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November/noviembre 11, 2011 Spanglish Weekly/Semanal 16 Páginas Vol. 50, No. 10

**DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS HONORS FAMILIA, P. 2**

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Josh Flores and students serving la comida at El Día de los Muertos dinner hosted by the Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center. See article on page 2.

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November/noviembre 11, 2011 Spanglish Weekly/Semana 16 Páginas Vol. 50, No. 10

EL CENTRO CELEBRATES DEC. 14 OPENING, P. 11



Students and staff at Lincoln-West celebrate their diversity during International Studies Week Nov. 14-18, 2011.

## Lincoln-West celebrates International Studies Week

Students at Lincoln-West's International Studies Academy will celebrate their diverse student population during International Studies Week from Nov. 14 to Nov. 18, 2011.

"One of our primary goals is to be the center of international education in Cleveland," said Irene Javier, principal at International Studies Academy.

Throughout the week, students will learn about each other's cultures, cuisine and countries. Robin Hamrick-Guerrero, who teaches English as a Second Language and Multicultural Studies, organized the week's events.

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, a Cultural Food Tasting during lunch periods will give faculty, staff and students the opportunity to sample internationally inspired cuisine, all prepared by staff and students. This event will be in the cafeteria and for students and employees only.

Two of the week's scheduled events, however, are open to the public. These include: Cultural Dancing and Parade of Flags and Cultural Displays. The dance and parade of flags from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16, will be a colorful, musical display of cultural pride with

flags, music, dancing and costumes. Then on Thursday, Nov. 17, table displays around the auditorium will showcase information about various countries from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Javier said events like these help students develop global awareness. "As students investigate the world, they learn more about where people come from and how they live, and come back to reflect on their own lives with more honesty," she explained. "Students learn to recognize various perspectives, communicate and defend ideas while realizing how and why others may think differently than they do."

International Studies Academy, located on the Lincoln-West campus, serves about 350 students in grades 10 to 12. The student population is comprised of more than 40 nationalities, who speak 25 different languages.

Lincoln-West celebra la Semana de Estudios Internacionales

Los estudiantes en la Academia de Estudios Internacionales en Lincoln-West celebrarán su diversa población de estudiantes durante la Semana de Estudios Internacionales del 14 al 18 de noviembre, 2011.

"Una de nuestras metas fundamentales es ser el centro de la educación internacional en Cleveland," dijo Irene Javier, principal de la

Academia de Estudios Internacionales.

Durante esa semana, los estudiantes aprenderán sobre cada una de sus culturas, comidas y países. Robin Hamrick-Guerrero, maestra de Inglés Como Segundo Idioma y Estudios Multiculturales, organizó los eventos de la semana.

El martes, 15 de noviembre, será el día para probar los alimentos de todos los países representados durante los períodos del almuerzo. Empleados y estudiantes tendrán la oportunidad de probar comidas internacionalmente inspiradas y preparadas por el personal y los estudiantes de la Lincoln-West.

Dos de los acontecimientos programados durante esa semana están abiertos al público y prometen ser educativos y entretenidos. Estos son: miércoles, 16 de noviembre, de 1:00 a 2:30 de la tarde, Bailes Multiculturales, y Desfile de Banderas de diferentes países, con música y vestuario colorido típico de los diferentes países. El jueves, 17 de noviembre, de 8:00 a 2:30 de la tarde, mesas con exhibiciones colocadas alrededor del auditorio con información sobre los varios países representados en la escuela.

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## Día de los Muertos honors first Toledo families

By Kevin Milliken for La Prensa

*Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) is alive and well in Toledo, as the *Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center's* main yearly fundraiser proved to be a sell-out. The dinner/dance held at the Erie St. Market for the first time drew 325 people Saturday evening, Nov. 5, 2011.

"We had to turn people down because we were oversold," admitted Quintero Center board member *Milva Wagner*. "(A new venue) was needed. We never could have held that many people here. We were afraid we were not going to have enough food for everyone. It has just been amazing. We are just so excited and thankful for all the support that we get."

The annual event continues to grow in scope and attendance. This year's *Día de los Muertos* celebration included a dozen altars set up to honor Toledo's first Latino families at the Quintero Center, as well as a procession Sat. morning that included a special Mass at *SS Peter and Paul Church*. And a special altar set up at the Erie St. Market was moved back to the Quintero Center for public viewing.

"I think people are becoming more aware and more understanding of the significance of *Día de los Muertos*," said Ms. Wagner.

"I think we're also getting more support and numbers in attendance coming to our function," said *Joe Balderas*, Quintero's executive director.

"That's a boost for us in that people are recognizing this and recognizing what we're doing. We're the only organization [in Toledo] really keeping the Mexican culture alive for the next generation. We need to do that."

The dinner/dance was held to honor Toledo's first Latino families. A special altar was constructed in their memory at the Erie St. Market. Participants were invited to bring special mementos to add to the altar, which was blessed by *Father Juan Francisco Molina* during the event. A mariachi band—*Salvador Torres and El Mariachi Mexico 2000*—also played in tribute to lost loved ones.

Entertainment also included *El Corazón de México Ballet Folklórico*, *Baile Rico Dancers*, and *DJ Tony Rios*. *Margarita De León* was the emcee. Quintero Board President *Dr. Alberto González* welcomed those in attendance.

The Quintero Center board strongly believes in continuing to promote Mexican culture, history, and traditions locally, because as more young people assimilate into a US-American way of life, their own heritage becomes increasingly lost.

"That's an important factor if you look at every generation in the Latino community. The fourth generation now cannot speak Spanish and does not know much about their own culture other

than *Quinceañera* because that's just a big birthday party," said Balderas. "There are other things, you know."

"It is important because they are learning where they came from and it is something that is important to their families," explained Ms. Wagner. "As they see the altars and they see the items their families have brought, it may make them think of their own families and what kinds of things are important to those who have passed in their families."

In the southwestern part of the United States, *Día de los Muertos* has become "a big deal," according to Balderas. Entire festivals are built around the celebration. The Mexican tradition also has become a growing part of the arts community.

"I'm seeing two types of altars now—the traditional altar dedicated to the family, then you see the artistic altar that's created by an artist," said Balderas. "To him, it's just another form of art expression. Instead of just doing a flat, one-dimensional art drawing, now it's 3-D and live."

### Building Family Altars

*Sabina Elizondo-Serratos* and her family have put together an altar since the Quintero Center began the tradition 15 years ago. Her maternal family, the *Martínez* family, is one of the first families to settle in the Toledo area. They migrated from the Crystal City, Texas area and San



Luis Potosi, Mexico area.

Through the altar, she remembers several members of her familia: maternal grandparents Concepción (Concha) and Eusebio (Sam) Martínez; paternal grandparents Consuelo and Marcos Elizondo; cousins Gloria Ruiz and April Love Martínez; uncles Simon Martínez, Marcus Elizondo, David Cortez, André Olguin, José Ramirez and Alvaro Vallejo. She called the altar both "nostalgic and bittersweet."

"The suggestion to participate actually came from my Uncle Joe [Martínez], who is an artist, and my Aunt Barba," said Ms. Elizondo-Serratos. "They both have done a tremendous job in gathering items and memorabilia of the loved ones in our family who have passed on. I am so grateful for their commitment to keeping the memories of my grandparents, cousins, uncles and even some friends alive."

The family's altar includes photos of loved ones and some

ample, Grandmother Concepción Martínez loved to sew, so there is a small sewing kit. She also loved to cook for her entire family so there is molcajete and a tortilla warmer. "She would make fresh tortillas daily. As children, my cousins and I would rush into the kitchen grab a fresh, warm tortilla, throw butter on it and we were happy for the rest of the day," said Ms. Elizondo. "Those are the little things that we take for granted and now we realize how blessed we were to have had a grandmother like her."

Because her grandmother was also a singer and a songwriter, the family also included a few samples of her music in a binder on the altar. One of her singing dresses is hung up alongside the altar. She would wear it when she would perform. Ms. Elizondo-Serratos even stated she still can hear her singing "*Un Día la Vez*," which was one of her favorites.

Ms. Elizondo-Serratos admitted her own kids did not

participate in creating the altar this year, but noted they understand the importance of remembering loved ones, as well as "how important family is to us every day of our lives."

"At times they may think I go a little overboard with photos and videos and collecting things but they get the big picture," she said. "Whether or not they take a role in creating an altar or contributing substantially to the already established altar will be up to them, but I am pretty comfortable knowing that they do value this tradition."

People also were able to come view the altars at the Quintero Center Sunday afternoon. A dozen were set up, including ones from Antwerp and Waite high school students, Bowling Green State University students, along with several family altars. The public also will be able to see the altars on display Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12 and 13, from 2-5 p.m. Admission is \$1.

"It really is a tribute to their ancestors," said Ms. Wagner. "Two sisters even came together to build one and they had a lot of fun doing it. It is very meaningful to them."

"Now that we've been doing this for several years, they're really curious to see what a real altar looks like, rather than on the Internet or in a book," said Balderas.

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## Candidatos republicanos apoyan ley migratoria de Carolina del Sur

COLUMBIA, Carolina del Sur, 1 de nov. del 2011 (AP): Los candidatos presidenciales republicanos criticaron la demanda interpuesta por el Departamento de Justicia federal en contra de la ley migratoria de Carolina del Sur con miras al debate que sostendrán la próxima sobre asuntos de seguridad nacional.

El gobernador de Texas Rick Perry y la representante de Minnesota Michele Bachman dijeron que los funcionarios federales no están aplicando las leyes migratorias de manera adecuada y que los estados necesitan actuar.

La crítica llegará mientras los candidatos pulen sus credenciales en preparación para un debate el 12 de noviembre en Spartanburg, Carolina del Sur, que se enfocará en asuntos de seguridad

nacional.

La gobernadora republicana de Carolina del Sur Nikki Haley promulgó la ley migratoria en junio, aunque no entrará en efecto sino hasta el 1 de enero, unas tres semanas antes de que se abran las primeras votaciones primarias del partido en el sur.

De acuerdo con la nueva ley, la policía de Carolina del Sur deberá cotejar con las autoridades federales el estatus migratorio de personas detenidas por algún otro motivo.

El fiscal federal Bill Nettle dijo que la demanda interpuesta el lunes está orientada a proteger el papel constitucional del gobierno federal en cuanto a aplicar las leyes migratorias y asegurar a la gente un trato equitativo. La demanda nombra a Haley, hija de inmigrantes de India, como la parte acusada.

La Asociación Nacional

para la Defensa de los Derechos Civiles de Estados Unidos (ACLU, por sus siglas en inglés) también interpuso una demanda en contra de la ley.

Perry dijo en un comunicado que él apoya fuertemente la legislación de Carolina del Sur "a la luz de que el gobierno federal no ha mantenido seguras las fronteras ni atendido este importante tema de seguridad pública. Debido a que el gobierno federal no ha asegurado las fronteras, cada estado debe encontrar la manera de proteger a sus ciudadanos y a sus comunidades".

Bachmann dijo que el "gobierno de Obama ha fracasado miserablemente en asegurar la frontera, por lo que debería darle vergüenza tomar acciones legales contra los estados que se han visto forzados a hacer su trabajo".

## Immigration: Feds seek info on US students

By PHILLIP RAWLS, Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Alabama, Nov. 2, 2011 (AP): The U.S. Justice Department is asking school districts in Alabama to hand over enrollment information about all their students as part of its lawsuit challenging that state's tough new immigration law.

The department sent letters Monday to 39 school

superintendents asking for lists that include the students' race, national origin and whether English is their primary language. Justice department attorneys also are seeking the names of students who have withdrawn from school and the dates they left.

The Obama administration is concerned the law

may chill student participation. It wants the information to determine if further action is warranted. The letter went to districts with significant Latino populations.

The letter notes the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1982 that schools may not deny a student access based on immigration status.

## Man avoids jail by faking undocumented immigrant status

By JOSH LOFTIN, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 3, 2011 (AP): A U.S. citizen found a creative way to avoid going to prison on a drug charge: He pretended to be an undocumented immigrant so he could get deported to Mexico and evade time behind bars.

But the scheme fell apart when 27-year-old Jaime Alvarado returned to the U.S. using his passport and was arrested again by police in Utah.

The tactic exploited a system where police sometimes prefer to deport undocumented immigrant offenders instead of adding to an already overloaded prison system.

At his initial arrest, Alvarado claimed he was Saul Quiroz and had come from Mexico without documentation.

On Feb. 3, he admitted

to a state judge that he had lied about his identity because he was afraid of leaving his daughters with an imprisoned father. He requested leniency for the crime he had pleaded guilty to prior to his deportation—a second-degree felony for possession of cocaine and heroin with the intent to distribute—that carried a prison term of up to 15 years.

"I have a good job right now, a lot of little girls waiting for me and a family that will support me," Alvarado said in a letter to the judge. "It's my first offense and my last. I want to spend the rest of my life with my kids!"

But on Wednesday, Salt Lake County prosecutors charged Alvarado with an additional felony and a misdemeanor for lying about his identity in 2010 to the judge, police officers and

federal immigration officers.

An attorney has not been appointed for Alvarado, and a current phone number cannot be located for him.

Rishi Oza, an immigration attorney in Cleveland, Ohio, said Alvarado's plan is unique but "not a risk I'd ever want to take because you're creating a bigger hole for yourself."

Oza said he has never seen something like this happen.

"More often than not, the situation works the other way—a person claims to be legal to avoid detection," Oza said. "I have never seen an American citizen try to get deported."

Josh Loftin can be reached at <http://twitter.com/joshloftin>.

## SCHEDULE FOR THE MAYORES SENIOR CENTER FOR November 14<sup>th</sup>-November 18<sup>th</sup>

- November 14<sup>th</sup> Care Source on Medicaid and Medicare Changes 10:00  
Bernie Aguilar from EOPA-Senior Broker 10-12
- November 15<sup>th</sup> Arm Chair Ex 9:30  
Commodities (morning)  
Afternoon Bingo 12:30-3:00  
Phil Miller, Pharmacist 9:30  
Wal-Mart Escort 9:45  
Spanish Class 10:30
- November 16<sup>th</sup> Integrated Services on Medicare/Medicaid Advantage at 10:00  
10:00-11:30 Mobile Benefit Bank—Information and referral on applying for Food stamps, Golden Buckeye Card, Nutrition Assistance, Home Energy Assistance, and free legal advice for problems such as bankruptcy, landlord/tenant issues, Immigration Issues, etc.
- November 18<sup>th</sup> Neighborhood Health Association will conduct blood pressure and blood sugar checks from 9:00-10:30  
CSFP food box 9:30-11:00  
Jay Gerken, dietician, at 10:00 Spanish Class at 10:30

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## Mich. dairy owners face jail in immigration case

BADAXE, Nov. 4, 2011 (AP): The owners of a Michigan dairy farm who pleaded guilty to hiring undocumented immigrants are getting support from businesses that rely on the farm in their effort to avoid jail time.

John and Anja Verhaar pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges and acknowledged employing 78 undocumented immigrants from 2000 through fall 2007. Many were hired on multiple occasions using different names or Social Security numbers.

After emigrating from the Netherlands in the 1990s, the Verhaars have turned a small farm into a major 5,000-cow operation in Huron County, 110 miles north of Detroit.

"The Verhaars are law-

abiding, honest individuals who made bad judgments with respect to certain hiring decisions," attorney Matthew Leitman said in an Oct. 27 court filing.

They face up to six months in jail Tuesday, but supporters hope the Verhaars remain free. Federal prosecutors have not taken a position.

"Since the Verhaars' arrival to our area, they have become valued members of our community—both socially and economically—and I cannot even begin to stress the adverse effects likely to occur" if the farm suffers, veterinarian Ken Walker said in a letter filed in court.

Kameron Southworth of Michigan Manure Management said Aquila Farms has been a steady customer for years and is a significant

source of income. Hay suppliers Scott and Trudy Fodors said they might have to lay off their own children if the dairy farm doesn't buy hay.

"Now would not be a good time for them to have to find new employment with the economy such as it is," the Fodors said.

Leitman said the farm already has agreed to pay a \$2.7 million penalty and any time in jail would jeopardize the business.

"The Verhaars' farming operation simply cannot continue without them. That is exactly why the Verhaars have avoided leaving their farm for vacations or travel and have gone to great lengths to avoid leaving together for even short periods of time," the attorney said.

## Wayne State University's Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies program honored nationally for increasing degree completion among Latinos

September 27, 2011: U.S. Under Secretary of Education Martha J. Kanter and Jon Whitmore, CEO of ACT, joined *Excelencia* in Education at the U.S. Capitol today to honor Wayne State University's Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies (CBS) program as one of US-America's top programs for increasing bachelor's degree completion among Latinos.

CBS was selected from among 195 competitors as one of 16 national finalists for the 2011 *Excelencia* recognition, presented during the *Celebración de Excelencia*.

Examples of *Excelencia* is a national initiative to systematically identify and honor institution-based programs and departments that demonstrate with evidence that they effectively boost Latino enrollment, performance and graduation rates. It is supported by USA Funds, ACT, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, EduK, Univision Communications, Educational Testing Service, College Board and the California State University System.

WSU Professor Jorge Chinea, director of CBS, said the center's goal is to create a community of

learning and a spirit of collaboration that offers students the necessary support and tools for achievement. "Research indicates that personal investment and a sense of being connected enhances college retention rates," Chinea said. "At CBS, our students, counselors and faculty develop a partnership that is focused on the student attaining academic success."

CBS provides centralized delivery of services that are normally distributed throughout many university offices. These include recruitment, orientation, courses in Latina/o topics, academic and financial aid advising, academic advising and mentoring, an academic self-empowerment seminar, guest speakers, on-site access to faculty, tracking through graduation and occasional job placement. The center awards more than \$150,000 in scholarships annually and is networked with other student services throughout Wayne State.

In a competition generally dominated by universities in California and Texas, CBS is the first program in Michigan to be recognized by *Excelencia* in Education, and only the second program from the Midwest to be honored in

the Baccalaureate division.

All of the programs recognized during the *Celebración de Excelencia* 2011 event are listed in the latest edition of "What Works for Latino Students in Higher Education," which *Excelencia* in Education released today. The publication is available for download at: <http://www.edexcelencia.org/>.

### About Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies

With nearly 40 years of commitment to excellence in education, the Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies (CBS) is one of the oldest Latino Studies programs in the Midwest. Our mission is to transform the university, and ultimately society, by providing equitable access to a quality university education to students interested in U.S. Latino and Latin American cultural studies while enhancing diversity on campus.

About Wayne State University

Wayne State University is a premier urban research institution offering more than 400 academic programs through 13 schools and colleges to nearly 32,000 students.

## World's Premier Classical Chinese Dance & Music Production Returns to Detroit (Jan. 26-29, 2012) and Toledo (March 17 & 18)

**A GIFT FROM A DIVINE LAND:** There was a time long, long ago when China was known as *Tian Chao*—The Land of the Divine. The arts and the culture there were considered so exquisite and so vibrant that they could only have been bestowed by the heavens. And thus the people of the land strove to hold themselves to a higher standard so as to be worthy of such gifts.

Today, Shen Yun brings these gifts to you. Perhaps it is the quiet gentleness of the heavenly maidens that reminds us of a better time and a better world. Perhaps it is the conviction of warriors dashing across the plains that tells us that good always defeats evil in the end. Or maybe it's just the timeless stories of courage and compassion, kindness and kinship.

**A PERFORMANCE 5,000 YEARS IN THE MAKING:** A performance by Shen Yun is traditional Chinese culture as it was meant to be: study in grace, wisdom, and all the virtues distilled from millennia of Chinese civilization. The classically trained dancers, musicians, and singers of Shen Yun Performing Arts share a vision: to revive and restore Chinese culture to its former, glorious state.

Based in New York, Shen Yun Performing Arts is distinguished by its conscious effort to remain independent of China's communist regime,

which has abused and impoverished the arts for decades. In fact, a show like Shen Yun's can no longer be found in China today. As one well-traveled New Yorker noted: "I've seen China before with my eyes, but this show had me experience China with my soul."

### ONE OF THE MOST DEMANDING ART FORMS IN THE WORLD

No other art form in the world boasts such strong expressive qualities and diversity of technique as classical Chinese dance. It takes years of rigorous training to master the many leaps, flips, and delicate gestures. Dancers must also be versed in Chinese culture to achieve the bearing needed to bring ancient legends and heroic figures to life.

In addition to the classical forms, Shen Yun features the distinctive colors and styles of ethnic and folk dance. Choreographers draw upon over 20 dynasties and 50 ethnic groups to create pieces that range from the northern steppes of Mongolia to the lush forests of Yunnan. Among the most impressive elements of any Shen Yun show are the large-scale ensemble pieces in which dozens of dancers appear to move as one body across the stage.

Shen Yun has also created its very own brand of story-based dance, which often deals

with universal, thought-provoking themes. As one distinguished ballet dancer noted, "There's a lot of depth and meaning. It's a new realm of dance."

### TWO GREAT CLASSICAL MUSIC TRADITIONS — ONE FRESH, UNEXPECTED SOUND

Some remarkable instruments such as the *pipa* or *erhu* date back more than 3,500 years, but the reality is very few Chinese instruments have made it to the world stage. To remedy this, the composers of Shen Yun bathe the distinctly Chinese sounds in a rich sea of Western strings, percussion, woodwinds, and brass. The result? A new and mesmerizing sound.

Each season, the composers create over 20 original scores. They work closely with the cho

(Continued on Page 7)

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## Falcon Marching Band brings its big sound inside

Bowling Green State University's Falcon Marching Band will present "The Best of Times," its annual "Sounds of the Stadium" concert, at 3 p.m. Nov. 13, 2011 in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Led by Dr. Carol Hayward, an associate professor of music education, the band will perform music from its halftime shows at this season's Falcon football games, as well as traditional school songs and pregame music.

Among the selections will be: "I Hear America Singing," a creative collection of patriotic selections that features the BGSU Men's Chorus, under the direction Tim Cloeter. Other favorites from the season will include "Beatlemania," a selection of hit songs made famous by the "Fab Four"; "Let's Hear It for Boys," a spoof of some of the popular '90s boy bands; and "Styx and Stones," featuring the music of the classic rock bands Styx and the Rolling Stones.

The largest student organiza-



tions on campus, with 280 members, the band is composed of students from all colleges of the University and is open to all students by audition regardless of major and class standing.

Tickets are \$7 for students and senior citizens and \$10 for other adults in advance, and \$10 and \$13, respectively, on the day of the concert. For more information, call the box office between noon and 6 p.m. weekdays at 419-372-8171 or 1-800-589-2224.

## BGSU Lively Arts Calendar, Nov. 10-15, 2011

**Nov. 10**—"Der Neunte Tag (The Ninth Day)," the 2004 German film directed by Volker Schlöndorff, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in BGSU's Gish Film Theater. Based on a true story, the film follows a Catholic priest who returns to Luxembourg from the Dachau concentration camp only to learn that his former jailers want him to sway an anti-Nazi bishop. "Der Neunte Tag" is an intense portrait of both a virtuous man confronted with hard choices and the position of the Catholic Church during the Holocaust. The theater is in Hanna Hall. Free

**Nov. 10**—The BGSU Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Chris Buzzelli, will perform at 8 p.m. in Bryan Recital Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free

**Nov. 10**—A reception for the University of Wisconsin-Stout Faculty Exhibition will be held at 8:30 p.m. in the Willard Wankelman Gallery of the Fine Arts Center at Bowling Green State University. Free

**Nov. 13**—The BGSU Marching Band presents "Sounds of the Stadium," recreating the atmosphere of a sporting event in a concert setting. The performance be-



gins at 3 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and senior citizens. There is a \$3 increase the day of the performance. For more ticket information, call the College of Musical Arts Box Office at 419-372-8171.

**Nov. 15**—The BGSU Jazz Lab Band II, with Director Jeff Halsey, will be in concert at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free

## Owens Center for Emergency Preparedness offers new Personal Safety and Security Classes, Nov. 12 and 15

Area residents interested in enhancing their personal safety and situational awareness are invited to participate in a new Personal Safety and Security Class offered through Owens Community College's Center for Emergency Preparedness, Nov. 12 and 15, 2011.

Two separate four-hour classes will take place at the College's Center for Emergency Preparedness. The first class will occur on Saturday (Nov. 12) from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., while a second class will take place on Tuesday (Nov. 15) from 6-10 p.m. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

"Owens Community College is proud to offer a new community public safety class, which is intended to increase a

person's situational awareness so that they may recognize the potential for danger and take steps ahead of time to avoid it," said Michael Cornell, Owens Director of the Center for Emergency Preparedness.

During the four-hour class, attendees will receive knowledge and expertise in the areas of situational awareness, basic self-defense, tasers, pepper spray, mace, stun guns and collapsible batons. Additionally, students will learn about how to create a safe room/office as well as practice hands-on self-defense moves and the proper use of self-defense weapons. Individuals are encouraged to wear exercise clothing and athletic shoes.

The Center for Emergency Preparedness is the premier all-hazards national training



facility located at Owens Community College. As the world continues to change so will the critical training demands for the men and women who place themselves in harm's way. The Center for Emergency Preparedness is dedicated to securing the homeland and assuring the safety of our citizens by building a well-trained community of firstresponders, first receivers and allied professionals who are ready to safely respond to and mitigate the effects of an all-hazards event.

The cost of the personal safety class is \$35. For more information, or to register, call (567) 661-2411 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 2411.

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## Celebrations to honor veterans set for November 11 at UT

As veterans across the nation and around the world are honored Nov. 11, 2011, a Veterans Day celebration will be held on the University of Toledo Main Campus to give those who served a chance to reconnect with each other and to provide the public an opportunity to thank the men and women who keep our country safe.

A breakfast for veterans will be served at 8:45 a.m. at Savage Arena followed by a presentation at 9:30 a.m. A ceremony of remembrance open to the public will begin at 11 a.m. at the UT Veterans' Plaza, located on the northwest corner of Centennial Mall. Transportation from the arena to and from the plaza will be provided. The celebration is sponsored by the Lucas County Commissioners, the American Red Cross of Greater Toledo, the Lucas County Veterans Service Commission, Block Communications, and UT.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Beasley, chair of UT's Department of Military Science, will give the keynote speech during the morning breakfast. "This is an opportunity to thank veterans for their service and a reminder to everyone that in times of need, there always have been men and women who rise to serve the nation," Beasley said. "We need to be sure we

recognize their efforts and never take for granted those who volunteer."

Lee Armstrong, a retired U.S. Navy veteran and executive director of the Lucas County Veterans Service Commission, noted that according to the last census, only 10 percent of Ohioans have served in the armed forces. "Certainly the families of armed services members also are asked to make sacrifices, but it is important that we take the time to step back and thank veterans and current members of the armed forces for the work they do to enable the society we all enjoy," Armstrong said.

Tim Yenrick, executive director of the local Red Cross chapter, said support for veterans and their families around the world is an important part of the emergency response organization's mission. "Service and support for the military and their families is a part of our past and will be a part of our future," Yenrick said. "We're honored to help celebrate the contributions of so many men and women to this country."

In addition to remarks by Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon-Wozniak, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Mayor Michael Bell, and State Sen.



Teresa Fedor, there will be words from Jacob Cox, a UT student and president of the UT Student Veterans of America. "College can be a difficult transition. You're often a little older than those in class with you and have had different experiences. There's a mutual bond with other military members and connecting with them can help make college a better experience," said Cox, who served as a U.S. Army specialist in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne in 2007 and 2008.

The morning's events will conclude in the plaza with remarks from UT Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadet Battalion Commander Chaztine Jablonski, a senior majoring in criminal justice. "My time at UT and in ROTC has really changed the meaning and significance of Veterans Day for me," Jablonski said. "As my understanding of the military and sacrifices of so many women and men has grown, so has my thanks for veterans and members of the armed forces."

## Kateri Catholic Academy teaches kids how to manage money and stay out of the dog house

Fifth and sixth grade students at Kateri Catholic Academy will learn to stay out of the financial "dog house" when Mrs. Kristin Dobrovic, CPA and Vice President of Finance at Kateri Catholic Academy and Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School visits their class on Nov. 9, 2011.

Dobrovic will lead students in a fun and competitive game called FETCH!®, which stands for Financial Education Teaches Children Healthy Habits®. The program is sponsored by The Ohio Society of CPAs and The Ohio CPA Foundation, and is being presented in more than 300 classrooms today by CPAs and volunteers across Ohio.

FETCH! teaches children basic money management skills so they are better equipped to make responsible financial decisions as adults. The game is set in a dog park where teams of students own a fictional pet and are tasked with its care, feeding and financial responsibility.

With each roll of the dice, Dobrovic will coach students on how to use their math skills and devise strategies to stay out of debt and put more money in the bank. They soon learn the responsibility isn't just a walk in the park and the game often imitates life.

First you have to earn money to buy the basics—a leash, bowl and a bone. If Fido learns a new trick or wins first place in the dog show, you earn cash for your savings account. But if your dog is naughty, you might have to pay to fix the neighbor's fence. And if Fido gets sick, the vet bills can put your bank account further in the red and delay plans to start your pet sitting business.

The team that ends the game with the most money in the bank, and the most items for their pooch, wins.

"FETCH! is a fun way to teach children the relationship between smart spending and saving for their future goals," said Kristin Dobrovic. "It's built on a simple concept, yet requires students to make decisions that have consequences they can understand, just

like in real life."

The lesson couldn't be timelier as families across Ohio continue to struggle to meet their basic needs. According to the Federal Reserve Bank, in 2011, 40 percent of U.S. families spend more money than they earn.

A 2011 Gallup poll randomly surveyed 1,721 U.S. American students in grades 5-12 and found that the majority had goals and desires to start and run a business, but only half of the students attended schools that offer classes on how to do so.

FETCH! teaches students important budgeting and cash management skills that can be used in everyday life or to start their very first business.

FETCH! was created in 2010 by The Ohio Society of CPAs and its charitable affiliate, The Ohio CPA Foundation with guidance from elementary teachers and a curriculum developer. It includes a testing component to determine if students have mastered a basic understanding of financial terms.

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## Neighborhood activist reaches out to Latino teens via YouTube

By Kevin Milliken for La Prensa

Ramón Pérez is used to reaching out to Latinos and others as a neighborhood organizer for *United North*. But Pérez, 55, is now targeting teens through technology—with a series of YouTube videos they can see on their computers.

The first video involves encouraging young people to register to vote. Pérez even draws some high school students into the presentation, which can best be described as informal and on their level. Pérez even colors his presentation with a little slang and Spanglish to remain relevant.

The video was shot in a local art studio. Pérez hopes to feature a different local Latino artist in each monthly presentation. The whole idea is to give local and regional Latinos “a voice,” by making the videos interactive and inviting feedback from viewers on future episodes, topics, even naming the YouTube series.

The idea came to Pérez during his involvement with the *Latino Youth Forum*, a spinoff of the Hispanic Strategic Alli-

ance. The project involved neighborhood canvassing, community meetings, and other outreach efforts.

“Hearing from the folks talking in the neighborhood, especially the young people, about having some sort of an outlet to communicate with other Latino communities and others in general,” he explained. “It’s just a way to promote what we’re thinking, what we’re feeling, and making it fun and informing people about different issues.”

The long-time neighborhood activist pointed out that protestors of the *Arab Spring* movement in the Middle East communicated via social media, such as *Facebook*, to gather, demonstrate, and demand change in their countries, such as in Libya and Egypt. In the U.S., the *Occupy Wall Street* demonstrations communicate in much the same fashion.

“It’s just another new venue for doing what people want to see and hear,” said Pérez. “It’s a good vehicle for finding out what Latinos are thinking and feeling. I’m excited about it.”

Pérez described the first YouTube effort as “real rough” and “experimental.” The video series is as yet

unnamed, even though he joked that a friend calls it “Ramon’s Rant.” Pérez is asking for suggestions, then may put it to a viewer vote with the top two or three ideas.

“I just need to get it out there and get it started, force me to do the next one,” he said, chuckling. “So hopefully, in the next month-and-a-half I’ll have the next one ready and hear the input from those who do watch it and care to respond to it and give me input. The idea is to invite them to be a part of it—help develop it, to be on it, to say what they want to say.”

The idea comes at an opportune time: at the onset of the 2012 presidential campaign, as well as the unrest involved with the *Occupy Movement* across the country. With so much economic and political turmoil, Latinos will want to get involved and have their say. Many political pundits even believe the Latino community will decide who will become the next president, if they show up at the polls in large enough numbers.

With that in mind, Pérez demonstrated with the help of two teens how quick and easy it has become to register to vote—at a local li-



Ramón Pérez, Youtube

brary, the bureau of motor vehicles, and other locations.

“We just need to get ourselves in those places,” Pérez said. “Read about them, learn about them, then have something fun, creative, provocative, whatever—to say about it, respond to it. Maybe this is the vehicle to do that. I want to give them a format and a forum to do that.”

Traditional neighborhood organizing involves good old-fashioned, grassroots, face-to-face contact. But Pérez attended a recent conference where social media and other forms of communication are becoming the new strategy to reach a wider audience with a message.

“There is new technol-

ogy, new resources that have actually been out there for a while—a lot of us are just now catching up with it and realizing it’s a very powerful tool,” he said. “A lot of people are starting to get hip to it, including me.”

The *United North* organizer stated the key to making the project work is to keep it open-ended and interactive, so that people discover its relevance and respond.

“It’s going to be a lot of fun. It’s going to be a whole lot of good, bad, and ugly,” Pérez said with a laugh. “I’m excited about it.”

The “Ramon Show” YouTube video can be accessed at this link: <http://youtu.be/a5IEKIC4o7U>.

## Shen Yun

(Continued from Page 4)

reographers to ensure a seamless blending of the music with each and every dance.

**EXTRAORDINARY ARTISTS:** “There’s just something about them,” audience members often remark.

At a time when the influence of Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism was strong in the Middle Kingdom, art was a means to explore the connection between mankind and the higher universe. Poets and artists cultivated virtue and engaged in study and meditation because they believed that to create true art worthy of the heavens, there must first be inner beauty and purity.

Today, the artists of Shen Yun follow in that noble tradition. Their training regimen requires focus and a mindful lifestyle.

Among the company’s artists are accomplished choreographers and composers as well as winners of international competitions in dance, music, and singing. No other Chinese performing arts group in the world can boast such a remarkable body of talent.

**ABRANDEWPRODUCTION FOR 2012 WORLD TOUR:** Months of training and preparation culminate each winter when Shen Yun debuts a spectacular original production with all new dances, costumes, and music.

To date, Shen Yun Performing Arts has performed in over 130 cities, playing in notable venues like the Lincoln Center (New York), Kennedy Center (Washington DC), War Memorial Opera House (San Francisco) and Palais de Congress (Paris).

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**TOPIC: Knowing Your Rights when Being Stopped by the Border Patrol and Review of 'Deferred Action'**

**Attorney Michael J. Rendón** received his *Juris Doctorate* from **Cleveland State University's Cleveland-Marshall College of Law** and is admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio. He also is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

Michael served in the **United States Army** directly after high school. After completing his tour of duty and receiving an honorable discharge, Michael attended college at Nashua, New Hampshire's **Rivier College** where he completed a Legal Studies program and received a *Bachelor of Science Degree*.

After college, Michael accepted an agent position with the **United States Border Patrol**, and after successfully graduating from the **Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy** in Glynnco, GA., he worked on the Southern border at El Paso, Texas enforcing the U.S. Immigration laws. Michael was promoted to **Special Agent** and was assigned to the Immigration and Naturalization's Boston District Office, and later to the Cleveland District Office. In addition, Michael served as **Assistant Officer In Charge** of the Hartford, CT office of the INS. In 2009, Michael **retired** from the federal government after a **28 year career**.

**Alvaro DeCola** has been a **judicial extern** for the Honorable David S. Perelman of the **U.S. District Court** for the Northern District of Ohio. Currently, he also has been a **legal intern for the Community Health Advocacy Law Clinic at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law**, and Articles Editor for the *Journal of Law and Health*. Alvaro's Note Making Language Access to Health Care Meaningful; The Need for a Federal Health Care Interpreters' Statute was selected for publication in the forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Law and Health*.

Professionally, Alvaro is a **Spanish language Court Interpreter** **certified by the United States Courts** and the State of California, with over 15 years of experience in the areas of criminal law, worker's compensation, family law and immigration law. Alvaro has testified as an expert witness about language issues and interpretation and translation challenges. He primarily works with the **U.S. District Courts in the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio** and contracts with various **federal law enforcement agencies** for transcription and translations of wiretap and other evidentiary materials.

Alvaro has provided trainings and seminars related to language access and the role of court interpreters for private and public agencies including Law Enforcement through Ohio Public Safety and Ohio Criminal Justice Services, the 12th Annual Hispanic Leadership Conference in Lorain, OH with workshops on Title VI and related issues, and the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. He is a frequent presenter at seminars and training programs for the Ohio Supreme Court, where he has trained over 100 interpreters throughout the State on issues related to Ethics and the Professional Code of Conduct for Interpreters.

Alvaro was **born in Uruguay**, South America. He moved to the U.S. in 1991 where he later completed a **Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts** with minors in Psychology and Spanish, and completed studies in court interpretation. Currently he is **pursuing a law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law**.

**NO COST**



## LCCC to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week Nov. 17-18

Lorain County Community College will celebrate *Global Entrepreneurship Week* with activities sure to inspire entrepreneurs of all ages.

The events will take place on Wednesday, November 16 and Thursday, November 17, 2011 on the LCCC campus. All activities are free and open to the public.

The celebration will kick off at 11 a.m., Wednesday, November 16 with a Great Lakes Innovation and Development Enterprise (GLIDE) Open House at the Entrepreneurial Innovation Center (EIC). The open house will go until noon and include a presentation by Dennis Coco and Cliff Reynolds, co-directors of GLIDE. During this time, entrepreneurs in residence at GLIDE will open

their doors to visitors.

From 12-12:50 p.m., *Andrea Trgovcich*, an Innovation Fund award winner and owner of Wellness Integrated Network, will present at a brown bag luncheon on the topic "Female Investment Groups." The lunch is open to the public and will be held in the EIC lobby.

From 1-1:45 p.m., Trgovcich and other entrepreneurs will be available for networking and a question and answer session in the EIC lobby.

On Thursday, November 17, GLIDE will host a business assessment table in College Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jim Gray from the Small Business Development Center, along with Katie Van Dyke from GLIDE will be available to mentor and guide students interested in starting their own

businesses.

Van Dyke and Gray will be joined by *Mike Beliso*, an Innovation Fund winner and owner of eFuneral and his partner *Bryan Chaikin*. Beliso was named the "Entrepreneur in Residence" for the City of Lakewood earlier this year, and started an initiative called Startup Lakewood ([www.startuplakewood.com](http://www.startuplakewood.com)) and created a series of events (Startup U) that focuses on topics that entrepreneurs and soon-to-be entrepreneurs care about.

For more information about *Global Entrepreneurship Week* at LCCC, visit [www.lorainccc.edu/entrepreneurweek](http://www.lorainccc.edu/entrepreneurweek).



## LCCC Volleyball wins regional tournament, prepares for nationals

The members of the Lorain County Community College women's volleyball team are ready to spike the competition as they take their game to the national level.

The team won the Division III District 12/20 Regional Tournament and is preparing for the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III National Championship November 10-12, 2011 in Rochester, Minn.

"This is a strong group that plays together as a team," Coach *Marc Pogachar* said. "We're looking forward to going out and playing our best as part of the Elite 8."

The Lady Commodores pounded the regional competition and defeated Howard Community College 3-0, Butler Community College 3-1, and Anne

Arundel Community College 3-0. In the finals, the team once again defeated Butler 3-2.

This is the first time in history that the LCCC volleyball team won a regional tournament.

Three LCCC players were named to the regional all-tournament team: *Brittany Leininger* of Elyria, *Jasmine Myrick* of Lorain, and *Kaylee Koller* of Amherst. Koller also won top honors as Tournament Most Valuable Player. Leininger was previously honored by the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference as Player of the Week for the week ending October 10. That week, she racked up 24 blocks, 39 kills and six aces.

"These players did an outstanding job," Pogachar said.

The trip to nationals comes on the heels of a stellar

regular season for the Lady Commodores. The team recorded 26 wins and just 12 losses during the season.

"I'm so proud of this team and how well they come together," Pogachar said. "Every girl has a role to play and understands how that role is part of what makes the team successful."

As they prepare for nationals, the squad will continue to promote teamwork, he said.

"We want to make it as far as possible. We'll do the best we know how and see where it plays out."

To learn more about volleyball at LCCC, visit [www.lorainccc.edu/sports](http://www.lorainccc.edu/sports).



## Latino cultures celebrated at Washington Elementary

By *Marcus Atkinson* for *La Prensa*  
*HispanicOhio.com* editor

Oct. 21, 2011: Washington Elementary school in Lorain hosted its first Latino culture presentation in collaboration with the *Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures*.

The presentation featured Lorain city school students singing and dancing to a variety of Latino music. The United States pledge of allegiance was recited in both English and Spanish, the Puerto Rican national anthem was sung, as well as a rendition of the Mexican hat dance.

*Guillermo Arriaga*, president of the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures said it is important for parents to show who they are, and for children to understand where they came from.

"We need to introduce our culture and keep our culture alive," said Arriaga. "This museum is not mine, it

is not the boards, it belongs to the city of Lorain."

The mobile museum has been traveling through Ohio the past month, from Fremont to Akron and in Lorain as well. Washington Elementary showed interests in the museum through its principal, *Kathy Ortiz*.

"I think it's important that we celebrate the cultural diversity that we have in the city of Lorain. May of our students come from diverse backgrounds like Guatemala and Puerto Rico," said Ms. Ortiz. "I think it's important that we learn and celebrate each others successes and understand each others cultures."

Along with the Puerto Rican national anthem and Mexican hat dance, performed by Washington School students, *Pepe Rivera*, a local musician and artist, recited a "poesia" or poem called, "*Nostalgia de Virgilio Davila*" and a tradi-

tional folk dance was performed by *Kerilian Montañez*, *Ayesia Montañez*, *Yoaneska Ortega*, and *Yanily Ortega*, conducted by *María Santiago*.

The crowd of parents, students, and teachers were amazed by the performers' discipline and grasp of the dancing.

"They did such a good job," said one parent. "They really knew what they were doing."

Among the "wows" and applause, the student performers shared a culture the US Census now says represents over one-fourth of Lorain's population—the Latino cultures.

As principal of Washington Elementary, Ortiz feels it is important "to unite these communities, to unite the students, and to unite the staff so that we can celebrate each others' diversity."

## Computer Engineering Technology Information Sessions at LCCC and the Midpoint Campus Center

There are few careers today that can match the opportunities available in the fast-growing field of Computer Engineering Technology. In fact, five of the top 25 jobs are related to computer systems, software and networking, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Learn how you can train for employment in this exciting field by attending an information session hosted by Lorain County Community College and The University of Akron. Sessions will be held:

• 12 p.m., Wednesday, November 16 at the Mid-

point Campus Center, 50 Pearl Road, Suite 300, Brunswick;

• 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 16 at the Midpoint Campus Center;

• 6 p.m., Thursday, November 17 in room 139 of the Advanced Technologies Center on LCCC's Elyria campus.

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Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 and for Lourdes students presenting their student ID. Shows at the



Appold Planetarium are limited to 50 and often sell out. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Dr. Laura Megeath, Appold Planetarium Coordinator, email planetarium@lourdes.edu or call at 419-517-8897.

Lourdes University's Appold Planetarium is a proud member of the NASA Museum Alliance and has been designated an official NASA Space Place. Named "Best Place to See the Stars"

by *Ohio Magazine*, the Appold Planetarium features SciDome, a full-dome video system powered by Starry Night—the world's most comprehensive astronomy software, allowing real-time 3D sky simulation, full-dome shows and multi-media presentations.

For a list of current and upcoming shows, visit the Appold Planetarium online at [www.lourdes.edu/planetarium](http://www.lourdes.edu/planetarium).

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## “Mujeres en Rosa” (Women in Pink), a pilot program

El Centro de la Mujer (Center for Women) was awarded a grant by the Susan G. Komen Foundation. This funding will support an educational and awareness pilot program about breast cancer and Latina women. This program will be implemented during the month of December, 2011.

Even though non-Hispanic Caucasian women get breast cancer at higher rates, Hispanic/Latina women are also more likely to die from breast cancer.

Some ethnic and racial groups have been less likely to receive breast cancer screening, and thus their breast cancers are often diagnosed at later stages. This later diagnosis increases the chance of dying from breast cancer (source: the Susan G. Komen Foundation).

The pilot program—

“Mujeres en Rosa” (Women in Pink)—will guide the participants to know their risks, know what is normal, make healthy lifestyle choices, and to get screened.

To obtain more information call 419-708-0668.

### “Mujeres en Rosa”, un programa piloto

El Centro de la Mujer recibió fondos de la Fundación Susan G. Komen para realizar un programa piloto de educación y concientización acerca del cáncer de mama en la mujer latina. Dicho programa se implementará comenzando el mes de diciembre.

Se sabe que aunque las mujeres blancas presentan tasas de incidencia más alta en el desarrollo del cáncer de seno, las mujeres hispanas/latinas tienen una probabilidad más alta de morir a causa del cáncer

de seno que las mujeres blancas. Algunos grupos étnicos y raciales han tenido menor probabilidad de recibir servicios de detección temprana del cáncer de seno y por lo tanto, su cáncer de seno usualmente se diagnostica en etapas tardías. Este diagnóstico tardío aumenta la probabilidad de morir a causa de cáncer de seno (información tomada de la Fundación Susan Komen).

El programa piloto “Mujeres en Rosa” tiene como objetivo educar en detalle a las participantes acerca del reconocimiento de los riesgos, determinar que es normal, tener un estilo de vida saludable y la importancia de la prevención. Para mas información llame al 419-708-0668.



## Primera reunión de padres de familia

Nov. 2011: El viernes 4 de noviembre, EOPA/Toledo-Lucas County Head Start invitó a su primera reunión de padres de familia del año escolar 2011/12. Celeste Taylor, dio la bienvenida a las familias, seguido de una amena reunión dirigida por María Teresa Carr. Los padres recibieron información acerca de recursos disponibles proveídos por representantes de organizaciones y profesionales de la comunidad tales como

González dio una charla educativa acerca de la autoestima, informando a los padres acerca de la importancia y el desarrollo de la misma. Los niños se entretuvieron con cuentos, pintura en las caras y otras actividades supervisadas por personal y voluntarios de Head Start. Las familias gozaron de un delicioso almuerzo típico donado por los restaurantes Nuevo Vallarta, El Camino Real y La Fiesta.

the school year 2011/12. Celeste Taylor welcomed the families, followed by the meeting facilitated by María Teresa Carr. The parents received information about community resources such as ABLE, El Centro de la Mujer, Wynn Law Office, EOPA, and Nueva Esperanza Credit Union.

Psychologist Lidia González gave a talk about self-esteem. The children participated in storytime, face painting, and other activities supervised by Head Start staff and volunteers. The families enjoyed the lunch provided by Nuevo Vallarta, El Camino Real, and La Fiesta restaurants.

### First Latino parents' meeting

Nov. 2011: EOPA/Toledo-Lucas County Head Start organized the first gathering for Latino families for

## El Centro celebrates Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> opening at annual fundraiser

By Marcus Atkinson for La Prensa

Five years ago, the board of El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc. made a promise, a promise to raise money for a new building that would serve the people of Lorain. The promise was also made to stay together, for the sake of the campaign, no retirements, no resignations.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, during its 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala, the campaign was celebrated with its goal to raise funds to move to the new facility to 2800 Pearl Avenue; it was achieved and now El Centro will have space almost doubling the size of its original facility, to serve predominantly the minority communities in South Lorain.

“This year there has been many hardships and many successes,” said Victor Leandry, executive director of El Centro. “I am proud to say that we will open the new building next month Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011, at 5pm.”

The opening day is actually an open house for the community to see the inside of the building, what Leandry says is not his, it is not El Centro's, it belongs to the people, and the city of Lorain.

“This building belongs to the community,” said Leandry. “That is one of the reasons why we did not want to finance the project; we did not want the community to have debt.”

According to Margarita

Quiñones, vice president of El Centro and chairwoman of the capital campaign to raise money for the new facility. Fundraising began three years ago; the goal was to raise \$1.5 million, but the campaign fell slightly short at \$1.2 million. But that will not stop the doors from opening and services to begin.

“Though we didn't raise all the money the building will be fully functioning and ready to go,” said Jared Pérez, youth program coordinator of El Centro.

“Even though the building isn't open yet, and we didn't have an opening date yet, agencies came to partner with us to provide services to Lorain,” said Leandry.

The news of the new facility opening and more services for Lorain comes at a time when the Brookings Institute released poverty numbers Thursday, Nov. 3 that showed Lorain - in particular South Lorain - had experienced high poverty level spikes over the past five years.

Donators of the capital campaign were truly a community effort, spearheaded by financial institutions, community organizations, and private donations. The Gala attendees were supporters of El Centro - which provides services for the youth, the elderly, the disabled, and those

who speak only Spanish.

Joel Arredondo, Lorain City Council President, was in attendance, as well as Lorain's Rey Carrion, interim director of community development. Marcy Kaptur, congresswoman for the 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, was in attendance as well as Ted Kalo, Lorain County Commissioner. Lilly Cavanaugh and Richard Romero of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs traveled to enjoy the night, and representatives of the Lorain County Hispanic Fund showed support. Antonio Barrios, vice president of the Coalition for Hispanic/Latino Issues and Progress (CHIP) and others from the political action committee attended.

A youth dance group, “Son de Cleveland,” and musician Pepe Rivera provided entertainment as the guests enjoyed

and danced the night away, commemorating an occasion all were proud to be a part of.

However, the Gala was not all celebration; reality set in, the five year promise has ended and the well known Board president, Angie Martinez, plans to step down, fostering a solemn moment among the guests.

Promising not to cry, Leandry shared his thoughts.

“People have come up to me asking did I get a plaque or something, I said no, because today is not goodbye,” said Leandry. “She's here until February; today is a day to celebrate.”

On the Internet: <http://lorainelcentro.com/>  
<http://chiplorain.org/>

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## Latinos in eastern Pa., and elsewhere, searching for opportunity

By KATE WILCOX, Reading Eagle

READING, Pa., Nov. 2, 2011 (AP): *Mariano Torres* graduated from high school in Puerto Rico with no job, no money and no way to better his life.

Jobs were scarce in Puerto Rico in 1960, when at age 20 Mariano decided to move to Reading, a place where—he had heard—jobs were plentiful.

"In that time, it was difficult to find a job in Puerto Rico," Mariano, now 71, said in Spanish. "Where I lived was beautiful and very historic, but it did not have opportunities."

He settled on Third Street in Reading, not far from his future wife, Aida, whose family lived in a small Puerto Rican enclave on Pine Street.

The couple formally met at the Puerto Rican Civic Association in 1961. It was love at first sight.

"I think it always goes that way," Mariano said.

They married in 1962 in St. Peter's Church on South Fifth Street and raised four children in Reading. Mariano made a living at Birdsboro Steel Corp., at which he worked for 30 years. Aida was an interpreter for the Reading School District.

Now retired and living in West Reading, the couple's story is typical of Puerto Ricans who came to Reading in the years after World War II, lured by the promise of jobs in the factories, mushroom

plants and chicken processing farms of Berks County.

By 1970 there were nearly 10,000 Latinos in Reading, or about 10 percent of the population.

Mariano's father, Daniel Torres, already was a civic leader in Reading when Mariano arrived in 1960. Daniel Torres was a founder of the Puerto Rican Civic Association and Reading's Hispanic Center, which now bears his name.

The Torres family and others were the roots of a Latino community that, by 2010, had grown to 51,230, or 58 percent of Reading's population.

"We came for the same reason everyone else did," said Aida Torres, 69. "For a better environment. For a better life."

And since Puerto Rico was a territory of the U.S., there was no need to apply for citizenship or a green card.

"The service jobs are there," said Michael Rivera, assistant vice president of small business services at the Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry. "And many Latinos take advantage of that."

Among them was *Marcelino Colón Sr.*, who was 16 when he came to Reading from Puerto Rico in 1946, following his brother, Francisco Colón, who had joined the Army.

Colón started working at the Crystal Restaurant on Penn Street and found he could communicate in Spanish with the Italian immigrant workers there.

Later, like Mariano Torres, Colón took a job at Birdsboro Steel, where he operated a crane for 28 years. Eventually, because of the huge number of production and industrial jobs, more of his siblings came to Reading.

"They said, 'Hey, I heard it's a nice town,'" said Marcelino Colón Jr., Colón's son and the United Way of Berks County's director of community development. "Jobs were plentiful that didn't require English skills or a college education."

But, Colón Jr. said, his father learned English alongside the Italian immigrants.

"That generation is completely bilingual," he said. "They had to learn it to survive."

Growth in Reading's Puerto Rican population has slowed in recent years, but with about 36,300 residents, Puerto Ricans are still Berks County's largest Latino group.

Mexican immigrants began to establish themselves in Reading when many came to work in the farming industry.

At 18, *Roberto Sandoval* first went to Lancaster from Mexico in 1975 but could not find a job there.

"A Puerto Rican told me there was work in the mushroom fields in Reading," Sandoval recalled.

Sandoval toiled for two years in a mushroom plant before opening a store in Temple to serve the area's growing Mexican population. He sold tacos, tortillas and soups.

In 1992, he moved his business, *El Jalisco Tienda Mexicana*, to Green and Moss streets in Reading. It is now a butcher shop, Mexican grocery and clothing store.

"I came for work," Sandoval said. "There was no future in Mexico."

The first Mexican immigrants who, like Sandoval, moved into Berks in the 1980s settled mostly along 11th Street in Reading, but as the second generation became more prosperous, they began moving into the suburbs.

Sandoval now lives with his family in Muhlenberg Township.

Most recently, Dominican Republic immigrants have come to Reading. From 2000 to 2010, Berks County's Dominican population climbed to 10,545 from 1,855.

"People are looking for peace," said *Rafael Nuñez*, a Dominican immigrant.

Many Dominicans, he said, are transplants from New York and New Jersey, drawn by low housing prices in Berks.

"People are coming here to start businesses," Nuñez said,

pointing to the small grocery stores known as bodegas that dot many Reading street corners.

Latinos dominate the small business market in Reading, mirroring a trend that saw Latino-owned businesses expand at twice the national average from 2002 to 2007. In Pennsylvania, Latino businesses increased 43.7 percent in that period.

Latinos - mostly Dominicans and Mexicans - own the majority of multi-services, auto mechanic shops, beauty salons, barber shops and bodegas in Reading.

"The Dominican population is growing and they're entrepreneurs," said Rivera of the Chamber of Commerce. "In a lot of those countries, there isn't a lot of work and they have to find some way to feed their families."

Another reason immigrants turn to opening their own businesses could be language barriers or immigration status.

"They can't get work, so instead of looking, they'll start their own business," Rivera said.

Those small businesses are largely owned by first generation immigrants.

One problem with this business model is that too many bodegas can choke the market.

"Business is slow," bodega owner *Ronnie Díaz* said. "And I hear that from

everyone. Nearly everyone I know owns a bodega."

Díaz and his father, Francisco Díaz, own Díaz Grocery and Restaurant on Franklin Street and Sorangel Grocery on Washington Street. Like many other bodegas, they sell Latino products such as Fabuloso dish wash and Goya beans and rice.

Often, aside from providing groceries, the bodegas are central to community life, offering Latinos a place where they feel comfortable among others who speak their language.

Ronnie Díaz came to Reading from the Dominican Republic six years ago and stayed because his family is here and the city is quieter than New York.

"And I want to own a house some day," he said. "Prices are cheap in Reading."

For at least 60 years, that sense of opportunity and optimism has been a familiar theme among Latinos making Reading their home.

"It has been good here," said Aida Torres. "We were poor and we came to better ourselves."

Online: <http://bit.ly/slpPLP>

Information from: Reading Eagle, <http://www.readingeagle.com/>



As you reach your 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday, we would like to say how very proud we are of you.

**Happy Birthday and Congratulations to David A. García II**  
of St. John's Jesuit  
Class of 2012!

Love Mom, Tony, Lorenzo, and Mateo

*There's a new taste in town...*

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Monday + All Domestic Bottles \$1.99  
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Friday & Saturday + 40% Wages with your choice of drinking.

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**50% OFF**

**JUMBO MARGARITAS \$5.00**

**SAO / Latins United Annual**

**POT LUCK DINNER**  
**50/50 Raffle**  
**Saturday, Nov. 26, 2011**  
Game Time to be Announced  
**Latins United Hall**  
706 S. St. Clair St. • Toledo, Ohio

50/50 Raffle Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00  
For tickets contact: Connie 419-290-8872

Proceeds go to support the Spanish American Organization's many benefit funds: Scholarships, Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets, community activities, etc.  
[www.saatohio.com](http://www.saatohio.com)



**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY12-052, (Project # 5004-11-1629) for University Medical Center Emergency Room Final Renovations for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 29, 2011 Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Julie Cavese of MBA Architects and Planners at 419-873-8450. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 105, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: \$385,000.00; Breakdown: General Const: \$229,500.00; Plumbing: \$48,500.00; Fire Protection: \$5,000.00; HVAC: \$23,000.00; & Electrical: \$79,000.00.

**Notice to Bidders:** Inquiry # FY12-056, (Project # 0093-12-794) for The Crossings Mass Notification Upgrade for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of \$40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Desjardins, P.E. of JDRM Engineering, Inc. at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: \$250,000.00; Breakdown: Electrical: \$250,000.00.



### The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Pipefitters.

#### Overview

The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is \$32.09 per hour. After six months the rate of pay is \$34.07.

#### Scope of Work

Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is inside shop as well as outside in all weather conditions. Perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned. Candidate will be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work; participate in training programs as assigned; and understand and comply with Toledo Refining work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

#### Qualifications

Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a High school diploma or equivalent; and hold a current driver's license.

Completion of a state approved Pipefitter apprenticeship program with no less than 5 years work experience or equivalent work experience is required. Equivalent work is no less than 8 years as a Pipefitter. Successful candidates must possess First Class Pipefitter work experience and First Class Pipefitter skills. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Working knowledge of blueprint reading and hand-sketching related to prime skill. Ability to work from written and oral directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work, function as a member of a team to get work done; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation of refinery equipment. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Must meet written test and skills demonstration requirements.

#### Unusual Working Conditions

Must be able to perform physically-active assignments including work on high structures and within confined spaces. Mandatory overtime as required as well as occasional shift work required.

#### Conditions of Employment

Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; ability to demonstrate basic computer skills; and pass a post offer pre-employment physical, background check and drug screening.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter.

All interested candidates must submit a resume to the following e-mail address: [TLR.hiringmanager@pbfenergy.com](mailto:TLR.hiringmanager@pbfenergy.com) Please place "Pipefitter" in the subject line. Also, only use Microsoft Word as the format for resumes. EOE/M/F/D/V



### The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Machinists.

#### Overview

The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is \$32.09 per hour. After six months the rate of pay is \$34.07.

#### Scope of Work

Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is inside shop as well as outside in all weather conditions. Candidate will perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned; be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work; participate in training programs as assigned; and understand and comply with Toledo Refining Co. work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

#### Qualifications

Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a High school diploma or equivalent; and hold a current driver's license.

Completion of a Machinist apprenticeship program or equivalent work experience is required. Equivalent work is no less than 3 years as a Machinist or millwright. Successful candidates must possess First Class Machinist work experience and First Class Machinist skills as a field Machinist and/or a shop Machinist. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Working knowledge of blueprint reading and hand-sketching related to prime skill. Ability to work from written and verbal directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work; function as a member of a team to get work done; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation of refinery equipment. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Must meet written test and skills demonstration requirements.

#### Unusual Working Conditions

Must be able to perform physically-active assignments including work on high structures and within confined spaces. Mandatory overtime as required as well as occasional shift work required.

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In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter.

All interested candidates must submit a resume to the following e-mail address: [TLR.hiringmanager@pbfenergy.com](mailto:TLR.hiringmanager@pbfenergy.com) Please place "Machinist" in the subject line. Also, only use Microsoft Word as the format for resumes. EOE/M/F/D/V

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT TECHNICIAN**

Part-time (15-18 hrs/week) position available for experienced individual to ensure continuity of computer system services for computer users by providing technical expertise and assistance necessary to install computer software products, modify or repair hardware and resolve technical issues.

Desired candidate must be proficient in Windows XP and Windows 7 troubleshooting. Must demonstrate the ability to define problems, analyze data, establish facts, draw valid conclusions and make recommendations.

Send résumé or apply to:  
Human Resources – IT  
1425 Starr Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43605  
Fax 419.936.7574  
Email: [hr@unisonbhg.org](mailto:hr@unisonbhg.org)  
EOE

**Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.****Join us for a Career Fair!**

Wednesday, November 16, 2011  
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
at our Cherry Street Location  
1212 Cherry Street  
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*Bring your résumé, complete an application, and speak with hiring managers.  
Enjoy refreshments and register for door prizes.*

Opportunities are available in AOD Adolescent Residential, AOD Child/Adolescent, Child/Family Community Based, Dual Diagnosis and Intensive Services.

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AOD Clinicians  
AOD Residential Specialists  
Program Manager, CPST Services  
CPST Clinicians  
CPST Clinician-Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment  
CPST Clinician – Child/Family Community Based Services

For additional information regarding position requirements, please visit our website at [www.unisonbhg.org](http://www.unisonbhg.org). If you are not able to make our Career Fair and are interested in these or other employment opportunities, please contact us directly at 419-936-7576 for an application or email your resume to [hr@unisonbhg.org](mailto:hr@unisonbhg.org).

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**Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant – 7200**

The University of Toledo Medical Center has an opening for a full-time, COTA in Occupational Therapy. Under the supervision of an OTR/L, this position facilitates individual and group interventions to rehabilitate persons with sensorimotor, cognitive and psychosocial impairments through meaningful occupations. Qualifications include: Must maintain current licensure from Ohio Board of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers. Please apply online at <https://jobs.utoledo.edu>. Review of application materials will begin November 14, 2011. EO/AA Employer M/F/D/V

**Front Desk for Leasing Office Bi-Lingual**

Required Qualifications: Bi-lingual, Professional, Self-starter, Motivated, Organized, Telephone Etiquette; Computer Literate, Team Player, Reliable and Detail oriented. Personal transportation.

**Duties:**

- Answer/Respond to Incoming telephone and on-site inquiries of potential tenants;
  - Host walk-through of property;
  - Perform occupancy pre-lease process;
- Base pay: \$8/hour plus commission.  
Hours: Part Time availability to work weekends and evenings;  
Location: Southwest Detroit.

Send résumé via email to : **H. Payne**  
Incorporated [h.payneinc@att.net](mailto:h.payneinc@att.net)

**Postdoctoral Research Associate – 9002**

A postdoctoral position is available in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Toledo, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Candidate will be involved in the research studying the cause and mechanism of dyslipidemia in chronic inflammatory diseases. The individual will accomplish this through complex laboratory/scientific experiments under the direct supervision of the PI. Applicants should have a PhD degree in Pharmacology, Toxicology, or Biochemistry with preferred focus on translational research. Candidate should be familiar with: basic research designing in the primary human cells, computer proficiency related to the research, standardization of the protocols, excellent communication skills reflected by contribution in peer-reviewed scientific publications, and experience in dosing and handling of mice and rats. Experience in molecular biology and evaluating the signaling pathways using Western immunoblotting, ChIP assays, immunostaining, tissue processing, and qRT-PCR is highly desirable. The College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is located in a new building on the Health Science Campus, which offers many collaborative research opportunities. Please apply online at <http://jobs.utoledo.edu>. Review of application materials will begin November 14, 2011. EO/AA Employer M/F/D/V

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**INTERESTED BIDDERS:****TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Deveaux Middle School,  
Leverette Junior High and Washington Kindergarten School  
DEMOLITION**

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until **1:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011**, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers' Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the Demolition of Deveaux Middle School, Leverette Junior High and Washington Kindergarten, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative, Inc. and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

Bid Documents for the project may be examined at the F.W. Dodge plan room in Columbus, Builders Exchange in Toledo, University of Toledo – Capacity Building, E.O.P.A. – Hamilton Building, Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and The Plan Room in Ann Arbor, Construction Association of Michigan, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and Ohio Construction News.

Bidders may obtain copies of the documents starting **November 03, 2011** which can be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5303. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

A **PREBID CONFERENCE** is scheduled for **Friday November 11, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Toledo Public Schools Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608. Site walk-throughs at the schools will commence after the pre-bid meeting according to the schedule provided at the meeting.

If you have any questions or a need for additional information, please direct all questions in writing Patrick.Stutler@lgb-llc.com, by phone at (419) 776-5600, or fax at (877) 281-0784.

**Bid Package – Deveaux Middle School:**

Bid Item No. 1 Deveaux Middle School Building Demolition \$ 493,419.00

**Bid Package – Leverette Junior High:**

Bid Item No. 1 East Toledo Junior High Building Demolition \$ 405,552.00

**Bid Package – Washington Kindergarten:**

Bid Item No. 1 Washington Elementary School Building Demolition \$181,092.00

# TRANSLATIONS

*We can translate*  
**419-870-6565 Spanish-English English-Spanish**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**Unit Kitchen Replacement–Robert Dorrell Manor**  
**IFB #111103-01**

The Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive bids for **Unit Kitchen Replacement – Robert Dorrell Manor, 5836 Southwyck Blvd, Toledo, OH. Bids received in accordance with law until Thurs. December 1, 2011 @ 11AM ET** at 201 Belmont Mod. Dept. **Walk-Thru: Tues. Nov 15, 2011, 10AM ET, 5836 Southwyck Blvd./ Bid Due: Thurs. Dec 1, 2011, 11 AM ET, 201 Belmont Ave., Mod. Dept. Documents and Plans/Specs info available at [www.lucasmha.org](http://www.lucasmha.org). Inquiries: 419-259-9469 (TTY 419-259-9529). Bidders required to meet the Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Section 3 Compliance applied.**







## Cleveland Public Library ranked one of the top four libraries in the nation

Cleveland Public Library (CPL) was ranked one of the top four libraries in the country, receiving the highest possible rating of five stars in the *Library Journal's* America's Star Libraries 2011, and moved up in the rankings after another strong year.

"The *Library Journal's* ranking is just more proof that Cleveland Public Library is providing superior service and value to our city and region by promoting both a love of books and reading while propelling Cleveland forward through our community-based programming," said Felton Thomas, CPL's executive director. "It's exciting to see that our signature collections and progressive community agenda are making a difference."

*Library Journal's* Index of Public Library Service (LJ Index) ranks more than 7,000 library systems in four categories: library visits, circulation, program attendance, and public

Internet usage. Cleveland Public Library ranked 4<sup>th</sup> out of all library systems nationwide in its category and improved its overall ranking because of increases in circulation and higher usage of computers as even more community members turn to libraries for resources in these tougher financial times.

A strong supporter and advocate of CPL, Mayor Frank G. Jackson lauded the news. "On behalf of the City of Cleveland, we congratulate the Cleveland Public Library for the five-star rating they received from the *Library Journal*," said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. "This honor is a reflection of the outstanding and invaluable services the Library provides to our children, their families and job seekers. The 28 branches of the Cleveland Public Library are community assets that allow residents throughout our neighborhoods access to much needed resources and programming everyday."

## Cuyahoga Community College celebrates Distance Learning Week

Nov. 1, 2011: A series of events will be held at Cuyahoga Community College to observe National Distance Learning Week, Nov. 7-11.

Throughout the week, student activity tables will be set up on each campus and webinars and information sessions will be offered online. For more information about National Distance Learning Week at Tri-C, please visit [www.eli1.wordpress.com](http://www.eli1.wordpress.com) or contact Kevin Dranuski at 216.987.6123 or [Kevin.Dranuski@tri-c.edu](mailto:Kevin.Dranuski@tri-c.edu).

"Tri-C is continually responding to the changing needs of the local community, recognizing that students require more flexible and convenient schedules to start and finish college. We are excited to participate in National Distance Learning Week in support of the students who benefit from these course offerings," says Dr. Christina Royal, associate vice president of the Office of eLearning & Innovation.

Distance learning has evolved significantly over the past several years. More than 80 percent of all Tri-C students register for classes online, with approximately one-third enrolling in some form of distance learning. Tri-C offers 51 degrees and 13 certificates at a distance, making it Ohio's second-largest provider of distance learning coursework.

"This week was developed to celebrate and create greater awareness of distance learning and to recognize leaders as well as best practices in the field," says Dr. Kenneth Hartman,

national committee chair and academic director of Drexel University Online.

"The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) could not have found a better person to lead this initiative," said Dr. John Flores, chief executive officer and president of USDLA. "Dr. Hartman's experience in education and the media will ultimately result in a very successful campaign to educate the public about distance learning."

Online learning is the fastest growing segment of education with 3.5 million adults and 700,000 K-12 students taking a course and or completing their degree completely online. Distance learning is

the acquisition of knowledge and skills through mediated information and instruction, encompassing all technologies and other forms of learning at a distance. National Distance Learning Week is an initiative that was developed to generate greater awareness and appreciation for distance learning and to recognize leaders and best practices in the field.



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Neighborhood Connections, a small-grants program of the Cleveland Foundation, has funded more than 1,300 grassroots projects, empowering citizens to improve their quality of life.

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## Growth starts at the Minority Business Development Center.

Cleveland's new Minority Business Development Center, a strategic partner of COSE, will work one-on-one with you to give you greater access to capital and financing assistance with non-traditional partners, and introduce you to new procurement opportunities to help expand your business.

The time for growth is now. Contact the MBDA at 216.592.2253 or visit us at [gcpartnership.com/MBDACleveland](http://gcpartnership.com/MBDACleveland) today.

**MBDA**  
Business Center  
Cleveland, Ohio

**COSE**  
Council of Smaller Enterprises



## Día de los Muertos honors first Toledo *familias*

See article by Kevin Milliken on Page 2.



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