 12th Annual Michigan ElvisFest!—Friday, July 8 and Saturday, July 9, 2011.

There are 11 *Elvis Tribute Artists*, with three brand new performers and returning ETA's back by popular demand. Complete schedules have been posted on our website (www.mielvisfest.org).

There will be tributes to other entertainers including: *Roy Orbison, Ricky Nelson, The Blues Brothers, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, and Tom Jones*. Also returning is *T.J. Cra-*

ven.

Activities include 'fun stuff for the kids' from noon to 6pm Saturday, and a car show on Saturday. Great food from all our vendors will be available in addition to almost anything you could imagine from our unique merchandise vendors.

Tickets are still on sale at www.mielvisfest.org until June 25, at the advanced, discounted prices: Friday \$13.00, Saturday \$18.00 and a new two-day ticket at the bargain price of \$30.00.

A portion of our profits will go to local Ypsilanti charities—Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, as well as Ypsilanti's SOS Community



Services. Meals on Wheels will be selling raffle tickets, including a 1st prize trip for two to Memphis, with a stay at the Heartbreak Hotel and a VIP tour of Graceland. Second and third place prizes will also be awarded.

Contact information: Wanda Smith, Assistant Festival Director - (734) 660-1317, wsendahug@aol.com

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Casino sought for Great Lakes Downs site

FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP, Mich., June 21, 2011 (AP): Supporters of a proposed casino at the site of the former Great Lakes Downs horse track in West Michigan plan to continue pushing for the project after the governor decided against signing an agreement with an American Indian tribe for off-reservation gambling.

Gov. Rick Snyder's office on Friday said he wasn't currently willing to sign the agreement. The Republican governor's administration plans to focus on other economic development initiatives with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, spokeswoman Sara Wurfel said.

State Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, told The Muskegon Chronicle that he wants to continue to let Snyder know about potential benefits of the project.

"It has been important to first determine his position before determining next steps," said Hansen, whose district includes Muskegon County.

The Little River Band has been seeking the necessary approval from the state over the last two years for the proposed \$100 million casino-centered development in Muskegon County's Fruitport Township. The tribe said it still wants the project to move forward.

Former Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed an amendment in March 2010 allowing for the off-reservation casino, but it didn't get needed approval from the state legislature by the end of the 2010 session. Other federal approval also would be needed.

The proposed development by the Little River Band also would include stores and hotels. The tribe already operates a casino in Manistee.

Information from: The Muskegon Chronicle, <http://www.mlive.com/muskegon>

Proposal requires employment screening

LANSING, June 21, 2011 (AP): A proposal in the Michigan House would require some employers with public contracts to screen their new hires in an effort to prevent the hiring of undocumented immigrants.

The legislation was scheduled for a hearing Tuesday in the House Commerce Committee.

The bills would require employers who contract with public agencies and temporary personnel agencies to verify eligibility of new employees through an Internet-based system called E-Verify. The program is operated through the Department of Homeland Security.

Employers using the system submit Social Security numbers, birthdates and other information to determine if an applicant is eligible to work in the U.S.

The National Conference of State Legislatures says 16 states have some form of an E-Verify mandate.

The measure is opposed by some immigrants' rights groups.

"Conozca sus derechos" entrenamiento para familias inmigrantes y trabajadores

Domingo, 26 de Junio a las 12:45PM

St. Mary's Catholic Church

305 Division, Adrian

El entrenamiento sera bilingue.
Cuidado de niños sera disponible.

Abogados de inmigracion estaran presentes.
Co-organizado por Maria Flores, residente de Adrian
Ryan Bates, Director, Alliance for Immigrants Rights – Michigan

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- Los recientes incidentes entre la policía y la comunidad inmigrante
- Los derechos legales de los inmigrantes
- Organizar en todo el estado para la reforma migratoria y un mejor tratamiento de las comunidades inmigrantes.
- Ha sido víctima de discriminación racial? Traiga su historia!

Para mas informacion:

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Obama visita Puerto Rico con la mira puesta en los votantes

Por JIM KUHNHEIN

SAN JUAN, 14 de junio del 2011 (AP): En un acto de cortejo hacia los electores hispanos en Estados Unidos, el presidente Barack Obama cumplió el martes la promesa hecha en campaña de ser el primer mandatario desde John F. Kennedy que realizaría una visita oficial a Puerto Rico, territorio estadounidense asolado por la recesión.

“Las aspiraciones y las luchas en esta isla reflejan las de todo Estados Unidos”, declaró Obama en San Juan.

Pese a un calor abrasador, miles de personas se congregaron en los caminos principales y enarbolaron banderas para observar el paso de la caravana de Obama. Una pancarta enorme cubría los ochos pisos de un edificio con imágenes de Obama y Kennedy. “Estamos orgullosos de ser parte de la historia”, expresó.

Los puertorriqueños representan una parte importante de la cada vez mayor población hispana en Estados Unidos, que ahora llega a 50 millones de personas y que Obama desea movilizar en su campaña por la reelección en el 2012. Aunque estuvo apenas unas horas en la isla, la visita fue concebida para impulsar la presencia del mandatario y generar un buen ánimo en un territorio conocido como un destino de vacaciones, que sin embargo por lo general pasa desapercibido en Estados Unidos.

Los puertorriqueños son ciudadanos estadounidenses pero no pueden votar en las elecciones presidenciales—sólo en los comicios primaries—, uno de muchos factores que suscita en algunos boricuas la sensación de que son ciudadanos de segunda clase.

Estados Unidos se apoderó de Puerto Rico en 1898 como botín de la guerra hispanoamericana en la que derrotó a España. Instaló un régimen militar hasta 1902, luego un gobierno civil controlado desde Washington, y en 1952 el Congreso estadounidense le otorgó la condición de Estado Libre Asociado.

El acercamiento de Obama a los puertorriqueños forma parte de una acción más amplia para cortejar a los hispanos, que representan más de la mitad del aumento de la población estadounidense en la década anterior. Los sondeos nacionales a boca de urna mostraron que el 67% de los latinos votó por Obama en el 2008, contra el 31% en favor del candidato republicano, el senador John McCain.

Pero algunos hispanos se han desilusionado de Obama por el incumplimiento de la promesa de lograr una reforma integral en la inmigración.

Obama, que visitó Puerto Rico como candidato en mayo del 2008, se esforzó por hacerles saber a sus interlocutores boricuas que no serían olvidados por su gobierno.

En un acto efectuado a su llegada al aeropuerto de San Juan, Obama se refirió de inmediato al debate que ha durado décadas sobre la categoría de la isla, aspecto en torno al cual algunos pugnan por que se le considere estado pleno de Estados Unidos y otros plantean incluso la independencia.

El presidente reiteró su apoyo a la realización de un referendo en que los electores de la isla resuelvan el asunto por ellos mismos y suscitó aplausos y vivas al declarar: “Cuando el pueblo de Puerto Rico tome una decisión clara, mi gobierno estará a su lado”.

Esas palabras podrían resonar no sólo en Puerto Rico, sino también entre los millones de electores puertorriqueños que viven en el territorio continental de Estados Unidos, incluidos los más de 800.000 radicados en Florida, un distrito electoral políticamente importante, y donde Obama pernoctó el lunes antes de emprender el martes por la mañana el viaje por avión a la isla.

Unos 4,6 millones de puertorriqueños viven en el territorio continental de Estados Unidos.

Obama habló de sus compromisos para la inclusión de Puerto Rico en las iniciativas de su gobierno, como el proyecto de reforma de salud. Elogió los logros culturales de los puertorriqueños, así como sus contribuciones a la sociedad y a las fuerzas armadas estadounidenses.

El presidente destacó al deportista puertorriqueño José Juan Barea, del equipo de los Mavericks de Dallas de la NBA, quien es una celebridad en la isla.

“Todos los días, los boricuas ayudan a escribir la historia estadounidense”, dijo el presidente, utilizando un término popular en español para los puertorriqueños. Su mensaje incluyó otras referencias a Puerto Rico y a su gastronomía, entremezcladas con un poco de español.

Más tarde, en la residencia del gobernador Luis Fortuño, La Fortaleza, el gobernante local le dijo a Obama: “En nombre del pueblo de Puerto Rico, queremos darle la

E-Verify bill introduced by Republican Lamar Smith

By ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, June 14, 2011 (AP): A bill that would require U.S. businesses to use a government database to verify that new workers are in the country with documentation is giving the agriculture industry a slight break, according to the bills main sponsor.

The *Legal Workforce Act* would give the agriculture industry, where labor, industry and government officials say the vast majority of workers are without documentation, three years to screen all new hires to make sure they are eligible to work in the U.S. The remaining employers would have two years to comply.

“We recognize that the agriculture industry is a special situation and we need to treat them differently,” the bill’s sponsor, Republican Rep. *Lamar Smith* (Texas) said.

Farmers have complained that the requirement would decimate their work force, resulting in higher food prices, and that US-Americans are unwilling to take the back-breaking, low-paying jobs picking crops by hand.

Smith introduced the bill Tuesday, about three weeks after the Supreme Court upheld an employer sanction law in Arizona that required businesses to use E-Verify or face losing their business licenses.

Smith’s bill would apply only to new hires. It also would pre-empt any state laws and end the use of paper *I-9 forms* that businesses currently use to show that they’ve verified that their workers are legally eligible to hold a job in the U.S.

E-Verify long has been considered among the only immigration-related bills likely to pass a divided Congress this year, but some had worried that making the system’s use mandatory could destroy the agriculture industry.

Smith said he doesn’t consider the bill a piece of immigration legislation, rather a jobs bill that eventually would move the nearly 8 million undocumented workers out of the US-American workforce.

Agriculture industry officials have said the current system to hire legal immigrant workers—the H-2A visa program—is too cumbersome, time consuming and costly to use effectively.

“It has never been a great program or easy to work with,” said Cathleen Enright, vice president of federal government affairs for the Western Growers Association. “It’s an unbelievably crushing program.”

She and others, including Rep. *Zoe Lofgren*, a California Democrat from an agriculture-rich industry, have said they fear a mandatory E-Verify program would cripple the industry.

But Smith insisted that postponing full implementation for agriculture businesses for three years would give the industry plenty of time to legalize its workforce and avoid economic calamity.

“We give them a three year phase in,” Smith said, adding that other industries would be phased into the program in six month intervals over two years. “But more importantly than that, we do not require them to check current employees that return to work. That allows them to build on their current workforce and every year transition into a more legal workforce.”

bienvenida. Creo que ya vio algo de esto en su traslado hacia aquí. Estamos orgullosos de darle la bienvenida y le agradecemos la visita”.

“No puedo sentirme más honrado de estar aquí”, dijo el presidente y luego expresó en broma que le gustaría saltar en el atractivo océano.

Mientras la caravana presidencial recorría calles de San Juan, un grupo de manifestantes podía escucharse a la distancia cuando pedían con megáfonos “independencia para Puerto Rico”.

Obama también pronunció un discurso ante residentes emocionados de recibir la primera visita de un presidente de Estados Unidos desde la efectuada en 1961 por Kennedy, un acontecimiento que muchos aún recuerdan con cariño. El periodista de *The Associated Press Ben Fox contribuyó a este despacho.*

US Congressman Conyers to hold Congressional Forum on ICE Abuse at Hope of Detroit Academy
Community to hold rally beforehand with victims of racial profiling and abuse

The Alliance for Immigrants Rights & Reform is asking community members to attend a forum called by Congressman John Conyers in response to the ongoing issues of abuse by ICE in Southwest Detroit. The forum will be held at Hope of Detroit Academy where, in March, half a dozen ICE agents surrounded the school, causing parents and students to fear for their safety. The event will be safe for families.

Who: US Congressman John Conyers
 Victims of abuse by ICE
 Legal experts on immigration and civil rights law.

When: June 30, 2011
 Rally, outside the school, 5:00 PM
 Forum, inside the school cafeteria, 5:30 PM.

Where: Hope of Detroit Academy, 4443 North Campbell Street, Detroit (near the corner of Michigan and Livernois).

Congresista Conyers Tendra Foro Congressional por Abuso de ICE en la Escuela Hope of Detroit Academy
Comunidad tendra demostracion antemano con victimas de perfilacion racial y abuso

La Alianza por los Derechos de Inmigrantes y Reforma esta pidiendo a miembros de la comunidad atender un foro pedido por el Congresista John Conyers en respuesta a los temas presentes de abusos por ICE en el Suroeste de Detroit. El foro se llevara a cabo en la escuela Hope of Detroit donde, en Marzo, seis agentes rodearon la escuela, causando a padres y estudiantes temer por su seguridad. Este evento será seguro para familias.

Quien: Congresista John Conyers
 Victimas de abuso por ICE
 Expertos de leyes de inmigración y derechos civiles.

Cuando: Junio 30, 2011
 Demostración, afuera de la escuela, 5:00 PM
 Foro, adentro de la cafetería de la escuela, 5:30 PM.

Donde: Hope of Detroit Academy, 4443 North Campbell Street, Detroit (cerca de la esq. de Michigan y Livernois).

www.michiganimmigrationreform.org

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