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## Lawsuit says new Detroit districts hurt minorities

DETROIT, Dec. 8, 2011 (AP): A coalition of labor and civil rights groups has filed a lawsuit challenging new boundaries for Detroit seats in the Michigan Legislature.

The lawsuit filed Thursday in Detroit federal court says the new map forces black incumbents to run against other black incumbents and dilutes the political representation of Latinos. Opponents say the 2012 map violates the U.S. Constitution and should be thrown out.

Maps for Congress and the Legislature were approved by Republicans and signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder, also a Republican. Spokeswoman Sara Wurfel says the governor wouldn't have signed the maps if he thought they were unfair.

They'll be used in the primary election next August.



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## Process Technology Scholarships

Marathon Petroleum Company is offering 10 scholarships to qualified Detroit residents for **FREE course work toward certification in Process Technology (PTEC)**. Scholarships are available at Wayne County Community College District and Henry Ford Community College.

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## Cooley Law School to open immigrant rights clinic

ANN ARBOR, Dec. 18, 2011 (AP): *Cooley Law School* plans to open an immigrant rights and civil advocacy clinic at its Ann Arbor campus. The clinic will offer free legal help when it opens in January.

It will be Cooley's eighth clinic where law students can assist clients and the first in-house clinic at the Ann Arbor campus. Cooley's main campus is in Lansing.

The clinic will address a range of issues immigrants face, from landlord-tenant disputes and unfair wage claims to problems with their immigration status.

Cooley officials met with lawyers, judges and community leaders in Washtenaw County to learn what free legal services were most needed.

Cooley associate professor *Jason Eyster* will supervise the students. He recently moved back to Michigan after supervising Ave Maria law school's immigrant rights clinic in Naples, Fla.

*¡Feliz  
 Navidad  
 y  
 Prospero  
 Año  
 Nuevo!*

## Wayne State University research team receives new NIH grant to study numerical processing in infants with fetal alcohol disorders

DETROIT, Dec. 5, 2011: Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) are one of the most common causes of birth defects worldwide and are particularly prevalent in some South African communities where heavy drinking during pregnancy is a major public health issue, particularly in the wine-growing areas of the Western Cape.

FASDs have long-term, significant effects on neurocognitive and behavioral development, including problems with attention, learning, memory and social skills. They can also cause heart defects, facial dysmorphic features, poor growth, and decreased muscle tone and coordination. A team of researchers led by *Sandra W. Jacobson, Ph.D., and Joseph L. Jacobson, Ph.D.*, professors of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences in Wayne State University's School of Medicine recently received a \$413,440 grant from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism of the National Institutes of Health to conduct a new study designed to improve the diagnosis of FASDs. Improved diagnosis can lead to the development of better-targeted treatments for specific deficits found in children with these disorders.

According to S. Jacobson, infants as young as 5 months of age can look at a display of stimuli that involve simple numbers and mentally manipulate them. However, alcohol-exposed infants do not show the same ability to process this numerical information when shown the same stimuli.

"Infants exposed to heavy prenatal alcohol exposure do not exhibit the same response as non-exposed infants," said Jacobson. "In the newly funded study, we will use event-related potentials (ERP) that measure brain waves to examine the time course and specific components of information processing in alcohol-exposed and non-exposed infants. We then can specify which components of number processing are affected by fetal alcohol exposure."

The study will examine whether magnitude comparison, which is the ability to detect larger or smaller quantities, and/or error monitoring, which is an early precursor of executive function, are affected when the exposed infants perform a simple numerical discrimination task. The team's earlier research shows that alcohol-exposed infants do not perform well on this test. The ERP version of this test will help determine which aspects of numerical processing are likely impaired by the alcohol exposure.

This type of research on these two early-developing potential neurocognitive biobehavioral markers could improve understanding of what is impaired by studying specific aspects of central nervous system function that can be linked biologically to fetal alcohol exposure. This, in turn, can provide important information about the pathophysiology of FASDs and contribute to the development of improved treatments for the specific deficits of this disorder.

"Dr. S. Jacobson's research is addressing a critical research area that currently lacks specific diagnostic criteria and an understanding of the neural structures that underlie specific cognitive deficits due to repeated fetal alcohol exposure," said Hilary Ratner, Ph.D., vice president for research at Wayne State University. "She is a leader in the field of fetal alcohol research and this is another example of the high impact research Wayne State University faculty are engaged in."

Source: <http://wayne.edu/>

## Reported Upcoming Michigan Events

### East Lansing

March 17, 2012: **Día de la Mujer Conference**, at the MSU Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing.

### Ann Arbor

Feb. 11, 2012: **Hot Chocolate and Valentine's Day Scavenger Hunt at Matthaei Botanical Gardens**, *Chocolate caliente y el Día de San Valentín en el Jardín Botánico Matthaei*. Descubra porque amamos el chocolate y aprenda a hacer deliciosos postrecitos de chocolate; 1800 N. Dixboro Rd., (734) 647-7600.

### Detroit Metro

Dec. 26 – 28, 2011, 2:00PM: **Holiday Puppet Performance: Tangle of Tales**, *Presentación de marionetas*; Detroit Institute of Arts - 5200 Woodward Avenue, (313) 833-7900 - [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org)

Jan. 9, 2012, 10:00 – noon: **The Greatest Children's Outing in History**, Inspire your little ones during Macy 2nd Mondays, held the second Monday of every month in *Henry Ford Museum*; storytelling, activities, & give-aways. *Los segundos lunes de cada mes, en el Museo Henry Ford, historias para niños. Actividades para hacer y llevarse*. The Henry Ford - 20900 Oakwood Blvd. Dearborn, [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)

Jan 14 – 22, 2012: **North American International Auto Show (Show Internacional del Automóvil)**; experience the next generation of transportation at the 2012 North American International Auto Show. *Conozca la nueva generación del transporte*. Cobo Center – 1 Washington Blvd # 401 – Detroit, (313) 877-8777.

Jan. 27- 29, 2012: **Fire & Ice Fest Rochester – Fiesta de fuego y hielo en Rochester**

Downtown Rochester's winter festival features ice sculptures, ice skating, a tubing run, horse-drawn carriage rides, fireworks, and a taste fest inside the warming tent featuring beer and wine provided by Rochester Mills Beer Company- *Festival de esculturas de hielo, patinaje, paseos en carrossa, fuegos artificiales y degustación de cervezas y vinos*. Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce, (248) 858-5437.

### Tecumseh

Jan. 21 – 22, 2012: **Annual Ice Sculpture Festival – Festival de esculturas de hielo**; ice carving demonstrations, dueling sculpture carving, chili cook-off, interactive ice sculptures, chocolate walk, snowman displays, merchant sales, lost arts demonstrations, Bell Choir performances, & ice skating at Adams Park, (517) 424-6003.

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## Legisladora criticada por llamar “Mexicana” a gobernadora Susana Martínez

Por RUSSELL CONTRERAS

ALBUQUERQUE, Nuevo México, 15 de dic. del 2011(AP): Una representante estatal de Nuevo México es blanco de críticas por haber llamado a la gobernadora *Susana Martínez* “mexicana” durante una acalorada discusión con una representante republicana en la Legislatura del estado.

La representante *Sheryl Williams Stapleton* hizo el comentario el miércoles durante una pausa en una reunión de un panel, cuando acusó a la representante *Nora Espinoza* de “hacer los mandados de la mexicana del cuarto piso”, en referencia a Martínez.

Stapleton se disculpó más tarde y dijo que no tuvo intención de ofender. Espinoza dijo que se sintió ofendida como mujer hispana, y Martínez calificó los comentarios de “tristes y decepcionantes”.

Martínez, nacida en Texas y cuyos abuelos son mexicanos, es la primera latina elegida gobernadora en Estados Unidos.

El término “Mexican” (mexicano) es ofensivo para muchos mexicanos-estadounidenses y latinos porque es usado por algunas personas para agrupar a todos los latinos en la misma categoría, sin importar el lugar de nacimiento, el status de inmigración o la etnia.

“A menudo uno está haciendo un comentario racista y lo oculta tras el término ‘mexicano’”, dijo Cynthia V. Duarte, una socióloga de la Universidad de Notre Dame que estudia a latinos con varias generaciones en Estados Unidos.

El comentario se dio después de una discusión entre las dos legisladoras que surgió por las críticas de Espinoza a Stapleton por cobrar un lucrativo salario de administradora en el sistema de escuelas públicas de Albuquerque al mismo tiempo que recibe paga en la Legislatura.

Stapleton, demócrata por Albuquerque, dijo que las críticas habían sido preparadas por la oficina de Martínez porque ella se oponía a muchas de las gestiones de reforma de la educación de la gobernadora.

El partido republicano del estado inmediatamente criticó a Stapleton, demandando que renuncie a su puesto como disciplinaria demócrata en la cámara baja. “Ese tipo de conducta no se corresponde con la Cámara de Representantes de Nuevo México”, dijo Monty Newman, presidente del partido republicano en Nuevo México. “Es inaceptable”.

Stapleton, que nació en las Islas Vírgenes y fue electa en 1994, es la primera mujer negra en la Legislatura del estado. Dice que sus abuelos eran cubanos y puertorriqueños.

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## Cuba busca socios en turismo, petróleo, minería y energía

LA HABANA, 15 de dic. del 2011 (AP): Cuba prioriza la atracción de inversión extranjera para los sectores de turismo, petróleo, minería y generación de energía, indicó el jueves un reporte de una dependencia gubernamental.

El aporte de capital externo servirá para "continuar avanzando en la actualización del modelo económico enfatizando en la eficiencia económica y el ahorro, la promoción de las exportaciones y la sustitución de importaciones", indicó un artículo del semanario oficial Opciones que atribuye la información a un reporte del Centro de Promoción del Comercio Exterior y la Inversión Extranjera de Cuba.

Las "oportunidades de negocios" para el turismo abarcan desde la construcción de hoteles al desarrollo inmobiliario en campos de golf; mientras que el petróleo contempla contratos de exploración en la zona económica exclusiva de Cuba en el Golfo de México y en aguas someras.

Para la producción de energía se buscan socios en fuentes alternativas como eólicas y en minería se ofrecen convenios a riesgo para metales preciosos, indicó la revista.

La inversión extranjera tuvo un despegue notorio en los años 90 y a mediados de la pasada década se reportaron unas 342 empresas mixtas, 311 contratos de producción cooperada, cerca de 11 convenios de administración industrial y unos 50 contratos de administración hotelera.

Sin embargo posteriormente no se hicieron públicas las cifras para el sector a la par que empresarios observaron una caída drástica del capital extranjero en la isla.

Según las leyes las obligaciones fiscales para la inversión foránea contempla el 30% de impuesto sobre las utilidades, 11% sobre la utilización de la fuerza de trabajo y 14% como contribución a la seguridad social.

## International soccer coming to Metro Detroit

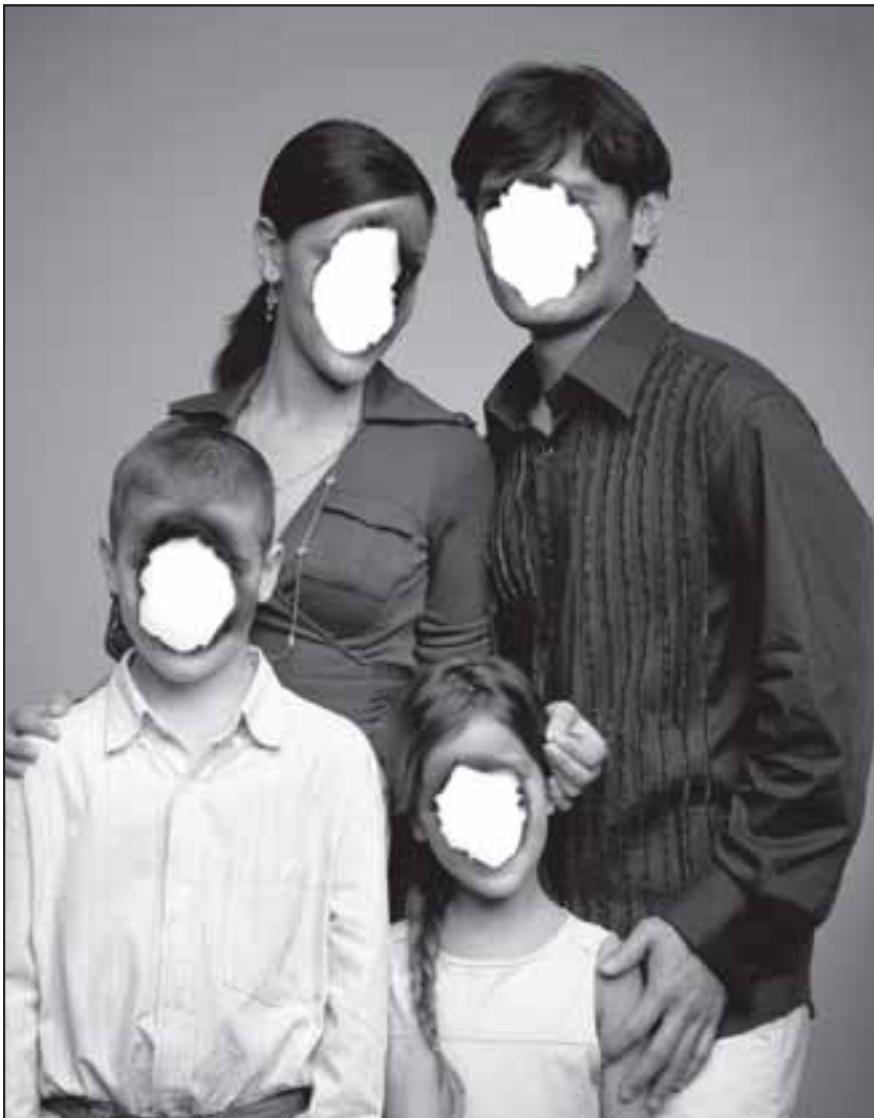
PONTIAC: AmeriSoccer USA, LLC and Silverdome operators will hosts an invitational International Soccer Tournament at the Pontiac Silverdome on February 4 & 6, 2012.

The *International Soccer Tournament* to be held at the Silverdome will feature world class football teams from Argentina, Hungary, and Mexico, to play a championship match at the Pontiac Silverdome.

This International Soccer Tournament features four international teams to compete in Detroit. The soccer teams are: River Plate of Argentina; UNAM Pumas of Mexico; Ferencvarosi FC and Vasas FC of Hungary. The teams will fly to Detroit for this special match tournament from European matches.

The tournament schedule begins with the teams arriving on February 2 and playing warm-up and practice games at the Silverdome on February 3. The official game schedule is Saturday, February 4, 2012, Game 1, UNAM Pumas FC, Mexico vs. Vasas FC Hungary at 2 p.m. Game 2, River Plate FC Argentina vs. Ferencvarosi FC Hungary 6 p.m. Monday evening a championship match will follow a consolation match to be held at 6 p.m. with Invitational Tournament Championship game at 8 p.m.

The teams travel to Dallas, Texas the following week from the Detroit match to play at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas. Tickets for each day of the match are \$30 general admission. A two-day ticket is also available for a \$50. Tickets available online at [Silverdomevents.com](http://Silverdomevents.com) or by calling the box office at 248-338-2500. Group discounts available on block ticket purchases.



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