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GUILLERMO CISNEROS DE HCCWM, P. 4

Kapture Aide Theresa Morris to receive DHO award

By La Prensa Staff
www.laprensa1.com

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur will be the first to admit she has been blessed with a staff that has stuck by her side through a long and distinguished career on Capitol Hill. Those aides have handled constituent concerns and policy questions on the home front through several terms.

One mainstay in the Toledo office is a Congressional aide who will receive the Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan award for her long-term, dedicated service. Theresa Morris will be among the honored guests and other recipients on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018 at the annual statewide awards gala put on by the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, f.k.a. Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA).

"I am just so blessed. This is really the first major award that I have won and I am just so thankful that one of my peers nominated me for the award," she said. "It was very kind. I many times do things quietly, so it's nice to be recognized for the hard work in the community that I've done over the years."

The annual awards gala is being held outside Columbus for the first time. The event runs 6 to 10 p.m. at the Reaser Grand Room in the Spitzer Conference Center at Lorain County Community College, 1005 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria.

Tickets are \$75 each and can be purchased online at www.2018dho.eventbrite.com.



One of the major reasons Ms. Morris was nominated to receive the award is her longevity as a Congressional aide—perhaps holding the distinction as the longest-serving Latina on Capitol Hill in that capacity. At least that is what the current research shows.

"I've always heard a call to service. I think you should always work to make your community a better place," she said. "I enjoy it. I enjoy especially meeting people of different cultures, in different communities. It doesn't get tiring to me. It's still about learning about other people and other places in the world and what's going on."

As a congressional aide, Ms. Morris frequently handles the day-to-day work behind the scenes without any fanfare. Most of the time, aides handle a particular policy issue. Ms. Morris has been front-and-center in handling immigration in recent months, an issue that has kept her extremely busy since a recent raid at Corso's Garden Center in the Sandusky area—right in the middle of

(Continued on Page 13)

Marcy Kaptur raises concerns over Affordable Care Act lawsuit

By La Prensa Staff

OHIO DISTRICT 9 [Toledo to Cleveland], Sept. 11, 2018: US Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur is lashing out at her Republican colleagues for a lawsuit that could eliminate healthcare protections for people with pre-existing conditions. The northern Ohio Democrat believes a federal lawsuit is a deliberate attempt to strike down key provisions of the Affordable Care Act that could have a devastating impact on people living in poverty and even in the middle classes.

"First of all, no one should have to worry about healthcare in this country," said Ms. Kaptur. "We thought we were on the right track. In Ohio, we enrolled well over a million more people and we got the uninsured rate down to about 5.7 percent, which was the low-

est in history."

According to a study by the Center for American Progress, the Republican lawsuit jeopardizes the health care of 130 million US-Americans, including 68 million women and girls, nationwide. Congresswoman Kaptur contends the health care of 4.8 million people in Ohio with pre-existing conditions could be threatened if the lawsuit succeeds.

"They really don't have an alternative (to Obamacare). Their alternative is catastrophic," said Ms. Kaptur. "If you hit the \$5,000 limit, how are you going to pay anything over that? You'll end up bankrupt. We know people who went bankrupt in this community and the country. 75 percent of those who go bankrupt did so because of health costs, because they're sick."

The Texas federal judge hearing the case could strike down the entire Affordable Care Act, but legal experts believe the Trump administration only wants to strike down the portion of the ACA that affects the tax penalty and people with pre-existing conditions. Democrats contend the lawsuit should be thrown out in its entirety, because the court challenge is based on a shaky legal premise as were prior lawsuits that failed.

If the case is decided in the next few weeks, health advocates argue the judge could throw 2019 health insurance plans into confusion and chaos, while significantly impacting the affordability of insurance rates. In Ohio

(Continued on Page 12)

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Kaptur for Congress

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN TOLEDO

• Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz will be the presenter and Toledo Police Chief George Kral the recipient of the annual service and outreach award presented by the A.N.G.E.L.S. Outreach Program at its 23rd annual Sweet Jazz and Wine fundraising event **Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018, at 5:30- 9 p.m.**, at Tamaron Country Club, 2162 W. Alexis Rd.

The event will feature wine and beer pours, a variety of gourmet desserts, jazz by H-Factor, and several raffles and drawings. A.N.G.E.L.S. Outreach was founded by Lisa Canales to help families in need during the holidays. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 per couple and can be purchased at 419.917.5289.

• The first-ever HOPE Toledo Fest 2018 is on **Saturday, September 29, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, in downtown Toledo at Promenade Park. The effort is aimed at families struggling with loved ones facing heroin addiction, the victims in the opiate epidemic gripping Toledo that virtually everyone is struggling to reach. A California pastor with Toledo ties and her own story of addiction is leading the effort to help her hometown.

"Whether we are in it or not, directly or indirectly, we are all affected by it," said Sandra Pérez-Webster, who has enlisted a lot of local help to reach out and organize the festival. The aim is to provide as many information tables and vendor booths as possible to help struggling families to access the services and programs they may need—all in one location.

But the presence of help agencies will be augmented by free entertainment and children's activities as a draw for entire families. The one-day festival is being organized by the Urban Revive Project, an L.A.-based nonprofit evangelical outreach run by Ms. Perez-Webster.

Preguntas? Call Kookie at 567-322-1387; or email Ms. Pérez-Webster at sandraweb09@gmail.com

CHC boycotts White House HHM event

By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS, Associated Press**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Sept. 18, 2018 (AP) — Citing President Donald Trump's policies and comments about Latinos, members of the influential Congressional Hispanic Caucus boycotted a Hispanic Heritage Month celebration hosted by Trump at the White House on Sept. 17.

In a letter to the president, caucus Chairwoman Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham, a New Mexico Democrat whose district includes Albuquerque, also cited Trump's denial that nearly 3,000 lives were lost in Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria last year.

"You have ignored and

recently tweeted lies about the devastation and loss of life in Puerto Rico from Hurricane Maria, compared immigration to an infestation and attacked a judge because of his Hispanic heritage," Lujan Grisham wrote in a Thursday letter to Trump.

New Mexico Gov. Susana Martínez, the nation's only Latina governor, was one of the only elected Hispanic officials to attend the event on Monday.

Martínez, a once rising star within the Republican Party, previously denounced Trump's campaign rhetoric about Mexican immigrants during the 2016 campaign.

But in recent months, she

has warned to Trump and praised his policies.

She is barred by term limits from running for a third term in New Mexico. Lujan Grisham is running to replace her.

Trump hosted what has been an annual, bipartisan ceremony started by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968.

Martínez traveled to Washington to join Labor Secretary Alex Acosta, U.S. Treasurer Jovita Carranza and Puerto Rico Lt. Gov. Luis Rivera Marín for the gathering.

Associated Press writer Russell Contreras is a member of the AP's race and ethnicity team.

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Puerto Rico conmemora un año del paso del huracán María

Por DÁNICA COTO, Associated Press

SAN JUAN, 2018 (AP): Aplaudiendo y con las manos levantadas hacia el cielo, cientos de personas vestidas de blanco se reunieron el jueves en una fortificación del siglo XVIII en la capital de Puerto Rico para recordar a las miles de personas que murieron a causa del huracán María, mientras la isla sigue sin recuperarse por completo un año después de que la tormenta de categoría 4 tocó tierra.

Líderes religiosos y funcionarios gubernamentales recordaron la devastación que provocó el huracán en Puerto Rico y que ocasionó la muerte de aproximadamente 2.975 personas y daños estimados en más de 100.000 millones de dólares. Decenas de miles siguen sin tener una vivienda adecuada y un suministro eléctrico confiable, una realidad que destacó el gobernador de la isla Ricardo Rosselló.

"Luego de esa catastrófica experiencia, reconocemos lo complejo y lo difícil que es prepararse para enfrentar un huracán de esa magnitud y esa furia", dijo Rosselló. "El mejor homenaje que podemos hacerles

a estas personas, a estos hermanos que hemos perdido es construir un mejor Puerto Rico para sus hijos, para sus nietos, para sus familias".

Aunque el gobierno de Estados Unidos ha invertido miles de millones de dólares para ayudar a reparar los daños causados por María en la isla, todavía falta mucho trabajo por hacer. Sigue habiendo apogones generalizados. Decenas de miles de reclamos de seguros continúan pendientes y casi 60.000 viviendas tienen techos temporales que no soportarían un huracán de categoría 1.

"Pienso que es inexplicable", comentó *Kami Naidoo*, secretario general de Amnistía Internacional, a The Associated Press durante una visita a la isla realizada el jueves. "No hay una razón justificable para explicar este nivel de negligencia".

En todo el territorio la gente conmemoró el primer aniversario del paso del huracán María con concentraciones pequeñas y grandes, solenes e impregnadas de indignación y en ocasiones, incluso, esperanzadoras.

En el municipio pesquero y agrícola de Yabucoa, los acordes inspiradores de una de las



canciones más queridas por los puertorriqueños comenzaron a escucharse a las 6:15 de la mañana, el momento exacto en el que María tocó tierra hace un año.

Las lonas siguen cubriendo muchas casas que necesitan reconstruirse en el municipio de 37.000 habitantes. Los acordes esperanzadores de la canción "Amanecer Borincano" resonaban en el primer lugar donde María liberó su furia.

"Soy la luz de la mañana que alumbró nuevos caminos", cantó un coro ante docenas de funcionarios locales y residentes que se habían reunido en la zona. "Soy hijo de las palmeras, de los campos y los ríos".

En San Juan, una muchedumbre de fieles se reunió en la fortificación del Castillo San Cristóbal, de 230 años de antigüedad. Cantaron y rezaron junto con pastores y místicos que estaban en un escenario, con la música haciendo eco en las paredes del lugar mientras el sol se hundía lentamente en el mar detrás de ellos.

Puerto Rico: Pacientes renales sufren por falta de diálisis

Por DÁNICA COTO, Associated Press

VIEQUES, Puerto Rico, 1918 (AP): Conforme las semanas se convierten en meses, en el pequeño avión se veían cada vez más asientos vacíos.

Al principio, 15 pasajeros volaban desde Vieques a la isla principal de Puerto Rico, todos afectados por el huracán María. La tormenta arruinó el único centro de diálisis de la pequeña isla en la que viven y sin la atención adecuada, estos pacientes renales podrían fallecer.

Pero los tres viajes a la semana pasaron factura a estos frágiles pacientes. Cinco de ellos fallecieron en el último año por diversas causas, desde insuficiencia cardíaca a cáncer, y los activistas insisten en que los mismos vuelos que los mantienen con vida han acelerado su muerte.

La tasa de mortalidad es "un número alto", dijo *Angela Díaz*, directora ejecutiva del Consejo Renal de Puerto Rico, una organización sin fines de lucro. "No podemos descartar obviamente que estas condiciones no son las apropiadas. Me parece que es vital que tomen acción lo más antes posible... Por más que quieran evitar el tema, un año después de María que todavía estamos en crisis, hay que hablarlo".

Por terrible que pueda ser la situación, aún podría empeorar. Una unidad móvil adquirida por las autoridades federales estadounidenses para realizar las

diálisis en Vieques está varada en California, a más de 4.800 kilómetros (3.000 millas) de distancia; el Consejo Renal, que paga los vuelos de los pacientes, dijo que se quedará sin dinero a fines de mes.

"Sin quitar la vía aérea, vamos a acabar de morir", dijo *Elías Salgado*, paciente renal de 56 años que padece diabetes y elevada presión arterial. "Ahorra mismo no somos muchos".

El centro de diálisis de Vieques se ubicaba en la clínica médica de la isla. El inmueble continúa en pie, aunque con severos daños y lleno de estiércol de caballo. Semanas después del paso de María, las autoridades de salud lo declararon contaminado y ordenaron su demolición.

Otros servicios de salud fueron trasladados a un albergue temporal, pero ahí no pueden efectuarse las diálisis.

En un principio, la *Agencia Federal para el Manejo de Emergencias* (FEMA, por sus siglas en inglés) asumió la responsabilidad y trasladaba a los pacientes en helicóptero a San Juan. Después de un mes, la FEMA se retiró para participar en otras misiones y organizaciones caritativas, como *Vieques Love* y *Americares*, asumieron los gastos. Por un tiempo, los enfermos viajaban en transbordador, un traslado más cansado porque a veces las embarcaciones se descomponen o no parten a tiempo, y no hay manera de reservar lugares. Los pacientes deben presentarse antes y confiar en que no haya contratiempos.

Desde marzo, el *Consejo Renal* pagó 3.900 dólares a la semana por los vuelos, 6.000 dólares mensuales por un parámetro que acompaña a los pacientes y 2.500 dólares al mes por alimentarlos.

El vuelo dura solo 20 minutos pero el trayecto es más largo.

Los pacientes se levantan antes de amanecer, esperan en el aeropuerto la llegada del avión, embarcan y al llegar a la isla principal aguardan a que los trasladen a la clínica. Allí permanecen sentados cuatro horas mientras sus sangre pasa por un filtro y regresa libre de toxinas. Entonces repiten la misma rutina para irse a casa, a donde llegan unas 12 horas después del inicio de su jornada.

"Es agotador", dijo Salgado. "Unos se adaptan a esto", afirmó *Edwin Alvarado*, paciente de diálisis de 59 años, aquejado también de presión arterial alta que fue sometido a una cirugía a corazón abierto cinco meses después del paso de María.

Un sábado reciente, antes de que Alvarado se sentara en la sala de espera en el aeropuerto en Vieques, el parámetro lo detuvo. Le puso un brazalete alrededor del bíceps y le tomó la presión: "Latiene alta", advirtió el parámetro, "180 sobre 110".

Alvarado no le dio importancia. Al igual que Salgado, Alvarado quería irse al territorio continental de Estados Unidos y establecerse cerca de una clínica de diálisis, pero no tiene dónde quedarse ni los recursos para salir de Vieques y encontrar un nuevo lugar para vivir.

Salgado tiene otra razón para quedarse: está en una lista de trasplantes en Puerto Rico.

"Podrían llamarme inmediatamente", dijo.

Algunos de los pacientes se conocían desde antes del paso del huracán y que Vieques es una isla pequeña, de unos 9.000 habitantes. Conforme pasaban los meses, comenzaron a sentirse como si fueran una pequeña familia, también con sus desacuerdos, en especial por aquellos que se quejan demasiado.

Ambos hombres se entusiasmaron cuando otra paciente de diálisis, *Leyla Rivera*, llegó al aeropuerto y les lanzó unos paquetitos de galletas con crema de vainilla a cada uno antes de sentarse dando un suspiro.

Rivera, de 45 años, es una de las pacientes más jóvenes del vuelo e incluso a ella le faltan fuerzas.

"Hay veces que uno sale mareado, vomitando", dijo Rivera, que busca un lugar en la lista de trasplantes. Tiene un hijo autista y debe faltara trabajar dos días a la semana para tomar el avión.

Antes de las 7:30 de la mañana, el piloto anunció que estaba listo. Los pacientes descendieron lentamente por un rampa y ocuparon sus lugares favoritos, guardando silencio en el ruido de los motores de la aeronave.

Menos de una hora después, una ambulancia con luces intermitentes llegó al aeropuerto. Dentro venía *Sandra Medina*, de 42 años, otra paciente de diálisis que tiene diabetes y presión arterial alta. Los médicos le amputaron media pierna debido a una infección que se le agravó hace meses.

Esbozó una pequeña sonrisa y confesó que volar la pone nerviosa y que a veces pierde la esperanza. "Pasamos trabajo", afirmó.

Dos paramédicos la trasladaron en una unidad rodante a la pista y la subieron a una camilla especial dentro de otro pequeño avión. Giró la cabeza y miró por la ventana.

"Pórtate bien", le dijo un empleado del aeropuerto mientras sonreía y cerraba la puerta de la nave.

José Figueroa, médico de Salgado, le preocupan las secuelas de estos agotadores viajes. Los comparó con pedirle a alguien que camine a casa después de haber corrido un maratón.

"Eventualmente, ese paciente, que de por sí es frágil, sigue empeorando", agregó. Pasar un año así es "inaceptable", añadió.

Los familiares de quienes murieron en el último año reconocieron que sus seres queridos estaban muy enfermos, pero creen que no debían haber fallecido.

Argeo Caraballo, de 70 años, murió de insuficiencia cardíaca el 13 de febrero.

"Los viajes eran muy, pero demasiado agotadores", dijo su hija, Gladys, quien lo acompañaba y a quien también le parecía que los trayectos eran duros. "Él se deterioró completamente después de María".

Héctor Serrano, de 57 años, era pastor en una iglesia en Vieques. Falleció de cáncer y otros padecimientos a mediados de agosto. Su hermana, *Maggali Rivera*, afirmó: "Esto es un crimen lo que están haciendo con los pacientes renales. Hubiese estado más tiempo con nosotros".

Peter Quiñones, portavoz del secretario del Departamento de Salud de Puerto Rico, el doctor *Rafael Rodríguez Mercado*, no respondió a varias solicitudes para comentar el motivo por el que Vieques sigue sin centro de diálisis. Opor qué no se ha pagado para llevar a la isla la clínica móvil en la que FEMA invirtió tres millones de dólares. Legisladores en Puerto Rico prometieron que la unidad móvil llegará pronto, aunque no precisaron una fecha.

Daisy Cruz, vicealcaldesa de Vieques, señaló que mantiene comunicación constante con autoridades de la FEMA pero recibe respuestas limitadas de los responsables locales de salud. Dijo que propuso restaurar una antigua farmacia para realizar ahí las diálisis, pero no sabe nada de Fresenius, la compañía que operaba la clínica en Vieques.

Luis Emanuelli, vicepresidente de *Fresenius Kidney Care*, dijo que la compañía tiene listo desde hace tiempo el equipo y el personal necesario para reanudar el tratamiento en Vieques en virtud de un acuerdo con el Departamento de Salud de Puerto Rico, que tiene que proporcionar unas instalaciones autorizadas.

"La compañía está comprometida con 'reanudar las operaciones tan pronto como haya una ubicación adecuada para nosotros'", apuntó. Pero los pacientes dicen que han esperado suficiente y quieren que el gobierno de Puerto Rico cumpla sus promesas.

"Es una injusticia que nos tengamos así cuando pueden poner una clínica acá", dijo Medina.

Mientras tanto, el dinero para pagar los vuelos se agota.

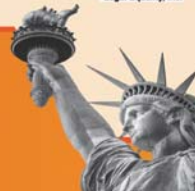
"¿Dónde está la conciencia? ¿Dónde está el humanismo?", afirmó Cruz entre lágrimas. "Siempre es, 'no tenemos el dinero, no tenemos el dinero, no tenemos el dinero'. Pero están poniendo en riesgo vidas que podemos alargar".



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El Gobernador Snyder reconoce en cena de gala, las contribuciones de nuevos americanos en Michigan

Guillermo Cisneros de HCCWM recibe mención honorable

Por: Isabel Flores, Corresponsal La Prensa

GRAND RAPIDS: Guillermo Cisneros, director de la Cámara de Comercio Hispana del Oeste de Michigan (HCCWM, por sus siglas en inglés) recibió una mención por parte del gobernador Rick Snyder en la segunda Gala de reconocimiento a los logros de nuevos americanos en el estado de Michigan. Dicho evento fue organizado por Michigan Office of New Americans (MONA), y las tres comisiones étnicas: Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM), Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs (CMEAA), y la Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC).

La Gala se llevó a cabo en el Hotel Henry en Dearborn. “Compromiso con la comunidad y prosperidad económica: el puente hacia el futuro de Michigan” fue el tema del evento.

Al respecto, Cisneros comentó: “Estoy muy contento de haber recibido esta mención; eso dice mucho de nuestro gobierno al reconocer a las organizaciones que estamos apoyando a nuestras diferentes comunidades, en mi caso en concreto a la comunidad hispana con quien he estado trabajando desde hace año y medio en la

Cámara de Comercio Hispana”.

Cisneros, Noel Cuellar de Primera Plastics Inc., Pedro Martínez, Distrito Escolar Intermedio Van Buren y Jesse Costilla, Centros de Salud de Great Lakes Bay, son los cuatro hispanos postulados por HLCOM que se distinguieron en este evento, en donde se reconoció a 12 personas de diferentes nacionalidades por sus contribuciones económicas, culturales, cívicas y caritativas.

Los seleccionados fueron elegidos por las comisiones: HLCOM, CMEAA y MAPAAC; luego fueron pasados por el proceso de selección a la oficina del Gobernador.

Los Premios a los Nuevos Líderes Americanos, lo recibieron: Noel Cuellar, Primera Plastics, Inc. (HLCOM), Dug Song, Duo Security (MAPAAC) y Jim (Issa) Safiedine, Safiedine Oil Company (CMEAA)

Los Premios a los Nuevos Filantrópicos Americanos, lo recibieron: Pedro Martínez, Distrito Escolar Intermedio Van Buren (HLCOM); Dr. Janilla Lee, Centro Asiático del Sureste de Michigan (MAPAAC) y Kamal Shouhayib, The Choice Group (CMEAA).

Mención Honorable de

Apreciación a los Nuevos Americanos, fue para: Guillermo Cisneros, Cámara de Comercio de West Michigan (HLCOM), Jesse Costilla, Centros de Salud de Great Lakes Bay (HLCOM), Dennis Bhaskaran, Apex Spring & Stamping (MAPAAC), Dr. Cheng-Yang Chang (MAPAAC), Ronny Medawar, Medawar Jewelers (CMEAA) y Tanya Robin, Superior Buick GMC (CMEAA).

El Gobernador de Michigan, Rick Snyder, pronunció el discurso de apertura en la gala, en donde destacó: “Es un placer felicitar a los homenajeados de este año que han contribuido significativamente a la vitalidad económica y cultural de Michigan, y que continúan invirtiendo en nuestro futuro”, dijo Snyder. “Las generaciones de la gente de Michigan se beneficiarán enormemente de su liderazgo como empresarios, y empleadores por muchos años”.

Cabe destacar que durante su administración, Snyder estableció la Oficina de Michigan para Nuevos



Guillermo Cisneros

en el campo de los negocios, Grand Rapids Racial Equity Initiative, Diversity Council for Varnun Law y NextGen Board of Executive de la Cámara de Comercio Hispano del Oeste de Michigan.

La HCCWM se enfoca en el desarrollo económico de la comunidad hispana local, y opera con la misión de apoyar para el crecimiento positivo dentro de la comunidad hispana en el oeste de Michigan.

Actualmente forma parte de las mesas directivas de: Economic Development Corporation and Brownfield Redevelopment Author de la ciudad de Grand Rapids, Workforce Development Advisory para talentos 2015, College through College de

la ciudad de Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Racial Equity Initiative, Diversity Council for Varnun Law y NextGen Board of Executive de la Cámara de Comercio Hispano del Oeste de Michigan. Guillermo encuentra su inspiración al trabajar con crezcas y tengamos más peso en el Oeste de Michigan. Hace falta mucha preparación para los dueños de negocios latinos en esta parte del país, es por ello que seguimos trabajando duro, nos va tomar tiempo pero estamos seguros que poco a poco lograremos llevar a la comunidad hispana a un siguiente nivel. Si tenemos una comunidad hispana productiva, en donde los dueños de negocios prosperan, la comunidad en general se va beneficiar de esto. En la Cámara estamos creando la infraestructura necesaria para que nuestra comunidad hispana pueda ser exitosa”, concluyó Guillermo Cisneros.

tan solo un año y medio como director, Guillermo ha aumentado el número de miembros, la participación en eventos y la organización de la Cámara. Además ha comenzado a lanzar iniciativas para llevar la alfabetización financiera a la población local de habla hispana.

El calendario de Consulados Móviles:

20 de octubre	St. Paul Church	Norwalk, Ohio
17 de noviembre	Mayores Senior Center	Toledo, Ohio

Para obtener su pasaporte y/o matrícula durante alguno de estos Consulados Móviles, es necesario agendar una cita previamente en MEXITEL en el siguiente link: <https://mexitel.sre.gov.mx> o por teléfono al: 877 639 4835.

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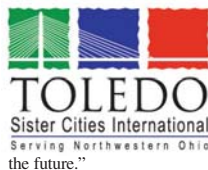
Sister Cities International Gala raises \$20,000

TOLEDO: Some 100 people attended the Toledo Sister Cities International (TSCI) 25th Anniversary Gala held September 15 at The Toledo Club and helped raise \$20,000 for the organization, said Sister Ann Francis Klimkowski, Event Chairperson.

The Board of Trustees sponsored the event which celebrated the anniversary of the official start of the TSCI in 1993 as a non-profit organization. TSCI received community support from Lyden, a Platinum Sponsor and Presenting Company. Gold Sponsors include John and Yolanda Szuch, and Galloway Family. Silver sponsors are The Sisters of St. Francis, Lourdes University, The University of Toledo Pharmacy Program, Jim Hauden of Root, Inc., Dick and Dolly Flaseck, and Scott Savage.

TSCI is made up of ten Sister City committees that serve northwest Ohio as a bridge to global sister cities.

"We have the oldest Sister City partnership with Toledo, Spain, since 1931. A second long-standing agreement was established in 1985 with Qinhuaogdao, China. However, it wasn't until 1993 that we incorporated as a non-profit organization. That's when our real on-going efforts started," said Sister Klimkowski. "This year we remembered the past, celebrated the present, and connected to



30-year history with Qinhuaogdao, China and the new relationship with Nanchong, China; the 25-year history of respectively Szeged, Hungary, and Poznan, Poland; and the new Friendship City relationship with Coburg, Germany. Congresswoman Kaptur presented a copy of the history of Toledo Sister Cities International that she read into the Congressional Record. She said, "I had the privilege of initiating the concept of the Toledo Sister Cities International in the early 1990s when the sister city movement expanded greatly in Toledo. Our relationship with Toledo, Spain began in 1931 long before President Eisenhower conceived the idea that world peace would be advanced by citizen diplomacy. The work goes on and is worthy of support."

TSCI will now turn its attention to the 10th Annual Toledo Sister Cities International Festival which will be held on April 13, 2019 at the Toledo SeaGate Centre. Participating countries include: Spain, China, Hungary, Poland, Japan, Tanzania, Germany, Lebanon, Pakistan, and India. The festival kicks off with The Parade of Nations and includes a day-long celebration of cultures from around the world with live performances representing ethnic groups from Sister Cities and the local community.

Sister Klimkowski said the guests were treated to gourmet grazing and cocktails, and feature performances by the Chamber Ensemble with the Greater Toledo International Youth Orchestra directed by Yang Kun Song. There were silent auctions of Sister City treasures as well as review of the past 25 years. Guests received a program highlighting the development and growth of the TSCI which includes a more than 85-year history of the association with Toledo, Spain; as well as the

LMHA awarded HUD funds

TOLEDO, September 20, 2018: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority \$165,819 for 41 housing vouchers that will provide permanent affordable housing to non-elderly persons with disabilities.

The assistance is provided through HUD's Section 811 Mainstream Housing Choice Voucher Program. This voucher program assists non-elderly persons with disabilities who are "transitioning out of institutional or other separated settings; at serious risk of institutionalization; homeless or at risk of becoming homeless." A total of \$99 million in

funding was distributed nationwide.

In a release sent out by HUD, HUD Secretary Ben Carson stated, "Working closely with our local partners, we help residents with disabilities live independently and fully enjoy the use of their homes." It was also cited in the release that this program helps further the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act by helping "persons with disabilities live in the most integrated setting. The program also encourages partnerships with health and human services agencies with a demonstrated capacity to coordinate voluntary services and support to enable individuals to live independently in the community."

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority administrators

these funds through their Housing Choice Voucher Program.

In response to the news about the award, LMHA President and CEO Demetria Simpson said, "LMHA is very pleased that we received vouchers to provide housing opportunities for non-elderly people with disabilities who live in segregated housing settings. We are now able to serve more people who have a great need for housing. The additional vouchers provide a valuable resource and contribute to expanding decent and quality affordable housing within the community. They give individuals with disabilities housing opportunities within stable communities."

Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund celebrates 20 years of scholarships

SYLVANIA, September 21, 2018: The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund (NOSF) is celebrating twenty years of providing educational choices through need-based scholarships for K-8 students to use for private schools or for homeschool expenses.

NOSF has awarded over 15,400 scholarships totaling \$13.2 million to students in Northwest Ohio since the 1999-2000 school year.

In early 1998, a group of local philanthropists started the program under the direction of Sister Janet Doyle, Superintendent of Catholic School of the Diocese of Toledo. The purpose of the program was two-fold: make private education accessible to families while strengthening inner city schools through increased, stable enrollment.

At the same time, the Children's Scholarship

Fund in New York was implementing a program that would offer 40,000 K-8 scholarships for private schools worth almost \$200 million to low-income families across the United States. NOSF was successful in securing a partnership with CSF and in the fall of 1999, awarded 817 scholarships worth \$553,800 to students from Lucas, Wood, and Fulton Counties. CSF has provided \$4.5 million in matching funds for NOSF scholarships since that time.

This school year, NOSF has awarded 750 scholarships for children to attend 72 different private schools in 16 counties. The average scholarship award is \$1,088.

In order to qualify for these scholarships, students have to reside in Allen, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Henry,



Huron, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wood or Wyandot County and meet the income eligibility guidelines set by CSF. NOSF alumni are grateful for the scholarship and the opportunities that come with it. Alum, Kristine Below, graduated from St. Jerome Catholic School in 2009 and said of her experience, "the school taught me how to study as well as provide the motivation for doing well." Ms. Below has since graduated from the Ohio State University and is working as a Neurophysiology Technologist at ProMedica Toledo Hospital.

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ACLU of Ohio Endorses Issue 1 Initiative Would Decriminalize Certain Drug Offenses and Redirect Money from Prisons to Communities

CLEVELAND: The ACLU of Ohio urges a "yes" vote on State Issue 1, which will reduce the number of people in state prison and reinvest the savings to drug treatment programs and community services. The ballot measure would amend the state Constitution and require all fourth and fifth-degree felony offenses for obtaining, possessing, or using drugs or drug paraphernalia to be reclassified as misdemeanors.

"For decades the Ohio General Assembly has refused to acknowledge our over-crowded prisons, has repeatedly increased and enhanced sentences for drug use and possession, and has perpetuated the failed 'War on Drugs' in a disastrous way. Ohio voters now have the opportunity to reform our broken criminal justice

system by supporting Issue 1," said Gary Daniels, chief lobbyist for the ACLU of Ohio. "At its core, the initiative will improve community health, reduce our prison populations, and reinvest in communities."

The ballot initiative has several other components, including language that would prevent re-imprisonment of formerly incarcerated community members when their only infraction is a probation violation. "People who miss curfew or an appointment with their probation officer should not be sent to prison," said Jocelyn Rosnick, policy director for the ACLU of Ohio. "Ohio has a bad habit of relying on mass incarceration to attempt to solve every issue in our society, and Issue 1 will divert thousands of people back into community-based programs where they belong. People who miss an

appointment should get a second chance. Ohioans struggling with addiction deserve treatment opportunities, not incarceration."

Policy analysts estimate that the passage of Issue 1 would free up \$136 million per year, and the initiative requires that those funds be reallocated to community needs, public safety, and addiction treatment.

"Locking people in a cell does not address addiction or the underlying factors that cause people to use. We are in the midst of an opioid epidemic and our prisons are at 132% capacity. We need to do something. Issue 1 is the solution," concluded Daniels.

The ACLU of Ohio stands in support of State Issue 1 and encourages a "yes" vote.

Colorado college to fund 'DREAMers' tuition up front

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo., Sept. 20, 2018 (AP): Immigrant students at Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs, who are in the country without authorization, now have the opportunity to earn their degrees without paying upfront through a first-of-its-kind funding model.

The program—called *Fund Sueños*, which translates to "the Dream Fund"—lets so-called "DREAMers" wait until they graduate to repay their education through a fixed percentage of their income. The Denver Post reported.

The program is designed to assist the students, including those eligible for *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals*, or *DACA*, who can't obtain federal financial aid to help pay for a college education.

"We have a pretty large number of DREAMers in our mountain resort communities, and this is designed to help support young people that are often left behind," said Carrie Hauser, president of the 11-campus col-

lege. "This is not at the exclusion of the other students we serve. It's our way of hopefully contributing to the conversation and to be part of something we hope can inspire other institutions."

The program operates through an income-share agreement in which eligible students receive \$3,000 per year—covering the full cost of tuition and fees at the college. In turn, they agree to pay the school 4 percent of their earnings over a maximum of 60 months after they graduate—if they're making at least \$30,000 a year.

Students who don't make the minimum of \$30,000 annually don't have to repay anything. Once the 60-month period is over, even if students haven't finished paying off the money they were gifted, the income-share agreement ends.

To be eligible, students must be at least 18; be currently enrolled at Colorado Mountain College in a degree or certificate program; be unable to utilize federal financial aid; and, if not a U.S. citizen, be eligible to

work.

Private donors fund the program entirely, with no institutional funds or contributions from state or federal aid, college officials said.

The pilot program, which begins this fall, still contains uncertainties related to potential federal immigration policy changes.

"We knew that there is a possibility that these students could lose their ability to work in the United States with immigration reform," said Matt Gianneschi, Colorado Mountain College's chief operating officer. "We don't know the ultimate outcome of what might happen with the program."

Two donors underwrote a \$50,000 pilot program so the college could assure students that, in the event there's a change in immigration law and they can't finish the program, their debt would be vacated.

Information from: The Denver Post, <http://www.denverpost.com>

Community mental health centers getting boost

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Sept. 20, 2018 (AP): Four Michigan community mental health centers have been selected as Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics and are getting a boost in funding.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan on Thursday announced the designation for Kalamazoo Community Mental Health

and Substance Abuse Services; Easter Seals Michigan in Auburn Hills; West Michigan Community Mental Health System in Ludington and HealthWest in Muskegon.

Stabenow says each clinic will get \$4 million in funding over the next two years to provide comprehensive behavioral health and addiction treatment services.

The mental health centers are among more than two dozen selected nationwide. The aim is to provide around-the-clock crisis services; outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment services; screenings, risk assessments and diagnoses. They'll partner with hospitals law enforcement and others.

EEOC: Offensive behavior 'rife' in Homeland Security office

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 19, 2018 (AP): The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) says the Department of Homeland Security's investigative office in Virginia is "rife with offensive and racially hostile behavior."

According to a July report obtained by The Virginian-Pilot, investigators found that a supervisor had called black

and Hispanic employees "monkeys" and an agent had a photo of a black child in a fried-chicken bucket.

The commission ordered the Norfolk office to give employees race-based harassment training, post a notice about the findings and consider disciplining the two responsible.

The decision issued in July comes after Special Agent

Albert Whitney filed a complaint. The EEOC ruled Whitney hadn't been a discrimination victim, but the decision says other black employees were subject to the conduct based on their race. The office and Whitney's attorney are appealing the ruling.

Information from: The Virginian-Pilot, <http://pilotonline.com>

Photo exhibit showcases images of México border walls, fences

By ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS, Associated Press

NEWARK, Ohio, Sept. 18, 2018 (AP): The U.S. border wall with México is frequently in the news, but few people have a chance to visit it up close, or to see details of the various sections.

Kenneth Madsen, an Ohio State University geography professor and border wall expert, hopes his new photo exhibit will help bring the border closer to people at a time of heated discussion about the role of the wall, and of barriers in society overall.

"Up Close with U.S.-México Border Barriers" opens Wednesday at the LeFevre Art Gallery on the Ohio State campus in Newark, 40 miles (64 kilometers) east of Columbus. The free exhibit of 33 poster-sized pictures features border wall photos and maps.

One of the exhibit's goals is creating awareness about the wall, which can include low-grade sections in rural areas meant to stop vehicles and much stronger barriers in cities meant to stop people, Madsen said.

"People don't generally have a chance to see something up close, at that level of detail, to know what's going on out there," he said.

Donald Trump has held out the possibility of a government shutdown before the November elections over his effort to build a wall on the U.S.-México border, even as Republican congressional leaders pub-

licly urged him away from that path and predicted it wouldn't occur. "Build the wall!" was a frequent rallying cry during Trump's 2016 campaign.

Madsen has studied the border wall since his graduate school days 20 years ago. His photo exhibit consists of pictures taken with his iPhone mostly in 2017, when he was on sabbatical.

In one image, children play at a Mexican playground beside a barrier in Tijuana near the Pacific Ocean while a U.S. border agent watches from his SUV on the U.S. side just a couple of hundred feet away.

In another, stadium lights atop tall poles oversee a pedestrian barrier stretching for miles along a section of the wall between Douglas, Arizona, and Agua Prieta in the Mexican state of Sonora.

In a third, a post-on-rail type wall snakes through a Colorado River flood plain between Arizona and Baja California in México, a design meant to minimize soil disturbance in fragile landscapes, as well as to prevent it being washed away in a flood.

U.S. communities tend to grow away from the border wall, while Mexican communities tend to hug them up close, Madsen said. That helps account for large murals or brightly painted panels along several sections on the Mexican side.

Madsen is also an expert on waivers along the wall, whereby the government can exempt fence construction

from a variety of federal requirements, including archaeological and environmental surveys.


Madsen plans to attend an international conference on border walls next week in Montreal, Canada.

Another border expert attending that conference says it's important to share the experience of the border with people through such exhibits because so many stereotypes about the wall are wrong.

"The social construction of the border is negative and it's perpetuated by people that have never even seen it, been here, touched it, felt it, crossed it," said Irasema Coronado, a political science professor at the University of Texas-El Paso and a past president of the Association for Borderland Studies.

Madsen's exhibit isn't overtly political, and provides useful information for people on both sides of the border debate. But he notes the irony that wall building has increased with the rise of globalization.

Though the free-flow of capital means more freedom for more people, "there also are these border walls and fences to restrict movement of people of lesser economic means with fewer opportunities available, who are maybe stuck in bad situations," he said.



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Isabel Allende recibe Premio Nacional honorario en EEUU

Por HILLEL ITALIE, Associated Press

NUEVA YORK, 2018 (AP): Isabel Allende, galardonada con un Premio Nacional del Libro estadounidense, no encuentra motivos para hablar de su legado.

“Creo que legado es una palabra muy masculina”, dijo la autora chilena de “La casa de los espíritus” y otras novelas a The Associated Press en una entrevista telefónica reciente. “No creo que las mujeres piensen mucho en términos de legado. Somos más prácticas y sabemos que las tendencias no duran mucho. La gente y las cosas se olvidan. Simplemente estoy muy contenta de tener tantos lectores ahora”.

La Fundación Nacional del Libro anunció el jueves que Allende recibirá una medalla por su “distinguida contribución a las letras estadounidenses”. La escritora nacida en Perú es la primera de lengua española que recibe el reconocimiento y la primera nacida fuera de Estados Unidos desde *Saul Bellow* (quien lo recibió en 1990). En años anteriores el honor ha sido otorgado a autores como *Toni Morrison*, *Arthur Miller* y *Joan Didion*.

“A través de narraciones poderosas creadas con destreza, Allende eleva las historias y las vidas de las mujeres. Nunca es condescendiente con sus lectores ni simplifica las experiencias de los personajes”, dijo en un comunicado Lisa Lucas, directora ejecutiva de la fundación. “La obra de Allende es una prueba de que la excelencia artística y la viabilidad económica no son conceptos excluyentes, y que las historias sobre mujeres escritas por mujeres no son solo un buen negocio, sino que representan contribuciones esenciales para el paisaje literario”.

El autor mexicano-estadounidense *Luis Alberto Urrea*, conocido por el libro de investigación sobre la frontera “The Devil’s Highway”, le entregará a Allende la medalla en la gala benéfica del Premio Nacional del Libro en Manhattan. La ceremonia del 14 de noviembre también

incluirá a Doron Weber de la Fundación Alfred P. Sloan, quien recibirá un premio por el largo historial de la fundación como una organización que apoya a escritores.

Allende, de 76 años, es una de las autoras de lengua española más populares del mundo, con ventas que superan los 60 millones de ejemplares. Conocida por sus narrativas multigeneracionales y su estilo con realismo mágico, ve su vida definida por “el amor y la violencia”. Entreteje temas personales y políticos en sus historias, las cuales se desarrollan por todas partes, de Chile a la zona de la Bahía de San Francisco, donde ha vivido desde la década de 1980. Ha sido traducida a más de 30 idiomas y muchas de sus obras se han adaptado a óperas, obras de teatro y otros medios, incluyendo una versión en cine de “La casa de los espíritus” con Meryl Streep, Glenn Close y Jeremy Irons. Entre otros honores, recibió la Medalla Presidencial de la Libertad en 2014, y dos años más tarde el premio a la trayectoria del PEN Center Estados Unidos.

Ha escrito más de 20 libros, aun cuando el primero no se publicó sino hasta que cumplió 40 años. Nacida en Perú, vivió en Bolivia y Beirut cuando era niña antes de mudarse a Chile, donde su padrastro trabajaba como diplomático. Allende era prima del presidente chileno Salvador Allende y escapó a Venezuela después que éste fue derrocado en un golpe militar en 1973. Isabel Allende trabajó como columnista para el diario venezolano El Nacional por varios años antes de que una crisis familiar cambiara su vida: su abuelo estaba muriendo y Allende comenzó a trabajar en una carta “espiritual” para él que se convirtió en “La casa de los espíritus”, publicada en 1982 luego que numerosas editoriales la rechazaron.

Sus libros incluyen “Eva Luna”, “Cuentos de Eva Luna”, “De amor y de sombra” y “La isla bajo el mar”, entre otros. Allende ha visto por



años su obra de ficción como una forma de preservar la historia y actualmente está trabajando en una novela inspirada en un acto de heroísmo del poeta chileno Pablo Neruda durante la Guerra Civil española en la década de 1930. Miles escapaban de España y Neruda organizó que un barco se llevara algunos a Sudamérica. Uno de los sobrevivientes, que hoy tiene más de 100 años, es amigo de la escritora.

“Siento que soy capaz de tener el color, el sentido y el sentimiento de la época”, dijo al comparar la historia con la narración de “La isla bajo el mar”, que se desarrolla en parte a finales del siglo XVIII. “La isla bajo el mar” requirió años de investigación. No podía hablar con nadie que hubiera vivido la experiencia. Tuve que depender de libros y cartas. ... Para mí esta (novela) es historia reciente, porque conozco a alguien que sigue vivo. Puedo hacerme una idea y tocarla de maneras que no puedo con el pasado remoto”.



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National Hispanic Heritage Month at Lorain Public Library System

National Hispanic Heritage Month is **September 15 to October 15**, and Lorain Public Library System is proud to pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans—both nationally and locally—who have positively influenced our area and nation.

MAIN LIBRARY

351 W. Sixth Street, Lorain

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25; 6 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
PAPER MARIGOLDS
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26; NOON – 1:30 P.M.
LUNCHTIME LOCAL HISTORY: HISPANIC COMMUNITIES IN LORAIN
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26; 6 P.M. – 7 P.M.
A TASTE OF PANAMA
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

THURSDAYS, SEPT. 27, OCT. 4, 11, 18 & 25. 6 P.M. – 7 P.M.
SALSAROBICS
 Comfortable clothes, shoes and a hand towel are recommended.
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2; 6 P.M. – 7 P.M.
MEXICAN SUGAR SKULLS
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13; 3 P.M. – 4 P.M.
"ESCENCIA BORICUA" PUERTO RICAN CULTURAL DANCE GROUP OF LORAIN
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.



SOUTH LORAIN BRANCH

2121 Homewood Drive

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22; 2 P.M.
PUERTO RICAN DANCE TROUPE
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27; 6 P.M.
MEXICAN METAL ART
 Teens and tweens ages 9-18.
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29; 2 P.M.
HUICHOL YARN ART
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4; 6 P.M.
LATIN AMERICAN ART – THEMES, HISTORY AND BEAUTY
 Presented by Lorain County Community College art professor Sean Crum.
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13; 3 P.M. – 4 P.M.
VICTOR SAMALOT ACOUSTIC GUITARIST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21; 2 P.M. – 3 P.M.
SUNDAY SERIES 7 MILE ISLE STEEL DRUM BAND
 This program is brought to you by the Friends of the Lorain Public Library.




AVON BRANCH

37485 Harvest Drive

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1; 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
FAMILY HISPANIC HERITAGE FIESTA
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

COLUMBIA STATION BRANCH

13824 W. River Road North

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26; 6 P.M.
HISPANIC HERITAGE CRAFTS
 Cosponsored by The Friends of the Columbia Library, Inc. PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

DOMONKAS BRANCH

4125 E. Lake Road

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12; 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
SALSA TASTING
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9; 6 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
FOCUS ON SPANISH
 For children aged 5-10.
 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.

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HISPANIC CRAFT FUN
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 PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED.



MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY (MMS)
1820 East 28th Street, Lorain, OH 44052, 440-277-7375
"SAVE THE CLUB!" CAMPAIGN
FUNDRAISER EVENT CALENDAR
Public Welcome!

MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY 90 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

ANNIVERSARY GALA!

The Mexican Mutual Society will be celebrating its 90th Anniversary with a **GALA on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 5-10 pm at Rosewood Party Center, 4493 Oberlin Ave., Lorain OH.** The event will include dinner, dancing, Mariachi entertainment and a few surprises. An evening of memories and celebration of the Club's 90 years of proudly serving Lorain's Mexican community with cultural programming, social events, and student scholarships is planned. Tickets are \$90/couple or \$50 for individuals. Reserved tables of 8 and 10 are also available. If interested in attending, please contact **Marilyn** at 440-308-6638 for further information. Seating is limited!

• **Baldemar Velásquez, Event Keynote Speaker.** We are pleased and honored that the Keynote Speaker will be **Baldemar Velásquez.** Mr. Velásquez is President and Co-founder of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), AFL-CIO. He has dedicated his life to the issue of immigrants' rights and has received numerous honors for his work. Mr. Velásquez is nationally known for his work and promises to be an inspiring and interesting speaker.

• **Event Sponsorship Opportunity.** The MMS is seeking sponsors for the Anniversary Gala. To be an event sponsor or purchase an ad in the Celebration Program Booklet, call **Joel Arredondo** at 440-371-2551 or email joel.arredondo47@gmail.com for further information. **Deadline is October 3, 2018** to ensure inclusion in the event booklet.

CELEBRITY BARTENDER EVENT

The Mexican Mutual Society (MMS) "SAVE THE CLUB!" Campaign focuses on fundraising events to help sustain the operation of the MMS's home in South Lorain. Founded in 1928, it is one of the few remaining historical ethnic clubs in Lorain.

The public is invited to join in the fun on Friday nights from 6-9 pm. with the **Celebrity Bartenders** as the crowd cheers and the big bell rings as the tip donations role in for the Mexican Mutual Society! Delicious Mexican food is available from Hector's Kitchen.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS BY EILEEN TORRES

The MMS is pleased to present ongoing Latin culture and history presentations by Eileen Torres, Lorain native and a professional performer of Latin dance. Her video/lectures are both entertaining and educational. **Presentations are Friday, 7-8:30pm.** They are **FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.** The September offering is:

September 28, 2018. **The Life and Music of José Alfredo Jiménez** will be presented. Credited with over 1000 compositions, the audience will recognize songs from its youth, classics played by every mariachi, and favorites that evoke emotion. The audience is invited to sing along!

**These Events are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
CELEBRATING 90 YEARS! 1928-2018**

**El Centro de Servicios Sociales
Upcoming Events
September 2018**



September 2018 - El Centro has trained Bilingual (Spanish/ English) benefit banks counselors to assist families in applying for cash, medical and food assistance (SNAP), and also to assist families with recertification of SNAP. No appointment needed, walk-ins are welcome

September 2018 - City Fresh brings local fruits & vegetables direct from the farms to you! Drop off will be every Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at El Centro. Family shares cost \$18 and feed 3-4 people and single shares cost \$10 which feed 1-2 people. You can order for additional dates at any time. Ohio Direction Card/SNAP accepted for payment. To place your order you can go online at www.cityfresh.org or call 216.469.0904. Will run from June 2018 - October 2018.

September 2018 - Registration is now open for Tomando Control class at El Centro. Tomando Control is a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, which was developed for the Hispanic community. Our program is highly interactive, focusing on building skills, sharing experiences, and support. Small groups workshops are held once a week for 2½ hours per session for 7 weeks. All classes are given in Spanish. Registration is now open call El Centro at 440-277-8235 to register today!

September 27 - *United Way Day of Caring / El Centro Health Fair* - In collaboration with UH Elyria Medical Center will be offering **FREE** health screenings to include cholesterol, blood sugar (you do not need to fast), blood pressure, bone density and stroke risk assessment. Walgreens will also be providing flu shots. The Health Fair will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at El Centro.

Coming Soon:

November 3 - **El Centro 44th Annual Gala Dinner/Dance** from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight at New Russia Township Hall. For more information on sponsoring, placing an ad in program booklet or purchasing tickets, contact Emanuel Pedraza at mpedraza@lorainelcentro.org.

For more information, contact El Centro at 440-277-8235; or at 2800 Pearl Ave., Lorain. El Centro is a Latino non-profit advocacy organization, whose mission is to enhance the socio-economic status of the greater Lorain County community by providing essential social, educational, cultural, and community development services.

LCCC SBDC hosts Handmade Workshop

Lorain County Community College's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will hold a Launch Handmade workshop from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2018, at the LCCC Wellington Center.

The workshop will help attendees take their ideas for a handmade product to market, and includes information regarding business planning, packaging, pricing and marketing. The cost of the workshop is \$99.

To register, visit <https://bit.ly/2BbwW19> or call (440) 366-4370.

LCCC's Wellington Center is located at 151 Commerce Drive, Wellington, Ohio.



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"Love Does Not Hurt: Empowering Stories of Life after Violence"
Diane Young, MD, | Thelma Lamplins | Renita Jefferson

LIVE:
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Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018
6-8 p.m. (Networking reception starting at 5 p.m.)
Jerry Sue Thornton Center - Ford Room
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Heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served.

Free to attend. Please register by Oct. 19 at www.tri-c.edu/chriscoleman
Please register early as seating is limited.

Call 216-987-0204 for more information.

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Metropark's Asian Lantern Festival tops 150,000

Sept. 20, 2018: *Cleveland Metroparks Zoo* has announced that approximately 150,000 guests visited the first-ever *Asian Lantern Festival* presented by *Cleveland Clinic Children's* over its seven-week run. The first-time event for Northeast Ohio brought special performances and more than 40 large scale lantern displays featuring hundreds of colorful lanterns illuminating Cleveland Metroparks Zoo after-hours.

The event, which began in July, was originally slated to run for five weeks but large attendance led to an additional two week extension that concluded on September 3rd.

"We want to thank the

community for the overwhelming support of Asian Lantern Festival," said *Kelly Manderfield*, Cleveland Metroparks Chief Marketing Officer. "This unique event enhanced our guests' experience and attracted new visitors, spanning generations."

A survey of guests showed more than 50 percent of *Asian Lantern Festival* attendees had not visited to the Zoo in more than a year.

Cleveland Metroparks partnered with *Tianyu Arts & Culture* to bring the festive and cultural displays to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. While Tianyu specializes in bringing light festivals all over the world, the customized event at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo broke U.S. and international attendance

records for Tianyu exceeding attendance in previous markets such as those in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Utrecht in the Netherlands.

In addition to the brilliant lanterns, visitors to the festival were able to enjoy authentic Asian cuisine, a craft market and live acrobatic performances each night.

The event was made possible through partnerships with Cleveland Clinic Children's, Fifth Third Bank, and T-Mobile.

"We're looking forward to building off the success of this event and how we can offer more unique opportunities to the community we serve," said Manderfield.

Cordray, DeWine face off in 3 Ohio governor debates

DAYTON, Sept. 19, 2018 (AP): Major party candidates for Ohio governor are set for the first of three debates ahead of the November election.

Republican Attorney General *Mike DeWine* and Democrat *Richard Cordray*, the former federal consumer watchdog, met in Dayton on Sept. 19 for their first debate. Additional debates are

scheduled for Oct. 1 in Marietta and Oct. 8 in Cleveland.

Barack Obama campaigned in Cleveland on behalf of Democrats including Cordray and running mate *Betty Sutton* on Sept. 13. Donald Trump Jr., the president's son, was in Ohio the same day to raise money for Republican candidates including DeWine.

The winner of the Novem-

ber general election will succeed term-limited *Gov. John Kasich*.

The Libertarian Party of Ohio says Libertarian and Green Party candidates were being unfairly excluded from the gubernatorial debates.

On the Internet: first debate, Sept. 19, 2018: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-v-QUb39yw&t=2083s>

Northeast Ohio offers many Hispanic Heritage Month options

By *La Prensa Staff*

The annual observance of Hispanic Heritage Month [HHM] in Northeast Ohio offers many events and options to celebrate cultural heritage and educate the overall community about Latino customs, history, and traditions:

CLEVELAND:

• **Cuyahoga Community College [Tri-C]** hosts a Hispanic Heritage Month Showcase Monday, Sept. 17 through Thursday, Sept. 27, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at its metropolitan campus, 2900 Community College Ave., Cleveland. The showcase is billed as a display recognizing the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americas and bringing awareness to their heritage and culture that stems from Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking countries of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

• *A Latin American Film Festival* that same day will feature movies, receptions, and community dialogue at **Baldwin-Wallace University** in Berea. The university's Spanish program is sponsoring the festival to build relationships between the BW-Berea community and the Hispanic population of Cleveland's West Side. More information can be found at bw.edu/events/2018/latin-american-film-festival.

Global Cleveland

hosted a monthly discussion series on immigration at the Beachwood branch of the *Cuyahoga County Public Library*, 25501 Shaker Blvd. The first in the series was scheduled Thursday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m., to be followed by another event Thursday, Oct. 11.

LORAIN:

• **The Lorain Public Library** will host a number of events at its various branches, including *A Taste of Panama* on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 6 p.m. and a performance by "Escencia Boricua," a Puerto Rican cultural dance troupe on Saturday, Oct. 13, 3 p.m., at its main branch, 351 W. 6th St. in Lorain. Events at the South Lorain Branch, 2121 Homewood Dr., include a performance by acoustic guitarist *Victor Samalot* on Saturday, Oct. 13, 3 p.m., and the *7 Mile Isle steel drum band* on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2 p.m., sponsored by the Friends of the Lorain Public Library.

Standing Rock Cultural Arts will host a mariachi concert as the second performance in its "Around the World" Music Series on Saturday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., at the *North Water Street Gallery*, 300 North Water Street, in downtown Kent.



The concert is billed as the 16th annual Día de los Muertos celebration featuring Mariachi Santa Cecilia, a four-piece mariachi band performing traditional and popular music of Mexico and beyond.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

HHM began as a week in mid-September under the administration of President Lyndon Johnson in 1968, and was expanded by law to a full month, September 15 to October 15, in 1988 under President Ronald Reagan.

During the 30-day period, diverse Hispanic cultures are celebrated across the U.S. The date of Sept. 15 and the week that follows it is significant because it marks the anniversaries of independence for seven Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico's anniversary falls on Sept. 16 and Chile on Sept. 18. In addition, Oct. 12 marks *el Día de la Raza* (Columbus Day).

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Stocker Arts Center hosts "From Grit to Glimmer: Generations of Stories Told Through Metal"

Lorain County Community College's Stocker Arts Center hosts an Artists' Reception for the "From Grit to Glimmer: Generations of Stories Told Through Metal" from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2018 with the show open through Friday, November 16.

The exhibit will include sculptures from four generations of the Schmidt family. *Jerry Schmidt* is an abstract metal sculptor who learned the art from his father, *Fred Schmidt*. Fred Schmidt was a well-known metal sculptor in Cleveland. *Jerry Schmidt* now

works in his studio with his son *Tyler Schmidt*, and his grandson, *Nathan Schmidt*. They create large and small works in steel, stainless steel, aluminum and copper. To learn more, visit www.schmidtsculpture.com.

Thomas Hudson, who graduated from the *Cooper School of Art*, in Cleveland, Ohio, with a certificate in production art, showcases oil paintings and drawings in the exhibit. The slow drying time of oil paint allows him to be meticulous and patient in painting realistic details with fidelity. As an artist, his desire is to achieve a natural

realism with his paintings. To learn more, visit www.thomashudsonart.com.

For more information on the exhibit, contact *Beth Bryan* or visit www.lorainccc.edu/stocker/beth-k-stocker-art-gallery.

The reception is free and open to the public.

Gallery hours are 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and during select Stocker Arts Center events. Lorain County Community College is located at 1005 N. Abbe Road, Elyria, Ohio. Parking on campus is free.

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Congresswoman Kaptur raises concerns over Affordable Care Act lawsuit

(Continued from Page 1) and elsewhere, open enrollment begins in November and runs through mid-December.

A group of Senate Republicans put forward a bill earlier this year that would continue to protect people with pre-existing conditions, but the proposal actually only requires insurers to cover people with pre-existing conditions, but it doesn't require them to cover that pre-existing condition itself. The end result is patients could get health insurance, but that policy won't cover that illness under the bill.

Public Option Needed

The Ninth District representative contends that if the GOP leaders in Congress want to help President Trump dismantle the health insurance exchange that's part of the Affordable Care Act, then there must be another option. While stopping short of calling for universal healthcare, she touted what could be called "Medicare for All" or a "Medicare Public Option."

"What I think we really need to have is a public option under Medicare. I could support that," said Ms. Kaptur. "People can have their private insurance. But people should have a plan that they can buy into and once it's a national plan, it's got a big enough pool that it's insurable."

The "dean of the Ohio delegation," as she's often referred, pointed out each generation is living five months longer than their parents, a reflection of a

healthier U.S. population. Her contention is the United States cannot afford "to go backwards now" and "throw people off health insurance."

"To constantly have people without insurance costs us so much more in the long run, because people end up in the emergency rooms, the most expensive care in these hospitals because they don't take care of themselves," Ms. Kaptur pointed out. "They don't get an annual check-up, for example. For me, it makes moral sense for everyone to have access to affordable health insurance. But it is also economically wise to do because we prevent illness rather than just pay for more illness. As a society as a whole, you have a healthier society."

Drug Companies Making Record Profits

Congresswoman Kaptur pointed out much-needed prescription drugs continue to rise in cost, while pharmaceutical companies continue to reap increased profits. She pointed out that diabetes medications recently went up, while the company behind them made a \$32 billion profit. She also pointed to recent price increases for epinephrine.

"We have seen corporations basically throw out their social obligation," said Ms. Kaptur. "Years ago, that was part and parcel of doing business in their community. There was a commitment to a healthy workforce. Now they call it a 'defined contribution' or you have to go out and buy your own (health insurance) or put up a health savings account, save up for

if you get sick."

The congresswoman questioned how someone who makes minimum wage even has a chance to put aside a few thousand dollars, let alone afford healthcare. She pointed out if a catastrophe such as a car accident would occur, the medical bills would mount to \$100,000 very quickly, putting an entire family on the brink of bankruptcy even if they had saved some money for such an occurrence.

Congresswoman Kaptur believes the mid-term Congressional elections in November will be a public mandate on the future of healthcare in the U.S., with the Republican majority in Congress and President Trump being tested by a public vote in tight races across the country.

"We need to elect people at the Washington level who want to insure people at affordable prices," she said. "What we've got is a majority in the House and Senate and a president who want to roll back health coverage. We have to stop that. That's what this election is all about. This is on the ballot, even though it doesn't say that. It's on the ballot in November—will you have affordable health insurance? Will you be able to afford your medicines?"

The longest-serving female in Congressional history urged people statewide to head to the polls this fall, calling it a crucial vote. **The deadline to register to vote this fall is Oct. 9, with early and absentee voting to begin the next day.**

Trump tweets roil Florida GOP's play for Puerto Rican voters

By GARY FINEOUT, Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Sept. 13, 2018 (AP): In just a few moments and two tweets, President Donald Trump roiled Florida's crucial elections Thursday, upending his party's ongoing efforts to make inroads to the battleground state's growing Puerto Rican population.

Trump's tweets claiming that "3,000 people did not die" in the hurricanes that hit the island last year and falsely alleging that the official death toll was part of a plot by Democrats to make him look bad were immediately condemned by Puerto Rican leaders, Democratic opponents and, in a rare breach, fellow Republicans in the state.

Ron DeSantis, who won last month's GOP primary for governor largely due to Trump's endorsement, "doesn't believe any loss of life has been inflated," a spokesman said. Gov. Rick Scott, who is challenging Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson for his seat in November, tweeted flatly, "I disagree with (at) POTUS."

The direct and swift rebuke from Trump's Florida allies demonstrated the significance of the Puerto Rican voters in a state where races are often decided by slim margins. Republican candidates for months have been carefully courting the Puerto Rican community, hoping to prove their concern about the island's slow recovery and win over voters who tend to vote Democratic. But the episode shows how Trump, who has an outsized influence on races in Florida and beyond, may not make it easy for Republicans to reach out to swing voters. The president's tweets

came just one day after Nelson launched a new Spanish-language ad that features pictures of Trump and Scott together and says in Spanish "tell me who you hang out with, and I will tell you who you are."

Florida was already home to more than 1 million Puerto Ricans before Hurricane Maria slammed into the island territory nearly a year ago. Tens of thousands of residents fled Puerto Rico in the aftermath, with many of them relocating to Florida.

Puerto Rico's governor last month raised Maria's official death toll from 64 to 2,975 after an independent study found that the number of people who succumbed in the sweltering aftermath had been severely undercounted.

The growing Puerto Rican community near Orlando has been key to swinging the area into the Democratic column as many Puerto Rican voters have backed Democrats. In 2016, Democrat Darren Soto became the first congressman of Puerto Rican descent elected from Florida.

It's not clear how many Maria survivors who came to the mainland are now registering to vote in Florida. A Miami Herald analysis in late August found that only about 3,150 voters with Puerto Rico phone area codes had registered to vote between the hurricane's landfall and the primary deadline in late July. But despite that there's been a concentrated push by both parties to appeal to Puerto Rican voters and seek out endorsements from top Puerto Rico politicians.

"I've been to Puerto Rico 7 times & saw devastation firsthand. The loss of any life is

tragic; the extent of lives lost as a result of Maria is heart wrenching. I'll continue to help PR," Scott tweeted Thursday.

Right after the storm Scott ordered the opening of disaster relief centers to help those who came to Florida. Over the summer, the governor ran an ad that said he is the one politician who was helping Puerto Rico. DeSantis, Nelson and Democratic candidate for governor Andrew Gillum have also visited Puerto Rico this year.

For DeSantis, breaking from Trump marked a major, first shift away from the conservative base voters that carried him to a victory in the primary.

"Ron DeSantis is committed to standing with the Puerto Rican community, especially after such a tragic loss of life," said Stephen Lawson, a spokesman for DeSantis.

State Rep. Amy Mercado, a Puerto Rican Democrat from central Florida, called Trump's comments about the death toll "disgusting, vile, and show just who he is."

"The lives lost because of Maria were very real, and the island is still dealing with the devastating effects and poor federal response," she said.

Other Democrats in Florida also were sharply critical of Trump. Nelson on Twitter called the comments "shameful" and said that "we deserve and expect more from someone who holds the highest office in our country."

Gillum, who is challenging DeSantis in the governor's race, also blasted the president.

"No death is partisan and our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico deserved better," Gillum said on Twitter.

Taylor Hyundai Perrysburg

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Trump's immigrant roundups increasingly net non-criminals

By MATT SEDENSKY, AP National Writer

NEW YORK, Sept. 20, 2018 (AP): A daughter who never returned home, a son gunned down point-blank, a mom who was brutally attacked—all deaths at the hands of immigrants in the country illegally, all gripping stories the White House has been eager to share.

But for all the talk of murderers, rapists and other "bad hombres," those netted in President Donald Trump's crackdown on immigration are typically accused of lesser offenses, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents are increasingly apprehending those with no criminal records at all.

"Unshackling ICE has really allowed it to go after more individuals," said Sarah Pierce, a policy analyst with the nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute who calls the apprehension of non-criminal immigrants, in particular, "a defining characteristic of this administration's approach to immigration."

The case of *Mollie Tibbets*—a 20-year-old Iowa college student authorities say was killed by a man living in the U.S. without documentation—is among the latest used by Trump to advance his argument for stricter immigration controls. Yet the government's own statistics show such cases are far more likely to be the exception than the rule.

ICE arrests of non-criminals increased 66 percent in the first nine months of the 2018 fiscal year over the same period a year earlier. Arrests of convicts, meantime, rose nearly 2 percent. More non-criminals have also been deported. Among those expelled from the U.S. interior in fiscal 2017, there was a 174 percent increase from the previous year of those with no criminal convictions. Deportations of those with convictions rose nearly 13 percent over the same period.

The result is immigration courts are filling with defendants like *Rubén Moroyoqui*, a 45-year-old mechanic in Tucson, Arizona, whose only run-in with police came last year, his attorney said, when he was pulled over while picking up auto parts.

First, the officer asked for his license. His second question, Moroyoqui said, was "Are you here legally?" He wasn't cited for any driving violation; he was simply handed over to ICE, which began proceedings to deport him to Mexico. An appeal is pending.

Moroyoqui entered the country with authorization 16 years ago but then overstayed his visa, not wanting to return home because of the lack of opportunity there. He has four U.S. citizen children and said he has always paid his taxes. "I feel great respect and love for this country," he said.

ICE has heralded its deportations of drug kingpins, violent gang members and others accused of serious offenses, and in the 2017 fiscal year, it reported that 56 percent of all deportees it pro-

cessed—from the interior U.S. and border—had been convicted of crimes. But under Trump, as with prior administrations, when a deportee does have a criminal record, it's generally for lesser infractions.

Among more than 220,000 deportees in the 2017 fiscal year, 79,270 had no convictions, according to ICE data housed by the Transactional Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University. Of those with a record, according to the data, 1 in 4 had illegal entry or re-entry to the U.S. as their most serious offenses. Those two counts represented the first- and third-most common charges among deportees. Driving under the influence was second, followed by assault convictions and traffic offenses. Drug trafficking, burglary, domestic violence, larceny and selling marijuana rounded out the top 10 offenses.

The rest of those with a record were convicted of a wide range of misdeeds, both grave crimes like kidnapping and minor offenses including taking a joy ride, gambling or violating a fish conservation statute.

For *Ariel Vences-López*, the charge that led him to deportation proceedings was an accusation of riding the light rail in Minneapolis last year without a ticket. After asking whether Vences-López was in the country without documentation, a transit officer used a Taser on him and arrested him on suspicion of fare evasion before turning him over to ICE. The charges were later dropped, but the 25-year-old roofer is still fighting his deportation back to Mexico. Proceedings have been put off until 2019.

Adriana Cerrillo, an immigrant advocate who took part in protests over the case and who has befriended Vences-López, said the public should know how seldom those deported are actually accused of violent crimes.

"My mother's not a criminal. My sister's not a criminal," she said. She questions how many so-called "bad hombres"—a term Trump has used—are actually in the U.S. and urges US-Americans to think critically about the message being promulgated. "How do we say 'brainwashing' in a different term?"

Luis Alberto Enamorado Gómez, who left Honduras for the U.S. in 2005, was charged with a DUI in 2012 and ordered deported the following year, but because his case was considered a low priority under the administration of President Barack Obama, he never was forced to leave. That was common in the final two years of Obama's presidency, when ICE was directed to exercise discretion to defer action on certain migrants with standing removal orders, including those with citizen children and living in the U.S. prior to 2010.

That ended under Trump, and with new marching orders to prioritize any and all

immigration cases, ICE followed up earlier this year and took Gómez into custody. He was held for about six weeks and is now fighting his deportation. The 31-year-old from Grandview, Missouri, said he fears what his removal would mean for his seven children, all U.S. citizens for whom he is the sole provider.

"How are we criminals when we just come here and work and provide for our families?" he asked.

With a spotlight on the separation of immigrant children and their parents this summer, Trump tried to refocus attention on dangerous immigrants by hosting a White House event with relatives of those killed by people in the country without documentation. "These are the American citizens that are permanently separated from their loved ones," Trump said. "These are the stories that Democrats and the people that are weak on immigration, they don't want to discuss."

And yet the most serious crimes, such as murder and rape, are relatively rare among deportees.

Studies also have found immigrants to the U.S. have a lower level of criminality than citizens. Living in the U.S. without authorization is generally a civil matter, while the act of crossing the border without permission may be prosecuted as a crime.

Some local law enforcement agencies partner with ICE and immediately alert the agency if an immigrant in the country without documentation comes in contact with an officer—whether because they committed a crime or were a victim of one. Even without such cooperation, ICE can send its officers to courthouses when immigrants are scheduled to appear to apprehend them for deportation.

That's what happened to *Nefi Rodas*, a 34-year-old construction worker in Worcester, Massachusetts, who paid a smuggler to escape Guatemala in 2003. After he was cited last year for suspicion of driving under the influence, he went to court for a pre-arrest appearance. ICE agents were waiting outside the building.

"We don't even know what to do as immigration attorneys," said Cindy Burke, who represents Rodas. "You have to show up to state court, but there's a good chance ICE is going to be waiting for you."

Because Rodas never made it to his hearing, a warrant was issued for his arrest, complicating his drunken driving case. He spent nearly four months in ICE custody, but deportation proceedings ended after a judge found that sending Rodas back to Guatemala would have caused undue hardship on his special-needs daughter. He is now a legal permanent resident of the U.S.

"One person does something, and it's as if we all have done it," he said of the

Kaptur Aide Theresa Morris to receive DHO award

(Continued from Page 1)

Congresswoman Kaptur's district.

In fact, the raid occurred on a day when Ms. Morris was on vacation to attend a day-long session toward a professional certificate through a Minority Executive Leadership program offered by the Center for Non-profit resources, an arm of the Toledo Community Foundation.

"I'm taking advantage of some of the wonderful things our community has to help continue a life-long journey in learning," she said. "It's not that well-known in the larger community like it is to some in the minority communities, the programs at the Center for Nonprofit Resources."

Ms. Morris earned her bachelor's degree in 1993 from *Alma College* in Michigan, with a focus on Spanish Language and Latin American Literature. She later earned a Master's degree in organizational leadership from *Lourdes University* in 2014.

Her community service also is well known, as she presently serves on the board of directors at *WGTE Public Media and Team Recovery*.

"My first real adult job was at WGTE (after college). I worked there as a volunteer recruiter and supervisor, overseeing all of the volunteers for the TV 30 auction," she said. "It was a nice opportunity to come back and serve on the board, kind of coming back full circle."

Ms. Morris became involved with *Team Recovery* after losing a family member to a drug overdose. She is determined to help change the narrative and stigma associated with those who get caught up in heroin or prescription pills during the opioid epidemic. The non-profit group is still in its early stages, but has grown by leaps and bounds to build a recovery center and offer a wide variety of services to recovering addicts and their families.

"It hits younger people, older people, black, white, Hispanic, you name it," she said. "I really felt I needed to channel my energy into trying to make sure no one else's family felt like there weren't resources readily available to them."

Ms. Morris also is a co-founder this year of *MANAS*,

an organization recently created to bring Latina women from Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan together to mentor, assist in empowering, networking, advancing and supporting one another. The group holds monthly gatherings called "*Chica Chat*." From that initial effort, the *Lucas County Democratic Latina Empowerment Club* was born over the past few months, which just received official recognition from the overall county party.

"We would just get Latina women together, just for the chance to talk," she explained. "We don't all necessarily know each other, what each other's strengths are, and all the wonderful things that are happening in our community. There was no agenda—just getting together, sometimes having a meal. We don't always necessarily get a chance to know one another."

There are valid reasons why Ms. Morris has become even more active than usual in the local community. One of those is a deep desire to continue her education by learning more about the community and other cultures.

"I think part of it is that I went through some learning withdrawal," said Ms. Morris with a laugh. "I've always loved school. I've always loved learning—whether it's formal or informal."

Ms. Morris also is an active member of *Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA)*, whose mission is to empower and develop Latino men and women as leaders of character for the nation, in every sector of the global economy.

On a personal level, Ms. Morris has taken up boxing as a physically exhausting way to find a positive outlet for the long, ongoing battle over immigration with the Trump administration. She gets up early on the mornings when she has to be to a 5 a.m. boxing lesson, but is very dedicated to learning the sport and the physical demands it entails.

"I've been really kind of frustrated. It's just been hard, because you see the families, you see the fear in people's eyes, and they look to you," she admitted. "Sometimes you don't know what to say, except you try and let them know there are other people who care about them. That's one of the reasons I took up boxing—to get out some of

the frustration.

The current state of political affairs likely will keep Ms. Morris from seeking a high office, choosing instead to consider running for a local seat. Her mostly likely race would be the *Toledo Public Schools* board, due to her devotion to TPS and the many success stories she believes need to be told to the greater community, especially from her alma mater, *Start High School*, where she helped to form an alumni hall of fame.

"One of the editors at *Random House* is a *Start* graduate. There's a Marine presidential helicopter pilot who went to *Start High School*," she explained. "There's so many different, wonderful stories about TPS students and what they've done and how they had a good foundation and I don't think TPS tells those stories enough."

The back story of Ms. Morris and her family is a bit different than that of the typical Northwest Ohio immigrant who started as a migrant worker. Her grandfather came directly from Mexico to work on the railroad during World War II, but sent money back home when his mother needed surgery. He had formerly worked in the silver mines of Mexico after growing up in the small town of Taxco in the state of Guerrero.

"One of the things I do that helps ground me is I always wear something with silver, remind me where I come from, remind me of the struggles people have fought before me," said Ms. Morris. "That allows me to continue to be a voice for the people who don't have a voice."

Both of her parents broke new ground in Toledo. Her father became a Toledo firefighter at a time when there were few Latinos in the department. Her mother trained to become a union electrician in the 1970s when few women held the career. Both still work, but are nearing retirement age.

"Between the two of them, they certainly gave me a strong foundation of fighting hard for what you believe in, even if you're different," she said. "I've had a wonderful foundation from my parents. I can't say enough good things about them."

inclination of some Americans to brand all without legal status as violent criminals. "I haven't murdered anybody. I haven't violated anybody."

The share of deportees not convicted of a crime was higher at the end of George W. Bush's presidency, when two-thirds had no record, according to ICE data. Total deportations reached a peak in the early years of the Obama administration—but the share of those people without a criminal record fell. Overall, when examining deportations of both those caught at the border and living within the country, the percentage of those with no conviction has increased

slightly under Trump compared to Obama. But with increased arrests of immigrants already living in the U.S., experts expect the numbers to continue rising.

"We see ICE doing things that allows them to get the low-hanging fruit, so to speak, the easy enforcement," said Pierce, referring to arrests at ICE-mandated office check-ins, for example.

Melissa Aispuro, 20, of Tucson, Arizona, is another with no record to find herself in deportation proceedings. Aispuro has lived most of her life in the U.S. She was brought as a child and returned to Mexico for a time after high school before coming back in 2016. She en-

tered legally with a border crossing card, but overstayed.

When her car was struck by another motorist last October, she didn't think anything of calling police. She hadn't even considered they would call ICE on someone with no criminal record who had just been in an accident.

"It's like really sad because not all of us are criminals. Some just come here for education, for a better life," said Aispuro, who is married to a U.S. citizen and fighting her deportation. "You can think whatever you want, but in my heart I know what I am."

AP National Writer *Allen G. Breed* contributed reporting from Greensboro, North Carolina.



With a commitment to improving the human condition, The University of Toledo and University Medical Center are seeking qualified candidates for multiple positions.

The University of Toledo offers an excellent salary and benefit package, which includes the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and State Teachers Retirement System for faculty with employer contribution, medical coverage, paid sick and vacation time, tuition waiver is available to UT employees and their eligible spouses and dependents and 10 paid holidays.

For a complete listing of our openings and desired qualifications or to apply, please proceed to our website at <https://jobs.utoledo.edu>

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The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (MHR SB) of Lucas County seeks to acquire the services of a vendor who can provide proposals for strategies the Board can use to effectively enhance and expand its current access to the system of care by providing behavioral health care navigation along with language interpretation as needed. Additional information is available at <http://www.lcmhrsboh.gov/publicnotice>. Proposals must be received by October 19, 2018 at 5:00pm.

SNOW PLOW OPERATORS WITH VEHICLES

The City of Toledo, Streets, Bridges, & Harbor Division is interested in contracting with owners/operators of snow plow vehicles for plowing on residential streets during heavy snow conditions. All bids must be received by **1:30 PM October 16th, 2018**, for a copy of the bid proposals and specifications visit <https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=22576> or contact:

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NOTICE: Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge Closure, starting Sept. 24, 2018

The bridge connecting downtown Toledo and East Toledo [the *Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge*] will be closed beginning Sept. 24, 2018. The bridge must be closed for Toledo Waterways Initiative work to install an 84-inch pipe connecting a combined sewer overflow to a 5.2-million-gallon storage basin under International Park. The Toledo Waterways Initiative is a federally-mandated program requiring the city of Toledo to reduce sewage discharges into waterways.

For more information on the program, go to www.Toledo-WaterwaysInitiative.com.



Joe E. Brown Park Reopening Celebration:

The City of Toledo will host a re-opening celebration at Joe E. Brown Park, **11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018**. The event will include a softball scrimmage on the new ball diamond, kids activities, lawn games, and free light refreshments. Representatives from Imagination Station, the YMCA, the Toledo Lucas County Public Library, and The Toledo Zoo will be present. The mayor thanked partners who helped fund and organize the event, including S&G Stores, Kokosing Construction Company, The Blade, Scott High School, and Woodward High School. **The rain date is 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30.** The park is located at 150 W. Oakland St.

ATENCIÓN VOTANTES DEL CONDADO DE LORAIN INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE PARA EL REGISTRO DE VOTANTES EN LAS ELECCIONES GENERALES DEL 6 DE NOVIEMBRE, 2018

EL MARTES 9 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018 ES LA FECHA LÍMITE PARA INSCRIBIRSE EN LA ELECCIÓN GENERAL QUE SE CELEBRARÁ EL MARTES 6 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2018.

• PARA REGISTRARSE ADECUADAMENTE, VISITE UNO DE LOS SIGUIENTES LUGARES ANTES DE LA FECHA LÍMITE DE INSCRIPCIÓN O REGÍSTRESE EN LÍNEA EN: www.myohiovote.com

- Consejo electoral del Condado de Lorain 1985 N. Ridge Rd. E., Lorain, Ohio 44055 El horario normal de oficina es de 8:30 a.m. a 4:30 p.m. (L-V) Horario de atención para el lunes 9 de octubre de 2018 será: de 8:30 a.m. a 9:00 p.m.
- Servicios de empleo y familia
- Agencias de licencias de vehículos de motor (BMW)
- Tesorería del Condado
- Bibliotecas Públicas
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- Departamentos de salud / WIC

Para ser elegible para votar, debe cumplir con los siguientes requisitos:

1. Ser ciudadano de los Estados Unidos
2. Tener al menos 18 años el día de la elección general o antes
3. Ser residente de Ohio durante al menos 30 días antes de la elección en la que desea votar
4. No estar encarcelado por un delito grave
5. No haber sido declarado incompetente para votar por un tribunal de sucesiones en la corte.
6. No haber sido privado permanentemente de sus derechos por violaciones a las leyes electorales

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The **Spanish American Committee** in Cleveland is currently recruiting for the following position(s): **Fund Developing – Grant Writer Manager; Employment Coordinator Manager; and Career Coach and Job Development Specialist.**

If you have knowledge of any qualified candidate for this position, have them email their résumés and cover letter to Ramonita Vargas, Executive Director Ramonitav@spanishamerican.org or apply online at <https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=Spanish%20American%20Committee&l=Cleveland%2C%20OH&vjk=75183eff558ebff8>.

If you have any questions or can suggest other qualified sources we can use in our recruitment efforts, contact 216-961-2100 ext. 242.


TOLEDO LEGAL AID SOCIETY

TLAS Fellowship Program is hiring up to **four** attorneys in Lucas County, Ohio. Successful candidates must be licensed with the Ohio Supreme Court. In addition, graduates from an accredited college of law who are awaiting Ohio bar results will be considered for the fellowship program. Please see <http://www.nlada.org/node/20021> for a more detailed description. Email cover letter and resumé by October 12, 2018 to: ToledoLegalAidSociety@Yahoo.com

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 October 18, 2018 - Fulton County Garage: 3PM-7PM located at 8878 State Route 108, Wauseon, OH

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Successful applicants hired for temporary Highway Technician 1 positions are NOT eligible for benefits.



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INSULATOR APPRENTICESHIP

The Toledo Area Insulators Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee is establishing an eligibility list for possible acceptance into the Insulators Apprenticeship program. There will be a non-refundable \$10 application fee. Cash or Money Order only.

Applications for the program will be available beginning September 17th - September 28th, 2018, 8:30AM - 11:30AM and September 19th and September 26th, 2018, 5:00PM - 7:00PM. Applications will be taken at NW Ohio Construction Education Center, 4535 Hill Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43615. Applicants must be 18 years or older, must present a copy of their birth certificate and a valid driver's license, must be a high school graduate or equivalent, and be physically fit to perform the work. All applicants must provide transcripts (record of grades) or GED and test scores.

Applicants for apprenticeship will not be considered unless transcript or GED is received within 10 business days. Failure to comply will result in automatic disqualification. The recruitment, selection, and training of apprentices shall be conducted without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, genetic information, or because they are an individual with a disability or a person 40 years or older.

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A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY.

Today, the Ohio Department of Education releases its report cards for public schools. Toledo Public Schools welcomes transparency about its performance, but believes the State Report Card once again gives a woefully incomplete picture of public education in this and other urban districts across the state.

The State Report Card is overly broad and fails to accurately capture the progress students are making in the classroom. This is why we once again feel compelled to tell a more complete story. Below is a snapshot of just a few of the accomplishments from the 2017-18 school year from across our district. The mission of the Toledo Public Schools is to ensure that graduates are "college and career ready." The data below shows that we are living that mission by increasing graduation rates at each of our high schools.

TPS still has work to do, but our students, teachers and staff are making tremendous strides. We invite the entire community to learn more about our continuing momentum at the 2018 State of the District address on Tuesday, October 9th at 5:30 p.m. at Rogers High School.

The summary below is supported by a full set of performance data which can be found at www.tps.org.

Sincerely,

Dr. Romules Durant
CEO/SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Polly Taylor-Gerken
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION

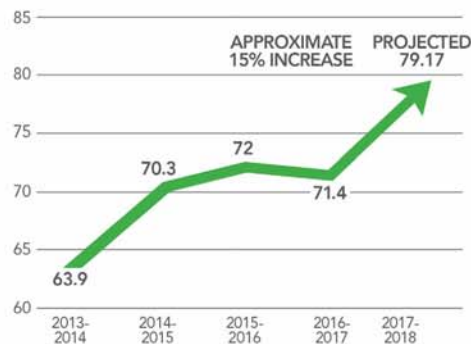
Mrs. Stephanie Eichenberg
VICE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Perry LeFevre
BOARD MEMBER

Mrs. Chris Varwig
BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Bob Vasquez
BOARD MEMBER

ALL STUDENTS GRADUATION RATE



DISTRICT ENROLLMENT AND TRENDS

2015-16	21,983
2016-17	22,807
2017-18	23,082



TPS STUDENTS PREPARED FOR SUCCESS – 2017 SENIORS

Continued Growth in Overall Progress:

- Students earning honors diplomas increased for the second consecutive year
- 11 percent of all TPS graduates earned college credit while in high school, an increase of more than 100 students from the previous year
- Increase in ACT and SAT scores and participation for the second consecutive year
- Advanced placement classes increase in participation and passing



2014-2018 GRADUATION RATE INCREASES

Scott High School	22.2%
Woodward High School	19.5%
Bowsher High School	17.1%
Start High School	14.9%
Rogers High School	10.3%
Waite High School	10.1%



OUTSTANDING SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

TOTAL AVERAGE Proficient % Increases:

Chase STEM Academy	18.49%
Walbridge Elementary School	16.19%
Toledo Technology Academy High School	13.33%
Start High School	11.94%
Glenwood Elementary School	11.53%
McTigue Elementary School	10.36%
Bowsher High School	10.06%



GRADUATION RATES:

- The All Student graduation rate for TPS is up almost 15% over four years to 79.2% this year
- Graduation rates for minority students is up more than 17%, over four years to 76.7%
- Graduation rates for students with disabilities is up 15% over four years to 69.8%
- Graduation rates for disadvantaged students is up 17% over four years to 76.8%
- Over 90% of Career Tech students graduated over the past two years
- Students attending a TPS thematic/specialty school had a 98% graduation rate (Toledo Early College, Toledo Technology Academy and Jones Leadership Academy of Business)

