

La Prensa

Ohio and Michigan's Oldest & Largest Latino Weekly

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febrero de 2025

Spanglish Lazo Cultural Edition

Vol. 22, No. 2 (LP1)

¡A NEW ERA FOR LA PRENSA INC!



SO YOU'RE AGAINST IMMIGRATION? SPLENDID! WHEN DO YOU LEAVE?

A New Era for La Prensa, Inc.

La Prensa, Inc. is the same, yet brand new.

After the passing of the founder, Richard (Rico) Neller, last year, members of the Latin community came together to breathe new life into the only bilingual (Spanish/English) community newspaper with a distribution area that covers Toledo, Columbus, Lorain, Cleveland, and Detroit since 1989. La Prensa has always delivered bilingual regional, national, international, and local community news; it will now expand upon that and add arts, community organizing, things for the kiddos, and much more. La Prensa, Inc. is a nonprofit collective that is made up of like-minded writers, businesses, community organizations, and event promoters who can use this format to elevate themselves and our communities- COLLECTIVELY.

So- whose face is behind the newspaper: Let's meet La Prensa, Inc.'s "new" President/CEO and nonprofit board.

President/CEO: Chaz D. Boes

When asked what inspired him to take on the role of President/CEO and what excites him most about leading this newspaper?

He said, "La Prensa has been a staple in the Latino Community. Not just for Toledo but throughout Ohio & Michigan. I believe the future of La Prensa is bright. Being the CEO of such a historical newspaper is an honor. I hope to make its founder "Rico" proud." ["La Prensa ha sido el alimentó de la comunidad latina.

No sólo para Toledo sino para todo Ohio y Michigan. Creo que el futuro de La Prensa será más resplandeciente. Ser el director ejecutivo de un periódico tan histórica es un honor. Espero poder honrar a su fundador "Rico"."]

When asked what his vision is for the newspaper's future and how he planned to adapt to the evolving needs of the Latino community?

He said, "Our vision is to expand reporting and footprint. We will be the premier paper in Ohio & Michigan. We are going to report on relevant issues while highlighting Latinos who are succeeding in our community. As a collective, we will give voice to so many who feel invisible and unheard." ["Nuestra visión es expender el reportaje y su calidad. Queremos ser el periódico número uno en todo Ohio y Michigan. Seremos el periódico latino principal en Ohio y Michigan. Vamos a informar sobre temas importantes. También queremos apoyar a los latinos que están triunfando en nuestra comunidad. Como colectivo, daremos voz a tantas personas que se sienten invisibles y nos están escuchando."].

When asked what message he would like to share with readers and advertisers as he takes on this new leadership role?

He thanked all La Prensa's faithful readers and supporters! He invites you to reach out with questions, comments, & concerns. This newspaper is yours- our communities- and it should represent your voice and the issues that matter the most to you! We are here to serve



Toledo, February 18, 2025: La Prensa, Inc.'s new President/CEO and nonprofit board: Kevin Salinas, Vice-President; Chaz D. Boes, President/CEO; and Christina Rodriguez, Board Secretary.

you! [¡Agradeció a todos los fieles y seguidores de La Prensa! Les invito a hacernos preguntas y comentarios. ¡Este es tu periódico- nuestra comunidad- y debe representar su voz y los temas que son más importantes para ti! ¡Estamos listos para SERVIRLES!].

Vice-President: Kevin Salinas
When asked what motivated him to be part of the founding team for La Prensa, Inc. and what impacts he hopes to make?

He said, "What motivated me to be a part of this newspaper was the lack of accurate information and understanding of what Latinos need in the community. We need truth; we need knowledge, useful information, and resources. We need to

unite as a community and help each other grow together, and this is the impact I hope to make.

When asked how he sees this publication strengthening and amplifying Latino voices in the community?

He said he sees "a movement coming, where Latinos in the community who are doing things in the community start speaking up for those who can't. With the support of the community, those voices will only become louder, and we will begin to make a difference over time. This is how I see La Prensa moving forward and strengthening our voices in the community."

(Continued on LP2)

A New Era for La Prensa, Inc.

(Continued from LP1)

When asked what values and principles guide the newspaper's editorial direction and community engagement?

He said, "Honesty, transparency and useful information, resourceful information. We strive to be the voice of the community and hope to begin engaging heavily with the community, receiving feedback, and really getting an understanding of what the people really want to hear or know about."

Board Secretary: Secretary: Christina Rodriguez

When Christina was asked the same question as Kevin, what motivated her to be part of this founding team for La Prensa, Inc., and what impact she hopes to make?

She said she is "always looking for unique ways to create a meaningful impact in my community, and this opportunity immediately excited me. I believe this newspaper has the power to bring awareness to ALL parts of our community, ensuring that every voice is heard. I hope to foster inclusivity and unity by highlighting diverse stories, issues, and successes that truly represent who we are as a people."

When asked how she sees this publication strengthening and amplifying Latino voices in the community?

She said, "This publication serves as a powerful platform to elevate and amplify the voices of the Latino com-

munity in the Toledo area. Building on the foundation laid by past Latino leaders, it provides an opportunity to unify and celebrate the rich diversity within our culture. Through shared stories, advocacy, and representation, the publication strengthens our collective voice, ensuring that our community contributions, challenges, and aspirations are heard at a higher level. Unity is key, by coming together, we create a stronger, more visible presence that drives meaningful change and progress for future generations."

When asked what values and principles guide the newspaper's editorial direction and community engagement?

She said, "Our newspaper will be guided by a solid business model, financial transparency, and integrity. We believe that a strong foundation built on ethical journalism and responsible management will allow us to serve our community effectively. By prioritizing these values, we aim to build trust with our readers, partners, and advertisers while ensuring long-term sustainability and impactful storytelling."

We hope you enjoyed meeting each of the Board Members. More articles and more opportunities to meet each of them to come.

Chaz D. Boes,
Pastor of *Compassion Toledo*
3327 Airport Hwy.
Toledo, Ohio 43609

De la editora: Linda Alvarado-Arce

Porque este es mi primera edición como *Editora de La Prensa, Inc.* Me gustaría presentarme y animar a la comunidad a que me envíe sus comentarios, sugerencias, preguntas, eventos, historias, obras de arte, poesía o cualquier cosa que crea que se necesita o falta en el diálogo latino. Envíenme sus comentarios a linda@laprensa1.com o llama me al 419-787-0008.

¡Hola! Mi nombre es Linda Alvarado-Arce y estoy muy emocionada de ser la Editora de La Prensa, Inc. Soy trabajadora social licenciada (L.S.W.) en el estado de Ohio, mediadora certificada, redactora de subvenciones, educadora, activista y presidenta de Avance Latinx Académico Society (ALAS) en Escuela SMART, una escuela pública de Toledo (TPS). Soy copresidenta del Consejo Nacional de la Comunidad de Reconciliación (FOR)- EE. UU., miembro de EdLOC (Líderes Educativos de Color), embajadora del Museo de Arte de Toledo (TMA) y miembro del Comité Asesor de Becas de la Fundación Comunitaria de Toledo.

Lo que es más importante, soy esposa, abuela, madre, hermana, tía, amiga y propietaria de la única librería "móvil" feminista en nuestra comunidad, conocida como People Called Women, LLC. Tengo una licenciatura en Artes (B.A.) y una maestría en Educación (M.Ed.). He escrito numerosos artículos en revistas académicas y en este mismo periódico en el pasado. He sido coautor de "Teachers' Cultural and Professional Identities and Student Outcomes" en el libro de texto *International Guide to Student Achievement* editado por John Hattie y Eri M. Anderman (Routledge, 2013). He enseñado en la Universidad de Toledo (UT) y la Universidad Estatal de Bowling Green (BSU) sobre multiculturalismo y escuelas en los EE. UU., he trabajado para el gobierno de la ciudad y he hablado públicamente sobre mis pasiones a nivel local, nacional e internacional, y en países como Polonia, Alemania, México y numerosos estados de los EE. UU. Espero ver, escuchar, apoyar y escribir sobre lo que personas, organizaciones, instituciones y eventos comunitarios con ideas afines están haciendo por y con nuestra comunidad latina.



La Prensa Weekly Newspaper

Founded by Rico Neller in 1989

La Prensa, Inc.	Publisher	
Board of Directors:		
Chaz D. Boes	President/CEO	Chaz@laprensa1.com
Kevin Salinas	Vice-President K	Salinas@laprensa1.com
Christina Rodriguez	Secretary/Treasurer	CRodriguez@laprensa1.com
Alicia J. Boes	Board Member	
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Member of NAHP (National Association of Hispanic Publications)
Affiliated with AP via Newsfinder and Lazo Cultural.

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<p>Buena Vista Senior Community 4530 Hess Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-3425</p> <p>Coventry Place Apartments I & II 24200 Cathedral, Redford, MI 48239 313-531-5335</p> <p>Delta River Senior Village 6090 W. Michigan, Lansing, MI 48917 517-489-2559</p> <p>Heritage Park Senior Village 22431 Superior Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 734-486-7000</p> <p>Liberty Commons Apartments & Townhomes 180 Carl Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49037 269-962-6209</p>	<p>McDonald Senior Apartments 370 Baldwin Ave., Pontiac, MI 48342 248-292-2095</p> <p>Oak Village Square Apartments 4241 Burlingame St., Detroit, MI 48204 313-934-0010</p> <p>Oak Village Independence House 4401 Burlingame St., Detroit, MI 48204 313-934-0010</p> <p>Partridge Creek Senior Village 17200 Dove St., Clinton Twp., MI 48038 586-329-2114</p> <p>Sumbly Senior Housing 240 Visger Rd., River Rouge, MI 48218 313-357-2891</p>
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Meet the Editor: Linda Alvarado-Arce

What has inspired me to take on this Editor role for La Prensa?

I have always loved to read and write. I still believe in the power of literacy and print media. When approached to take on this role, I thought about this endeavor long and hard. It is a big responsibility to be the voice of the Latinx community. My inspiration comes from this current space I find myself in, where I have earned enough education, worked in enough professional positions, and volunteered and supported enough community organizations and events that I feel I can actually impact and positively change the current narratives surrounding Latinx Americans in the U.S. today.

What excites me about this newspaper?

What excites me about this newspaper is that it is starting from a very strong foundation that was set by Mr. Richard (Rico) Neller. All WE are doing is improving upon that legacy and gift that Rico left to our community. To me, it is more about the necessity of this paper that excites me. Without it, how else would Spanish speakers be able to get an actual paper copy or an online version of what is happening (or has happened) locally, nationally, and internationally to our people? It is more important now, more than ever before, for the existence of this paper when you consider that programs like Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) are being terminated, and our Latinx, undocumented and documented, and our refugee and mixed-status populations are under attack.

What message do I want to share with readers?

This is also the message I want to share with the readers; I want the readers to know that this paper is

about Latinxs, for Latinxs, and about cultivating and retaining our Latinx culture and language. This paper is a collective, a collective of ideas, voices, diversity, and love of our Latinx roots. This paper is about adding to the current Latinx discourse and creating a space in which we can all learn, speak freely, and support each other in all of our endeavors to make this world a more inclusive and peaceful place to live, work, and raise our children and grandchildren.

Conozca a la Editora: Linda Alvarado-Arce

¿Qué me ha inspirado a asumir este papel de editora de La Prensa?

Siempre me ha gustado leer y escribir. Todavía creo en el poder de la alfabetización y los medios impresos. Cuando me propusieron asumir este papel, pensé mucho en esta tarea. Es una gran responsabilidad ser la voz de la comunidad latina. Mi inspiración viene de este espacio actual en el que me encuentro, donde he obtenido suficiente educación, he trabajado en suficientes puestos profesionales y he sido voluntaria y he apoyado suficientes organizaciones y eventos comunitarios como para sentir que realmente puedo influir y cambiar positivamente las narrativas actuales que rodean a los latinoamericanos en los EE. UU. hoy.

¿Qué me entusiasma de este periódico?

Lo que me entusiasma de este periódico es que está empezando desde una base muy sólida que fue establecida por el Sr. Richard (Rico) Neller. Todo lo que NOSOTROS estamos haciendo es mejorar ese legado y regalo que Rico le dejó a nuestra comunidad. Para mí, es más sobre la necesidad de este periódico



Linda Alvarado-Arce, Editor

Diversidad, Equidad e Inclusión (DEI) están siendo cancelados, y nuestra población latina, indocumentada y documentada, y nuestra población refugiada y de estatus mixto están bajo de ataque.

¿Qué mensaje quiero compartir con los lectores?

Este es también el mensaje que quiero compartir con los lectores; quiero que los lectores sepan que este periódico es sobre los latinos, para los latinos, y sobre cultivar y conservar nuestra cultura y lengua. Este periódico es un colectivo, un colectivo de ideas, voces, diversidad y amor por nuestras raíces latinas. Este artículo trata de contribuir al discurso latino actual y crear un espacio en el que todos podamos aprender, hablar libremente y apoyarnos mutuamente en todos nuestros esfuerzos por hacer de este mundo un lugar más inclusivo y pacífico para vivir, trabajar y criar a nuestros hijos y nietos.

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La Santa Cecilia, que es conocida como la santa de la música, ejemplifica la fusión creativa moderna de la cultura latina, el rock y la música global. Este concierto familiar cuenta con la artista telonera Sonia De Los Santos. Música celebra a las mujeres que hacen música y a quienes inspiraron a Sonia (y a sus compañeras de banda, todas mujeres) a convertirse en músicas.

Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 4 pm
Hill Auditorium | Ann Arbor

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PARA BOLETOS llamas 734.764.2538 o visite UMS.ORG

BE PRESENT.

MIRC receives stop work order to halt all services for 800 immigrant children in Michigan

DETROIT, MI, February 18, 2025: The Trump administration issued notice to legal service providers nationwide, including the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), to stop work on the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)'s unaccompanied child legal services program. The order indicates this "is being implemented due to causes outside your control and should not be misconstrued as an indication of poor performance by your firm." Stopping this funding will affect thousands of vulnerable children and families across the nation, including more than 800 in Michigan served by MIRC. Nationally, 26,000 children are now at risk of losing their legal representation and all children in federal custody will be without legal information.

MIRC condemns this cruel action from the Trump administration, designed to inflict further suffering on vulnerable children and families. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)'s unaccompanied child legal services program is essential to ensuring fairness and due process for unaccompanied children in their immigration court proceedings. Legal services are unaccompanied children's only hope for a fair process in the complex, adversarial U.S. immigration system. Unaccompanied children's unique vulnerabilities – including their age, developmental stage, and communication and comprehension constraints – make it virtually impossible for them to effectively navigate the complex and adversarial immigration system without an attorney at their side.

Recent data from the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR, also known as the immigration courts), bear this out, revealing that immigration judges were almost 100 times less likely to grant relief to unaccompanied children without counsel than unaccompanied children with counsel. In many cases, government-funded legal services are the only thing preventing a three-year-old unaccompanied child – one who cannot comprehend what immigration court is – from facing court proceedings alone. MIRC attorneys often use child-appropriate teaching aids to help our young clients understand the system they are navigating. No child in these circumstances can receive a fair legal process without an attorney.

Legal services for children are also vital to combatting trafficking and exploitation of unaccompanied children. Child trafficking investigators have regularly sought out staff from MIRC to provide legal services that will assist children so that investigators can hold traffickers accountable. Legal staff specialize in building rapport with children that helps prevent them from slipping through the cracks and continuing to be vulnerable to traffickers. For instance, MIRC staff helped children who had experienced labor trafficking and child abuse to leave traf and begin to heal. Policymakers across the ideological spectrum have historically been committed to safeguarding unaccompanied children from trafficking and exploitation, and the provision of legal services is one of the most important measures the federal government can take to achieve this aim.

Unaccompanied children without legal representation simply cannot meaningfully navigate the U.S. immigration system in pursuit of legal protection, when eligible, against tracking, labor abuses, and similar mistreatment. Relevant legal relief may include T visas for child survivors of tracking or U visas for child victims of sexual exploitation and other crimes. Such visas not only help deliver those children security but often support law enforcement agencies' investigation and prosecution of human traffickers and abusers.

Unaccompanied children often do not understand what immigration court even is, much less the necessity to appear before it. Evidence demonstrates that children with attorneys overwhelmingly satisfy immigration court hearing requirements. From FY 2005 through June FY 2019 — the most recent relevant data available — 98 percent of children with lawyers appeared for their hearings, helping ensure that these children remain within the U.S. immigration system and in contact with EOIR and ICE as appropriate.

MIRC attorneys and legal professionals have assisted hundreds of children through this critical program. MIRC was able to reunite two young Afghan twins with their family following the fall of the Afghan government. In addition to direct legal assistance, certain cases have also set precedent. For example, MIRC secured relief for a child who had been forced to work and whipped

when he could not do so by his family in Guatemala. After arguing in the Michigan Court of Appeals, MIRC was able to build precedent that will help other abused children. Attorneys are also essential to ensuring appropriate address updates with U.S. immigration agencies when unaccompanied children change residences. These updates generally require completion of online and/or paper forms — from ICE's "Online Change of Address Form" to EOIR's Form-33 — that adults often have difficulty navigating. Attorneys aid unaccompanied children's comprehension and submission of these forms in a timely and accurate fashion so that immigration agencies are properly notified of relocations. Attorneys for unaccompanied children are also essential to driving efficiencies that are needed more than ever in the face of the immigration court system's nearly 4 million case backlog, preventing waste and limiting operational burdens on ICE and EOIR personnel alike. Attorneys help reduce the volume of necessary court hearings, provide explanations to children that make hearings and other legal processes more expeditious, and facilitate prompt voluntary departures as appropriate when children wish to return to their countries of origin. MIRC staff have frequently witnessed children appearing by themselves who have strong cases, but who are not able to complete important steps without the help of a lawyer. Where some children would have to return to court several times, wasting government resources, those who have a lawyer may be able to move their cases forward in a single hearing—saving time and resources and preventing unnecessary retraumatization.

MIRC will continue to serve the 800 young clients we currently represent in Michigan as best we can, for as long as we can, given the limited resources we have available. However, 80% of our current staffing will be affected by this stop work order. We encourage Michiganders to make a contribution so that we are able to continue representation for our current clients: michiganimmigrant.org/donate



Resources for Immigrants in Michigan

- 1 **Know Your Rights**
 Find Michigan-specific information about your rights, how to prepare your family for enforcement, what to do if ICE comes to your door, and what to do after someone is arrested or detained.
- 2 **Immigration Legal Services**
 If you are in need of immigration legal services, call us at 734-239-6863. If lines are busy, leave a message and we will return your call.
- 3 **All detainees can call MIRC for free from detention**

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michiganimmigrant.org

most important measures the federal government can take to achieve this aim. Congress recognized this when passing the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPPRA) of 2008 on a sweeping bipartisan basis, directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "ensure, to the greatest extent practicable...that all unaccompanied alien children...have counsel to represent them in legal proceedings or matters and protect them from mistreatment, exploitation, and trafficking." The current stop work order leaves the government unable to meet its obligations under the TVPPRA, as well as other legal agreements such as the Flores Settlement and Ms. L v ICE settlement.