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Febrero 6, 2015 Weekly/Semanal 16 Páginas Vol. 56, No. 23

TAX PREPARATION TIME, Page 8

2015 Ohio Latino Education Summit "Milestones in the Pipeline For Success"

Columbus: The *Ohio Latino Affairs Commission* will host its *2015 Latino Education Summit* on Friday, March 6, 2015 at the University of Akron. Summit participants will learn and share ideas, contacts, and resources for educating and advising Ohio's Latino students, including best practice models currently implemented around the State.

The *Latino Education Summit*, now in its third year, is possible through the collaboration of many partners, including *El Puente Tutoring Center*, *Esperanza, Inc.*, *Ohio Education Department*, and the *University of Akron*. *La Prensa* is a media partner.

These entities have the objectives to provide practical training to educators, administrators and nonprofit leaders by identifying, selecting and showcasing the top initiatives addressing educational achievement among Ohio's Latino students.



Keynote Speaker Victor B. Saenz, Ph.D.

This year's event will focus especially on northern Ohio's Latino communities and educational institutions. A complete list of all Best Practices is available at <http://ochla.ohio.gov>.

"The University of Akron is honored to have been chosen to host the 2015 Ohio Latino Education Summit. It will be an event that offers some exceptional tools for those who so diligently work with the Latino population in the pipeline of learning, from Early Childhood to Postsecondary Education that will lead to career attainment," said *John Alvarez-Turner, M.A.Ed.*, Associate Director of the Multicultural Center, The University of Akron. More detailed information about the summit's program, speakers and other information is available at the website: <http://www.uakron.edu/ie/oles/>

Editor's Note: The Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs is an organization that advises state government on issues affecting Latino Ohioans, connects the diverse Latino communities across the state, and builds the capacity of community organizations so they may better serve the fast growing Latino population of Ohio.

the *Needs of the New Latino Student*, *Relevant Changes in Legal Status and Advocacy*, *Tools for the Community and Family*, and *Ensuring College Success*. A complete list of all Best Practices is available at <http://ochla.ohio.gov>.

"The University of Akron is honored to have been chosen to host the 2015 Ohio Latino Education Summit. It will be an event that offers some exceptional tools for those who so diligently work with the Latino population in the pipeline of learning, from Early Childhood to Postsecondary Education that will lead to career attainment," said *John Alvarez-Turner, M.A.Ed.*, Associate Director of the Multicultural Center, The University of Akron. More detailed information about the summit's program, speakers and other information is available at the website: <http://www.uakron.edu/ie/oles/>



Keynote Speaker Dr. Luis Ponjuan

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ABOGADO PATRICK MERRICK
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Dems threaten to block action on Homeland-Immigration bill

By DAVID ESPO, AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, DC, January 29, 2015 (AP) — Senate Democrats threatened Thursday to block action on legislation funding the Homeland Security Department until Republicans jettison House-passed provisions that reverse President Barack Obama's key immigration policies.

Without action by Congress by Feb. 27, the department will lose a portion of its funding for counterterrorism and other activities, an event lawmakers in both parties say they want to avoid.

Republicans have vowed since last fall they would use the funding measure to reverse Obama's recent shifts in immigration policies, and the House-passed bill is due on the Senate floor in the next few days.

But Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said Democrats are not willing to go along, and blasted Republicans in unusually strong terms.

"They seem to dislike the idea of supporting homeland security. They dislike DREAMers more than they dislike ISIS," he said.

The term "dreamers" applies to young immigrants brought into the country with their parents without documentation. ISIS refers to the Islamic State militants who have taken over portions of

Iraq and Syria. Schumer said the Democratic rank and file is united behind a strategy of preventing action on the House-passed measure until Republicans drop the immigration provisions.

The House-passed bill provides \$39.7 billion to finance the Homeland Security Department through the rest of the budget year for counterterrorism, cybersecurity and other priorities at a time when attacks in Paris and elsewhere are fresh in the public's mind. Unaffected by the measure is additional money the agency receives from fees.

As passed in the House, the legislation would also reverse Obama's decision last fall to provide temporary deportation relief and work permits to an estimated 4 million immigrants in the country without documentation, mostly people who have children who are citizens or legal permanent residents.

The bill also would eliminate a 2012 directive that has granted work permits and stays of deportation to more than 600,000 immigrants who arrived in the U.S. under the age of 16 without documentation.

Obama has threatened to veto the House-passed bill.

Republicans' 2015 Trifecta – Anti-Immigrant sentiment embraced in Republican House, Senate and on early Presidential Campaign Trail

Op Ed by AmericasVoice.org

Washington DC, January 23, 2015: It looks like the promised Republican vision of "responsible governance" has a decidedly anti-immigrant bent. In both chambers of Congress and in the early stages of the 2016 campaign, the Republican Party [GOP] is adopting and embracing a restrictionist vision of immigration policy centered on maximizing deportations.

Despite widespread recognition about the political dangers of a hardline immigration stance heading into a presidential election, the GOP continues to careen headlong into a 2016 election cycle with an evident determination to entrench its anti-immigrant and anti-Latino brand.

The Republican anti-immigrant trifecta includes:

- In the House of Representatives, Republican leaders kicked off the new Congress by passing legislation straight from the top of the anti-immigrant wish list, voting for proposals to overturn last November's immigration executive action, end the DACA program for DREAMers, and maximize deportations for all undocumented immigrants in America.

- The newly Republican-controlled Senate is not only planning to advance the

House anti-immigrant bill, but recently put two of the most strident anti-immigrant voices in the caucus at the helm of their immigration policy. Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) is the new Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration, with Senator David Vitter (R-LA) serving as Vice Chair (see here for a recap of their anti-immigrant bona fides).

- The early 2016 presidential contest unofficially kicked off in Iowa this past weekend, as a contingent of potential GOP presidential contenders attended Rep. Steve King's (R-IA) "Freedom Summit." As Rep. King crowed to MSNBC about his growing influence in shaping the party's immigration direction over his intra-party opponents, "their agenda has been marginalized... mine's been strengthened." While former Florida Governor Jeb Bush is trying to chart a different direction and present a pro-immigrant, optimistic tone, he is clearly rowing in the opposite direction from most in his party.

According to Frank Sharry, Executive Director of America's Voice, "A year ago, Republicans seemed to be gearing up to pass a sensible immigration reform package

as a way of growing the economy and growing the GOP's appeal. Today, they are tripping over themselves to pander to the nativist base of the party.

It's difficult to see how this strategy will result in policy solutions or political progress. Could the strategic objective be to win over more voters in western Iowa and in the Deep South? Perhaps the GOP should worry more about winning over voters in swing states where Latino, Asian-American, and immigrant voters will be decisive."

A New York Times profile of influential journalist Jorge Ramos underscores the political dangers Republicans have created by embracing anti-immigrant policies. Ramos explains the reasons why immigration is such a salient issue for him and many other Latino voters. As he tells Jackie Calmes of the Times, "immigration is personal."

Immigration is the issue that tells us who is with us and who is against us; there's no question about it. And it's very simple to understand why



Frank Sharry

— half of all Latinos over 18 years of age were born outside the United States. It really makes no sense to attack them and criticize them if you want their vote."

As former George W. Bush campaign advisor Matthew Dowd states, "Remember what L.B.J. said, 'When you lose Walter Cronkite, you've lost the war?' [Ramos is] not only a journalist, he's become the voice of the Latino constituency. And that's where Republicans have to worry — you don't want to lose Jorge Ramos."

NOTE: Follow Frank Sharry and America's Voice on twitter @FrankSharry and @AmericasVoice. On the Internet: www.americasvoice.org

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For English, see other side.

EEUU quiere identificar a migrantes que no serían deportados

Por ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, 28 de enero de 2015 (AP): El gobierno de Barack Obama ha ordenado a los agentes de inmigración que pregunten a quienes encuentren residiendo en el país sin autorización si cumplen con los requisitos de la nueva ley del presidente para evitar su deportación, según material de instrucción interna a la que tuvo acceso The Associated Press.

Los agentes tienen también orden de revisar documentos gubernamentales para identificar a cualquier inmigrante encarcelado que podría quedar en libertad con la entrada en vigor del programa.

Las directivas del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional suponen un inusual cambio en las leyes migratorias estadounidenses, obligando al gobierno a identificar a los inmigrantes que podrían aspirar a los beneficios de la propuesta presidencial. Antes correspondía a los inmigrantes o sus abogados demostrar que cumplían los requisitos necesarios para evitar la cárcel y quedarse en el país.

Es como si la agencia tributaria llamase a los contribuyentes para recomendarles la utilización

de ciertas exenciones o deducciones.

El material de instrucción estaba dirigido a agentes del departamento de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza (CBP) y de la agencia de Inmigración y Aduanas (ICE). Instruye a los agentes para que "comiencen inmediatamente a identificar a personas bajo su custodia, así como a otros que encuentren por primera vez" que pudiesen ser candidatos a evitar la deportación.

Un documento formativo incluye posibles encuentros entre agentes y migrantes con una guía sobre cómo deben proceder los agentes, incluyendo una lista de preguntas para determinar si los migrantes podrían acogerse al plan del presidente. Funcionarios del ICE empezaron antes a liberar de cárceles federales de inmigración a quienes cumplían estos requerimientos.

Obama anunció en noviembre un plan para permitir que unos cuatro millones de padres de ciudadanos estadounidenses y residentes legales permanentes puedan solicitar un permiso para quedarse en el país por más de tres años y conseguir un permiso de trabajo.

El comisionado del CBP, Gil Kerlikowske, dijo que al

formular preguntas acerca de si un inmigrante llena los requisitos ahorra tiempo y dinero y "nos permite usar nuestros recursos, particularmente la Patrulla Fronteriza, para la gente que va a estar al mayor nivel".

Un portavoz de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza, Carlos Díaz, dijo que los migrantes sorprendidos entrando al país ilegalmente seguían siendo la principal prioridad de la agencia. El material formativo, añadió, "proporciona una guía clara sobre las operaciones de aplicación de las leyes migratorias para que el tiempo y los recursos se empleen adecuadamente".

Crystal Williams, directora ejecutiva de la Asociación Americana de Abogados de Inmigración en Washington, dijo que la formación ayudaría a filtrar a la gente que el gobierno considera ya que no es prioritaria. Dijo que esta era la primera vez que escuchaba que los agentes fuesen aleccionados para cribar a los migrantes en función de su posible absolución antes de detenerlos.

El representante demócrata Luis Gutiérrez, partidario manifiesto del plan migratorio de Obama, dijo que si los agentes del CBP eliminan a inmigrantes de la fila de deportación permite al

gobierno "colocar a los delincuentes y los arribados recientemente al principio de la fila".

"El énfasis ahora es en quién debe ser deportado primero", acotó.

Según la propuesta de Obama, el gobierno se centrará en deportar a migrantes con antecedentes penales serios o a quienes puedan suponer una amenaza para la seguridad nacional o la seguridad pública. Según esto, la mayoría de inmigrantes cuyo único delito sea estar en el país sin permiso no serán una prioridad para los funcionarios.

Aunque el gobierno estimó que hasta 4 millones de personas podrían beneficiarse de esta protección, la Oficina de Presupuestos del Congreso espera que entre 2 y 2,5 millones de personas entrarán en el programa para 2017. Por otra parte, del 1,7 millones de jóvenes que se creía podría acogerse al plan anterior de Obama, solo 610.000 se han inscrito con éxito desde su creación en 2012.

El periodista de Associated Press Christopher Sherman en Ciudad de México contribuyó a este despacho.

Demócratas amenazan bloquear ley por cláusulas de migración

Por DAVID ESPO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, 29 de enero de 2015 (AP): Los senadores demócratas amenazaron el jueves con bloquear la acción sobre un proyecto de ley destinado a financiar al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional hasta que los republicanos descarten cláusulas aprobadas por la Cámara de Representantes que revierten políticas cruciales del presidente Barack Obama sobre inmigración.

Si el Congreso no actúa a más tardar el 27 de febrero, el departamento perderá una porción de sus fondos para combatir el terrorismo y otras actividades, algo que ambos partidos dicen quieren evitar.

Los republicanos han prometido desde fines del año pasado que utilizarían la medida de financiamiento para revertir los cambios recientes del presidente a las políticas de inmigración, y la cámara baja aprobó una iniciativa de ley que pasará al pleno del Senado en los próximos días.

Pero el senador demócrata Charles Schumer, de Nueva York, dijo que sus compañeros de partido no están dispuestos a que avance, y criticó a los republicanos en términos inusualmente fuertes.

"A ellos parece desagradarles la idea de apoyar a la seguridad nacional. Les desagradan más los DREAMers que lo que les desagrada el ISIS", enfatizó.

El término "dreamers" se aplica a inmigrantes jóvenes traídos sin autorización a Estados Unidos por sus padres cuando eran niños. ISIS se refiere a los milicianos del grupo Estado Islámico que se

han apoderado de un vasto territorio en Siria e Irak.

Schumer señaló que la base demócrata está unida en apoyo de la estrategia de evitar acción sobre la medida aprobada en la Cámara de Representantes hasta que los republicanos retiren las cláusulas sobre inmigración.

El proyecto de ley autorizado por la cámara baja proporciona fondos por 39.700 millones de dólares al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional durante el resto del año presupuestal para ser utilizados en el combate al terrorismo, la seguridad cibernética y otras prioridades en momentos en que los ataques en París y otras partes están frescos en la mente del público.

Según fue aprobada por la Cámara de Representantes, la legislación también revertiría la decisión de Obama de detener temporalmente las deportaciones y otorgar permiso de trabajo a aproximadamente cuatro millones de inmigrantes que están en el país sin autorización, en su mayoría personas que tienen hijos que son ciudadanos estadounidenses o residentes legales permanentes.

La iniciativa además eliminaría una orden ejecutiva de 2012 que ha otorgado permisos de trabajo y protección contra deportación a más de 600.000 inmigrantes que llegaron sin permiso a Estados Unidos siendo menores de 16 años.

Obama ha amenazado con vetar el proyecto de ley aprobado por la cámara baja. Interactivo AP: <http://hosted.ap.org/interactives/2013/reforma-migratoria/>

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Patrulla Fronteriza detiene autobús de la Línea Tornado Michigan United alza la voz para que no haya intimidaciones por perfil racial

Por: Isabel Flores, Corresponsal La Prensa

Detroit: La comunidad hispana se encuentra en alerta luego de las detenciones realizadas la semana pasada al autobús de la línea Tornado por parte del departamento de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de Estados Unidos. Durante la revisión, se pidió a los pasajeros su identificación y aquellos que no contaba con la documentación requerida, fueron detenidos.

Michigan United, grupo civil de derechos civiles, calificó esta acción como intimidación y acoso debido al perfil racial. Es por eso que convocaron a una rueda de prensa el pasado martes 20 de enero [2015] para alertar a la comunidad y ejercer acción al respecto.

Alyssa Hernández de Michigan United dijo que el autobús pasa por iglesias, escuela y tiendas del barrio, por lo que ahora la gente tiene miedo de mandar a sus hijos a la escuela y hacer su vida normal. "Han dañado el corazón de la comunidad y por eso levantamos la voz para decir que no queremos intimidaciones, no queremos sentirnos como criminales".

Expertos legales y Stephanie Chang, Representante del Estado de Michigan, se unieron a Michigan United para llevar a cabo la conferencia, realizada en el Centro Comunitario Árabe (ACCESS). Chang destacó: "Estoy muy preocupada por las recientes paradas de la Patrulla Fronteriza a la

Empresa de Autobuses Tornado. En un momento en que deberíamos estar motivando a los miembros de la comunidad a prepararse



Alyssa Hernández, of Michigan United speaks at press conference on racial profiling in Southwest Detroit.

solicitud para aprovechar la Acción Ejecutiva anunciada por el Presidente, pero la patrulla fronteriza hace que nuestros residentes sientan miedo e inseguro nuestro barrio. He enviado una solicitud de información detallada a la oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de Detroit y espero recibir una respuesta oportuna. Hacemos un llamado para tratar a la comunidad latina como lo harían con cualquier otra comunidad".

Básicamente, los organizadores presentaron tres demandas:

1. Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza deben dejar de detener autobuses al azar en el suroeste de Detroit.
2. Asimismo, deben usar cámaras para registrar sus interacciones.
3. Finalmente, rendir una explicación pública de cómo la detención de autobuses no es un acto relacionado con perfiles raciales.

De acuerdo con Alyssa Hernández, el departamento de Protección Fronteriza informó que han realizado detenciones de dicho autobús en diferentes partes del país. "El camión sale de

Detroit y llega a la ciudad de México, durante su trayecto es detenido en diferentes puntos por migración, supuestamente en busca de criminales. Al parecer hay problemas de drogas. Lo justifican diciendo que se trata de seguridad nacional. Comentan que cuando detienen a alguien que no tiene papeles, lo dejan libre posteriormente, pero la cuestión es que de todas formas estas personas son detenidas y tratadas como criminales aunque no hayan hecho nada malo".

La entrevistada recomienda a la comunidad traer siempre una identificación. "Si no tienes una identificación, no des tus papeles falsos, no mientas sobre el lugar donde vives y en cuanto tengas oportunidad, reporta lo sucedido a tu líder comunitario, para no dejar impune cualquier anomalía". Por su parte, Raquel Castañeda-López de Michigan United destacó: "Aunque apoyo los esfuerzos de la Patrulla Fronteriza para proteger a nuestro país, no apoyo sus prácticas discriminatorias".

Finalmente, Hernández comentó que Michigan United se enteró de lo sucedido porque recibieron varias llamadas desde la semana pasada reportando los hechos. "La gente estaba hablando a la estación de ra-

dio en español para reportar que migración había detenido a un autobús el lunes, al día siguiente sucedió lo mismo y el miércoles hubo dos detenciones al mismo autobús Tornado. Es por eso que tomamos acción de inmediato y vamos a continuar trabajando. Nuestro siguiente paso es una reunión con la Patrulla Fronteriza a nivel nacional".

Asimismo, estarán realizando diferentes actividades en las iglesias para informar sobre la Acción Ejecutiva y ver qué personas califican para este programa migratorio. "Queremos que la gente tenga sus documentos listos para aprovechar esta oportunidad y obtener su permiso de trabajo", destacó Alyssa Hernández.

Consulado de México

En virtud de que las personas detenidas son mexicanas, Juan Manuel Solana, Cónsul de México en Detroit, comenta lo siguiente: "La razón por la cual la patrulla fronteriza realiza estas revisiones es porque ha quedado demostrado que a través de esta línea Tornado se ha estado haciendo manejo muy serio de sustancias como armas y cantidades de dinero no justificables, es por eso que desde hace 15 días están investigando a la compañía y revisando constantemente salidas como entradas de la gente que viaja. Por ejemplo, una de las personas que fue detenida la semana pasada, llevaba en su equipaje casi 4000 cartuchos, por lo que

tendrá que enfrentar cargos". El funcionario mexicano destacó que las revisiones son al equipaje. "Están deteniendo a todas las personas y revisando todos los equipajes, hay que tener cuidado en lo que llevan. El problema fundamental según nos dicen es la investigación que están llevando a cabo por cuestiones que encontraron en otros Estados y están buscando las conexiones. Es decir están realizando una averiguación muy profunda y van a continuar haciendo detenciones. Tienen que checar si hay droga, armas o cantidades excesivas de dinero".

De acuerdo con el entrevistado, la patrulla fronteriza está dejando ir fácilmente a la gente que no tiene record criminal, pero los que tienen algún cargo pendiente, son detenidos.

"Hemos estado en contacto permanente con el departamento de migración. En cuanto me enteré del problema fui de inmediato para recibir una notificación. Tengo a una persona al pendiente y estamos en contacto con Michigan United en caso de que exista algún abuso; pero demostrar que es una cuestión de perfil racial, es increíblemente complicado. Básicamente quien está viajando a México es quienes está siendo detenido y los pasajeros de Tornado son mexicanos porque generalmente los americanos no utilizan este servicio", concluyó.

***Autobuses Tornado es una empresa norteamericana que ofrece sus servicios de transporte de pasajeros en algunas ciudades del centro, Sur y Norte de México, así como en diversas ciudades en los Estados Unidos localizadas en los estados de Texas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina y Tennessee.



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Detroit, January 26, 2015: There's so much to do at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) in April. The popular Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Detroit, a ticketed exhibition, is on view, as well as both Photographs from the Detroit Walk-In Portrait Studio by Corine Vermeulen, and Make a Joyful Noise: Renaissance Art and Music at Florence Cathedral, both free with museum admission.

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Detroit City Chess Club: Fridays, 4-8 p.m. The club's mission is to teach area students the game and life lessons. Members have won state, regional and national competitions. People wanting to learn how to play chess should show up between 4 and 6 p.m. There will be no teaching between 6 and 8 p.m., but visitors can play chess.

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Advertising:
Rubén Torres 440-320-8221
Adrienne Kolasinski 216-688-9045
Mary DiVeto 313-729-4435
Melinda Sánchez 419-242-7744
María Molina 419-242-7744
Rico 419-870-6565
Editorial:
Antonio Barrios
Isabel Flores
Arooj Ashraf
Kevin Milliken
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Art/Graphics/WebSite:
Jennifer Retholtz Graphics & Webmaster Manager
Aztlán Communications Inc.
PO Box 792, Saline MI 48176
SALES: 419.870-2797 or 440-320-8221
E-mail: rico@laprensa1.com www.laprensa1.com
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CASA elects board members

Jan. 26, 2015: Lucas County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) has announced the selection of its newest members to the Lucas County CASA/CRB Volunteer Association Advisory Board:



Baldemar Velásquez is the President of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC). He has served on many community and nonprofit boards including the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Toledo Zoo, University of Toledo, and United Way of Greater Toledo. He was appointed by Governor Strickland to serve on the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs and is the Chair of the Campaign for Migrant Worker Justice. In 1989 he was awarded a MacArthur Fellow "genius grant" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Mark Sobczak has been a member of the Teamsters Union for 35 years and served as the Teamsters Vice President. He is currently the Commissioner of Resources for the City of Toledo. He has served as a member of the Toledo-Lucas County Visitors and Convention Bureau, the Great Lakes Historical So-

ciety, and the Citizen Advisory Panel for the Toledo Refining Company.

About CASA
The Lucas County CASA Program, one of the oldest and most respected of the nearly 1,000 CASA programs nationwide, is nonprofit and has operated in Lucas County since 1980. CASA volunteers are everyday citizens who are trained to investigate and monitor child abuse cases. CASA volunteers work for the Lucas County Juvenile Court Judges and are sworn officers of the court. CASA's mission is to advocate so that child victims find safe, permanent, nurturing homes and do not get lost in the child welfare system. *The Lucas County CASA/GAL program is an accredited member in good standing of the National CASA/GAL Association, Inc.*

LATINOS IN THE NEWS

Phil Barbosa, Rotarians head to Honduras to help rebuild

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

January 27, 2015: Phil Barbosa is headed to Honduras on a week-long mission of mercy to help build a school classroom and remodel an orphanage in one of the poorest—and most dangerous—parts of Central America. This is Barbosa's third trip there in the past six years.

It's certainly not the snowbird vacation many people take to escape a cold, harsh, and snowy Northwest Ohio winter. But according to Barbosa and those who have been there, the poverty and devastation they see and the happy, appreciative kids they encounter make them vow to return as many times as possible to help.

"It's fun and it makes you feel good," Barbosa said. "We do a lot of things. We help them find water, help provide irrigation systems. It's a good feeling. It's tough, because of the nature of what we've got to do."

Barbosa is part of a Rotary delegation of a dozen members from five clubs—Swanton, Bryan, Bellevue, Tiffin, and Elyria—who are spending a week working on two projects. Their home clubs raised \$25,000 to fully fund the construction. The group left Saturday (Jan. 24, 2015). Other Swanton Rotary members making the trip include Sean McGhee, Steve Meeks, and Colin McQuade.

K-2 Electric donated the supplies for Barbosa to rewire a school and upgrade its electrical work. Swanton Healthcare

sponsored his trip to Honduras. Barbosa also gathered donations of clothes, toys, and books through the Spanish-American Organization (SAO) in Toledo. But as he distributes the gifts to children, he shrugs off any notion of playing Santa Claus to the kids.

"It's just needed. This is just a small microcosm of what he does. I'm a helper. I'm an elf," Barbosa said with a laugh.

The group is taking about 1,500 pounds of clothing for distribution on the trip. The delegation is being supported by the Usula Rotary Club in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

"A lot of these folks have nothing. If you remember the hurricane that came through here (Hurricane Mitch 15 years ago), some people are still recovering from that along the river because they lost everything," explained Barbosa.

"There are about 600 families here who live below the poverty line," said Alexis Ramirez, a member of the host Rotary Club. "If we don't help these people, they will go to the city to beg for money. If we help these people now, it will have an impact on their lives, my life, my children's lives, because we're helping them with latrines, we're helping them with water, we're helping them with education. They can stay here, try to make a living here and have a future here."

Health conditions are poor and sickness abounds because the region has few, if any, sources of potable water.

"It is a privilege and an honor to have people to come here to help me to help others," said Ramirez. "We're just really honored."

The first project involves building a kindergarten classroom in La Virtud, located in the Meredon Mountains outside of San Pedro Sula. The group estimates 30 to 40 children will attend



Phil and Carmen Barbosa

kindergarten in the first year. There is currently a classroom for grades one to four in the village, already with 60 students attending school.

"We are developing the school because they have a teacher, but they are having class on a dirt floor with no roof, no desks, no nothing," said Ramirez. "They are going to school, but in some cases, they don't have a school, per se. It's remarkable how the kids want to go to school. They want to learn. It's also remarkable how the teacher can teach in that environment."

The school is in rough, steep, mountainous terrain and it takes a two-hour drive up a muddy path, covering just ten kilometers to reach the remote village. The rainy season and poor condition of the dirt mountain path already have altered the schedule for the Rotary delegation, according to Barbosa during a weekend phone interview from Honduras.

The second project involves remodeling a girls' orphanage, known as Casa De La Niña, also in San Pedro Sula. The orphanage currently houses 25 girls between the ages of five and 16 in a dorm-like setting. The Rotary delegation plans to upgrade the electrical system, plumbing, roofing, and other projects. The majority of the repairs will be to an outside wall of the dormitory.

The group has formed a Facebook page "Swanton Rotary Honduras Mission,"

which includes photos and details of past trips since 2009. So why does the group keep going back—year after year—when it would be easy to help once and go back to their comfortable lives?

"People need help—and not just where we live. People need help all over the world," said Barbosa. "It's my chance to help everybody else. Part of my thing is I get to wake up and help somewhere in the world. They tell me what needs to be done and I figure out where I fit in."

The situation is dangerous enough there, that the Honduran military is walking around with machine guns at the hotel where the Rotary delegation is staying. News outlets across the world have called San Pedro Sula, Honduras "the most violent city in the world" because of its murder rate, which in the last couple of years has even exceeded Ciudad Juárez, México, which had previously topped the list because of drug cartels and gang violence.

Authorities have launched Operation Lightning in San Pedro Sula, saturating violent hotspots with police and soldiers. Some residents there believe the beefed-up security is working.

San Pedro Sula is located in the northwest corner of Honduras, in the Valle de Sula (Sula Valley), about 40 miles south of Puerto Cortés on the Caribbean Sea. It is the country's second-largest city, with more than a million people.

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United Way Partners on Early Reading Program

By Kevin Milliken, *La Prensa Correspondent*

Feb. 2, 2015: Latino families in eight Toledo zip codes can sign up for a free program where children under the age of five can receive books in the mail monthly. The *United Way of Greater Toledo* has partnered on the program, which is meant to encourage childhood literacy and kindergarten readiness.

"If they have one child or three, it doesn't matter," said *Karen Mathison*, president and CEO of *United Way of Greater Toledo*. "All children in a household are eligible to receive this book program. Once they register, about six weeks later, the books will start to arrive in the child's mailbox."

The program is being conducted in eight metro Toledo zip codes: 43604, 43605, 43606, 43607, 43608, 43609, 43610, and 43620. While many of these zip codes are linked to a constant state of poverty for most families, there is no income-related eligibility for the program. There are an estimated 6,000 children living within the targeted territory.

"The aim is to get kids access to literacy in the home, to increase the number of books kids have in their home, and to build 'lap time,' or reading time with parents or caregivers for little ones in the home," explained Ms. Mathison. "We want to give more time to literacy and reading in the home before kids enter kindergarten."

The Women's Initiative of the United Way has cho-

sen the partnership as this year's project in conjunction with *Dolly Parton's Imagination Library*. The former country music superstar is well-known for her charity work with children's causes.

The program could serve as a supplement to an ESL program or even help struggling Spanish-speaking families to get their children ready for school.

"It provides a unique opportunity to transition from Spanish to English learning, whether that be the child or the adult," said Ms. Mathison. "It really encourages the use of language, which we know is that for kids who are read to regularly right up to kindergarten, their vocabulary is about 10,000 words. Without that reading time, it's about 3,000 and they don't catch up."

Studies show children whose parents read to them on a regular basis get a head start on language skills and literacy, not to mention quality time with mom or dad. But many kids miss out on that experience, as one-third of children start kindergarten without the language skills needed to learn to read.

Imagination Library sends one monthly, age-appropriate book to children enrolled in the program from birth up to their fifth birthday. Nearly 40 million books have been distributed to 700,000 kids in 1,700 communities as a result. The program costs families nothing. Participating children scored



an average of 15 percent higher on the kindergarten readiness assessment in the literacy category, according to the United Way.

"Even if you have resources in your home, it doesn't mean that you're reading to your children," said Ms. Mathison. "So this is about instilling a love of reading for all kids. What we've seen is this will increase the amount of minutes and hours a parent will read to their children by about 60 to 75 percent—because there are now books in the home and you open them up and start reading right after dinner."

There has been an increased emphasis on early literacy and kindergarten readiness in Northwest Ohio communities, particularly with the state's third grade reading guarantee now in place. There's an old adage in education that children learn to read through the third grade, and then read to learn in fourth and higher grades.

Parents can register their children by either calling the *United Way's 211* help hotline or going to the agency's website www.unitedwaytoledo.org. *Imagination Library* also is available in Williams, Fulton, Defiance, Henry, Putnam, Hancock, Sandusky, Allen, and Hardin counties.

OBITUARIES

ALBERTO ALMARAZ

Alberto Almaraz, born July 7, 1926 in Texas, lived a long, meaningful life. Alberto passed away peacefully in his home on January 25, 2015, with his loving wife of 66 years, Ofelia, and his family by his side. Services were held at SS. Peter and Paul Church, Toledo.

MARY C. GARZA

Mary C. Garza, 68, died peacefully on January 26, 2015 at Hospice in Perrysburg, OH. She was born April 8, 1946 in Eaglepass, TX to Ysidro and Petra (née Maldonado) Durán. Mary married Braulio "Lal" Garza 47 years ago. She worked as a beautician all her life. Mary also worked at Chrysler, retiring in 2008. She was dedicated to serving the Lord, her husband and children, grandchildren, and a host of friends. Mary was a selfless and humble person to all who knew her. She ministered to those in her life with Christian CDs. She adored being with all of her family.

She is survived by her children Cynthia (Stacey Simmons), Nicole (Robert García), Mona (Edmundo Ruiz) and her only son Joseph Garza; grandchildren Roberto Ribas, Anthony II and Alex Urbina, Julian and Joaquin Simmons, Mia, María and Edmundo Ruiz; special nephew and god son Manuel (Melinda) Mora. She is survived by her siblings Sylvester Durán, Petra Montez, Ysidro, José and Sesario Durán, and many nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Braulio, and sisters Delfina Mora and Esperanza Gonzáles.

RUDY GUARDIOLA

It is with great sadness that the family of Rudy Guardiola of Toledo, OH share the sudden passing of their beloved Rudy Guardiola. Rudy was a great part of the laughter within his family. Rudy enjoyed fishing, zero candy bars, hard licorice, reading books on tape, 'B' rated movies, and rooting for his favorite Detroit teams, the Lions and Tigers. Rudy served in the U.S. Army. He worked for more than 25 years in the Toledo Area Sanitary District - Mosquito Control.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; children, Ashlee Salazar (Mike J.), Jesse, Angelica (Austin L.) and Miguel; grandchildren, Jessie and Mason; his father, Raúl Guardiola (Rudy) and his brother and sisters, John (Marina) Guardiola, Alicia (Charles) Geyer, Gloria (Donald) Mikolajczak, María Guardiola, Eleanor (Francisco) Villagomez and Esther Guardiola (Ramón P.) and many, many nephews, nieces and cousins. He was preceded in death by loving mother, Diamantina, and baby brother, James.

MANUEL NIETO

Manuel Nieto, age 78, of Lorain, OH passed away on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015. He was an avid bowler and golfer, playing in many various leagues. He was a steel worker at US Steel and a co-founder of Mexican Mutual Society; most important to Manuel was his family.

Manuel is survived by his beloved wife of 37 years, Virginia (née Kovach); his loving children, Enequina Nieto (Jerry), Nancy Jessel, Carol Kolcun (David), Dennis Jessel, JoAnn Harris (Buford), Arthur Nieto (Gloria), Adela Nieto, Rebecca Nieto, Grace Nieto, Paul Nieto, Dan Nieto, Gene Nieto, and Ben Nieto; 22 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Pablo and María Nieto; one brother; and two sisters.

LOUIS R. SEGURA

Louis R. Segura, age 64, of East Toledo, OH passed away suddenly on January 18, 2015. Louis was born on May 24, 1950, the son of Manuel and Emma (née Toral) Segura. Surviving are sisters, Margaret Finkbeiner and Rita Hulls; brothers, James, Steven (Nancy), David, John (Bonni), Patrick, George and Joseph; sister-in-law, Rose Segura and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Gloria Maulbetsch; brothers, Alfonse, Anthony, Charles, and Edward.

ABLE and DRO file complaint against Ohio school districts for denying access to educational programs to Spanish-speaking parents in violation of federal law

January 31, 2015: *Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE)* and *Disability Rights Ohio (DRO)* filed an administrative complaint with the *U.S. Department of Justice* yesterday on behalf of Spanish-speaking students with and without disabilities and their families.

The Complaint alleges that seven school districts throughout Ohio and the *Ohio Department of Education (ODE)* are failing to provide translated documents and qualified interpreters for students and parents with *Limited English Proficiency (LEP)*, as required by federal law.

School districts are legally required to ensure that parents who speak little to no English are able to meaningfully participate in their child's education. When students and families are unable to participate in the learning process due to a language barrier, it is the school district's responsibility to provide translations and in-

terpreters.

"The school districts and ODE are failing to provide translation of critical educational documents and appropriate interpreter services," says *Robert Cole*, an attorney with ABLE. "Their failure makes it nearly impossible for the parents and children in the complainant class to participate in their educational programs. For students with and without disabilities, this can mean not getting the services the children need to succeed in school."

The complaint asks that the ODE and the school districts be required to adopt policies and procedures that ensure LEP students and families have meaningful educational access. These policies include appropriate training of school district staff; effective identification of language needs of LEP students and parents; a guarantee of qualified, available



interpreters and written translation; and monitoring and oversight by ODE.

The U.S. Department of Justice will review the complaint and decide whether to conduct an investigation.

On the Internet: <http://ablelaw.org/images/012715-FiledAd-Complaint.pdf>

Cleveland denies discrimination against police in shooting

CLEVELAND, Jan. 29, 2015 (AP)—The city of Cleveland denies allegations of discrimination made in a lawsuit filed by officers involved in a deadly 2012 shooting that left two people dead.

Nine Cleveland officers involved in the shooting after a high-speed chase through downtown Cleveland sued the city and various police officials in U.S. District Court in November. The eight white officers and one Latino officer who filed the lawsuit claim the city's police department has a history of treating nonblack officers who shoot blacks

more harshly than black officers who shoot blacks.

The city's response filed Wednesday says the city doesn't discriminate against non-black officers and that it had "a legitimate, non-discriminatory reason" for all of its actions involving the officers.

The officers who fired their weapons were put on three days' administrative leave and ordered to report to restricted duty for what the officers' lawsuit says was for a period "substantially longer than that which had been meted out to similarly situated African-American officers."

Dozens of officers were in-

involved in the November 2012 high-speed chase of a vehicle which ended with two unarmed people dying in a 137-shot barrage of police gunfire. Thirteen officers fired at the vehicle carrying 43-year-old driver Timothy Russell and 30-year-old passenger Malissa Williams.

Russell Relatives of Russell and Williams will split a \$3 million settlement of their lawsuit against the city.

The officers' lawsuit, which seeks unspecified damages, alleges that the city and other defendants discriminated.

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HOSPICE
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EEUU busca mejor representación de soldados en películas

Por MARK KENNEDY, Associated Press

NUEVA YORK, 30 de enero de 2015 (AP): La primera dama estadounidense Michelle Obama el astro de "American Sniper" Bradley Cooper están respaldando un llamado a los productores de cine y televisión a representar más acertadamente a los soldados que regresan de guerras, en lugar de encasillarlos como víctimas o héroes infalibles.

Obama y Cooper se sumaron a varias personalidades de los medios el viernes en Washington DC para lanzar el programa "6Certified" con representantes de Warner Bros., National Geographic Channels y el gremio Producers Guild of America.

La iniciativa permitirá a programas de TV y películas mostrar un sello en la pantalla que diga que lo que están viendo ha sido certificado por el grupo Got Your 6, cuyo nombre se deriva del slang militar que significa "Cuido tu espalda". Para ser aprobada, la película o programa de televisión debe incluir a un veterano

en el reparto, narrar la historia de un veterano, tener un guion escrito por un veterano o usar a veteranos como recursos.

Chris Marvin, director de Got Your 6 y ex oficial del ejército estadounidense y ex piloto de helicóptero, dijo que la campaña no busca mostrar a los veteranos de forma positiva, sino de forma honesta.

"Muchos nos dicen que solamente ven a veteranos reflejados como destruidos o como héroes infalibles en cine y television", dijo en conversación telefónica. "Estamos perdiendo algo en el medio. Los veteranos son gente común".

"Son el vecino que te ayuda a recoger los botes de basura cuando el viento lo tumba, el maestro de matemáticas de tu niño en quinto grado, la persona que se postula para el concejo municipal", dijo. "Los ves todos los días en tu vida, pero no en televisión".

El grupo Got Your 6 fue lanzado en el 2012 para conseguir la participación de Hollywood en un esfuerzo para desalentar estereotipos y promover una representación más acertada de los 2,6 millones de

soldados que regresaron al país en los últimos 10 años. Sondeos han encontrado que muchos estadounidenses asumen que los veteranos sufren trastornos mentales, son desamparados o adictos a drogas o alcohol.

El grupo ha aprendido las enseñanzas de otros esfuerzos exitosos para cambiar opiniones, incluyendo para reducir embarazos de adolescentes, alentar colonoscopias, proteger los derechos de los animales y reducir la incidencia de personas que conducen bajo los efectos del alcohol. El grupo ha identificado a Hollywood como agente de cambio cultural.

"Es más que todo un reto. Estamos retando a la industria del espectáculo—pincluso a mí mismo—para cumplir las responsabilidades inherentes de los poderes de que gozamos y el alcance que tenemos", dijo Charlie Ebersol, productor y uno de los creadores del programa "6 Certified".

Internet: <http://www.gotyour6.org>

'Cantinflas' recibirá el Premio ACE en NY

NUEVA YORK, 27 de enero de 2015 (AP): La cinta biográfica "Cantinflas" y su protagonista, el actor español Oscar Jaenada, fueron galardonados con premios de la Asociación de Cronistas del Espectáculo de Nueva York (ACE).

ACE anunció el martes en un comunicado la lista de ganadores de sus premios anuales al cine, que también incluye al director Diego Quemada-Díez por la celebrada cinta "La jaula de oro" y al dominicano Juan Basanta por su ópera prima, "Biodegradable".

La cubana Alina Rodríguez fue elegida mejor actriz por "Conducta", mientras que el mexicano Luis Gerardo Méndez se llevó el premio a la mejor coactuación masculina por "Cantinflas" y la cubana Silvia Aguila a la mejor coactuación femenina por "Conducta".

El documental sobre la historia de la inmigración española en Manhattan "Little Spain" también será reconocido en la ceremonia de premiación el 30 de marzo. La gala será dedicada al actor y compositor puertorriqueño Johnny Huertas y a la primera actriz peruana Teresa Yenque.

De manera paralela se entregarán reconocimientos especiales a figuras como Gerardo Gudiño, Rosita Fornés y Rosa Gloria Chagoyán.

Los Premios ACE, que también reconocen lo mejor en la producción de teatro y televisión, se entregarán en el Kaufman Center de Manhattan.

La Asociación de Cronistas de Espectáculos de Nueva York es una institución periodística del sector artístico hispano creada en Estados Unidos en 1967.

Lady Gaga y Ariana Grande rendirán honor a Stevie Wonder

NUEVA YORK, 29 de enero de 2015 (AP): Lady Gaga, Ariana Grande y John Legend se sumaron al grupo de artistas que rendirán homenaje a Stevie Wonder el mes próximo.

La Academia de la Grabación anunció el jueves que The Band Perry también participará, junto con Usher y Chris Martin, en el concierto "Stevie Wonder: Songs in the Key of Life—An All-Star Grammy Salute" el 10 de febrero en Los Angeles.

Willie Nelson, quien originalmente iba a cantar en el evento, ya no lo hará, dijo la Academia de la Grabación.

El concierto, a realizarse en el Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE, también incluirá a Ed Sheeran y Janelle Monáe. Será dos días después de la 57ª entrega anual de los premios Grammy.

Se transmitirá el 16 de febrero por la cadena CBS como un especial de dos horas.

En Internet: <http://www.grammys.com>

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Tax donations available to Ohioans to help protect wildlife and nature preserves

COLUMBUS, January 2015: As Ohioans work to complete their taxes this year before the April 15 deadline, residents statewide are reminded of an opportunity to help safeguard state nature preserves and wildlife with a tax donation.

"When Ohioans give a tax donation to wildlife or state nature preserves, they are actively supporting conservation in our great state," said Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Director James Zehringer. "These donations help fund programs that protect endangered wildlife species, provide for the removal of non-native invasive species and help fund facility improvements in Ohio's state nature preserves."

Several state nature preserves received facility improvements thanks to tax donations. Additionally, these donations helped pay for increased management efforts to control non-native invasive species, additional biological studies and monitoring of state listed plant species.

Several different species of wildlife statewide benefited from Ohioans' tax donations, including peregrine falcons, trumpeter swans, Karner blue butterflies, sandhill cranes, and

bold eagles. The ODNR Division of Wildlife does not receive taxpayer dollars to conserve, restore or manage Ohio's wildlife and habitat. This means the tax donation program is an important tool that helps the division protect and foster endangered and threatened wildlife and other species of interest.

Donations made through the Wildlife Diversity Fund tax donation help support critical ecological management activities in Ohio, including efforts to remove non-native and invasive species that pose a serious and ever-growing threat to sensitive habitats. Information programs such as field guides are provided free to the public from wildlife tax donation funds.

Ohio taxpayers who are not receiving a refund this year may still contribute by sending a check to: ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves' Natural Areas Fund or the ODNR Division of Wildlife's Wildlife Diversity Fund, 2045 Morse Road, Columbus, Ohio 43229.

ODNR ensures balance between wise use and the protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at ohiodnr.gov.

Tessera to help Latino families with tax preparation

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

Jan. 27, 2015: Latino families don't have far to go to get their questions answered during tax season. In fact, they only have to go to church on Sunday.

Tessera Associates is bringing the tax preparation services to SS Peter and Paul Hall [next to the church at 738 S. St. Clair St.] on Sundays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or by appointment. Maria Guel, who is bilingual, will work with Latino families on issues such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Affordable Care Act, and other special tax programs.

If they didn't have time to stop by the offices on Sylvania Avenue, I could even do their taxes and bring them back to them the following Sunday," she said. "I think it's better for some of them—because they make a trip to church and I'm right there if they can't go all the way to West Toledo."

If Ms. Guel has questions while preparing a return, she can still contact the family during the week for more information. Tessera held office hours last year at the Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center (SQACC) to meet with Latino tax clients and their families.

Ms. Guel stated she will be available before, during, and after Mass to answer questions,

and set up appointments for Tessera tax clients. She then will work as a tax preparer at the company's offices in West Toledo during the week. This is her first season preparing taxes, but she has worked at Tessera for the past couple of years as an administrative assistant.

Ms. Guel knows firsthand how difficult it can be for Spanish-speaking families to do their taxes or understand the terminology. Her family moved to Toledo from Mexico, where she was born and raised, when she was 15.

"The only word I knew in English when I came over was 'apple,'" she said with a laugh. "My parents didn't know any better, so they registered me at Libbey High School. I went there not knowing what to do or what to expect."

But she struggled at first, because as a non-English speaker, she only succeeded in two classes—math and Spanish. Her Toledo Public Schools tutor was Canadian, which didn't help. She later transferred to Waite High School, which offered an ESL program. She then attended the University of Toledo where she studied international relations.

So she knows firsthand how difficult it can be to assimilate, let alone perform



detailed responsibilities such as paying taxes.

"I know it can be difficult. It feels like there's more help than back in the day, but I'm very happy to have this job," she said. "I give it all I can to help. It's like peace of mind by going to someone who speaks your language, understands and answers your questions. It can be really scary."

Ms. Guel, 45, has four children—ages 21, 19, 14, and 10.

The firm is urging Latino families to file their federal income taxes as soon as practical, in order to obtain their refund more quickly, especially if they do qualify for the EITC. The longer a family waits to file a tax return, the longer it takes to process

such a refund, even if they file electronically. Since the Old South End contains two of the most poverty-stricken zip codes in Toledo, many families will rely on that tax refund to make needed big-ticket purchases they normally cannot afford.

Tessera Associates is a full-service accounting firm with its home office based in Temperance, Michigan and its main Toledo office located at 3237 West Sylvania Ave. Tessera provides financial and tax services to more than 100 small and medium-sized businesses in the Toledo metro area, including non-profit groups.

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CPL's exhibit honors the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln

Few individuals have impacted our nation's history like *President Abraham Lincoln*. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the final days of the U.S. Civil War and the tragic assassination of Lincoln, which brought the United States to a level of grief never before experienced.

People across the nation paid their respects by the hundreds as Lincoln's funeral train traveled a solemn route from Washington, D.C. Lincoln's body laid in state at what is now known as Public Square on April 28, 1865.

"Cleveland Public Library (CPL) is proud to partner and participate in the events planned for *Lincoln at Cleveland*," said Felton Thomas, executive director of CPL. "The commemorative exhibit and events pay tribute to a man whose legacy has become tightly woven in the history of our country."

Clevelanders are invited to be a part of *Lincoln at Cleveland*, a four-month commemoration of President Lincoln on the 150th anniversary of his final visit to Cleveland. Cleveland Public Library (CPL) is hosting *Lincoln at Cleve-*



and tragic death will be on display beginning February 2, 2015 in the Main Library Building, floors 2 and 3 with an opening reception on Saturday, February 7 at 3 p.m. Both are free and open to the public. Additional educational events will take place during the four-month commemoration.

The exhibition of documents, books, photographs, and artifacts encompassing the final days of the Civil War and Lincoln's remarkable life



For more information about the exhibit and events, visit lincolnatcleveland.org.

Cleveland Foundation announces \$3 million in January grants

CLEVELAND, Jan. 30, 2015: The *Cleveland Foundation* board of directors has approved \$3 million in grants for the month of January.

A focus of the January funding will advance the Cleveland Foundation's priority area of neighborhood revitalization, with a special emphasis on the core city and resident engagement:

- **\$15,000** to support the efforts of the **City of Cleveland Department of Economic Development** to provide the National Development Council Economic Development Finance Professional Certificate Program to local community and economic development professionals. Many of the course slots will be reserved for Cleveland Community Development Corporation staff members in order to better empower those teams to encourage development in underserved neighborhoods.

- **\$100,000** to **Cleveland Tenants Organization (CTO)** to help the organization better serve the growing demand for its services, which focus on assisting renters and landlords in addressing issues and advocating for affordable, fair and quality rental housing. Grant support includes the transition of the CTO's call center operations to United Way's 211 in order to increase accessibility to available services.

- **\$25,000** to **St. Paul's Community Outreach** to help the church expand an innovative conflict resolution program that was inspired by the Civil Rights Movement and the peace-building work of the United Nations. The program,

first piloted through a 2013 Cleveland Foundation grant, trains street outreach teams to speak to neighbors about solutions to problems such as crime, addictions, domestic conflicts, and other issues that can often escalate into acts of violence.

- **\$35,000** to **Scranton Road Ministries Community Development Corporation** to support the creation of a new funding plan for the organization, which focuses on equipping residents of Clark-Fulton, Tremont and Detroit-Shoreway with tools for self-sufficiency and sustainable success.

- **\$100,000** to **Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland** to support the Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood initiative. Modeled after the comprehensive anti-poverty efforts of the nationally-recognized Harlem Children's Zone, the goal of this project is to create an area in Cleveland's Central neighborhood where all children and families are thriving. The Cleveland Foundation has funded this program since its planning stage in 2011.

In addition, several foundation grants support various arts initiatives, including two community festivals the Cleveland Foundation has supported since their early years:

- **\$95,000** to the **Cleveland International Film Festival** for the 39th annual event, being held March 18-29. The grant supports new audience engagement initiatives, such as the expansion of movie screening locations throughout Cuyahoga County including



new sites in University Circle and Chagrin Falls and the launch of the New Direction Program, which will introduce the festival to filmmakers at the beginning of their careers in order to secure their films at future festivals.

- **\$35,000** to **Ingenuity-Fest 2015** to support the festival's goal this year to expand from North Coast Harbor to become a city-wide event with activities in multiple locations over several days. IngenuityFest celebrates the intersection of arts and technology in our region.

Additional arts grants approved this month include:

- **\$5,000** to **Cleveland Public Theatre** to help fund a free performance of "Standing on Ceremony" for staff and volunteers of the 2014 Gay Games in recognition of their role in the success of the Games. The performance originated in Los Angeles in 2011 and consists of nine playlets from renowned and award-winning writers, each with a unique perspective on marriage equality, the challenge of relationships and our evolving society.

- **\$7,500** to **Mamai Theatre Company**, the area's only local theater company focused on classical works with the mission of improving professional theater opportunities to women. The grant will provide capacity-building support to the company, which plans to hold its 2015 season at downtown locations, following its first two seasons in Cleveland Heights and Tremont.


AFRICAN AMERICAN history month

at Cleveland Public Library



Juan Williams
NPR, *Free Press, Washington Post*
Saturday, February 7 • 2:00 p.m.
Main Library, Louis Stokes Wing Auditorium

Exhibit: Lincoln at Cleveland




February 2 – May 30
Main Library | 2nd floor, 3rd floor, and Special Collections, 3rd floor

Library hours: Monday – Saturday
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Opening Exhibit Reception:
Saturday, February 7
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Main Library, Special Collections



Sybrina Fulton
Mother of Trayvon Martin
Saturday, February 21 • 2:00 p.m.
Main Library, Louis Stokes Wing Auditorium



Remembering Cleveland's African American History
Saturday, February 28 • 2:00 p.m.
Main Library, Cleveland Digital Public Library, 3rd floor, Room 343



Main Library | 325 Superior Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio

The 18th Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade

Saturday, May 2, 2015

Presented By

The Mexican Mutual Society

Parade Kicks Off at 4:15 PM
Parade Line Up at 3:15 PM
In Oakwood Park, Behind the National Guard Armory in South Lorain
Please Enter on 36th St. From Clinton Ave.





The Parade will take a brief stop to place a Memorial Wreath on the Hispanic Veterans Memorial at 21st Street.

The Mexican Mutual Society invites all community organizations to participate and celebrate with us in our community parade by walking, marching, entering a float, or classic vehicle.

The parade will start at Huxsawood Dr. & Grove Ave., travel to Clinton Ave., and turn north onto 3rd St. The Parade will then turn west and travel to Pearl Ave. turn north and end at 29th St. and Pearl Ave., near the Mexican Mutual Clubhouse.

MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY
1680 EAST 20th ST.
LORAIN, OHIO 44050
FOR MORE INFO GO TO REGISTER FOR THE PARADE
PHONE 440-255-0144

LA PRENSA PROFILE: MONICA MORALES

By Federico Martínez, Special to La Prensa

It seems these days that *Monica Morales* is the only person in Toledo who doesn't realize that she has become one of the brightest and most effective leaders in the Latino community.

During the past year she's organized and led a march to protest community violence – an event that drew more than 500 participants. She is currently helping at-risk youth develop better job training and leadership skills through a program funded by the *Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC)*. The life-long resident of Toledo's Old South End has also found time to help gang youth get their lives back on track and direct a program to help other mom's lead healthier lifestyles.

Ms. Morales's accomplishments come as no surprise to her many friends and relatives who note she's always had that "spark" within.

"She's always been involved in the Latino community since she was young," said her cousin *Juanita Ruiz*. "Whenever there's a family crisis she is quick to help orchestrate things. She puts 100 percent in everything she does."

That became clear this past September when *Juanita's* brother *Abriel Ruiz* was gunned down as he and *Juanita* left a nightclub where they had briefly stopped to have a celebratory drink in honor of *Juanita's* job promotion at the time.

As the family reeled from the tragedy, *Monica* took charge and with help from *Juanita* organized a march to rally residents to take a stand against community violence. Despite only having one week to organize, the event drew hundreds of participants. Even the most experienced community organizers shook their head in awe.

"I still don't know how she did it," longtime community organizer *Ramón Pérez* admitted at the time. Mr. Pérez is

a community organizer for Toledo's FLOC, which helped sponsor the march. "Most seasoned organizers would have been lucky to have 50-100 people show up."

Ms. Morales, 33, says she didn't realize at the time that it was such a big accomplishment. She's quick to point out that there's plenty of credit to go around. Her cousin *Juanita* also helped contact people.

"Most of the people we contacted were family – we have a large family," Ms. Morales says with a laugh. "We then starting telling friends about it and they shared it with their friends and family."

FLOC's Pérez said *Monica* has been a great asset not only to FLOC but to the entire Toledo community.

"Monica is extremely talented and is a powerful new partner with FLOC," Pérez said. "Monica is a life-long resident of Toledo and knows the pulse of the Chicano community. She brings a wealth of knowledge and commitment to the organization."

Ms. Morales said she first became involved in FLOC when she was a student at *Libbey High School*. She accompanied the organization on a trip to Mexico where they were in the midst of a strike against olive growers. It was during that visit that a farm worker died after falling ill and was left to die in the sweltering heat by field supervisors. The incident attracted national attention.

That experience left an impression on Ms. Morales who became president of her high school's Latino student club and other organization's that promoted social justice causes.

"After *Abriel* passed away *Ramón* came looking for me and asked if I could try to get a community organization built up; that's how I got back involved in FLOC."

Since then Ms. Morales has been instrumental in setting up FLOC's *Homesies* program, which works with at-risk and gang youth. A recent grant from *Job and Family Services* has allowed FLOC to develop a job readiness program which Ms. Morales oversees as an outreach advocate.

In addition to teaching job employment and readiness skills to young people between the ages of 14-24, the program places young people in real jobs where they intern for four months. Five of the youths have already been placed in jobs, while several dozen other participants are still working their way through the program.

Ms. Morales's goal as the outreach coordinator is to create better opportunities for residents, especially youth in her community.

"The Old South End has nothing anymore," she said. "It needs to be rebuilt. We have beautiful art on the buildings, but we need more."

"What we at FLOC are trying to do is help people create their own opportunities. They need to use their brains and be productive. They are all very bright and have that potential. But before you are able to build anything you have to have that core foundation."

Many people have taken notice of Ms. Morales's hard work.

"She's very good at motivating people," said *Tonya Marie Durán*, executive director of Toledo's *Believe Center, Inc.* Ms. Morales previously taught an exercise class for other mothers at the center.

"She's done a great job of being a single mom and raising two kids," said Ms. Durán. "She's so busy but still makes quality time for her children. I admire how she has balanced her life. I was a single mom who focused on just raising my children, but I could have done more back then. The



Monica Morales

first thing she told me when we met was, 'you need to take time out for yourself.'"

Chevo Torres, president of Toledo's *Latin's United* organization has also been impressed with FLOC and Ms. Morales efforts. He recently attended a HOMIES meeting to find out more about the program.

"I love what they are doing – training youth to solve problems and become leaders," said Torres, who is also a Lucas County Sheriff's Deputy. He also serves as secretary for the Northwest Ohio Chapter for the *National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA)*, which, locally, has about 40 members. "Monica has been doing an awesome job."

Torres said now it's time for the community to rally and support FLOC's efforts.

"Even if you're not from this community people can get involved," said Torres, who also grew up in the Old South End. "I'm going to take the information back to the organizations I'm involved in and see how we can help."

What makes *Monica* so effective is that she can relate to many of the youth she works with—*Ramón Pérez* and *Juanita Ruiz* agree.

"She lost her mom at an early age," *Juanita Ruiz* said. "Even though her grandparents were there, *Monica*, who was the oldest, stepped up and took over the role as mom for her sisters."

"She could have used that as excuse all her life, but she didn't. That's why I think my cousin is awesome."

It wasn't an easy childhood, Ms. Morales admits.

She credits her grandparents, *Tomás* and *Bellina Ruiz*, who raised and taught *Monica* and her five younger sisters the importance of respect, responsibility, and espousing positive values.

Several school administrators like *José Luna* also helped guide and encourage her when she was growing up,

Ms. Morales said.

"I've always had a lot of good people in my life who have been there to help me even when I don't always know what I'm doing," she said.

She graduated in 2005 from the University of Toledo with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Creative Writing, but

marriage and the birth of her two children, *Carlos*, now 13, and *Gloria*, 8, halted her activism. She reclaimed that vigor after her divorce in 2013.

"After the divorce I started going through a self-awareness period that is still happening," said Ms. Morales. "When I was younger I made choices to please other people. I got so caught up in that train of thought, I didn't realize it."

"After the 2013 divorce I needed to get to know myself; and it's been so much fun."

What Ms. Morales discovered is that she loves to help people, especially young people who may not have had the same love and guidance that she had growing up.

Pérez said that passion to help others is what makes Ms.

Morales such a strong leader.

"She understands how we are trying to build a strong organized voice in our community and is a natural at recruiting families to become active associate members who are willing to put the time to address the social, economic and political challenges we face.

"The community has already started to benefit from her work, especially working with our new young adult and job readiness and empowerment project."

Her actions are inspiring a community.

"I personally don't know her, but I definitely want to follow in her steps," said Toledo resident *Mona Lisa Gutiérrez*. "To be able to inspire and do great things for the community; we need more people like her in this world."

Mr. Morales says she's very humbled by the kind words and support people have given her. She also thanks God for helping her get through the rough times and providing her so many great opportunities. She hopes people understand her motives.

"I've never seen that 'spark' in myself," said Ms. Morales, who works a desk job during the day at an elevator and escalator company. "But I'm glad other people do. I feel like I'm still growing."

"FLOC allows me to express skills and different abilities. I feel better helping somebody else. I don't need the attention."

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM'S MAIN LIBRARY

SCRAPBOOKING FUN: The Lorain Public Library System's Main Library on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015 at 6:30p.m. hosts an evening of scrapbooking fun. The library will provide the embellishments and 12-by-12 scrapbooking paper for you to decorate any way that you like. Feel free to bring photos, or plan to add them to your pages when you get home. All ages welcome. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the Main Library at 440-244-1192, ext. 449 or 1-800-322-READ, ext. 449. The Main Library is located at 351 W. Sixth St. in Lorain.

INTERNET FOR BEGINNERS: Learn Internet basics at Lorain Public Library System's Main Library on Friday, Feb. 6 at 3:30p.m. The class will practice using online search tools and talk about evaluating Web content. Be comfortable using a mouse before attending this class. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the Main Library at 440-244-1192, ext. 450 or 1-800-322-READ, ext. 450.

TECH HELP: Get individualized attention for your specific technological needs at Lorain Public Library System's Main Library. An open Tech Help session is Saturday, Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grab your mobile device and bring your questions to the experts. Anything goes, from the use of computers and tablets, to the Internet and email. Preregistration is required and is

available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the Main Library at 440-244-1192, ext. 450 or 1-800-322-READ, ext. 450.

ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY: Not a fan of Valentine's Day? Come to Lorain Public Library System's Main Library on Monday, Feb. 9 at 5:30p.m. for Anti-Valentine's Day. Celebrate being unromantic, unattached and unhung up on Valentine's Day. The party is for ages 12 to 18. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the Main Library at 440-244-1192, ext. 449 or 1-800-322-READ, ext. 449.

VALENTINE PARTY FOR KIDS: Bring the whole family to celebrate Valentine's Day with Lorain Public Library System's Main Library on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. Children of all ages will enjoy a story and crafting. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the Main Library at 440-244-1192, ext. 449 or 1-800-322-READ, ext. 449. The Main Library is located at 351 W. Sixth St. in Lorain.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM'S SOUTH LORAIN BRANCH

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: Meet an orphaned human boy who was raised by peculiar, recklessly playful creatures. Bring the whole family to see a recently released PG movie on Monday, Feb. 2 at 5:30 p.m. at Lorain Public Library System's South Lorain Branch. Bottled beverages



and snacks are permitted. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the South Lorain Branch at 440-277-5672. The South Lorain Branch is located at 2121 Homewood Drive, Lorain.

ADULT GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK DISCUSSION: A group of kids hears strange calls from the sea in *Children of the Sea by Daisuke Igarashi*. Discuss this graphic novel at Lorain Public Library System's South Lorain Branch on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. Copies are available at the library. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the South Lorain Branch at 440-277-5672.

STORYTELLER ROBIN ECHOLS COOPER: A special guest is coming to Lorain Public Library System South Lorain Branch's story time on Thursday, Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. *Robin Echols Cooper* will present an interactive program that will include storytelling, music, puppetry and movement. This educational and fun program is open to families with children of all ages. Preregistration is required and is available online at LorainPublicLibrary.org or by calling the South Lorain Branch at 440-277-5672. The South Lorain Branch is located at 2121 Homewood Drive, Lorain.

Latinoamérica necesita meta para reducir pobreza

Por JAVIER CORDOBA, Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, 27 de enero de 2015 (AP): Los anfitriones de la cumbre de la Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos buscan poner el pie en el acelerador durante la reunión de mandatarios y hacer conciencia de la importancia de fijar una meta para la reducción de la pobreza extrema en la región.

Delegados de los 33 países que integran la Comunidad de Estados Latinoamericanos y Caribeños (CELAC) se reunirán durante dos días en Costa Rica.

Según datos de la Comisión Económica para América Latina, por lo menos 167 millones de personas se encuentran en situación de pobreza en 2014, de las cuales 71 millones integran las filas de la pobreza extrema o indigencia, es decir, un 12% de la población regional.

El documento "Panorama Social de América Latina 2014" señala que la pobreza se estancó en la región durante los tres últimos años alrededor del 28%.

"Ahora, en un escenario de posible reducción de los recursos fiscales disponibles, se requieren mayores esfuerzos para apuntalar dichas políticas, generando bases sólidas con el fin de cumplir los compromisos de la agenda de desarrollo post-2015", indicó la secretaria ejecutiva de la Comisión Alicia Bárcena.

Esta agenda post-2015,

que llega a reemplazar los fallidos "Objetivos del Milenio" es la que el presidente de Costa Rica, Luis Guillermo Solís, desea consolidar entre sus colegas durante la Cumbre de CELAC.

"De la mano con la lucha contra la pobreza, está la lucha contra el hambre en América Latina, que desde hace tiempo este es un tema pendiente. Por eso en esta cumbre le hemos solicitado a la FAO que plantee un plan de acción", dijo Solís en rueda de prensa el lunes por la noche.

El mandatario reconoce que este tipo de cumbres no se caracteriza por arrojar resultados concretos, por lo que espera cambiar esa tendencia en la cumbre de la cual será anfitrión, al tratar de que se propongan y aprueben compromisos concretos.

Según la Comisión, los países que mostraron mayores reducciones de la pobreza entre 2011 y 2013 fueron Paraguay (de 49,6% a 40,7%) y El Salvador (45,3% a 40,9%).

Para el presidente costarricense es difícil este tipo de foros que los países se puedan comprometer con un indicador regional, cuando existen realidades muy distintas.

"El gran problema que hay en estos temas es que lo que se acuerde en instancias multilaterales tiene que ver

necesariamente con las políticas públicas nacionales, las decisiones que se tome en el plano local. La variedad de puntos de vista y condiciones específicas de cada país es muy grande", comentó Solís.

Pese a que la lucha contra la pobreza no avanza en los últimos años en el plano regional, CEPAL reporta una mejora en el tema de desigualdad, pues entre 2002 y 2013 el índice de Gini regional se redujo en un 10 puntos porcentuales.

La mayoría de los países analizados, con excepción de Costa Rica, muestra mejoría en términos de distribución de la riqueza pues la participación en el ingreso de los hogares más pobres se incrementó de 5,2% a 5,6%.

Solís dijo que en esta Cumbre insistirá en el planteamiento de la lucha contra la pobreza y la desigualdad desde un flanco que usualmente no es abordado en la región: la pobreza que genera la corrupción en la función pública.

Los presidentes que participarán en la cumbre comenzaron a llegar el martes mientras que los ministros de Relaciones Exteriores se reúnen para terminar de afinar los documentos y declaraciones que verán los mandatarios en los próximos dos días.

WINTER 2014 - 2015
SIGHTED GUIDE OHIO

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WINTER 2014 - 2015
SIGHTED GUIDE OHIO

Message from the Editor

Welcome to Sighted Guide Ohio

My name is Adrienne Kozsinnik and I have a son that was born 100% blind. I decided to create a publication that reaches out to the visually impaired and blind communities through out the State of Ohio. Sighted Guide Ohio would like to offer resources, services for your area, latest technology information, news and stories of people just like you and me... Welcome to Sighted Guide Ohio!

Sighted Guide Ohio's mission is to provide a magazine dedicated to the visually impaired and blind friends and family. We reach out to the State of Ohio for the people that need a voice for visually impaired and blind communities.

Adrienne Kozsinnik
419-870-2797
P.O. Box 33
Rossford, OH 43480
www.sightedguideohio.org
Adrienne@vifas.org

Optimism is the faith that even in the darkest of times, nothing can be done without hope and confidence.

- Helen Keller

White House: Science indicates parents should vaccinate kids for measles,

Outbreak traced to Disneyland in California
By NEDRA PICKLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, January 30, 2015 (AP): Amid the measles outbreak stemming from California, the White House is telling parents that science indicates they should vaccinate their children.

President Barack Obama's spokesman, Josh Earnest, said Friday that decisions about vaccinations should be left to parents, but the science on vaccinations "is really clear." Some parents continue to believe debunked research linking vaccines to autism and refuse to vaccinate their children.

"I'm not going to stand up here and dispense medical advice," Earnest said when asked whether the president supports parents who choose not to vaccinate. "But I am going to suggest that the president's view is that people should evaluate this for themselves, with a bias toward good science and to-

ward the advice of our public health professionals, who are trained to offer us exactly this kind of advice."

About 100 cases of the measles have been reported in the U.S. since last month in the second-biggest outbreak in at least 15 years. Most have been traced directly or indirectly to Disneyland in Southern California.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says measles-mumps-rubella vaccine is 97 percent effective at preventing measles. The American Academy of Pediatrics says doctors should bring up the importance of vaccinations during visits but should respect a parent's wishes unless there's a significant risk to the child.



People with type 1 diabetes and kidney problems sought for Preventing Early Renal Loss in Diabetes (PERL) Study

University of Michigan is part of a large, multi-center trial using a promising gout medication
Also at: www.med.umich.edu/diabetes/news/perl-consortium_allopurinol-trial.htm

ANN ARBOR, January 2014: Kidney disease poses one of the greatest burdens for people with type 1 diabetes (formerly called juvenile diabetes). As many as 10 to 15 percent of diabetes patients develop end-stage renal disease (ESRD), requiring hemodialysis or a kidney transplant to survive. Diabetes is the leading cause of ESRD, and the number of people with type 1 or type 2 diabetes and kidney failure rose by 61 percent between 2000 and 2010.

Currently, tight control of blood sugar and blood pressure are the only tools to prevent kidney disease. However, as many as 50 percent of people with diabetes cannot achieve optimal blood sugar control—and blood pressure control is only partially effective against ESRD.

A consortium that includes the University of Michigan Medical School was recently awarded \$24.3 million by the National Institutes of Health for a novel clinical trial to study a potential kidney disease treatment for people with type 1 diabetes.

The trial will be conducted by the eight institutions that comprise the Preventing Early Renal Function Loss in Diabetes (PERL) Consortium: Joslin Diabetes Center (grantholder), University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Colorado, University of Toronto, Northwestern University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and the Steno Diabetes Center in Denmark.

This is a five-year randomized clinical trial that will evaluate whether allopurinol, an inexpensive and safe FDA-approved drug for treating elevated uric acid (gout), is effective in reducing or slowing down kidney function loss among people with type 1 diabetes.

"We have data indicating that moderately high serum uric acid levels predispose people to diabetic kidney disease," explained Dr. Rodica Pop-Busui, Principal Investigator for the University of Michigan site. "However, we don't know whether this is due to uric acid itself or to something else that goes together with it. That's why this study is important—to determine if uric acid is the culprit or not."

Rodica Pop-Busui, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Internal Medicine in the Division of Metabolism, Endocrinology & Diabetes and Co-Director of the Michigan Peripheral Neuropathy Center, is joined on the study by her co-investigator, Frank Brosius, III, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine and Chief, Division of Nephrology, and Professor of Molecular & Integrative Physiology. Dr. Pop-Busui is also on the consortium's Steering Committee for the trial.

In addition, the Data Coordinating Center will be housed at U-M and led by Andrzej Galecki, M.D., Ph.D., Division of Geriatrics, and Cathie Spino, Sc.D., from the Statistical Analysis of Bio-



medical and Educational Research (SABER) unit.

If the consortium can demonstrate that allopurinol is capable of halting or slowing down loss of kidney function in people with type 1 diabetes by lowering people's levels of serum uric acid, it would be a major breakthrough for persons with diabetes. This relatively inexpensive drug could become a standard diabetes treatment and an important tool preventing end-stage renal disease.

"Diabetic nephropathy is a devastating complication of type 1 diabetes and new therapies are urgently needed to prevent progression to kidney failure," said Dr. Pop-Busui. "Since persons with diabetes represent over 45 percent of the more than 115,000 new ESRD cases in the USA per year, and since the incidence of new cases of diabetes continues to grow, this study has the potential to make a huge impact on human suffering, public health, and health costs."

Candidates are being sought between the ages of 18-65 who have had type 1 diabetes longer than eight years and have abnormal kidney function or abnormal uric acid levels, verified by a specific lab test.

For more information on the study and to sign up, visit: umclinicalstudies.org/HUM00080944 or contact Cynthia Plunkett, Nurse Study Coordinator, at cplunket@umich.edu or (734) 936-8065.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2015 - As part of the EITC Collation *El Centro* will be providing free tax preparation every Saturday in February 2015 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Dial 211 to schedule an appointment today! Other dates and times are available through other EITC Coalition agencies.

February 2015 - *El Centro* will be assisting in completing online HEAP applications. Monday - Thursday's from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. call 440-277-8235 to schedule your appointment.

February 9 & 11 - GED Prep Orientation will be held at LCCC Lorain Learning Center 201 West Erie Ave. Lorain, Ohio 44055 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You must attend both days of orientation in order to attend GED classes provided by Lorain County Community College ABE Consortium at El Centro.

February 19 - El Centro Food Pantry - In collaboration with Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio - from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at El Centro, 2800 Pearl Ave., Lorain, Ohio 44055. Families are given one box of food on a first come first served basis - FREE - Photo ID required. (This event occurs every third Thursday of each month at the same time).

February 20 - GED Prep Orientation will be held at Ohio Means Jobs, 42495 Northridge Rd., Elyria, Ohio 44055 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Orientation is required in order to attend GED classes provided by Lorain County Community College ABE Consortium at El Centro.

February 25 - ESOL Orientation will be held at El Centro, 2800 Pearl Ave., Lorain Ohio 44055 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Orientation is required in order to attend ESOL classes provided by Lorain County Community College ABE Consortium at El Centro.

Other Events and Activities:

February 7 - *Cognosante* will have bilingual enrollment specialist on hand to answer all your questions and help you get insurance coverage at El Centro from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Walk-ins welcomed!

MONSTER ENERGY SUPERCROSS
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Kids' Tickets Half-Price!
MAR. 21 FORD FIELD Sat. 6:30 PM
Buy Tickets: fordfield.com • 800-745-3000 • Ford Field Box Office

MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY (MMS)

February 2015 Fundraiser Events

Continuing the "SAVE THE CLUB!" Campaign by family and friends of the Mexican Mutual Society, 1820 East 28th Street, Lorain OH, the following fundraiser events are planned for February 2015 to support the Club's operation:

ENTERTAINMENT: February 13, 2015. "The Jazz, Funk and Blues Band" featuring the music of Jaime Flores on trumpet, Dominic Cataldo on piano, Rob Hill on bass, Louie Morales on drums, Dave Millen on sax, and Ralphie Alvarado on percussion with guest singer will perform from 9-12 pm. following the Celebrity Bartender Event. Admission is \$5 at the door. Mexican food will be available.

CELEBRITY BARTENDER NIGHT. Every Friday night from 6-9 pm. Join in the fun on Friday nights with the *Celebrity Bartenders* when the crowd goes wild and the big bell rings as the tip donations role in for the Mexican Mutual Society! Mexican food will be available.

February celeb bartenders are: February 6 2015. The real estate team of **Andrea and Jeff Neal. "Make a Deal with Neal!"**

February 13, 2015. Lorain's own James Brown, **Richard McGee and Friends.**

February 20, 2015. Lorain Port Authority, **Rick Novak, Director and Ralph Bruening,** Facilities Manager.

February 27, 2015. **Becky Rodríguez, CHIP Events Chairperson** joined by members of the Coalition of Hispanics in Progress (CHIP).

2015 Membership Drive. Help sustain the Mexican Mutual Society through a Social Membership open to the public for **only \$10.** Membership forms are available at the Club. Call 440-277-7375 for information.

Call For Little Queen Contestants for 2015 Cinco de Mayo Celebration!

Mexican Mutual Society (MMS) is continuing an over 40 year tradition of a Queen reigning over the annual Cinco de Mayo festivities. It is looking for little girls to run for the **Cinco de Mayo LITTLE QUEEN OF 2015.** The little girl **MUST** be of Mexican descent, between the ages of 5 to 9 yrs. old, and live in Lorain County.

The LITTLE QUEEN will reign over the Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade and Festivities which take place on May 2, 2015. **Deadline** to register your child is **February 7, 2014.** Contest begins February 14, 2015. For further details and to register your child, call the Pageant Director, Marie Leibas at 440-288-1044

February Winter Club Hours: Club opens at 3 pm on Wednesday through Sunday, except for the 3rd and 4th Thursdays of the month on which the Club will be closed. Hector's Kitchen will be open and serving Mexican food and other offerings. Call the Club at 440-277-7375 for the daily menu. **Hall rentals available.**

Fundraiser events are open to the public. Call the Club at 440-277-7375 for further information.

NOTICE:

The February 2015 Board Meeting of the **Ohio Latino Affairs Commission** will take place on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 9:00 am. It will be held in Salon A, at the Holiday Inn Columbus Downtown- Capital Square, (175 East Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215). **There will be no Committee Meetings on this date.** For more information, contact the Office of Hispanic/Latino Affairs at 614-466-8333, or visit our website at <http://ochla.ohio.gov> for official updates. **NOTE:** If you wish to address the Board and Public regarding any subject, please call the office in advance for topic to be placed on the Agenda.



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 Felipe Martinez
 Solutions Specialist
 Verizon Wireless
 2953 Navarro Ave.
 Oregon, OH 43015
 Phone 419.764.9520
 Fax 419.893.3311
 felipe.martinez@verizonwireless.com

THE TOLEDO ZOO

- CONCESSIONS/ CAFE:** Includes both indoor and outdoor positions such as birthday party attendants, grill cooks, food prep, front line servers, bussers, wait staff and cashiers. These positions require excellent people skills and accurate cash handling.
- CATERING:** Positions include dishwashers, production food assembly, wait staff, broiler and line cooks, bartenders, assistant chefs and set-up staff.
- PARK OPERATIONS:** These front line positions require friendly, accurate and helpful employees. The parking lot attendants, ticket booth attendants and ride operators set the tone for the visitors' experience at the Zoo. These positions require excellent people skills, with accurate cash handling and computer experience.
- MERCHANDISE:** Positions include stocking merchandise displays, operating a computer-based register system and providing outstanding customer service. These positions require accurate cash handling skills.
- HORTICULTURE:** These horticulture positions maintain all of the permanent landscapes and include mowing grass, weeding, watering, fertilizing, mulching, planting and maintaining the annual beds. Must have a valid driver's license and be at least 18.
- GROUNDS:** Grounds roamers continually walk the property to clean up the litter, pull trash, clean trash cans and graphics, rake leaves and maintain ornamental water features. Grounds staff assists in the Installation/tear down of the *Lights Before Christmas* display. Must have a valid driver's license and be at least 18.
- EDUCATION:** Interpreters deliver narrative speeches to riders on the *Africa!* train, interact frequently with visitors and lead behind the scenes tours. These positions require excellent people skills. Nature's Neighborhood staff must be willing to work with animals and small children, providing a fun filled adventure while educating. You must be creative and very outgoing. Summer Camp Teachers and Assistants-lead and educate children in classroom setting and throughout the Zoo. Must be pursuing a bachelors degree in Education or biological science fields.

TO APPLY AT THE ZOO:

Please pick up an application at our Visitor Services department, which is located off of the Anthony Wayne Trail. They are open daily from 10-5.

For more information please go to www.toledozoo.org

Red Cross needs donors of all blood types to help maintain a diverse blood supply

Feb. 2, 2015: The *American Red Cross* encourages eligible donors to help ensure a sufficient and diverse blood supply by giving blood this February.

Since the beginning of the year, *widespread flu* and inclement winter weather in some parts of the country have prevented many regular donors from making or keeping their blood donation appointments. Healthy and diverse blood donors are needed to help maintain a sufficient blood supply.

Diversity among blood donors is important because red blood cells carry markers that determine one's blood type, and certain blood types are unique to specific racial and ethnic groups. Blood must be matched very closely for those patients with rare blood types or for those who need repeated transfusions. Patients are less likely to have complications from blood donated by someone with a similar ethnicity.

All blood types are needed, *especially types O negative, A negative and B negative.* To learn more about donating blood and to schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Monroe County, Michigan Dundee
 2/17/2015: 12:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Dundee Community Center, 242 Toledo Street

Erie
 2/16/2015: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Erie VFW Post 3925, 1944 Erie Road

Milan
 2/24/2015: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m., Symons Elementary School, 432 S Platt Road
 2/27/2015: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Milan Senior and Community Center, 45 Neckel Court

Monroe
 2/16/2015: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Monroe County American Red Cross, 1645 N. Dixie Hwy

2/17/2015: 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mercy Memorial Hospital, 718 N. Macomb Street

Ottawa Lake
 2/17/2015: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., Whiteford Elementary School, 6655 Consear Road

Temperance
 2/17/2015: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Bedford Library, 8575 Jackman Road

2/20/2015: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m., Jackman Road Elementary, 8008 Jackman Road

Hancock County, Ohio

Findlay
 2/26/2015: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Evangelical Free Church, 2515 Heatherwood Dr.

Henry County
Archbold
 2/23/2015: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Northwest State Community College, 22-600 SR 34

Napoleon
 2/23/2015: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran, 16976 Co Rd Q1

Bellevue
 2/23/2015: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., The Bellevue Hospital, 1400 W. Main St.

Lucas County
Maumee
 2/23/2015: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., Gateway Middle School, 900 Gibbs

2/25/2015: 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., ProMedica St. Luke's Hospital, 5901 Monclova Rd

Sylvania
 2/23/2015: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., McCord Junior High School, 4304 MCCord Road



American Red Cross
 Together, we can save a life

Toledo
 2/17/2015: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m., Huntington Center, 500 Jefferson Ave.

2/18/2015: 2:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Wernert Elementary School, 5050 Douglas Road

2/25/2015: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, 2213 Cherry Street

2/25/2015: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., Blessed Sacrament School, 2216 Castlewood

2/26/2015: 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., Greenwood Elementary School, 760 Northlawn

Ottawa County
Graytown
 2/28/2015: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Zion United Methodist Church, 18045 W. William St

Putnam County
Ottawa

2/24/2015: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Ottawa VFW, 212 W. Second Street

Sandusky County
Fremont
 2/18/2015: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Terra State Community College, 2830 Napoleon Rd

Seneca County
Attica
 2/24/2015: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Seneca East High School, 13343 E US RT 224

Tiffin
 2/21/2015: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., The Journey, 2531 South State Route 100

Wood County
Bowling Green
 2/21/2015: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Bowling Green Covenant Church, 1165 Haskins Rd.

2/25/2015: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Bowling Green State University Student Union, Bowling Green State University Student Union

2/27/2015: 6:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Wood County Hospital, 950 W. Wooster Street


2/27/2015: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Stadium View Apartments, 1700 Juniper Drive

2/27/2015: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Wood County Hospital, 950 W. Wooster Street

Northwood
 2/17/2015: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Northwood Church of God, 1838 S. Coy Road

Rossford
 2/26/2015: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m., Local 8 Union Hall, 807 Lime City Road

How to donate blood
 Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. For more information, visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.



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

- Assistant Director, Recreation Programs
- Certified Pharmacy Technician
- Director, Infection Prevention
- Health Data Analyst
- House Supervisor
- Integrated Admissions Communications Asst Dir
- Lab Tech I
- Lead Staff Nurse
- Manager, Point of Service Registration
- Patient Registration Specialist
- Physical Therapist
- Recruitment Officer 2
- Resource Utilization Coordinator
- Social Worker
- Staff Nurse
- Surgical Technician
- **Faculty Positions in** Accounting, Art, Bio-Engineering, Biological Sciences, Business Technology, Chemical/Environmental Engineer, Civil Engineering, Chemistry, College of Nursing, Communication, Counselor Education and School Psychology, Criminal Justice, Criminal Justice, Curriculum & Instruction, Educational Leadership, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Technology, English, Environmental Sciences, Health Science, IOTM, Management, Mathematics, Medicine, MIME, Pharmacology, Psychology, Rehabilitation Services, Social Work, Sociology, Theatre

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 to UT is waived for 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>

We ask that applications and required documents be submitted electronically. UT and UTMC are EO/AA employers and educators M/F/D/V

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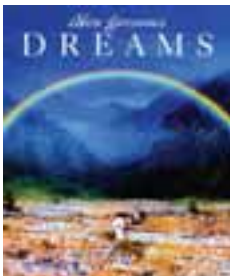
Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA), located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for HVAC/R Technician. For details and to apply, visit www.lucasmha.org. **Only online applications will be accepted at the above website until the deadline of 02/20/15.** Please note on your application if you are a LMHA Public Housing resident or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. This is a Section 3 covered position and HUD recipients are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**

Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, sex, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



AVISO/NOTICE:

The Ohio Theatre & United North is hosting the **TOLEDO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**, celebrating cultural diversity with these films from around the world.



Saturday, February 7, 2015
 Akira Kurosawa's Dreams (5 pm).
 Culturally appropriate snacks will be available and concessions will be open.

Tickets may be purchased online at <http://ohiotheatretoledo.org> or at the door. *Early bird rates apply!!*

Happy Birthday Tina Sánchez-Marquez Feb. 3

Happy Birthday Dan Briones Mary Ann Moreno Feb. 4

Happy Birthday Robert Durán JACOB CASTILLEJA Feb. 5

Happy Birthday Patty Hurtado Feb. 6

TPD MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for the Feb. 28 Toledo police civil service exam, participants must:

- Apply online between Jan. 24 and Feb. 7.
- Be between 20 and 34 years old on or before the test date.
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent certification and have one year or job-related college coursework from an accredited college or university.

Applicants who do not possess the college requirement may participate in the examination and receive appointment. However, in order to maintain their positions they must complete the 1 year college requirement (36 quarter hours or 24 semester hours) within 2 years from the date of successful completion of the Police Training Academy.

- Have a valid driver's license by academy appointment date.

For more information call 419-245-1075.


Legal Notice

Request for Proposals

The Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc. (AOoA), is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced bidders for helping facilitate two half-day workshops to gather input from stakeholders for the AOoA's Lucas County Senior Centers 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, organize the stakeholder feedback, develop provider outcomes, write the Strategic Plan and create a concept graphic that visually communicates a summary of the Strategic Plan to stakeholders. Interested bidders are required to submit a proposal detailing their experience in helping organizations conduct a strategic planning process, as well as the cost for these services

For a complete scope of work, e-mail jmoor@areaofficeonaging.com

Please direct proposals by 5:00 pm, Monday, February 16, 2015 to Justin Moor, Planning Department, Area Office on Aging, 2155 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, OH 43609.



LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

Be a voice for those who need you the most

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), a non-profit law firm that provides free, high-quality legal assistance in civil matters to low-income individuals and groups in northwest Ohio, seeks an Ombudsman for its Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The Ombudsman will receive, investigate, and work to resolve complaints filed on behalf of consumers of long-term care services, primarily in nursing homes. The Ombudsman will also support our volunteer program, provide community education, and systemic advocacy related to long-term care. Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree in social work, social services, a health-related field, or any other related field. Commensurate experience may be considered in lieu of Bachelor's Degree. Candidates must possess excellent communication and human relations skills, and a demonstrated commitment to advocacy on behalf of consumers of long-term care services. Candidates must have the combined qualities of excellent interpersonal and administrative skills. Computer proficiency required. Daily travel in Northwest Ohio required. Position is based in ABLE's Toledo office. Salary based on relevant experience. Excellent benefits.

Resúmenes will be accepted until February 20, 2015. Email cover letter, résumé, and list of references, in Microsoft Word or PDF format, to:

jobs@ablelaw.org
 Subject: LTCOP Position

Equal access to ABLE's office is available. Applicants requiring accommodation to the interview/application process should contact the email address listed above. EOE



SO YOU'RE AGAINST IMMIGRATION?

SPLENDID! WHEN DO YOU LEAVE?

Toledo Area Ministries is currently hiring for the following 3 positions: Program Director, Program Coordinator, and Case Manager. Please visit www.tamohio.org for job descriptions and application instructions. EOE

Housing Cleaning Service

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- Residential Commercial Contact Luis:

216-832-1437

SANCHEZ ROOFING

Preventive maintenance; roof repairs; rubber roofing; re-roof shingles; 30 years exp; roof coatings; roof leaks; power washing; Se habla español! Call Pete Sanchez 419-787-9612!

Reinhart Real Estate advertisement featuring Julie Picknell with contact information for office and home.

Ohio Operating Engineers Apprenticeship & Training Program Local 18 4 Year Apprenticeship 2015 Application Dates: January 26,27,28 & February 5,6,7, 2015

LOSS REALTY GROUP advertisement for Melinda Sanchez, Licensed Realtor, with contact details and office address.

LMHA Lorain Metropolitan Housing Authority and Lorain County Elderly Housing Corporation advertisement listing affordable housing options.

Call for Young Artists At Work (YAAW) Coordinator advertisement from The Arts Commission, detailing requirements and application process.

Remember FIRST FRIDAY February 6, 2015: 6 PM to 9 PM Celebrate Latino & Latina Art & Culture! Food & Beverages complimentary February is National Heart Month advertisement for Sofia Quintana Art and Cultural Center, Inc.

Welcome Home To Beautiful Sylvan Lakes Apartments advertisement featuring a photo of the building and listing amenities like swimming pool and fitness center.

Answer the Call

Apply online:
January 24– February 7, 2015
www.toledopolice.com



Minimum Requirements:

- High School Diploma
- Applicants must be 20 years of age and no older than 34 years of age on or before February 28, 2015
- Must be eligible to work in the United States
- Must possess a valid driver's license upon appointment



Examination Date: February 28, 2015



Toledo Police Department, Toledo, Ohio

The City of Toledo is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Save the Date!

2015 OHIO LATINO EDUCATION SUMMIT
"MILESTONES IN THE PIPELINE FOR SUCCESS"
 MARCH 6TH 2015

To Learn More and Register:
www.latinosuccess.org/ohio

The University of Akron, Student Union
 902 E. Buchholz Ave Akron, OH 44325



Please join students, parents, teachers, school administrators and state government officials at the 2015 Latino Education Summit!



2015 OHIO LATINO EDUCATION SUMMIT >>>

"Milestones for Success"

Friday, March 6, 2015
 The University of Akron, Student Union
 902 E. Buchholz Ave Akron, OH 44325

Can Cultural Diversity Fuel Academic Success?

How Do We Tap Into Our Competitive Advantage?



Victor G. Torres, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Administration at the University of Akron, Ohio. He is a member of the 2011-12 National Academy of Higher Education College Leadership in 2011 and received the Governor's Recognition for "One of Ohio's Most Distinguished Leaders in Education" (higher education) in the national award. He began his career in 1980 at the University of Akron where he has received numerous national and international awards for his research and professional contributions, including 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

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