

La Prensa

Ohio & Michigan's Oldest & Largest Latino Weekly

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CHIP'S CONFERENCE, APRIL 25 - 26



CHIP hosts sold-out Hispanic Leadership Conference

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

The 19th annual Hispanic Leadership Conference, organized by the *Coalition for Hispanic/Latino Issues & Progress (CHIP)*, held on Sat., April 26, 2014, featured a panel discussion on immigration reform and about 11 workshops on topics that affect the Latino community, both locally and nationally. The day-long conference and gala was held at Lorain County Community College's Spitzer Conference Center in Elyria.

Dina and Michael Ferrer were the conference directors.

One of the new features at the conference was a panel of medical and health experts, which gave participants a chance to ask a variety of health-related questions.

Participants also were able to obtain free health screenings for diabetes, prostate cancer, and glaucoma, among other maladies.

The immigration reform panel discussed the continued political fallout from the inaction of US Congress, which could have a lasting impact at the ballot box during the 2014 election cycle, considered by many to be a key Congressional midterm voter referendum on gridlock in the nation's capital.

However, the panel ex-

plored and discussed new strategies, approaches and ideas that may be used to resolve the issue. One of those is President Barack Obama's deferred action program, where young immigrants who came to the U.S. without documentation as children received a two-year administrative reprieve from deportation. Those same immigrants can now apply to renew their deferred action status for another two years.

The immigration reform panel included Lorain Police Chief Celestino Rivera, well-known Cleveland immigration attorney Richard Herman, Fr. Bill Thaden (a Catholic priest who has served the Latino community in Lorain, Cleveland, El Salvador, and elsewhere since he was ordained 25 years ago), and former Border Patrol agent-turned attorney Michael Rendón.

Lilleana Cavanaugh, executive director of the Ohio Commission on Latino Affairs, addressed the gathering on her view of the state of Latinos living in the Buckeye state.

Workshop topics also included changes to voting laws that will affect the 2014 election, a topic key to Latinos as one of the state's fastest-growing voting blocs; Ohio's new third grade reading guarantee, which could result in children being forced to repeat a grade (there are exceptions for stu-

dents who are learning English); how to protect children in an age where human trafficking is quickly on the rise; and how to prepare healthy Latin food, a workshop presented by the executive chef at Lorain County Community College.

Margarita De León of Toledo (and native of Lorain) delivered a workshop on "Increasing Market Share in the Hispanic/Latino Community." The workshop focused on the unique characteristics of Latino families and culture, which can afford savvy business owners an opportunity to appeal to and harness a profitable share of the growing economic power of the country's fastest-growing population.

A separate Youth Leadership tract focused on bullying and sexting. A pair of young, Cleveland-area attorneys spoke to teens on the ramifications of each controversial trend. Student participants had the opportunity to role play, analyze and interpret bullying situations while coming to understand how different sec-

tions of the Ohio Revised Code cover bullying and by extension, telephone harassment.

Award-winning Colombian-American writer, film director, and singer-songwriter Andrés Useche spoke at the conference. Useche has become a strong advocate for immigration reform in recent years, writing and performing his song "Marching into the Light" at rallies and marches across the country. The activist also has supported DREAM Act organizations and aided efforts related to the "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals" (DACA) initiative, which



Ivan Gomez y Richard Herman

grants deportation relief and work permits to the undocumented youth.

Useche also performed at the conference gala along with well-known comedian Erik Rivera.

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About Margaret W. Wong:
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Kindergarten & Preschool Registration

From May 12-16, 9am-noon, register for kindergarten at the Elementary School your child will attend.

At Toledo Public Schools, kindergarten students gain a love of learning while preparing for the future. Program highlights include:

- A full-day program that focuses on Ohio's new learning standards
- Teachers who are highly-qualified and have early childhood/kindergarten certification
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All children entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before September 30.

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- A legal birth certificate for your child.
- Vaccination records
- A picture ID for parents/or guardians
- Two proofs of address for the family

For specific vaccine requirements, please contact your physician or the Lucas County Health Department at 419-213-4100.

If you cannot register your child the week of May 12, please contact your elementary school for assistance.

TPS Preschool Program

is registering children, ages 3 to 5, for the 2014-2015 school year. Preschool classes meet Monday through Thursday, mornings or afternoons. The cost is \$250.00 per semester and fee waivers are available to income-eligible families.

Enrollment packets available at: Crossgates Preschool
3901 Shadylawn Dr.

DeVilbiss Early Childhood Office
3301 Upton Ave.



Visit us online: tps.org

Charlotte weighs immigrant-friendly city policies

CHARLOTTE, N.C., April 20, 2014 (AP): North Carolina's biggest city is looking at ways to boost growth by attracting new immigrants to the United States, a move some complain would include welcoming people living in the country without documentation.

The Charlotte City Council created a group last fall to study what other cities are doing to encourage immigrants to start businesses and get involved in civic life, though other cities have not yet proved whether those policies work. The Charlotte Observer reports (<http://bit.ly/1nASJ4k>).

The task force of economists, school leaders, law-enforcement officers and business representatives meets Thursday and holds its first public listening session next weekend. The end result of the yearlong study will be a series of recommendations to council members that could help immigrant families, co-chair Emily

Zimmerman said.

"It's about the economic and social benefits of being immigrant friendly," Zimmerman said. "Addressing the broader issue of immigration reform is not what we're asked to address."

Cities that already are trying more immigrant-friendly policies include Detroit, Dayton, Columbus, Louisville, St. Louis, and Nashville, Tenn. In 2012, Nashville had the fastest-growing immigrant population of any U.S. city, with 12 percent of its population born outside the United States. Nearly half were recent immigrants who entered the country since 2000.

But the head of a North Carolina group demanding tougher enforcement of immigration laws said Charlotte officials seem as eager to entice people in the country without documentation as legal immigrants.

"There is no problem embracing legal immigrants in this country, so what are they trying to fix?" said Ron Woodard of NCListen. "What

this committee is trying to do is lump legal with illegal immigrants together as if they were one and the same."

The city could help immigrants by hiring more government employees who are bilingual, said *Manolo Betancur*, who is from Colombia.

He and his wife, *Zhenia Martínez de México*, run *Las Delicias Bakery*. Betancur operates a second business that picks up people from bars and chauffeurs them and their car home. Betancur said he works up to 80 hours a week, long hours which can be typical for immigrants.

"Americans don't realize they are getting the best of people from foreign countries, because hard-working people are the ones who come to make a better life. The lazy people don't want to leave their countries," Betancur said.

Information from: The Charlotte Observer, <http://www.charlotteobserver.com>

Justice for Ramos: U.S. Attorney dismisses charges facing 24-Year Ohio resident and father of Two U.S. Citizens

Op Ed by America's Voice

Washington, DC, April 25, 2014: After a hard fought public campaign to reunite him with his U.S. citizen children, 24-year Ohio resident *José Alfredo Ramos Gallegos* received justice.

As *Lisa Thompson* of the Erie Times-News reports, "U.S. Attorney David J. Hickton has filed a motion to dismiss an illegal re-entry charge against an Ohio man whose case triggered an immigration rights rally in Erie in March. Hickton said in the motion only that the dismissal of the felony charge against *Alfredo Ramos Gallegos* would be 'in the interests of justice.'"

Said *Veronica Dahlberg*, Executive Director of HOLA Ohio and the leader of this community effort, said: "Thank you, Attorney Hickton, for delivering justice to the Ramos family. We are truly grateful that *Alfredo* can now work and live in peace and without fear of being labeled a 'criminal.' This man is a good father, has no criminal record and is an upstanding model citizen in the Painesville, Ohio, community."

"He's exactly the type of person we should be welcoming with open arms, not locking up behind bars, and we're overjoyed that Attorney Hickton saw that in this case. Let's hope that U.S. Attorney Eric Holder follows Hickton's lead and stops prosecuting the thousands of other immigrants in proceedings whose only crime was trying to reunite with their family."

Attorney *David Leopold*, *Alfredo's* immigration lawyer, said: "Clearly, Attorney Hickton took a look at the equities in this case, saw that this man has been here for two decades, paid his taxes, raised children who are U.S. citizens, and has been a provider for an American family. Hickton did the right thing by dismissing this case, and I hope this same wisdom will prevail with Eric Holder and the Department of Justice."

"While the Department of Homeland Security has been under fire for years because of its deportation policies, the Department of Justice has flown under the radar," said *Lynn Tramonte*, Deputy Director of America's Voice. "When I look at *Alfredo* I see a 24-year resident of Ohio; father of two U.S. citizen chil-

dren and stepfather of one; respected member of the community; and victim of racial profiling by police. Until today, when the Justice Department looked at *Alfredo* they saw a 'felon.' We're heartened to see Hickton to do justice in this case, but we need Eric Holder to follow his example."

Alfredo was referred to the Border Patrol after Mentor, OH police stopped a car he was riding in on February 8, 2014. He has lived in the U.S. for 24 years, since he was 16, and deported nearly 14 years ago. His U.S. citizen ex-wife, who was nine months pregnant with their first child at the time, urged him to return. Since then, *Alfredo* has lived peacefully in the U.S., taking care of his family, with no arrests or other problems.

Follow Frank Sharry and America's Voice on Twitter: @FrankSharry and @AmericasVoice

On the Internet: www.americasvoice.org

Read more about this in Lynn Tramonte's op-ed in The Hill, "Stop persecuting immigrants," <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/civil-rights/203369-stop-persecuting-immigrants>



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Diego Rivera's Detroit murals get landmark status

DETROIT, April 24, 2014 (AP): Diego Rivera's murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts have been designated as one of four new national historic landmarks. Federal officials announced the designation on Wednesday.

The Detroit Institute of Arts murals were conceived by Rivera as a tribute to the city's manufacturing base and labor force of the 1930s. The Mexican artist

in 1932 and 1933 completed the murals on walls of a court in the museum and they're considered to be among his greatest works.

The largely symbolic landmark designation comes amid efforts to protect the collection of the Detroit Institute of Arts from being sold as part of the city's bankruptcy.

The National

Historic Landmarks Program offers technical assistance, recognition and funding for landmarks, but doesn't shield from ownership changes.

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Backers, opponents of Michigan ban react to Supreme Court ruling

By ED WHITE, Associated Press

DETROIT, April 22, 2014 (AP): The U.S. Supreme Court decision Tuesday upholding the state's ban on using race as a factor in college admissions comes as the University of Michigan has been taking steps to reach out to minorities and make them feel welcome on campus.

Blacks made up just 4.6 percent of undergraduate students last fall, a figure that has dropped since voters in 2006 said race couldn't be used as a factor in the selection process. Nearly eight years later, the Supreme Court said the Michigan constitutional amendment will stand.

"To take away the rights of minorities is a shocking decision," said George Washington, a Detroit lawyer who challenged the law. "With this, and the voting rights decision last year, it's clear the Supreme Court is undoing the rights gained by blacks and Latino people in the 1960s and 1970s."

The university declined to make officials available for an interview. It released a statement from President Mary Sue Coleman, who said the school would use "every legal tool at our disposal to bring together a diverse student body."

Asians make up 13 percent of undergraduates, well above the state's Asian population, and Latinos represent 4.4 percent.

Leaders of the Black Student Union have proposed ways to increase black en-

rollment and enhance the campus for minorities. They include lower housing costs for low-income students, better promotion of emergency financial assistance and improvements at a multicultural center.

The group wants black enrollment to be 10 percent, which is closer to the state's 14 percent black population. The university last week said it's had good conversations with the group and is upgrading the multicultural center while a site for an additional center is being explored.

The university also is making money available for transportation between the campus and surrounding communities when buses aren't available.

Jennifer Gratz of Fort Myers, Fla., was involved in the campaign for the constitutional amendment and said the Supreme Court decision is a "great victory" for Michigan voters. She sued over the university's racial preferences in 1997 after being rejected for admission.

Gratz, who is white, recently challenged a black Detroit high school senior to a debate about affirmative action after Brooke Kimbrough appeared at a rally to complain about not getting accepted to the University of Michigan with a 3.6 grade-point average and a 23 on the ACT.

Attorney General Bill Schuette, who defended the amendment at the nation's top court, praised the 6-2 decision.

"We need to have diversity in our campuses ... across the state of Michigan and across

America," he said. "And we need to achieve this diverse student population by constitutional means. That's the message of this opinion."

While the focus has been on the University of Michigan, the ban on affirmative action in college admissions applies to all public schools. Michigan State University, the largest school in the state, said blacks were 6 percent of undergraduates last fall.

Washington said the University of Michigan could boost minority enrollment by dropping ACT and SAT scores from the admissions process. He said blacks and Latinos historically post lower scores than white students and are rejected.

Washington also called for sit-ins.

"The Supreme Court has taken the gloves off, so we'll be taking the gloves off," he said.

Coleman has publicly acknowledged that minority students have concerns.

"We hear loud and clear that students of color feel isolated and marginalized, and that our frequently declared commitment to diversity is perceived as disingenuous," she said in February. "Students here and elsewhere are raising real—and painful—concerns about campus climate and the diminishing number of students of color in classrooms."

AP reporters David Egert and Emma Fidel in Lansing, Mich., contributed to this report.

On the Internet: Decision: <http://on.freep.com/PrisOr>

ADC-Michigan Director files lawsuit against Eastern Michigan University (EMU) for violating voter rights



Dearborn, April 25, 2014: Attorney Fatima Abdrabboh, the Director of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's (ADC) Michigan Regional Office, filed a lawsuit in Washtenaw County Court this morning naming 6 Plaintiffs against Eastern Michigan University (EMU). The lawsuit outlines how EMU tossed out over 1,000 votes cast by the student body which violated the student's fundamental right to vote as outlined in the Voting Rights Act.

Abdrabboh reiterated that voting is a fundamental right and violating that right must not be tolerated. Abdrabboh

will be seeking an emergency injunction to prevent Eastern Michigan University and other named defendants from further conduct that compromises the voice of the students and their rights to vote. For a copy of the lawsuit, please send an email to adcmich@adc.org with "EMU lawsuit" in subject.

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Publisher

Advertising:

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Art/Graphics/WebSite:

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PO Box 792, Saline MI 48176

SALES: 419.870-2797 or 440-320-8221

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Mother's Day dance with Ramón Ayala to benefit SS. Peter and Paul Parish

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

A Mother's Day dance to be held at Central Catholic High School, 2550 Cherry St., Toledo, May 11, 2014, 4:00-11:00 p.m., will benefit the many community programs at SS. Peter and Paul Catholic parish.

Among the acts scheduled to appear are world-renowned Ramón Ayala y Sus Bravos del Norte and the Michigan-based Grupo Pressencia. Doors will open at 4 p.m. The show will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Ayala is a Grammy Award-winning musician, composer, and songwriter of norteño and conjunto music, who has been dubbed the "King of the Accordion." The 68-year old musician, composer, and songwriter was born in

Monterrey, Nuevo León, México and has recorded more than 100 albums and has been featured in 13 movies during a career that spans more than 40 years.

Ayala first picked up and played the accordion at age 6. As a teen, he teamed up with the late bajo sexto guitarist/vocalist Cornelio Reyna to form Los Relámpagos del Norte. The duo is credited with living up their traditional music and lyrics in the 1960s to appeal to more people. They recorded 20 albums together, forging a distinctive sound and roster of songs that have since been covered by many artists of contemporary Latin music.

After the pair parted ways in 1971, Ayala formed his legendary band Ramón Ayala y Sus Bravos del Norte. Over the

years, the band has used five lead singers, including legends Antonio Saucedo and Eliseo Robles. Current lead singer Mario Marichalar first joined the band in 1993. His band's music remains popular on both sides of the Rio Grande.

Over the past four decades, Ayala has been nominated for several Grammy awards. In 2002, he won a Grammy award for the album *En Vivo... El Hombre Y Su Música*. Ayala has also been awarded with two Latin Grammys for the albums "*Quémame Los Ojos*" and "*El Numero Cien*."

Ayala and his band last made a Toledo appearance during *LatinoFest* in 2010. SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Parish hopes to raise \$40,000 (Continued on Page 7)

UT's Latino Youth Summit to be held May 7

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

Hundreds of Latino teens from Toledo Public Schools (TPS) will be exposed to career and college prep information during the 12th annual Latino Youth Summit, Wed., May 7, 2014, at the University of Toledo.

While last year's event was a two-day affair, the harsh winter forced drastic changes to the TPS academic year and prompted scheduling conflicts with the district. As a result, the summit was scaled back to one day this year.

"The one downfall this year is lower numbers. The snow days are really going to hurt us this year as we will not see any TPS elementary school attendance because they are making up their OGT tests and the change came too late to switch the entire program," explained Cecilia Rivera, UT Greek Life coordinator and Latino Youth Summit co-chair.

The program is geared directly toward the Latino student, with a full school day on a university campus with college professors or students as presenters and guides. Results of studies show that preparation for college success needs to begin early and must be sustained throughout their school years.

Between 500 and 600 Latino junior high and high school youths attended last year's summit.

According to the Latino Youth Summit website, one of the summit's goals is to address the Latino achievement gap in northwest Ohio and the reality of a growing Latino population. The summit seeks to arm youth and families with college planning and career path information through sessions about pre-high school and pre-college coursework and information about various occupational fields. Emphasis is placed on the

importance of skills in science, math and technology in today's job market.

"It gives the students that one-on-one time to ask questions and see firsthand some of the amazing things our students experience at UT every day," said Ms. Rivera. "Most of our volunteers are UT alumni, staff and students, so it gives them great perspective."

Students are divided into specific programming tracks by grade level. Each track has specific activities for each age group, which include hands-on pharmacy and engineering workshops, team-building and self-esteem building exercises, test taking presentations, how to succeed in school by peer panels, and a college fair.

Latino students are given the opportunity to meet representatives from colleges that comprise ECHHO (Educators in College Helping Hispanics Onward). The college fair allows students to obtain information pertaining to college admission and scholarship opportunities. The summit provides ECHHO members with an opportunity to interact with the largest gathering of Latino youth from Northwest Ohio.

Sam Centellas, executive director at La Casa de Amistad in South Bend, Indiana will serve as the keynote speaker. He has worked as a higher education professional at a number of universities and also served as the national president of the Sigma Lambda Beta international fraternity. Ms. Rivera saw him speak at a conference and felt his message would fit the summit well.

"This presentation talks about the significance of family, tradition and the importance for people to work together and drive towards common goals," she said.

Eight lucky seniors who

plan to attend UT in the fall will be awarded scholarships at the Latino Youth Summit. The scholarship covers a year of on-campus housing and provides \$8,000 in tuition, to be split up in \$2,000 increments over 4 years.

Fátima Pervaz served as the other co-chairperson for the Latino Youth Summit. The committee each year reads as a who's who list of Toledo-area Latino educators, among them: José Luna, José Treviño, Mary Morales, José Rosales, Angie Durán, Felicia Guerrero, Betty Anzaldúa, Aleiah Jones, Natalie Guzmán, Michele Martínez, Melanie Muñoz, Ana Fackelman, and Angela López.

The Parent's Night component of the program also has been removed from the program this year. Poor attendance for the evening event has plagued that portion of the Latino Youth Summit in recent years.

But a little-known component of the Latino Youth Summit extends into the summer for the benefit of migrant farmworker children. That summer program has two components, one of them aimed at elementary school-age children. According to Ms. Rivera, it's a daytime program where different camps come to the engineering side of campus for a couple of hours of hands-on workshops. Age-appropriate activities are planned, so that younger children do easier things like flashlights made from batteries and the older kids do something more advanced.

The other component is an overnight program focused on math and science aimed at students in grades 8-12. Those older students spend a day-and-a-half on the UT campus doing workshops in chemistry, engineering, and pharmacy.

"They get to spend the night in a residence hall, utilize the rec center and then we typically take them somewhere in the city for dinner," explained Ms. Rivera. "Last year we did a catered dinner on the Sandpiper boat. This event is grant-funded through a partnership with the Ohio Migrant Education Center."

Parents or individuals with questions in advance of the Latino Youth Summit may call 419.530.4036 or email latinoyouthsummit@utoledo.edu.

City of Toledo sponsored Youth Job Fair this Saturday, May 3rd.

Pre-registration IS required to participate

Each year, teens hope to find summer employment to develop their business skills, find positive outlets for their creativity and energy, and begin building a résumé that will help prepare them for adulthood. Local civic and business leaders are coming together to ask the business community for support in this endeavor.

In 2013, over 2,000 young people attended the summer job fair and met potential employers, learned about summer job opportunities, and

applied for openings with local business owners.

The 2014 Summer Teen Job Fair will be held from 10am-2pm on Saturday May 3, 2014, at the SeaGate Centre. Businesses interested in participating are asked to call the City of Toledo Youth Commission at 419-245-1417 for more information. Employers who are not able to offer jobs are asked to consider internship, volunteer opportunities, or donations to the Youth Commission to assist with programming for Toledo Youth.

There is no cost for young people to attend the Summer Youth Job Fair and pre-registration is required through eventbrite.com before 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2014. Teens are encouraged to dress professionally while meeting with job employers and in follow-up interviews. The summer Youth Job Fair is open for youth ages 16-21 years old.

For more information on the Summer Youth Job Fair contact: Rosalinda Contreras-Harris at 419-245-1417

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GOP senators attack Obama deportations review

By ERICA WERNER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, April 24, 2014 (AP): Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and 21 other Republican senators accused President Barack Obama on Thursday of displaying "an astonishing disregard for the Constitution, the rule of law and the rights of American citizens" by considering administrative changes to the nation's deportations policy.

In a letter to the president, the senators said that changes under consideration would amount to "near complete abandonment of basic immigration enforcement."

The Associated Press reported this week that Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, who is

conducting a review ordered by Obama on how to make the administration's policy on deportations more humane, is weighing limiting removals of immigrants living in the U.S. illegally who don't have serious criminal records. Other changes also are possible.

With comprehensive immigration legislation stalled in the GOP-led House 10 months after Senate passage, Obama is under intense pressure from immigrant advocates to act on his own to curb deportations and allow some of the 11.5 million immigrants in the country illegally to stay here.

Thursday's letter, circulated by the Senate Judiciary Committee's top Republican, Sen. Charles Grassley,

R-Iowa, underscores the political risk in an election year as Republicans seize on the review as the latest example of presidential overreach.

"Our entire constitutional system is threatened when the executive branch suspends the law at its whim and our nation's sovereignty is imperiled when the commander in chief refuses to defend the integrity of its borders," the senators wrote.

In a statement, Homeland Security spokesman Peter Boogaard didn't respond to the senators' complaints but said, "The secretary has undergone a very rigorous and inclusive process to best inform the review."

US reissues immigrant asylum rules

By ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, April 18, 2014 (AP): The U.S. Homeland Security Department has reissued asylum rules to immigration officials amid concerns that they are misinterpreting how to decide which immigrants get to see a judge for asylum claims.

The chief of the asylum division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has told asylum officers that immigrants who make a "credible fear" claim, the first step in the asylum process, must have a "significant possibility" of winning an asylum case before a judge.

In a Feb. 28 memo, the official, John Lafferty, said in order to meet that standard immigrants have to "demonstrate a substantial and realistic possibility of succeeding in court."

The memo, which updates an officer training course lesson plan, does not substantially change the standard for how the immigration agency handles such cases. The same language was used to describe the standard to win a full hearing before an immigration judge as far back as 2008, according to the USCIS website.

Lafferty wrote that there were concerns that the standard was not always being met in recent cases.

"In light of concerns that the application of the 'significant possibility' standard has lately been interpreted to require only a minimal or mere possibility of success, the revised (guidance) clearly states that a claim that has

no possibility or only a minimal or mere possibility does not meet the ... standard," Lafferty wrote.

Lafferty also said the revised guidance was issued because of a significant increase in the number of "credible fear" claims cases the agency was handling.

In 2013, Lafferty wrote, USCIS handled more of these claims than from 2007 through 2011 combined. And the agency recorded a 250 percent increase in such cases from 2012 to 2013.

That year 36,026 credible fear claims were filed, according to a December 2013 Congressional Research Report on asylum.

According to USCIS statistics on the agency's case load, the overwhelming majority of credible fear claims filed from 2011 to 2013 were approved and sent to an immigration judge for a final ruling.

The National Immigrant Youth Alliance, an immigrant advocacy group that has staged several protests along the border that have included young immigrants seeking asylum, released the memo to the news media Thursday. It was first reported on by the Los Angeles Times.

Jeff Carter, a USCIS spokesman, said in a statement late Thursday that the government's rules for asylum seekers have not changed.

"The current training guidelines are to ensure proper implementation of the statutory standard that governs these screenings," Carter said.

Republican lawmakers recently have voiced concern that the asylum system was being abused by immigrants who have little or no chance of winning asylum.

In many cases, asylum seekers who are approved to have a judge hear their case are released from immigration detention and allowed to apply for a work permit while their cases are pending. In some cases, it could take years for an asylum case to reach a courtroom.

Immigrants who ask for asylum at the border are subject to what the government has called "expedited removal," meaning they can be deported without seeing a judge if their initial "credible fear" claim is denied.

While asylum requests from Mexican nationals and immigrants from Central America fleeing drug cartel and gang violence have spiked in recent years, the odds of winning asylum in the United States remain low.

David Bennion, a lawyer who works with the immigrant youth alliance, said multiple asylum cases in San Diego recently have been denied since the memo was issued internally at USCIS. He described the denials as "retaliation" for the group's advocacy activities.

Carlos Spector, an El Paso, Texas, immigration lawyer who represents dozens of asylum seekers, said the memo's instructions convert asylum officers into immigration judges.

"The message here is: You are now empowered to send people back," Spector said.

Associated Press writers E.J. Tamara in Los Angeles, Elliot Spagat in San Diego, and Juan Carlos Llorca in El Paso, Texas, contributed to this report.

OBITUARIES

PABLO C. HERNÁNDEZ

Pablo C. Hernández, 88, of Lorain, OH passed away Monday, April 21, 2014 at New Life Hospice Residential Center, Lorain following a brief illness. Born January 10, 1926 in Vega Baja, Puerto Rico, he came to Lorain in the early 1950s. Pablo worked at Lorain Works US Steel for 20 years, retiring in 1988. Prior to that, he worked at Hoag's Greenhouse in Elyria where he received his boilermaker's license. He was a member of the United Steel Workers Union Local 1104 and enjoyed gardening, painting houses and helping others.

Surviving are son, Fred Hernández of Lorain; daughters, Mirta (John) Remali of Sheffield Village and Edith (Bill) Poll of Queens, NY; 5 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren; sisters, María Hernández of Brooklyn, NY, Sarah Hernández and Sophia Hernández both of Puerto Rico; and his companion of 14 years, Norma Medina and her children.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Juan and Juana (née Chevere) Hernández; and sisters, Andrea, Eladia, and Constance

MARGARITA RODRÍGUEZ

Margarita Rodríguez (née Claudio), 67, of Lorain, OH went home to be with the Lord Thursday, April 24, 2014 in University Hospital, Cleveland following a lengthy illness. She was born February 22, 1947 in Caguas, Puerto Rico and then came to Lorain from the Bronx, New York in 1978. Margarita was a member of the Iglesia Pentecostal Cristo Misionera Church. She was a loving wife and great grandmother. Margarita loved and praised the Lord.

She will be deeply missed by her husband of 8 years Reverend Rubén Rodríguez of Lorain; sons Johnny Cruz of Cleveland and Miguel Vázquez of Elyria; daughter Lisbette Gnzak of Lorain; brothers Angel Luis Claudio of Buffalo, New York, Roberto Claudio of Reading, PA, Jaime, Pedro, and Candido Claudio all of Caguas Puerto Rico, José Ernesto, José Antonio, Alfredo, and Victor Claudio all of Lorain; sisters Carmen and Francesca of Lorain and Rosa Rivera of Lorain; 11 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Margarita was preceded in death by her parents Bartolo Claudio and Angela Roldan; sister María Rodríguez and a brother Pedro Claudio.

Muere actriz Mayra Alejandra Rodríguez

CARACAS, Venezuela, 17 de abril de 2014 (AP): La popular actriz venezolana, Mayra Alejandra Rodríguez, falleció este jueves a consecuencia de un cáncer. Tenía 55 años.

Rodríguez, quien se dio a conocer internacionalmente al protagonizar la popular telenovela "Leonela" de la escritora cubana Delia Fiallo, murió luego de una larga lucha contra un cáncer, informó la fundación estatal La Casa del Artista en un comunicado.

El presidente Nicolás Maduro y figuras del mundo artístico venezolano lamentaron la muerte de la actriz a través de la red social Twitter.

La actriz, que inició su carrera artística a los 17 años, protagonizó más de 25 telenovelas entre las que destacan "La hija de Juana Crespo", "Piel de Zapa", "El ángel rebelde" y "Luisana Mía", que la convirtieron en una de las artistas más populares del país.

Rodríguez también

sobresalió en el teatro y en el cine con las películas "Carmen la que contaba dieciséis años" y "Manon". Era hija del fallecido comediante Charles Barry y la escritora de telenovelas Ligia Lezama.

A la actriz le sobreviven su hijo Aarón Pineda, nacido de una relación con el actor mexicano Salvador Pineda, su madre y su hermano Juan Carlos Barry, quien se desempeña como comediante.

ACLU files suit on timeliness of asylum interview

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17, 2014 (AP): Immigration advocates are filing suit against the federal government, saying immigration officials are violating their own rules by failing to provide a speedy hearing to some immigrants who face deportation.

The lawsuit was filed Thursday in federal court in San Francisco by two

California affiliates of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Immigrant Justice Center.

The groups say the Administrative Procedure Act requires that people who face removal orders and who have been previously deported should be granted a speedy interview to decide if they have a reasonable fear that they would be persecuted in

their home country.

The plaintiffs allege that some immigrants have spent months in detention awaiting interviews and later, asylum hearings.

The Department of Homeland Security didn't immediately respond to a request for comment Thursday. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services didn't provide comment.

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Fallece Tito Vilanova, ex técnico del Barcelona

BARCELONA, España, 25 de abril de 2014 (AP): Tito Vilanova, el técnico que sucedió a Pep Guardiola en el Barcelona y ganó el título de la liga española en su única temporada a cargo, falleció el viernes después de una larga batalla con el



cáncer de la glándula parótida. Tenía 45 años.

Vilanova, quien luchó contra el cáncer durante unos dos años y medio, fue hospitalizado la semana pasada en Barcelona y, según diversos reportes, fue operado de emergencia el jueves.

“El barcelonismo ha recibido hoy uno de los golpes más duros de su historia, una noticia que ha conmocionado a todo el mundo del fútbol y del deporte en todas partes”, señaló el club en un comunicado. “Un hombre querido y admirado por todos, nos ha dejado a la edad de 45 años, después de no poder superar la enfermedad que, el pasado mes de julio, le obligó a dejar el banquillo del primer equipo”.

El tumor fue descubierto en noviembre de 2011, cuando Vilanova todavía era asistente de Guardiola y se ausentó del equipo para ser operado. Ya recuperado, Vilanova tomó las riendas del club la temporada siguiente, luego de la partida de Guardiola, y ganó el título de la liga con un récord de 100 puntos.

Un segundo tumor fue extirpado en diciembre de 2012, y Vilanova viajó a Nueva York varias veces durante la campaña pasada para recibir tratamiento.

En abril de 2013, Vilanova dijo que se sentía bien y que no pensaba en dejar su cargo. Terminó la temporada, pero tuvo que renunciar luego de sufrir una recaída en julio.

“Tito Vilanova, un referente humano y un referente futbolístico. Gracias por todo lo que nos has enseñado. Descanse en paz”, expresó el presidente del Barsa, Josep María Bartomeu.

Como asistente, Vilanova ayudó a Guardiola a conducir el Barcelona más exitoso de la historia, un período entre 2008-12 en el que el club catalán conquistó 14 trofeos, incluyendo dos Ligas de Campeones, y en el que Lionel Messi se convirtió en el mejor futbolista del planeta.

A pesar de ganar el campeonato de liga y empatar el récord de puntos en su única temporada a cargo, el Barsa de Vilanova fue eliminado por Bayern Munich en las semifinales de la Champions con un marcador global de 7-0.

Vilanova también será recordado por un encontronazo con el entonces timonel del Madrid, José Mourinho, durante la Supercopa de España de 2010 que ganó el Barcelona, en el que el entrenador portugués le metió un dedo en el ojo.

Mourinho se sumó a una larga lista de técnicos, jugadores y dirigentes que expresaron sus condolencias por el fallecimiento.

“El deceso de Tito Vilanova es un día triste para el fútbol, para el Barcelona, y lo más importante, para su familia y amigos”, expresó el ahora timonel de Chelsea.

“Hoy es un día de enorme tristeza para todos los aficionados al fútbol y de reconocimiento a su trayectoria personal y profesional”, indicó el presidente del Real Madrid, Florentino Pérez.

“Tito, gracias por todo lo que diste al fútbol y al Barsa. Todos los culés te estaremos agradecidos eternamente”, escribió en su cuenta de Facebook el mediocampista Cesc Fàbregas, uno de los jugadores del Barcelona que Vilanova entrenó en La Masía.

“Personalmente, te conocí hace 14 años y puedo decir que personas como tú hay muy pocas. Gracias por haber confiado siempre en mí, por ayudarme a mejorar y a superar obstáculos, profesionales y personales”, agregó.

Vilanova se formó como futbolista en la academia del Barcelona, La Masía, a la que ingresó en 1984 procedente del Fígueres, y donde vivió hasta 1989. En la famosa cantera del Barsa conoció y se hizo amigo de Guardiola, Jordi Roura y Aureli Altimira, con quienes después compartió el banquillo del primer equipo.

El centrocampista nunca llegó a jugar un partido oficial con el primer equipo del Barcelona, y en cambio realizó su carrera con el Fígueres, Celta de Vigo, Badajoz, Mallorca, Lleida, Elche y Girona, donde se retiró como futbolista después por una lesión de rodilla.

Luego, entrenó la categoría cadetes del Barcelona, donde tuvo a su mando a jugadores como Gerard Piqué, Fàbregas y Messi, ahora estrellas con el primer equipo. Después fue director deportivo en el Terrassa de la tercera división, hasta que regresó al Barsa para hacerse cargo de su filial “Barsa B”.

“Como entrenador, Vilanova destacó por ser un técnico analítico, cerebral, observador y de gestos contenidos. Un genio de la estrategia, consideran los técnicos que trabajaron a su lado. Su puesta en escena en la banda se ajustaba perfectamente a su personalidad”, destacó el Barcelona.

A Vilanova le sobreviven su esposa, Montse, y dos hijos. Su hijo Adrián está en la academia del club azulgrana.

Clemency for nonviolent inmates jailed for 10-plus years

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, April 23, 2014 (AP): The Obama administration is encouraging many nonviolent federal prisoners to apply for early release—and expecting thousands to take up the offer. It’s an effort to deal with high costs and overcrowding in prisons, and also a matter of fairness, the government says.

On Wednesday, the Justice Department (DOJ) unveiled a revamped clemency process directed at low-level felons imprisoned for at least 10 years who have clean records while in custody. The effort is part of a broader administration push to scale back the use of harsh penalties in some drug prosecutions and to address sentencing disparities arising from the 1980s crack cocaine epidemic that yielded disproportionately tough punishment for black drug offenders.

“These older, stringent punishments that are out of line with sentences imposed under today’s laws erode people’s confidence in our criminal justice system,” Deputy Attorney General James Cole said, laying out new criteria that will be used to evaluate clemency petitions for possible recommendation for the president’s approval.

Though the criteria apply solely to federal inmates, states, too are grappling with severe prison overcrowding. In Nebraska, for example, prisons were at 155 percent of capacity at the end of March. And in California, courts have ordered the state to reduce the inmate population to 137.5 percent of designed capacity, or 112,164 inmates in the 34 facilities, by February 2016.

The White House, sometimes criticized as too stingy with its clemency power, says it’s seeking more candidates for leniency in an overcrowded federal prison system whose costs comprise a sizable percentage of DOJ’s budget—it costs over \$25,000 per inmate per year.

The system’s population has skyrocketed in recent decades, creating rising multibillion-dollar expenses that officials say threaten other law enforcement priorities and that an inspector general’s report last year characterized as a “growing crisis.” The United States incarcerates about a quarter of the world’s prisoners. Of the roughly 216,000 inmates in federal custody, nearly half are imprisoned for drug-related crimes.

The DOJ says now’s the time to consider releasing more prisoners early. “These defendants were properly held accountable for their criminal conduct. However, some of them, simply because of the operation of sentencing laws on the books at the time, received substantial sentences that are disproportionate to what they would receive today,” Cole said.

Officials say they don’t know how many of the tens of thousands of drug-related convicts would be eligible for early release, but an ideal candidate would meet six criteria—including no history of violence, no ties to criminal organizations or gangs, and a clean prison record. He must also have already served 10 years or more of his sentence and be likely to have received a substantially shorter offense if convicted of the same offense today.

The Bureau of Prisons (BOP) will notify all inmates of the criteria next week and provide electronic surveys to those who think they deserve clemency.

The DOJ expects the vast majority of applicants to be drug prisoners but didn’t foreclose the possibility that inmates convicted of other crimes—financial fraud, for example—could be considered.

“It’s really a coming together of decades of excessive sentencing, particularly in drug cases, combined with attention to the underused power of commutation,” said Marc Mauer, executive director of the Sentencing Project, an organization that works on sentencing policies.

The announcement is a “fantastic step in the right direction,” said Julie Stewart, president of Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM). And Douglas Berman, a sentencing law expert at Ohio State University, said it represented a “very meaningful change in both tone and attitude” from the days when clemency was seen as a power that carried “all political risk, no political reward.”

The action is the latest change sought in a federal sentencing system that Attorney General Eric Holder says often results in unduly harsh outcomes. Earlier this year, he endorsed a proposal that would result in shorter prison sentences for nonviolent drug traffickers and, in August, directed federal prosecutors not to charge low-level, nonviolent drug offenders with crimes that entail mandatory minimum sentences.

The Obama administration has also said it is working to correct the legacy of an old sentencing structure that subjected offenders to long prison terms for crack cocaine convictions while giving far more lenient sentences to those caught with the powder form of the drug. Many of the crack convicts have been black, while those convicted of powder offenses have been more likely to be white.

The Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 reduced that disparity and eliminated a five-year mandatory minimum for first-time possession of crack, but the law did not cover offenders sentenced before the law was approved—that is, it was not made retroactive. Officials are now turning their attention to identifying inmates who received sentences under the old guidelines.

In December President Barack Obama, who granted only one commutation in his first term, cut short the sentences of eight prisoners—including six serving life sentences—who he said had been locked up too long for drug crimes.

The administration says it’s impossible to know exactly how many new applicants will be eligible. Mauer, of the Sentencing Project, said he didn’t expect a huge number of inmates to qualify for clemency given the narrowness of the criteria, but he said the effort was significant nonetheless.

The announcement could shift attention to Congress, where legislation is pending that would cut the length of many nonviolent drug sentences and give judges more discretion by expanding a safety-valve provision already on the books that allows a limited number of nonviolent drug offenders to avoid mandatory sentences.

“It seems the Justice Department is doing what it can to help stem the tide of people going to prison in record numbers for absurd lengths of time,” said Stewart, of FAMM. “It really is up to Congress to take the next step and change the number of mandatory sentencing laws.”

Mother’s Day dance with Ramón Ayala

(Continued from Page 5)

for programs that meet the unique needs of its congregation, many of whom are Spanish-speaking families in need of immigration related services.

“You could call us the only Hispanic Catholic parish in Toledo. Our Mass is done in Spanish and normally numbers more than 400,” said Mary Torres, church administrative assistant. “We do CCD catechism classes twice each month for the children and we have 167 students. We help with immigration documents and stuff like that.”

According to Ms. Torres, the popularity of Ayala and his band is proving to be quite a regional draw for the parish fundraiser.

“I’m getting from Adrian. I’m hearing from Detroit,” said Ms. Torres. “I’m getting people from Fremont. I know people from Archbold have called. So we’re getting different regions. He’s well-known and he brings them in. It helps everybody know that we’re here and we’ve been here a long time. It gets the word out that we’re still here

and we’re still supporting the Hispanic community.”

This is not the first time the parish has brought in a headliner for a fundraiser concert and dance. The last big-name act to appear was Tejano singer/accordionist Michael Salgado, who will make an appearance in Toledo on May 2nd at the East Side Cantina and in Mt. Pleasant on May 3rd at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort (with Sigmo and Lansing native Ricky Valenz).

Parishioners and local restaurants have pledged traditional Mexican food and beverages donations, which will be available for purchase at the event to help raise extra money.

“Hopefully, everyone can come and support this cause. We’re in dire need of funds,” said Ms. Torres.

VIP tables of 8 near the stage, priced at \$300, have already sold out. The parish printed 1,500 and already have sold more than 800 seats. Presale tickets are \$30 apiece and can be reserved by calling Ms. Torres at 419.241.5822. Tickets sold at the door are priced at \$35 each.

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LCCC adopts MyUniversity Plan; Second Phase of Our Promise Initiative

April 25, 2014: The Lorain County Community College Board of Trustees today launched a new initiative titled *MyUniversity*: a guarantee that embeds the ability for students to earn college credit and college degrees right at area high schools.

The *MyUniversity* plan is the second phase of Lorain County Community College's "Our Promise" initiative, which began with a tuition guarantee announced in March, 2014. "This community has demonstrated its support of Lorain County Community College and the University Partnership program for 50 years and most recently with the passing of Issue 2 because they know quality higher education is critical for our future," said LCCC President Dr. Roy Church. "MyUniversity is one significant way we are delivering on our promise to deepen the impact of the University Partnership program."

MyUniversity will significantly increase the number of high school students in Lorain County and the surrounding area who can successfully earn free college credit while still in and at their high school.

MyUniversity will enable high school students to even go as far as earning an associate degree simultaneously with their high school diploma. Students can then continue on to earn a bachelor's degree by as early as age 20 in high demand careers through LCCC's University Partnership program.

In doing so, students can save over 80 percent of the

cost of a bachelor's degree through *MyUniversity*, essentially saving families tens of thousands of dollars in college debt.

"This program removes the traditional boundaries to college access and has the potential to significantly increase the number of Lorain County students with a degree that will help them compete in the global economy," said LCCC President Dr. Roy Church.

This combined high school and college experience creates the roadmap for student success in college and beyond. It builds pathways to bachelor's degrees in these areas: *Business Administration, Computer Science and Engineering, Psychology, Education, Biology, Accounting, and IT-Computer Information Systems.*

MyUniversity will also connect students to these and other careers earlier using LCCC's *MyPlan* and the professionals in Career Services, "Who will help align academics and career goals through their resources, expertise and tools," Church added.

Lorain City Schools with its Titan College along with the Avon Lake and Midview school districts are the first districts in Lorain County that have chosen to participate in the *MyUniversity* program.

MyUniversity is based on the success of programs like Titan College and the Early College High School. Titan College provides students in the Lorain City Schools with college classes that are taught on the Lorain High School campus. Students may enter Titan College at any grade level. Early College High School allows students start-



ing in the ninth grade to participate in a combined high school and college experience on the LCCC campus. It is for first-generation college students from across Lorain County.

"The *MyUniversity* program gives students the chance to earn as little as one semester of college credit all the way up to a full associate degree while working toward their high school diploma. That can build momentum for them to achieve a bachelor's degree," said Avon Lake Superintendent Robert Scott.

"This program can help eliminate two years of college expense and save students up to 80 percent on the cost of a college education," said Midview Schools Superintendent Scott Goggin, "while providing a robust high school and college experience."

"With the average cost of student debt in Ohio reaching \$30,000 for a university degree, this can help eliminate that debt," Church said. "And LCCC has many scholarship opportunities that can further reduce the cost of your education."

In March, LCCC's Board of Trustees adopted the *Tuition Guarantee* that locks tuition and fee rates at the current level for students registering in fall of 2014 and spring of 2015 for up to three years or until the completion of their degree, whichever comes first.

For more information, visit www.lorainccc.edu/ourpromise.

LCCC to replace outdated lightening

April 21, 2014: State Reps. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) and Matt Lundy (D-Elyria) have announced the release of \$622,419 in state funding for updates to infrastructure at Lorain County Community College. The 2014 *Campus Lighting Upgrades* project will replace outdated lighting fixtures and install sensors to cut electrical costs and reduce energy use on campus. Officials estimate that the lighting improvements will save the school \$160,000 annually.

"Any time a public institution like Lorain County

Community College works to cut costs, we like to recognize their effort to save money for Ohio taxpayers," said Rep. Lundy. "This project, along with saving money for the school and the public, also improves the learning environment for both students and teachers."

By adding light sensors and replacing traditional bulbs with LED's, the school aims to significantly reduce energy usage. The administration believes updates to the Spitzer Conference Center will decrease energy use



age in the building by at least 50 percent. The project was competitively bid and awarded to South Shore Electric, Inc. of Elyria.

"I'm glad to see LCCC take the lead on implementing sustainability measures. It sends the right message to students, faculty and the community at large that energy concerns need to be taken seriously. This is a small, but important step in promoting a smart energy policies for Lorain County," said Rep. Ramos.

"Faith Meets Faith: A Christian-Buddhist Encounter" at LCCC

Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative will host "Faith Meets Faith: A Christian-Buddhist Encounter" at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 30, 2014 in Stocker Arts Center's Cinema Hall.

The interfaith dialogue is part of the Comparative Religion Seminar Series. The event is free and open to the public.

Ven. Shih Ying-Fa, abbot of CloudWater Zendo,

and Fr. Nicholas R. A. Rachford, pastor of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, will discuss the Buddhist and Christian meaning of compassion in contemporary society. The discussion will be moderated by Young Ko, director of Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative and a professor at Lorain County Community College.



The Comparative Religion Seminar Series is sponsored by Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative, the Honors Institute at LCCC, and the LCCC Arts and Humanities division.

For more information, contact the Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiatives office at (440) 366-7110 or email sli@lorainccc.edu.

CPL: Memoir shares family journey to help gay son accept his sexuality

On what began as an ordinary day, *New York Times* national correspondent and author John Schwartz received a phone call with news no parent should ever receive. After finally mustering the courage to come out to his classmates in an emotional episode, Schwartz's 13-year-old son was met only with dismay and confusion by his fellow students. Soon after, the distraught boy attempted suicide.

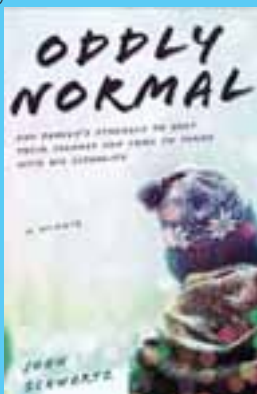
Schwartz went on to write about his family's experience in his memoir *Oddly Normal: One Family's Struggle to Help Their Teenage Son Come to Terms With His Sexuality*. On Saturday, May 10, 2014, at 2:00 p.m., Schwartz will visit Cleveland Public Library (CPL) and share his story in the Louis Stokes Wing Auditorium on East 6th Street and Superior Avenue.

"Authors of memoirs bring such a unique perspective to the Writers & Readers audience," said Felton Tho-

mas, Director of CPL. "While a memoir is intimate and personal, the experiences shared are universal and relatable. The struggles that Mr. Schwartz shares in his book are ones that many of our patrons can relate to or are currently experiencing."

In the memoir, Schwartz describes his family's journey toward a happier life for their son and provides a series of crucial and meaningful lessons in helping LGBT children and teens, or any kid who is "different," learn how to navigate, cope, and find joy in a sometimes hostile world.

In his fulltime position with the *Times*, Schwartz focuses on infrastructure, or "rails, bridges, levees, ports, sewers and all of the other really important stuff that most people take for granted



or prefer to ignore," as he puts it. He also contributes to *The Times Book Review*, *Science Times*, the arts and culture sections, and writes a humor column for the business section.

This event is free and open to the public. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Books will be available for purchase from A Cultural Exchange. For more info, visit cpl.org.



Agenda for The

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5:35 PM	PRESENTATION OF THE FLAGS & NATIONAL ANTHEMS PERFORMED: LORAIN HIGH SCHOOL, PREL. ART. ONE/DM
5:45 PM	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS JOHN ARREDONDO, PRES. & JUAN FLORES
5:55 PM	PEARLAS DE CARIBE STREET DANCE TROUPE (HERRERA CLEVELAND, OHIO)
6:15 PM	CINCO DE MAYO LITTLE GREEN CORONATION MARIE USABO, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (HERRERA CLEVELAND, OHIO) INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES (HERRERA CLEVELAND, OHIO)
6:45 PM	ALMA DE MEXICO & PROCLAMATIONS DIRECTOR: VANESSA VILLA
7:30 PM	DR. JOSE "PEPE" RIVERA FROM WOLW AM RADIO

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Alameda Theater, famed Latino showplace, getting facelift

By STEVE BENNETT, San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO, April 24, 2014 (AP): To someone walking up West Houston Street, the art deco Alameda Theater—with its soaring, 86-foot marquee—looks pretty much as show business entrepreneur Gaetano “Tano” Lucchese envisioned it when the theater opened in 1949 as the largest Spanish-language movie and vaudeville palace in the country.

But that’s just the façade, which was restored in 2000, a positive step on a long, often rocky road to reopen the historic theater. Inside, the heart of what was once “little Mexico” shows the signs of more than two decades of neglect. It’s dark and dusty, crammed full of old furniture. That could change as quickly as next year if Ernest Bromley’s vision for the Alameda becomes reality.

An important step in the restoration process has just been taken: the completion of backstage improvements this month.

“This is a sacred place,” said Bromley, the San Antonio advertising executive who is chairman of Alameda Theater Inc., a nonprofit organization that is the master leaseholder on the Alameda, city property since 1994. “All the great artists of the Mexican golden age—Pedro Infante, María Félix, Vicente Fernández—performed here. Cantinflas performed here 11 times. This was little Mexico—shopping, dining, theater row.

“Right here you had KCOR

radio, the first Mexican American Chamber of Commerce in the country and the Mexican Consulate. Gus García, the civil rights litigator, had his offices here. The building was built with Mexican steel. It was a hotbed for the Spanish-speaking world. Tano was not a political activist, but what he did with his money was activism.”

The initial phase of transforming the dormant theater into a modern performing arts space reached completion this month, the San Antonio Express-News (<http://bit.ly/1iaGYRW>) reported.

Behind the scenes, workers busted out the back wall to double the size of the stage and install a modern stagehouse with the infrastructure to host everything from touring Broadway productions to standup comics.

“Our intent is to restore this theater pretty much the way it was—but to modernize it and make it flexible enough for television, theater, dance, concerts, opera and comedy,” said San Antonio architect Kellis Almond, who specializes in the restoration of old theaters and has worked for years on the Alameda.

Designed by architect N. Straus Nayfach, who was best known for his homes in the Monticello Park Historic District, the Alameda “has been called one of the finest examples of Mexican-American architecture in the United States,” Almond said.

Funded with \$6 million in

Bexar County venue tax bonds and \$1.1 million in city funding, the \$7.1 million first phase of a planned \$25 million renovation includes dressing rooms, offices, an orchestra pit and a loading dock capable of accommodating a 53-foot tractor/trailer full of sets, props and equipment.

“I’d love to see productions like the Tony Award-winning musical ‘In the Heights’ in there or groups like Ballet Hispanico out of New York,” Bromley said. “I’d like to see comedy in there, particularly Latino comics. I’d like to screen movies as well, classic Mexican movies that may have premiered at the Alameda back in the day. I’d like to host an international film festival. And I’d like to see us rent to local groups; I’ve talked to JumpStart Performance Co. and Arts San Antonio.”

“I don’t see us producing content initially because that’s too expensive,” he added. “But I do see the Alameda growing our creative economy in terms of utilizing local talent. And with the school there, it will create careers for young people.”

Last year, the Henry Ford Academy: Alameda School for Art + Design moved into the theater complex, occupying two floors of the iconic Casade México International Building, which houses the theater. The tuition-free charter school signed a 10-year lease.

“The Alameda has such a tradition, particularly relative

to the Hispanic community and to that part of the city,” said Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, who was mayor when the city purchased the theater in 1994. “Trying to get the doors back open has been a long, complicated process over 20 years. (The county has) done our part with the backstage area, and the school is in there.

So it’s being used. But it’s got a ways to go. The issue now is to raise additional funds.”

Bromley hopes to take advantage of public TIRZ, or Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone, funding that could generate \$10 million. But he has to raise matching funds for future renovations.

Phase II (\$7 million) includes mechanical and electrical for a fully functioning stagehouse and a finished intermission lobby space with a new concession stand. Phase III (\$7 million) includes the completion of the restoration of the theater’s famous murals, heating and air-conditioning, concession areas and toilets, carpet, lighting and technical platforms, and new seating.

“We’re going to use wider seating with more legroom, so capacity will actually go down from 2,500 to 2,000,” Bromley said.

Completion of theatrical stage lighting and a digital sound system is at the heart of



the final phase (\$4 million), which also will see the restoration of the lobby and mezzanine.

But Bromley said he’s raised only about \$50,000, mostly from poster sales of artist Jesse Trevino’s iconic painting of the Alameda. He’s also set up a seat sponsorship plan but is awaiting a decision on downtown TIRZ funding.

“It’s a slow, ‘Bromley said of fundraising. “What I need are major gifts from individuals and foundations, but a lot of people I’m talking to want to be a part of this match.”

Lori Houston, Center City Development & Operations director, said the city will make a decision on TIRZ funding soon.

“The city is supportive of the project,” she wrote in an email, “and is working with the county on a potential funding plan. The city will present an item to the Houston Street TIRZ in the next two months.”

Bromley remains optimis-

tic. He’ll continue “pushing” to open the theater in 2015 with a variety show “that is a smorgasbord of what this theater is capable of doing.” A member of the Public Broadcasting System board, he plans to approach public television for opening night funding and a possible live broadcast.

In the long history of the Alameda Theater’s restoration, which includes a break with one-time sister entity the Museo Alameda in Market Square, more than one opening date has been projected only to pass with the doors still closed.

Is it the Alameda’s time, finally? Securing the backstage is a positive step, Almond said.

Bromley’s passion for the Alameda restoration is palpable. His first visit there at age 11 “left an indelible impression,” he said.

“This place is very special to me and my family,” he added.

Today, his first stop with visitors—and potential funding sources—is the ladies room, an opulent example of modern design where women used to be segregated to the balcony in other theaters could comb their hair, touch up their makeup and sneak a smoke.

“The Alameda,” Bromley said, “is uniquely San Antonio. It tells our Mexican-American story. It personifies who we are.”

Information from: San Antonio Express-News, <http://www.mysanantonio.com>

The Sofia Quintana Art and Cultural Center presents

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“El Cinco de Mayo de 1862: The day Mexico was born and its Celebration through Centennial Art”

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of May 5th, the Faculty of Talavera Uriarte in collaboration with the Universidad de las Américas Puebla, invited 16 artists to create unique pieces of art in Talavera, a type of majestic earthquakes. These three exhibits commemorate Cinco de Mayo and its significance in Puebla and how it is celebrated in the United States. Twelve Centennial Art pieces will be on display at each of the three Talavera venues.

April 12 – May 24, 2014
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McMaster Center / 3 - 6 p.m.
3 - 4 p.m.
4:15 - 4:30 p.m.
4:30 - 5 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
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Waite High School Cinco de Mayo Program Friday, May 2, 2014

1:06-1:11pm	Entrance-seating
1:11-1:14pm	Welcome (Isaiah Zapata)
1:14-1:19pm	History of Cinco de Mayo (Yadira Gutierrez & Alina Diaz)
1:19-1:25pm	"No Me Queda Más"-Brenda Velasquez, *Introduction by Angelica Gonzalez
1:25-1:37pm	Special Presentation *Introduction by Bianca Hernandez assisted by advisors
1:37-1:42pm	Dance Performance *Introduction by Ayllina Estrada
1:42-1:52pm	SLB Stroll Performance *Introduction by Saul Monjaraz
1:52-2:07pm	Candidates and Coronation (Madeline Jackson & Elijah Vasquez) *Assisted by Anita Gordillo, Elijah Vasquez, & advisors

Marc Anthony ganador de Premios Billboard en Miami

Por GISELA SALOMON, Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, 24 de abril de 2014 (AP): Marc Anthony conquistó el jueves tres Premios Billboard a la Música Latina, entre ellos los de top latin álbum y top latin álbum, artista del año masculino, en una ceremonia cargada de espectáculos de destacadas figuras de la industria que incluyó a Enrique Iglesias, Juanes y Wisin.

"Han sido dos años increíbles, mi equipo de trabajo ... a mis niños, pero también se lo quiero dedicar a un maestro que me enseñó cómo vivir, el grande, Cheo Feliciano", manifestó el astro neoyorquino de origen puertorriqueño, que en el 2013 lanzó su álbum "3.0". Prince Royce, por su parte, obtuvo dos galardones, entre ellos a mejor artista solista pop; el trío italiano *Il Volo* se consagró en el rubro latin pop album artista del año pop, dúo o grupo; y *La Arrolladora Banda El Limón de René Camacho* conquistó los premios a la canción regional mexicana del año con el "Ruido de tus zapatos" y "regional mexican songs" artista del año dúo o grupo.

"Gracias a Dios, a mi público, a esa persona especial

que está en mi casa ... a mis fans", expresó Prince Royce al recibir sus galardones, que también incluyeron mejor canción del año streaming por "Darte un beso".

El espectáculo comenzó con una actuación de Wisin con Sean Paul cantando "Danger Baby" en una tarima donde el humo blanco se entremezclaba con luces rojas y llamaradas de fuego mientras un grupo de chicas con mayas blancas al cuerpo que dejaban ver sus piernas movían sus siluetas.

De inmediato el escenario se tornó azul y Juanes apareció en medio de luces laser verdes y blancas para cantar "Mil pedazos" acompañado de una banda de músicos. Le siguió la Banda el Recodo de Cruz Lizárraga interpretando "Consecuencia de mis actos", para darle un toque mexicano al espectáculo.

En una presentación conjunta, Enrique Iglesias, Descemer Bueno y Gente de Zona estrenaron el tema "Bailando".

Antes de que comenzara la gala en el BankUnited Center de la Universidad de Miami, los venezolanos Chino y Nacho recibieron en la alfombra roja el premio al dúo o grupo tropical del año.

Los galardones representan la culminación de los festejos por los 25 años de la Conferencia Billboard que reunió a artistas, productores y empresarios de la industria entre lunes y miércoles.

Los Premios Billboard de la Música Latina reconocen a los discos, canciones e intérpretes más populares de los géneros latinos, según los resultados de las ventas, transmisiones radiales, por internet y redes sociales, de acuerdo con el registro anual de las listas semanales de Billboard.

La gala, conducida por la actriz y cantante puertorriqueña Roselyn Sánchez, el presentador venezolano Raúl González y la artista y conductora mexicana Laura Flores, es transmitida en vivo por la cadena Telemundo desde el estadio ubicado en esta elegante ciudad del sur de la Florida.

De Vita, quien ha vendido cerca de 25 millones de discos y ha compuesto éxitos para artistas como Chayanne y Ricky Martin, recibirá el premio Billboard al Salón de la Fama mientras que Vives será galardonado con el premio Espíritu de la Esperanza. Andrea Bocelli, en tanto, recibió el Billboard a la Trayectoria Artística por sus contribuciones e influencia en la música latina.

A lo largo de su carrera de más dos décadas, el tenor italiano ha grabado 14 discos como solista, tres álbumes de grandes éxitos y nueve óperas completas. Ha vendido más de 80 millones de discos en todo el mundo, convirtiéndose en uno de los cantantes de música clásica más exitosos de la historia.

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The primary responsibility of the Outreach Workers is going to agricultural labor camps in Ohio, usually in the early evening, and informing workers about our services and workers' rights. Additional duties include community legal education, investigation and research, and other work assigned by ABLE attorneys. This is a full-time, temporary position from May 27, 2014 through mid-August 2014, located in ABLE's Toledo office. Pay is \$15 per hour, 40 hours per week. July 4 is a paid holiday. ABLE leases vehicles for outreach activities, but you must have a valid driver's license and auto insurance.

Send letter outlining your interest in and qualifications for the position, resume, and three references (name, email, and phone numbers) electronically preferred in Microsoft Word format as soon as possible to:

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Hiring will be done on a rolling basis so please apply immediately if interested. Applications will only be accepted by e-mail.

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

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for bidding on **Workhouse Demolition, Remediation and Grading Project, Metroparks Blue Creek Conservation Area, Whitehouse, Ohio** will be received; opened; and read aloud at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537 **Friday, May 9, at 4:00 p.m.** Local Time.

THE SCOPE OF WORK consists of complete demolition of a three-story masonry building & basement with a footprint of 11,815 square feet, removal of asbestos containing materials, site security, surface water controls, clearing & grubbing, select material crushing, crushed material & soil backfill, removal & recycling, grading. Bidders may obtain copies of plans, specifications, contract documents and plan-holder's list through Newfax Corporation, 333 West Woodruff, Toledo, Ohio 43604 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (check made payable to Newfax Corporation) or via the Newfax Digital Plan Room at www.newfaxcorp.com. Newfax can be contacted at 419-241-5157 or 800-877-5157. A non-refundable fee of \$15 is required for each set of documents obtained. For additional information, please contact Jon Zvanovec @ 419-360-9184, jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoleado.com.

EACH BIDDER MUST FURNISH either (1) a bond for the full amount of the bid or (2) a certified check, cashier's check or irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid with its bid. The successful bidder must furnish a 100 percent (100%) Performance Bond and a 100 percent (100%) Labor and Materials Bond.

No bidder may withdraw its bid within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

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The Attorney must have excellent interpersonal skills and be experienced in working in collaborative and group environments. Applicant must have leadership capacity and experience. Membership in Ohio Bar or ability to be admitted by motion or temporary certification is required. Excellent legal and communication skills; experience with case management software and Microsoft Office (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.); familiarity with database and GIS mapping software preferred. Ability to relate well with low income clients and commitment to legal services to the poor required. Minimum of two years legal experience required. Previous experience in areas of housing law, government benefits (SSI, Medicaid, etc.), special education or poverty law in general is highly preferred. Ability to communicate fluently in Spanish is helpful. Salary depends on experience. Excellent fringe benefits. Send resume as soon as possible, electronically preferred in Microsoft Word format, to:

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Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Human Resources/DP
1154 Larc Lane
Toledo, OH 43614
If in need of ADA accommodations, contact us directly at 419-380-4033.

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CDI HS Serving Lucas County, OH is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:

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- **Program Aides**- Minimum requirement is 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED. **Applications will be accepted until May 9, 2014.**

Applications and job descriptions information can **only** be obtained by coming to the CDI Head Start Human Resources Department located on the second floor of the Toledo Central Union Station. The address is 300 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Toledo, Ohio 43604. **CDI Head Start is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

Quality Assurance Coordinator

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department is seeking a full time Quality Assurance Coordinator. A related bachelor's degree required, masters preferred. One year experience in public health, Public Health Accreditation Board and Quality Improvement. Send résumé to: Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, Attn: Mary Frank, 635 N. Erie St., Toledo, Ohio 43604. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Grounds Maintenance Laborer Wanted
\$14.91/hour
Email résumé to
csullivan@byrddenterprises.net

National Latino Peace Officer Association, NW Ohio Fundraiser

3 Taco Lunch*

Friday, May 2nd, 2014,
11:00am to 6:00pm

At Latins United/Latinos Unidos Hall
706 St. Clair Street
(*Lunch includes 3 tacos, rice,
beans, refreshments.)

Donation \$6.

¿Preguntas? Llame Chevo 419-944-5142.

DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSOR/CLINICAL THERAPIST

Clinical Therapist/Diagnostic Assessor needed to provide group and individual therapy to adults and children as needed. Qualified candidates must have strong clinical skills including the ability to make clinical decisions, knowledge of therapeutic principles and practices, thorough knowledge of the current DSM and strong group process skills. Masters degree and Ohio license LSW or PC required. LPCC or LISW preferred. Send résumé and salary requirements to:

Human Resources – DACT
Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
1425 Starr Ave.
Toledo, OH 43605
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
Fax: 419-936-7574

Equal Opportunity Employer

Happy Annv.
Lori & Kyle
Riffle
April 30th

Happy Annv.
Gloria &
Mick Pearce
May 1st

Happy Annv.
Trina &
Dorian Myers
May 3rd

Happy
Birthday
Corina Jaso
May 5

Happy
Birthday
DeAna Parraz
May 6

NURTURES Sci-FUN EVENT

Saturday, May 3, 2014

9:30 AM-1:00 PM
in Nature's Neighborhood
at the Toledo Zoo
2 Hippo Way
Toledo, OH 43614



Online Registration

for the first 500 people at
www.nurtures.utoledo.edu

Fun for the
Whole Family

Science Activities
for PreK-3!

Free Admission
and Parking

Win Prizes!

Minors must be accompanied by an adult. For
more information, call 419-530-1630

The event is limited to the first 500 registrants.
FREE parking in the Anthony Wayne Trail lot only.

EXPLORE!

DISCUSS!

THINK!



Toledo Refining Company has an immediate need for a Maintenance Contract Administrator. The selected applicant will coordinate, audit and manage the activities of the assigned site contractors as well as any assigned projects at the refinery. The selected candidate will be responsible for developing work scopes and executing work based on need for the assigned area with a primary focus on safety, environmental compliance, improved plant reliability and cost control. Candidate will issue SPO's for ongoing contracts and bid packages as well as analyze bids. Other duties include but are not limited to: working closely with Materials Management to administer contracts, supervising contractors in assigned area and validating timesheets as well as work performed.

Candidates must have at least 5 years of Maintenance experience including Maintenance craft knowledge and building trades' jurisdiction. A minimum of 2 years' supervisory experience is also required. Experience in estimating and materials management is preferred. Interested candidates must be willing to respond 24/7 to unscheduled call-ins as well as holiday and/or weekend work as needed.

All interested candidates may apply by going to www.pbfenergy.com and selecting the Career tab. Once on the career page, candidates can view current job opportunities and apply to desired position.

EOE/M/F/D/V

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The Toledo Fire & Rescue Department is recruiting for the position of
FIREFIGHTER.

No Experience Necessary – All Training Provided

For More Information Visit:

www.toledofirerescue.com/contact/firefighter-exam-notification

Call: 419-486-0227



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

- Air Quality Technician 1
- Assistant Director Career Development Center
- Clinical Oncology Pharmacist Supervisor
- Contingent Pharmacist
- Custodial Worker
- Family Therapist
- Groundskeeper 2
- Painter Journeyman
- Recruitment Office 2- multiple positions
- Staff Nurse
- Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
- Faculty Positions in Art, College of Nursing, Communication, Disability Studies, IOTM, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Medicine, Neurosciences, Pharmacology, Pharmacy Practice, Psychology, Rehabilitation Sciences, Rehabilitation Services, Social Work

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 UTM are EO/AA employers and educators M/F/D/V

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Full-time work, with overtime possible.
\$10 to \$12/hour starting pay. Please
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Efficiency to 6 Bedroom Units

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Applications processed on-line at www.lmha.org

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For a free full months rent, simply present this ad when you are contacted for an interview. Offer expires July 30, 2014



Happy Birthday
Batman
May 1

Happy Birthday
Robert
Castilleja
May 4th

Happy Birthday
Richard
Herman
May 1

Happy Birthday
Andrew
Pecina
May 2

Happy
Birthday
Leo Otero

Happy Birthday
Gilbert
Chaz Yanez
May 3

Happy Birthday
Luisa Pecina
Anaya
May 4

Happy Birthday
Robert
Rosales
May 4

HUGE CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
(Elizabeth and East Wayne Streets, Maumee)
Tues. May 6 9am - 7pm
& Wed. May 7 9am - 1pm

On Wednesday items 1/2 price or \$5 a bag and
\$10 a bag in the boutique
3 floors and 2 large tents hold depts. such as
housewares, men's, women's, & kid's clothes,
jewelry, sorting goods, toys, arts & crafts,
furniture, electronics, linens and more!

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216-832-1437



Happy 65th
Birthday
Roberto
(BOB)
Guerrero
May 3

Happy Birthday
Yvonne
Ramos-Ybarra
May 3

Happy Birthday
Gloria
Pacheco-Rios
May 5



St. James Wood
Garage Sale
(McCord & Bancroft)
Friday,
May 16th &
Saturday
May 17th
9:00-5:00

Maps of participating homes will be
available at all entrances

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Dearborn Sales Office
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Fax: 734.426.9448
1000 E. Michigan Rd.
Tulsa, MI 48110

Happy 36th
Birthday
Sharon
Moreno-Lozano
April 28
Love your family

Happy 6th
Birthday Alonzo
Brito
April 21
Love your family

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Now Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 Bedroom
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CH 49
Backyard Cabaret
Fri, 8:00 pm
Sat, 6:00 pm



CHIP hosts sold-out Hispanic Leadership Conference and Gala

See article by
Kevin Milliken on
Page 1.

*Thank you
Mike & Dina Ferrer!*



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Enroll full time at Tri-C and
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writers & readers series
at Cleveland Public Library

John Schwartz
Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.
Louis Stokes Wing Auditorium

John Schwartz is a national
correspondent for the New York
Times. His book,
Oddly Normal,
describes his
family's journey toward a happier life
for their gay son and provides a series
of crucial lessons in helping gay kids,
or any kid who is "different", cope with
a sometimes hostile world.

For information on future authors go to cpl.org/writersandreaders
These events are free and open to the public.
Books are available from A Cultural Exchange at a文化exchange.org

Main Library
Louis Stokes Wing Auditorium
East Sixth & Superior Avenue
216-623-2921

NEW Bacon Clubhouse
 Quarter Pound of 100% Beef
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 — crispy or grilled —

With
 NEW Sage & Warm Artisan Roll
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*Weight before cooking and 100% ground. **Photo used for illustrative purposes. © 2014 McDonald's

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 12oz Margaritas
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 After 2 Years Off, Izzy Will Be Co-Hosting The 23rd Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration On Sunday, May 4 - With Mystery Celebrations!
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 MAY 4 - 2PM-5PM

ELVIS TRIBUTE CONTEST
 Grand Prize for BEST IMPERSONATOR!
 MAY 4 - 2PM-5PM

JALAPENO EATING CONTEST AND FOLKLORE DANCERS
 MAY 4 & 5 - 5PM

FOOD MUSIC FUN
 SAT, SUN, MON - MAY 3, 4, 5
\$8 OFF
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Your Endorsed
DEMOCRATIC
Candidates

Democrat
Ian B. English
for Judge

Endorsed Democrat
Jay Feldstein
for Judge

IAN B. ENGLISH **VOTE IN THE MAY 6th PRIMARY** **JAY FELDSTEIN**

For Lucas County Common Pleas General Division
Justice for Victims and Families

For Lucas County Domestic Relations Court
Fairness - Experienced - Compassionate

Ian English & Jay Feldstein have been endorsed by the Lucas County Democratic Party. Please support them by voting in the Primary Election on May 6th, 2014.

Paid for by English for Judge, Lila Shousher, Treasurer. *Paid for by Feldstein for Judge Committee, Thomas Jaffee, Treasurer.*