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DICIEMBRE 19, 2014 Weekly/Semanal 16 Páginas Vol. 56, No. 16

LATINOS CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS, P. 12



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EL CENTRO EVENTS, PAGE 8

Esperanza celebrates increased Latino graduation rates

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

Cleveland, December 2014: Esperanza, Inc. staff and volunteers have plenty of reason to celebrate these days, as the graduation rates of Cleveland-area Latino high school students have more than doubled from 30 percent in 2011 to just over 60 percent last year.

Three years ago, Cleveland Metropolitan School District CEO Eric Gordon called the district's horrible Latino graduation rate as "a crisis in the community" during a panel discussion with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Gordon even pointed out that the rate was even lower among just Hispanic boys.

The nonprofit agency which mentors young Latinos has significantly helped to "move the dial" in a positive direction, turning around a trend of ever-worsening high school dropout rates. Some of those solutions include hands-on, real-world, one-on-one mentoring and tutoring.

"It makes us feel wonderful that we set a goal four years ago and through a lot of hard work, a lot of focus that we've been able to make an impact," said Victor Ruiz, Esperanza executive director. "We can attribute a lot of that to us—not all of it. But it makes us feel accomplished. We know there's still a lot more work yet to be done, but we're seeing results."

Esperanza conducted a pair of external evaluations to measure the success of its efforts with Hispanic high school students. Ruiz indicated those surveys showed an impact on the youth served by the nonprofit organization.

"We know that students who come through our programs see increases in GPA and school attendance, as well as graduation," he said. "So those are the things we can quantify and say yes, we had an impact."

Esperanza also ratcheted up its advocacy efforts, working with Cleveland public schools leaders to "ensure they were providing them the resources that they need," according to Ruiz, who called it "a partnership" with the school district "to get the needle moving."

But Esperanza's executive director still believes the situation is in a crisis mode, because the graduation rate is still not where he'd like to see it for Latino teens. He also sees a crisis in the lack of Latino young people who are seeking higher education and "graduating with some sort of degree or credential."

"While this is great news for our community, there is still a lot of work to be done, so we are still in what I consider to be crisis mode," said Ruiz.

Esperanza's "Top-down approach"

Esperanza's board launched a systemic change in the way the organization handled its academic programs, recruited, hired, and trained staff a few years ago. Ruiz stated that "top-down approach" led to wholesale changes at the nonprofit organization, which started more than four decades ago as a vehicle to award student scholarships. The nonprofit still doled out \$120,000 in college scholarships this year, but getting more Latinos to college became a primary focus.

"Under our watch, the rate had dropped to abysmal numbers," he admitted. "One of the things we realized is that we weren't focused enough on our youth and their graduation rate. We got into adult workforce education. So we eliminated programming that wasn't impacting the high school graduation rate and bringing programming that was."

Esperanza and its supporters managed to leverage larger donations from foundations and businesses across Greater Cleveland, partly by bringing in evidence-based programs that were working elsewhere. Ruiz explained that the nonprofit was "able to see results quickly with small groups first," which helped to make the case for increased and sustained funding.

"I really started by articulating the need and I think we were able to convince the funding community that the Hispanic community matters," said Ruiz, himself a product of the Cleveland public schools. "They acknowledged that our community was growing and if Cleveland was going to be a better place, they needed to address the Hispanic community. But those results gave the funding community the confidence they needed to invest in us and our work."

Esperanza has grown from a \$600,000 per year to \$2 million

As a result, Esperanza has grown from a \$600,000 per year operation to an annual budget of more than \$2 million. Some of its chief financial backers include: The George Gund Foundation, Saint Luke's Foundation, and United Way of Greater Cleveland. The Cleveland Foundation has been chipping in significant dollars as well—mainly because of the nonprofit group's strategic and system approach to improving graduation rates.

One of the biggest hurdles Esperanza had to overcome was the growing number of Spanish-speaking families that were settling in Greater Cleveland. The nonprofit group increas-

ingly put their focus on hiring bilingual staff, particularly those who worked directly with students and their families. That language barrier was only made worse by the lack of bilingual peers elsewhere.

"The other piece was ensuring that those families were getting the services they needed from the community in general," said Ruiz. "In some cases, it's advocating to make sure the school district has the proper number of interpreters and instructors to refer families to the agencies that have the proper bilingual staff. It became an issue of understanding, who were the good resources out there to refer."

The Esperanza executive director stated his staff had to "become intentional" on where to send Spanish-speaking families for help, so they wouldn't become frustrated and give up.

"There's an attitude in general among many agencies that they will institute bilingual services when there is a need," said Ruiz. "In many cases, the community won't go to these services because the services just aren't there. It's one of those things where the general community won't make the investment because they don't see the need. We know there's a need."

The Esperanza chief executive stated there is a long-held "perception problem" among the general community that Latino families don't care about education, which he explained could not be farther from the truth.

"What our community needs to lean is how to engage in the educational system in this country," said Ruiz. "In this country, an engaged parent is one who is constantly seen at the school, attends all the open houses. A lot of the rest of us believe engaged parenting can mean a lot of different things. I think it's the way we culturally define engagement."

Hispanic families typically deal with academic and other types of problems within the home environment without taking it to a school principal or teacher. That is where Ruiz sees a potential perception problem and his staff is trying



Esperanza's executive director Victor Ruiz

to help those families assimilate better.

"We're teaching them how to read a report card, to schedule a meeting with the principal, because that is how engagement is defined in this country, in this community," he said, explaining that self-advocacy and mentoring become important components to successful students.

For example, Esperanza's ELLA and ELLOS program target the leadership potential of high-school age Latinos, meeting once each month in groups of 20 with a community leader as a volunteer mentor. Those leadership clubs are aimed at providing an alternative to gangs, violence, and dropping out of school on the part of at-risk, inner-city Latinos. Students deal with gender-specific issues and learn more about higher education options.

Academic programs include tutoring for students active in other Esperanza programs and activities. A partnership with the Cleveland Municipal Schools gives the agency access to student grade and test data to help identify and support specific student academic needs.

Regular test preparations sessions also are held to help students with the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) or college entrance exams like the ACT.

Plummeting Latino graduation rates in Cleveland can be traced back to 2007 when Ohio started requiring students to pass the OGT in order to earn a high school diploma. While Latino students do well on state tests through middle school, results drop off dramatically in high school. That can be attributed to language barriers and restrictions on language help while taking the OGT. Students may know conversational English, but struggle with the technical language on standardized math and science tests.

State regulations also limit

(Continued on Page 8)



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El Consejo Consultivo del Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior

Viaja seguro a México en la caravana del Programa Paisano.

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Por: Isabel Flores, Corresponsal La Prensa

15 dic., 2014: Este jueves 18 y domingo 21 de diciembre saldrá la caravana de mexicanos que desean viajar de regreso a sus hogares, acompañados por autoridades para tener un viaje seguro. El punto de reunión es Laredo, Texas y el destino Querétaro. En la caravana del 18 de diciembre, saldrá un grupo especial de Michigan y en la del 21 de diciembre, saldrán de Chicago, Illinois. Si usted gusta sumarse a una de estas caravanas, comunicarse lo antes posible al Programa Paisano en Chicago: (312) 4918948.

“Los connacionales van acompañados en las caravanas por personal de la dirección general del Programa Paisano, quienes les brindan asistencia y supervisión en todo lo relacionado a sus derechos en el proceso de ingreso y tránsito por México, para que no reciban ningún abuso por parte de las autoridades. También les acompaña la policía federal para brindar la seguridad durante el trayecto y los Ángeles Verdes para apoyo mecánico por si se poncha una llanta en el camino, se descompone el auto, o cualquier otro incidente”, informó Ernesto Andrade Sánchez, Representante del Programa Paisano para la Costa Este con Sede en Chicago.

En entrevista exclusiva para La Prensa, Andrade comentó que estas son las dos únicas caravanas que se realizarán durante este año, por lo que exhorta a los mexicanos que desean viajar por carretera, se comuniquen cuanto antes a las oficinas del programa paisano para que ellos les brinden directamente el teléfono del responsable de la caravana.

“Este es el primer año que se hace una segunda caravana. Ya tenemos como cinco o seis años con la caravana que sale de Michigan y llega a Laredo, Texas el 18 de diciembre, pero en esta ocasión aumentamos una más para el día 21, la cual saldrá de Chicago. Sin embargo, hemos recogido mucha inquietud por parte de nuestros paisanos de organizar otra caravana el próximo año entre el 12 y el 15 de diciembre, ya que se ha incrementado mucho la afluencia en esas fechas, así que lo más seguro es que para el próximo año tengamos tres caravanas”.



La ventaja de ir en las caravanas es viajar seguro. “Si bien el paso es lento, hay muchos beneficios; por ejemplo, la del 21 de diciembre se va encontrar en la milla 13 de Laredo, Texas con un módulo de migración mexicana y banjecito, el cual será instalado del 19 al 21 de diciembre, para agilizar la revisión y tal vez expedición de documentos para el trámite del permiso de autos y para los extranjeros que requieran permiso para entrar a nuestro país.

También habrá una previsión de equipaje y mercancía, para asegurarse que lleven todo en orden con respecto a la membresía fiscal a la que tienen derecho. Eso agilizará mucho el tránsito”, agregó el entrevistado.

Cabe destacar que estas caravanas forman parte del operativo especial del Programa Paisano que inició el 1 de noviembre y concluye el 8 de Enero. “Tenemos tres jornadas especiales en todo el año, semana santa, verano e invierno. En este momento estamos en pleno operativo de invierno y hemos recibido muchas llamadas solicitando información”.

Para aquellos que no alcancen las caravanas o deseen viajar por tierra por su propia cuenta, es importante que realicen el permiso de internación de su vehículo en los módulos de banjecito más cercanos. “En el módulo de Chicago estamos recibiendo paisanos de Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, y los alrededores. Eso agilizará mucho el tránsito por la frontera ya que no tendrán que hacer largas filas de espera”, dijo Ernesto Andrade. El módulo de banjecito se encuentra localizado en las oficinas del Consulado de México en Chicago, ubicado en el 204 de la avenida S.

Ashland.

Por otra parte, se recomienda viajar de día para tener una mayor seguridad por si tienen algún percance con su vehículo. La policía federal y los Ángeles Verdes realizan recorridos por las carreteras. También se ha desplegado personal del programa paisano en varios puntos de ingreso al país, tanto terrestre como aéreo para brindar orientación a los mexicanos sobre sus derechos. Encaso de tener algún problema favor de reportarlo a los siguientes números gratuitos:

18772109469 (dentro de Estados Unidos) y 018002018542 (en México).

Es importante destacar que en este momento la franquicia es de \$500 dólares por persona. “Incluye a los bebés y es acumulable; es decir, si una familia viaja con niños y son cinco integrantes en total, la franquicia a la que tienen derecho es de \$2500 dólares. Dicha franquicia es el valor de los regalos que pueden internar a territorio nacional, libres de impuestos. Se recomienda no quitar las etiquetas a los regalos y guardar los recibos en caso de que haya necesidad de comprobar el gasto”, informó el Representante del Programa Paisano en Chicago.

Regularmente, la franquicia vía aérea es de \$500 dólares y \$300 vía terrestre, pero cuando es operativo paisano, se iguala en cualquier vía.

Para concluir, Ernesto Andrade invitó a denunciar cualquier situación irregular por parte de las autoridades. “No se queden cayados, en la guía paisano viene toda la información que se necesita para tener un viaje seguro y ordenado, pueden obtenerla gratuitamente en cualquier consulado o bien, bajarla de nuestro sitio web www.paisano.gov.mx Como siempre lo digo, un paisano informado, es un paisano empoderado”.

Celebran última reunión del ciclo de Consejeros del Instituto de Mexicanos en el Exterior 2012-2014

Comenzarán a expedir credenciales de elector para el voto de los mexicanos en el exterior.

Por: Isabel Flores, Corresponsal La Prensa

Michigan, diciembre de 2014: El Consejo Consultivo del Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior (CCIME) del ciclo 2012-2014, llevó a cabo su última reunión el pasado mes de noviembre en Orlando, Florida. Dicha reunión fue encabezada por el subsecretario para América del Norte, Sergio Alcocer Martínez de Castro.

En la XXIV Reunión, los 100 consejeros revisaron las acciones desarrolladas para responder mejor a las necesidades de cada una de nuestras comunidades en Estados Unidos y Canadá.

Destacaron las ponencias del procurador agrario, Cruz López; del coordinador de Asuntos Multilaterales de INADEM, Iván Ornelas; de la Coordinadora de Inversión Social de la Fundación Slim, Brenda de Hoyos, y de las jóvenes Mirna Orozco y Julieta Garibay de la organización United We Dream.

Asimismo, se contó la participación de Efrén Leyva, cónsul de México en Orlando; Reyna Torres, directora general de Protección a Mexicanos en el Exterior de la Cancillería; Samuel Berkstein, director del Programa 3x1 de SEDESOL; y Cristina King, Directora General Adjunta de Promoción Cultural de la SRE.

Durante la reunión, los Consejeros presentaron las conclusiones de su trabajo en Comisiones intercomunitarias ideas sobre el desarrollo efectivo de proyectos locales, regionales, nacionales y binacionales.

Maria Elena Rodríguez, Consejera Titular en Michigan, comentó que fue toda una experiencia formar parte de este consejo. “Es la tercera vez que participé como Consejera, las primeras dos como suplente y ahora como titular. Durante el tiempo que he participado me he dado cuenta que cuando lanzaron el programanostomaban más en cuenta, nos daban mucha atención y nos reuníamos con el Presidente en Los Pinos para compartirle las preocupaciones de los mexicanos en el exterior, pero con esta nueva administración, nos dan la impresión de que ya no saben qué hacer con nosotros”.

“En esta ocasión nos explicaron claramente desde el principio que nuestro papel era de consejeros, podíamos

aconsejar pero no teníamos voz.

Entiendo que eso lo hicieron porque muchos trataban de aprovecharse e llegaban exigiendo a los consulados como si fueran jefes”, agregó la entrevistada. “Yo he formado parte de varios consejos consultivos y entiendo perfectamente nuestro papel; pero creo importante que si desarrollamos proyectos para beneficio de nuestra gente, nos apoyen y no nos digan simplemente que no hay presupuesto, porque entonces terminas preguntándote qué hacemos aquí. Basado en los últimos años, parece que quieren deshacerse de los Consejeros”.

Es importante mencionar que el CCIME fue creado en 2003 como herramienta para fomentar un mayor acercamiento entre el gobierno de México y los connacionales en este país. Con apoyo de los consejeros del CCIME, México ha logrado consolidar distintas iniciativas que benefician a nuestros connacionales en Estados Unidos y Canadá, tales como el programa de Ventanillas de Salud y la Semana de Educación Financiera.

Maria Elena Rodríguez formó parte de la Comisión de Economía en donde se desarrolló un proyecto para que los mexicanos que regresen a México puedan poner su negocio. “Hablamos con Sedesol y varias autoridades, pero nunca se concretó por falta de presupuesto. Espero que se le de seguimiento porque es algo muy positivo para nuestra gente”, agregó.

Por su parte, Marylou Olivarez-Mason, Consejera Titular en Michigan dijo que había sido una gran experiencia formar parte de este ciclo y se siente muy satisfecha de los logros alcanzados por la Comisión de Asuntos Políticos de la cual formó parte. “Las autoridades del Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior nos felicitaron por nuestros logros y nos dijeron que sería buena idea que pudiéramos continuar”.

Durante el ciclo 2012-2014, la Comisión de Asuntos Políticos concretó el voto de los mexicanos en el exterior. “Ya es una ley, ya pasó por el Senado y la Cámara de Diputados, está aprobado. Lo que sigue es que el Instituto Nacional Electoral (INE) y la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE) se pongan de acuerdo para saber cómo se va trabajar en la emisión de las credenciales de elector, que ese

era el conflicto, porque por un lado la Secretaría no estaba de acuerdo con prestar sus instalaciones y por el otro, lo tenía que hacer porque ya es una ley. Al parecer ya se logró establecer una mejor relación y están llegando a un acuerdo, es lo que nos dijeron en la última reunión que tuvimos en México el primero de Diciembre”, compartió Elvira Torres, Consejera Titular de Chicago y Coordinadora de la Comisión de Asuntos Políticos.

La Consejera Torres comentó que viajaron a la ciudad de México algunos consejeros para entregar una carta al INE en donde solicitan ser parte del proceso de credencialización. Además, agregó: “Pedimos que capaciten a un grupo de nosotros para que a su vez, nosotros podamos capacitar a nuestros connacionales y líderes comunitarios para hacer este trabajo titánico; ya que nosotros tenemos la sensibilidad y conocemos la importancia del voto de los mexicanos en el exterior. Es un proceso por el que se ha trabajado durante muchos años y por fin lo logramos, queremos enamorar a todos los mexicanos; pero hasta ahora no hemos tenido respuesta por parte del INE”.

De acuerdo con Elvira Torres, en enero se deben establecer los módulos en los consulados para la emisión de la credencial para votar.

En cuanto a la posibilidad de que la Comisión de Asuntos Políticos continúe el siguiente ciclo del CCIME, la Consejera de Chicago declaró: “Espero que no nos hurten esto que está empezando y deseamos seguir impulsando. Yo veo muy difícil que podamos seguir, el IME está haciendo muchos cambios no democráticos. No sé a quién van a llamar ellos el próximo periodo, hasta el momento no sabemos nada sobre el proceso de elección de los siguientes consejeros”.

Durante otros ciclos, en la última reunión ya se tenían estipulados los lineamientos para la elección de los siguientes consejeros, pero en esta ocasión no se sabe nada al respecto. De acuerdo con la SRE la XXIV reunión se enmarcó en un proceso de reflexión y reingeniería sobre la forma en que opera dicho Consejo, que derivará en un cambio en su estructura y ámbito de operación para responder mejor a las necesidades de la comunidad mexicana en ambos países.

Más estados demandan a EEUU por tema inmigración

AUSTIN, Texas, 10 de dic. de 2014 (AP): Otros cuatro estados se han unido a una demanda contra el gobierno federal por las reformas a las leyes migratorias anunciadas por el presidente Barack Obama.

Arkansas, Michigan, Dakota del Norte y Oklahoma se sumaron a la iniciativa liderada por Texas, con lo que el número de estados querellantes asciende a 24.

La querrela se presentó en un tribunal federal en Brownsville.

El mes pasado, Obama anunció que implementará por orden ejecutiva una serie de reformas a las leyes de inmigración a fin de evitar que millones de personas sean deportadas.

La demanda, sin embargo, afirma que el gobierno federal está "violando la constitución".

El fiscal general de Texas, Greg Abbott, quien pronto será juramentado como gobernador, sostiene que Texas es el mejor estado para representar a los querellantes debido a su vasta frontera con México.

Abbott dijo el miércoles que la medida presidencial "evade la voluntad del pueblo estadounidense".

Obama: Nueva pauta en deportación no es inmediata

Por CLAUDIA TORRENS y E.J. TAMARA, Associated Press

NUEVA YORK, 9 de dic. de 2014 (AP): El presidente Barack Obama dijo el martes que algunas familias inmigrantes seguirán siendo deportadas por algún tiempo hasta que se entrenen a agentes de inmigración y se apliquen de forma uniforme las nuevas pautas de expulsión que anunció recientemente.

"Ahora, debido a las medidas que he tomado, todavía tengo a 5 millones de personas que no pueden inscribirse (al plan) ni tienen la confianza de que no serán deportadas", dijo el presidente durante una entrevista con Univision transmitida parcialmente el martes.

"De hecho, lo que va a ocurrir digamos en los próximos días, semana o mes, es que va a haber personas que todavía van a quedar enmarañadas en el sistema debido a que tenemos que entrenar a los agentes de ICE (Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas) para que respondan de una manera diferente", señaló el presidente durante su entrevista con el periodista Jorge Ramos.

El contenido de la entrevista fue distribuido a los medios el martes. Ésta será transmitida en su totalidad el domingo.

Obama anunció el mes pasado varias medidas de alivio migratorio, entre ellas nuevas pautas para la deportación. Aseguró que el enfoque estará en expulsar a criminales y no familias.

Las declaraciones del martes sobre ICE contrastan con el mensaje que el mandatario dio el mismo día en un centro comunitario en Nashville, Tennessee, donde animó a familias inmigrantes a acogerse a los nuevos programas de alivio migratorio.

Estos incluyen proteger de la deportación a padres que llevan más de cinco años en Estados Unidos y que tienen hijos que son ciudadanos estadounidenses o residentes permanentes. Los beneficiados por la medida también podrán recibir un permiso de trabajo temporal.

También en Nashville, el mandatario aseguró que el ICE no aplicará las nuevas pautas de deportación de forma inmediata.

"Esto tomará algún tiempo, el que los agentes de ICE en el terreno comprendan lo que son estas prioridades y las apliquen de forma consistente, así que aún se oirán historias alrededor del país sobre algunas familias separadas", dijo Obama. "A medida que pase el tiempo,

sin embargo, nos centraremos en reenfoque y redirigir las prioridades para que los agentes (de inmigración) entiendan 'enfocuémonos en criminales, enfocuémonos en delinquentes, no nos enfocuémonos en familias'".

Según las nuevas pautas de deportación, anunciadas por el presidente el 20 de noviembre, la prioridad principal serán los inmigrantes detenidos en la frontera tratando de ingresar de manera ilegal, los convictos de delitos graves y las personas que representan una amenaza para la seguridad nacional.

La segunda prioridad serán inmigrantes con delitos menores "significativos" y hallados culpables de al menos tres delitos menores, mientras que la prioridad más baja son las personas en proceso o con órdenes de deportación emitidas a partir del 1 de enero del 2014. Activistas, sin embargo, dicen que las autoridades deberían definir lo que quieren decir con delitos menores "significativos".

Por otro lado, y durante una entrevista con Telemundo también realizada el martes, Obama

dijo que los inmigrantes que teman acogerse a su nuevo programa de alivio migratorio deberían tomar el ejemplo de sus hijos, muchos de los cuales sí se acogieron a un plan similar hace dos años.

"Uno piensa en todos esos jóvenes que se apuntaron, entendiendo que era algo temporal, pero que proclamaron 'somos estadounidenses; necesitamos ser vistos y escuchados y queremos hacer una contribución a esta sociedad'", dijo Obama durante la entrevista, cuya transcripción fue emitida el martes pero cuya transmisión ocurrirá el domingo.

Muchos inmigrantes tienen temor acogerse al plan porque es válido sólo durante tres años, entre otros motivos.

En el 2012 Obama impuso un plan temporal de suspensión de las deportaciones para jóvenes inmigrantes que llegaron a Estados Unidos sin permiso legal junto con sus padres mientras eran niños. Hasta ahora, más de 600.000 jóvenes se han beneficiado del programa.

Se calcula que unos 4 millones de inmigrantes sin autorización para residir en el país podrían beneficiarse

de las nuevas medidas, cuyo proceso de solicitud se abre el año que viene.

Algunos legisladores republicanos, sin embargo, han expresado su fuerte oposición. Más de una docena de estados, entre ellos Texas, han interpuesto una demanda federal en contra de las acciones ejecutivas del presidente.

Obama aseguró a los estadounidenses el martes que si se acogen a los programas no serán deportados en el futuro, aunque éstos sean temporales.

"Es cierto que una futura administración podría intentar revertir algunas de nuestras políticas", dijo Obama en el centro comunitario en Nashville. "Pero será franco con ustedes, creo que básicamente los estadounidenses tienen un buen corazón y querrán tratar a la gente de forma justa".

En la entrevista con Telemundo el presidente dijo que los inmigrantes que se acojan ahora a las medidas probablemente "estarán en una mejor posición" de sacarle provecho a una posible futura reformamigratoria que abrala vía a la naturalización de inmigrantes no autorizados.

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Cynthia Estrada Charity Fund donates \$20,000 for two new bilingual textbooks series at expanded Academy of the Américas PreK-9

Dec. 2014: In support of the successful *Academy of the Américas* program in Southwest Detroit, which expanded this fall to include a new 9th grade class, the *Cynthia Estrada Charity Fund* has donated \$20,000 to fund two new bilingual textbooks series – the *SRA ¡Imaginalo!* series for grades K-6 and the *Scott Foresman enVisionMATH en español* for grades K-6.

The donation for the bilingual textbooks comes on the heels of \$500 scholarships that are being offered to each incoming 9th grader (up to \$15,000) thanks to an anonymous donor and a \$10,000 *Detroit Public Schools Foundation* grant to fund an incoming 9th grader orientation program for students and faculty focused on culture and climate to ensure a successful start to the high school years.

Estrada is Vice President and Director, International Union, UAW, General Motors Department, the first woman and first Latina to serve in that role.

“The generous support of the Southwest Detroit community, our partners, the *Detroit Public Schools* Foundation and donors like Cynthia Estrada’s *Charity Fund* will help ensure that our successful bilingual immersion program will help lay the academic foundation for the next generation’s successful college graduates, leaders in world affairs, ambassadors and international entrepreneurs,” said *Nicholas Brown*, *Academy of the Américas* Principal. “Our students and staff could not be more thankful for this donation.”

Detroit Public Schools this fall expanded the successful *Academy of the Américas* K-8 program by adding a 9th grade academy. The school, called the *Escuela Preparatoria Academia de las Américas*, offers a dual language curriculum, honors classes, and rigorous academic standards. It is part of an overall rollout of several major educational initiatives in Southwest Detroit, including a new gifted and talented program, a new adult

education site, and much more.

The development of these initiatives follows a strong community engagement process with many parents, students, partner organizations and agencies in Southwest Detroit.

For more information on enrolling in the 9th grade program at the *Academy of the Américas*, call (313) 596-7640.

Photo caption: *Maurice Staten*, Assistant Director, Special Projects, UAW, General Motors Department (far left), *Nicholas Brown*, Principal of *Academy of the Américas*, *DPS* (far right), meet with *Angela Reyes*, Executive Director of the *Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation*; *Tammie Jones*, Program Officer, Education at the *Skillman Foundation*; *Punita Thurman*, Senior Program Officer, Education at the *Skillman Foundation* and other members of the community and school’s students at the *Academy of the Américas* on Monday, November 24, 2014.

More than 7,000 students’ classrooms grow brighter as DPS adds high quality, energy-efficient LED lighting to 11 school buildings, including two Southwest Detroit schools

District to enhance learning and realize hundreds of thousands in annual savings: 60% reduction in classroom lighting energy utilization and the elimination of maintenance cost.

Detroit Public Schools is adding new, energy-efficient LED lighting to 11 school buildings, which will not only provide a cost-savings to the district but will enhance the educational environment for more than 7,000 students by making classrooms brighter, including in two Southwest Detroit schools.

“The key benefit to the project is improvement in our classrooms, where teachers and students will spend their academic day in brighter settings that are more conducive to learning and academic achievement,” said *DPS* Emergency Manager *Jack Martin*. “The LED technology also utilizes approximately 60% less electricity, lasts more than twice as long as our previous lighting and comes with a 10-year warranty, which will save the district in operational dollars, a key goal.”

The district is installing 15- and 40-watt LED lamps lasting up to 50,000 hours, versus 40- and 80-watt fluorescent lamps that last only up to 20,000 hours. The higher LED light quality and lumen output of each lamp reduces the number of lamps required in many classrooms. The combined benefits will result in a more

than 60% reduction in classroom lighting cost and energy utilization, and positively impact the learning environment. In addition, the 10-year warranty eliminates maintenance costs, allowing facility management resources to be redirected to other critical building areas.

Additional benefits of the new LED lighting cited in an assessment include heightened alertness and improved cognitive performance, better visibility, elevated moods and positive health effects, such as removing exposure to UV emissions and exposure to mercury that are present in other lighting systems.

“Learning in the classrooms at *Mason* is so much better with the new lighting,” said *Omega Mostyn*, *Mason Elementary-Middle School* Principal. “Bright lights generate positive emotions and motivate students to concentrate. Ultimately, a positive conducive, learning environment has a high impact on student achievement, especially when partnered with other positive learning supports. The bright lights truly make a difference in our classrooms.”

Under the direction of Chief Strategy Officer *Roderick Brown*, a collaborative team made up of key departments, including the Office of Energy and Sustainability and *Plante Moran Cresa*, identified the opportunity to utilize tax cred-



its available as part of the improvement work completed for the \$500.5 million 2009 Bond Program. The district received \$847,000 in 2013 for IRS Tax

Credits for the projects completed, and *DPS* utilized \$153,000 in credits to have *SHW Group* provide an assessment for 11 *DPS* facilities in early 2014. *Tooles Contracting Group* later was awarded the \$1.2 million lighting upgrade project through a competitive bidding process.

The work, which began in August 2014, is expected to be completed this month.

The schools to receive the new lighting are:

- *Carstens Elementary-Middle* at *Remus Robinson*
- *Spain Elementary-Middle School*
- *Davis Aerospace Technical High School* at *Golightly*
- *Burton International Academy*
- *Dixon Educational Learning Academy*
- *Mason Elementary-Middle School*
- *Pulaski Elementary-Middle School*
- *Mark Twain School for Scholars*
- *Nichols Elementary-Middle School*
- *Bow Elementary-Middle School*
- *Harms Elementary School*

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HISPANIC PROFILE

Kathy Huner: Wauseon Latina becomes first Latino mayor in Ohio

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent

Nov. 3, 2014: Kathy (née Trejo) Huner made political history recently on two fronts when she officially was sworn in as Wauseon's new mayor—as the first female mayor in the city's history and as the first Latina mayor in Ohio's history.

But Mrs. Huner only wants to better her hometown and wasn't looking to set any of those history-making moments. She called it a long time in coming that a Latino becomes a mayor.

"It's an amazing honor, but when I went forward with this I did not know this," she admitted.

"I had no idea until I was told by another Wauseon friend who is a city councilman down in the Columbus area. He said 'You know you hold the highest-ranking office for a Latino in Ohio.' So I did some checking on some areas of the Internet and I could not find one. I was shocked. I would have thought by now there would at least be one."

Mrs. Huner was selected unanimously as mayor by her peers on city council after former mayor Doug Shaw decided to give up the office to focus on his clothing business. Mrs. Huner will serve the remainder of Shaw's term—through the end of 2015. She will earn \$12,000 annually.

Mrs. Huner has served 13 years on city council. Her first stint was from 2000 to 2011. She gave up her council seat to run against Shaw for mayor, but was elected back to council for a fourth term in 2013. Once the unexpired mayor's term is done, Mrs. Huner plans to run for her own term as mayor.

The 1981 graduate of Wauseon High School wants to promote the positives of the city to the younger generations—hoping to keep them in Northwest Ohio or draw them back to raise their families. That long-held goal becomes even more important now that she is

mayor.

"I was hoping my own children would grow up in this town, go to college, and come back. Many of our children go to college in other parts of the state and then don't come back to raise their families," she said. "I wanted to see while on council if there were things I could do—parks and rec departments, helping to get businesses in here or certain types of areas, zoning, that would encourage people to stay here and also bring in other people so we would be thriving."

But the recent recession delayed those dreams, as Wauseon city officials, like many other communities, had to cut back on its spending. That's what prompted her to run for mayor in 2011.

"I grew up here. I love everything about it—small-town environment, family ethics. I like that," said Mrs. Huner. "There were some things I really wasn't happy with occurring within our city. We had a lot of budget cuts at that time."

Supporters prompted her to run for council again, telling her they "needed her voice" back in city government.

"I know sometimes people feel they don't get heard or that it gets overlooked or set aside and I didn't want them to feel that way," she said.

Mrs. Huner admitted "there was some debate" among city council members as to who would succeed Shaw as mayor. The city council president was next in line, but nominated Mrs. Huner instead.

"There was a lot of discussion and debate. You've got to have a lot of time and a lot of compassion," she said. "You need to know this doesn't come without stumbling and certain reservations. But you go in know-



Kathy Huner

ing you're going to serve the people and that's all you can do. I'm here to do the job. I have no personal agenda. I want to serve the citizens. I do not please all of them, but I sure do try to love them."

Her father moved from Texas to Northwest Ohio when he was an infant. Her grandfather was a farmer for several years and moved his family to Wauseon to begin working in a factory. Her father went into law enforcement, becoming the first Latino to ever serve on the Fulton County Sheriff's Department in the early 1970s.

Mrs. Huner, 52, tries to stay close to her Latino roots. Her family gathered last weekend to prepare their annual Christmas tamales.

"I try to stay involved with my family as much as I can, because it's getting smaller and smaller as far as our memory of our roots and where we come from," she said. "Living in Wauseon, my father did not teach us Spanish. That is one thing that is frustrating for me is that I do not speak Spanish, but my father does."

Mrs. Huner married her high school sweetheart 32 years ago. The couple has two children. Her son Mitchell, 25, is now a Wauseon police officer. She points out he has hired to the city police force during her break from city council.

Her daughter Katie, 22, will graduate next spring from Adrian College. She plans to attend law school.

Mrs. Huner, who has been a preschool teacher for nearly 30 years, will keep her part-time job she started last fall at a non-profit tutoring center.

UT's Ritter Planetarium to debut 'Santa's Secret Star' Dec. 5

The University of Toledo Fulldome Studio (UTFS) has premiered its first production, "Santa's Secret Star," commencing Friday, Dec. 5, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at the Ritter Planetarium. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children.



"Santa's Secret Star" will run Fridays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 1 p.m. through Dec. 20.

The 23-minute program geared toward children in kindergarten through second grade tells the story of how Santa uses astronomy to plan his annual trip around the world. A teacher's guide and other resources to help further the educational impact of the program will be available.

"Santa's Secret Star" is based on a planetarium program that Alex Mak, associate planetarium director, created in 1988.

"We've updated the script and have created a stunning visual adaptation," Mak said.

Fulldome programs are immersive, 3D experiences that require a special projection system and are featured in modern, digital planetariums.

UT's fulldome projector, the Spitz SciDome XD, was installed in 2011. Creation of the fulldome programs involves a large production crew and can be costly.

"We don't have all of the needed talent on our small planetarium staff, but it occurred to us that UT, as a whole, does," Mak said. "By combining our talent with that of others at UT, we have put together a team that can produce high-quality programs for a reasonable cost."

"Santa's Secret Star" will be marketed to other planetariums throughout the United States. Revenue generated will be used to support the Ritter Planetarium and future UTFS productions.

"There are many elements to creating a good program. It has to be scientifically accurate and up-to-date. It has to be interesting, engaging and informative. Finally, it

needs visual appeal," Mak said. "The program has to take full advantage of the technological capabilities of modern projection systems."

UTFS utilizes talent from departments across campus, including the Center for Creative Instruction, the College of Education and the Art Department, among others.

The UTFS crew is planning its next production and hopes to produce two programs each year.

For more information about the Ritter Planetarium, visit utoledo.edu/nsm/rpbo/.



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Las visitas durante las fiestas te dan la oportunidad de verificar que tus familiares mayores están bien

Por Nicole Duritz

Me acuerdo de una ocasión en la que visité a una tía abuela durante las fiestas hace unos años y estaba sentada con ella en la mesa de la cocina mientras se tomaba sus (muchos) medicamentos de la mañana. Mientras conversábamos, me di cuenta de que iba a agarrar la misma botella de la que acababa de sacar una píldora. Pregunté: "¿No te acabas de tomar esa?". Pareció un poco sorprendida y dijo: "Ah, me imagino que dos no harán daño".

Le expliqué con mucho tacto que tomar sus medicamentos tal cual como se los han recetado es importante para su bienestar continuo, y que hasta un pequeño error puede causar problemas graves. Ese mismo día, fuimos a la farmacia y compramos un organizador de píldoras para que ella pudiera organizar sus medicamentos de la mañana y de la noche al principio de la semana.

Mi tía accedió a anotar todos sus medicamentos para que yo pudiera hacer copias de la lista. Ahora lleva unas copias en su cartera cuando va al médico y a la farmacia. Y tiene una referencia a mano para cuando organiza sus píldoras todas las semanas.

Nuestros padres y otros familiares mayores quieren vivir sus vidas. Desean quedarse en sus propios hogares, transportarse solos y hacer lo que se les antoje. Por supuesto, compartimos esos deseos para ellos y hasta para nosotros mismos. Ya que el tiempo va pasando entre tus visitas a tus familiares, las fiestas pueden ser un buen momento para evaluar el bienestar de tus seres queridos.

Presta atención a lo siguiente cuando visites a tus padres y otros familiares mayores durante las fiestas:

1. Habilidades para conducir

Puedes verlo por ti mismo o enterarte por familiares que la manera de conducir de tu madre o padre deja mucho que desear. Para comprender cómo evaluar sus habilidades para conducir (y las tuyas), inscríbense juntos en un curso para conducir de manera segura. Además de que todos

se pueden beneficiar de los consejos para conducir, el curso es divertido y podría ahorrarte dinero. Usa el localizador de cursos de Driver Safety en www.aarp.org/findacourse para encontrar un curso cercano. Si debes tener la difícil conversación sobre limitar o eliminar el tiempo que pasan detrás del volante, fíjate en el programa "Tenemos que hablar". Este seminario gratis en línea te ayudará a abordar este tema difícil. Encuentra otros recursos para conducir de manera segura en AARP Driver Safety.

2. Medicamentos

Igual que le pasó a mi tía, es muy fácil cometer errores al tomar los medicamentos recetados y los resultados pueden ser peligrosos y hasta poner en peligro la vida. Un buen método para ayudar a tus padres y parientes mayores a manejar sus medicamentos es animarlos a mantener un registro de medicamentos. Hay uno disponible en línea en www.aarp.org/medicationrecord. Después de que lo completes, pueden hacer copias para compartir con sus médicos y su farmacéutico.

3. Temporada de gripe

Las vacunas antigripales salvan vidas. Y es probable que no haga falta programar una cita con el médico, pues pueden encontrar clínicas comunitarias que administren la vacuna en farmacias y otros lugares.

4. Cobertura de seguro de salud

El período de inscripción abierta de Medicare tiene lugar del 15 de octubre al 7 de diciembre. Este es el momento en el que los beneficiarios de Medicare pueden cambiar su cobertura médica y de medicamentos recetados de Medicare. Si a tu madre, padre u otro familiar mayor le cuesta trabajo pagar las cuentas médicas, aléntale a fijarse en otras opciones en <http://es.medicare.gov/>. También puede beneficiarse al ponerse en contacto con el State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP, Programa Estatal de

Asistencia en Seguros de Salud) en su estado. SHIP brinda ayuda a beneficiarios de Medicare y sus familias.

5. Seguridad hogareña

Para poder envejecer en el hogar, por lo general hace falta realizar algunos cambios en nuestros hogares por razones de seguridad. Algunos son simples, como librarse de artículos que puedan representar riesgo de tropiezos, por ejemplo alfombras sueltas o cordones eléctricos. Si a tu ser querido le resulta difícil abrir puertas y gabinetes o abrir y cerrar los grifos debido a la artritis u otros padecimientos, tu o un empleado de mantenimiento pueden reemplazar los picaportes o manillas por otros tipo palanca. Esos son mucho más fáciles de usar. ¿La vivienda tiene al menos una entrada sin escalones? Si no es así, deberías darle la idea de instalar una rampa o pasamanos. Puedes encontrar estos y otros consejos útiles en la AARP Home Fit Guide (Guía para tener una vivienda adecuada, de AARP) en línea en www.aarp.org/homefit.

Otros recursos

Si buscas consejos para cuidar a tus familiares, AARP brinda mucha ayuda en el Centro de recursos para cuidadores, ubicado en <http://www.aarp.org/espanol/hogar-familia/prestarcuidados/>. Puedes encontrar información sobre cómo compaginar responsabilidades de trabajo y de prestación de cuidados, cómo ubicar recursos locales y cómo cuidarte a ti mismo mientras cuidas a otra persona.

Todos queremos mantener nuestra independencia. Puedes ayudar a tus seres queridos a hacerlo si verificas cómo están durante las fiestas. A veces, incluso cambios pequeños pueden ser sumamente útiles para ayudar a tus parientes mayores a seguir siendo independientes.

Nota de Editor: Nicole Duritz es vicepresidente del equipo de asuntos relativos a la salud y la familia en el grupo de Educación y Difusión de AARP. Ella encabeza los esfuerzos de educación y difusión de AARP, que incluyen el trabajo en asuntos como Medicare, la ley de salud, la asequibilidad de los medicamentos recetados, la atención a largo plazo, y la prevención y el bienestar. Puedes contactarla por correo electrónico en nduritz@aarp.org.

Muere periodista, escritor mexicano Vicente Leñero

Por E. EDUARDO CASTILLO, Associated Press

MEXICO, 3 de dic. de 2014 (AP): Vicente Leñero, reconocido periodista y escritor mexicano considerado un autor fundamental de la historia cultural reciente en el país, falleció el miércoles en su casa de la Ciudad de México por un cáncer pulmonar, informaron autoridades culturales y la revista en la que colaboró buena parte de su vida. Tenía 81 años.

El presidente del Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, Rafael Tovar y de Teresa, confirmó el deceso del multifacético autor, quien también fue elogiado como dramaturgo y guionista.

Entre sus obras destacan "Los albañiles" y la adaptación teatral de "Los hijos de Sánchez", de Oscar Lewis, y en cine el guion de "El callejón de los milagros".

Leñero falleció a consecuencia de un cáncer pulmonar en su residencia, ya señaló una nota divulgada en el sitio de internet la revista Proceso, un semanario que ayudó a fundar y del que fue subdirector.

El jueves se rendirá un homenaje a Leñero en el Palacio de Bellas Artes de la Ciudad de México, informó Conaculta en un comunicado.

El autor nació en la ciudad occidental de Guadalajara, el 9 de junio de 1933. Estudió ingeniería y periodismo.

"Vicente Leñero es una de las grandes figuras de las letras mexicanas del siglo XX", dijo Tovar y de Teresa. "Su papel como dramaturgo, periodista, novelista, guionista, lo hacen una figura fundamental", añadió.

Entre sus trabajos más reconocidos se encuentra

la novela "Los albañiles" de 1963, que posteriormente adaptó al teatro, en la que retrata la situación de la clase trabajadora y el sistema judicial en México a través de esos empleados de la construcción.

Fue guionista de algunas de las cintas más populares del país, como "El callejón de los milagros", protagonizada por Salma Hayek en los años 90, y "El crimen del padre Amaro" de 2002, encabezada por el actor Gael García Bernal.

En su faceta periodística fue uno de los fundadores en la década de 1970 de Proceso, un semanario que desde su nacimiento es considerada una revista de referencia en México.

En "Los periodistas", un libro clásico en la materia, Leñero presenta episodios que él mismo vivió y llevaron a la creación de Proceso: los ataques del gobierno de Luis Echeverría (1970-1976) al Excélsior, un diario crítico, que culminó con la salida de su reconocido director Julio Scherer García. A él lo acompañaron varios de sus colaboradores, incluido Leñero.

"Vicente Leñero se ocupó en forma primordial de la crítica de las costumbres, del testimonio sobre la vida del periodismo en México, de los valores religiosos de sus personajes enmarcados en una problemática social y de la recreación de situaciones históricas", según lo describió el miércoles el Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes en un comunicado.

La muerte de Leñero tomó por sorpresa al mundo de las letras, que estos días celebra la Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara, la ciudad natal del autor.

Marisol Schulz, directora del encuentro, expresó sus condolencias.

"Se sentó a jugar (ajedrez) con la muerte y perdió la partida", expresó Schulz, durante un breve mensaje a los medios, en referencia a una de las pasiones de Leñero. "Nos deja en la orfandad total por su visión crítica".

En la edición anterior de la feria se le rindió un homenaje: "Vicente Leñero en sus palabras".

"Fue un gran escritor, periodista y hombre con una calidad humana extraordinaria. Nunca se dejó sobornar", dijo Gonzalo Celorio, presidente de la Academia Mexicana de la Lengua, también desde la FIL Guadalajara. Leñero era miembro de esa Academia.

García Bernal expresó su pésame en la red social Twitter.

"Qué tristeza. Hasta luego querido Vicente Leñero. Un abrazo eterno a toda la familia", dijo el actor.

"Deja una huella imborrable en el mundo cultural de México", señaló el grupo editorial Planeta en un comunicado. "Él, que creía en la vida eterna, continúa presente en cada lectura de sus cuentos, novelas, reportajes, crónicas o guiones".

El sello Alfaguara de Penguin Random House, otra de sus casas editoriales, se sumó a las condolencias: "Quiénes lo conocimos y tuvimos oportunidad de trabajar con él, encontramos en su persona a un autor imprescindible y, sobre todo, a un ser humano generoso y admirable, a una voz crítica que seguiremos escuchando a través de su obra".

El periodista de The Associated Press Isaac Garrido contribuyó a este despacho desde Guadalajara, México.

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Kirk y Anne Douglas viven romance de 60 años

Por LINDSEY BAHR, Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, 10 de diciembre de 2014 (AP): Kirk Douglas ya no quiere escribir.

El gran actor de Hollywood dejó eso en claro en una entrevista reciente en su casa de Beverly Hills, días antes de publicar su colección de poemas "Live Could Be Verse: Reflections on Love, Loss, and What Really Matters".

"¿Para mí este es mi mejor libro y mi último libro?", dijo Douglas, sentado junto a Anne Douglas, quien ha sido su esposa por 60 años.

Esta afirmación surgió más de una vez en la charla. El astro de barba partida de "Espartaco", que acaba de cumplir 98 años, tiene 87 películas en sus créditos, 11 libros y es uno de los últimos sobrevivientes del viejo Hollywood.

Quizá el mundo crea que conoce a Kirk Douglas. Pero "Life Could Be Verse" es su obra más personal, con poemas de diferentes momentos de su vida así como ensayos y fotos privadas de su familia que ayudan a crear la imagen de Douglas como hombre, padre y esposo.

En una industria famosa por su poca estabilidad familiar, Kirk y Anne Douglas podrían ser uno de los más grandes romances de Hollywood. Sentados de cerca en un sofá acogedor en una casa elegante, modesta y largamente habitada, la pareja recordó que se conocieron en París. Él estaba trabajando en la película "Act of Love". Ella era la publicista de la cinta.

"Me pareció que era muy hermosa y yo bajé la voz y dije '¿te gustaría acenar?', recordó. "Esperé una respuesta y ella dijo 'no, creo que iré a casa y me prepararé unos huevos y después me voy a dormir'".

Anne Douglas (cuyo apellido de soltera era Buydens) tenía sus

dudas sobre las estrellas de cine. Muchas de sus amigas salían con actores en ese entonces. "Pensé 'no voy a hacer eso, trabajaré y haré mi trabajo en la película para la que fui contratada, nada de contacto con las estrellas de cine'", dijo.

Después asistió a un evento caritativo donde los actores interpretaban a artistas de circo. Kirk Douglas, con un esmoquin, pensó que su talento sería limpiar los iber de dejando los elefantes.

"Me resistí hasta que levantó la popó de elefante", dijo Anne riendo. "Eso me venció".

Douglas bromeó: "Obviamente ella estaba buscando a un recogedor de basura".

Pero su tierno comienzo no es lo más notable. La longevidad de su relación sí lo es. "El romance comienza a los 80 y yo lo debo saber", dijo en referencia a uno de sus poemas.

"Soy un tipo romántico. Quizá pienses que siempre estoy disparando pistolas con John Wayne, pero puedo ser romántico. Y, mira, estamos aquí. Hemos estado casados por 60 años. Unos cuantos poemas ayudan".

El romance es sólo uno de sus secretos. A lo largo de los años se han dedicado a la filantropía. Apoyar a sus hijos ha sido una pasión para la pareja que ha resistido a un derrame cerebral del actor en 1996 y la muerte de su hijo menor Eric Douglas en 2004.

"Desde que lo podemos hacer nuestra meta ha sido ayudar un poco y compartirlo que tenemos con las personas necesitadas, eso ha sido algo que nos une mucho", dijo Anne Douglas.

Han vendido piezas de arte de su colección para ayudar a financiar varias causas, incluyendo la restauración de unos 400 juegos infantiles en la

zona de Los Angeles y el desarrollo de un albergue para mujeres sin hogar en el centro de la ciudad. En 2012 la pareja entregó 50 millones a cinco organizaciones caritativas.

Dar ha sido parte de Kirk Douglas desde su infancia.

"Era un niño que no tenía suficiente para comer. Tuve seis hermanas y ningún hermano, vivíamos junto a las vías del tren y cada noche llegaban vagabundos a tocar en la puerta y aunque no teníamos suficiente, mi madre siempre guardaba algo para cuando llegaran, ella tenía algo que darles. Me enseñó desde muy temprano a ayudar a otra gente".

Su carrera queda en segundo plano cuando reflexiona sobre su vida. Fue un rebelde dentro y fuera de la pantalla y dice que darle crédito al guionista vetado Dalton Trumbo en "Espartaco" fue su movida más rebelde. "Era mucho más joven en ese entonces, era mucho más necio", dijo.

Ahora Kirk y Anne Douglas están enfocados en su hogar, su familia y en reflexionar sobre una vida muy bien vivida. Recientemente tuvieron una cena del Día de Acción de Gracias en su casa cercada de Santa Bárbara. Entre los 14 invitados estaban Michael Douglas, sus hijos, y la madre de Michael Douglas, la actriz Diana Dill, a quien Anne Douglas se refiere como "nuestra exesposa".

"Vivimos en una ciudad de fantasía. He hecho unas 90 películas, eso quiere decir que cada vez pretendía ser alguien más. Hay momentos en la vida en los que dices '¿quién soy yo?'", dijo. "He descubierto que escribir libros es un buen sustituto a hacer películas. Cuando describes libros puedes determinar el papel que interpretas".

Tom Hanks, Sting honrados por el Centro Kennedy

Por BRETT ZONGKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, 8 de diciembre de 2014 (AP): Tom Hanks y Sting, junto con la comediante Lily Tomlin, el cantante Al Green y la bailarina Patricia McBride, fueron honrados por el Centro Kennedy por su influencia en la cultura estadounidense a través de las artes.

Grandes artistas y personalidades de Hollywood, Broadway y Washington se reunieron el domingo para saludarlos en una gala y concierto. El espectáculo fue presentado por Stephen Colbert y será televisado el 30 de diciembre por la cadena CBS.

David Letterman encabezó una serie de homenajes a Hanks, recitando algunas de las líneas más inolvidables de sus películas, como "Mamá siempre decía que la vida era como una caja de bombones", de "Forrest Gump"; "¡No se llora en el béisbol!", de "A League of Their Own", o "Houston, tenemos un problema", de "Apollo 13".

El cineasta Steven Spielberg, quien ha trabajado con Hanks en muchos proyectos, dijo que "el hijo predilecto de Estados Unidos" ha abierto una ventana en la nación con películas que incluyen "Filadelfia", "A League of Their Own", "Forrest Gump", "Apollo 13" y "Saving Private Ryan".

"Tom ama este país", dijo Spielberg.

El realizador George Stevens Jr., quien creó los premios del Centro Kennedy

pero dijo que este sería su último año produciéndolos, manifestó que Hanks se destaca como "uno de los más grandes actores de su generación o cualquier generación".

Antes del show, Hanks, de 58 años, bromeó que debió haber un error al seleccionarse un quinto agasajado.

"Este es el trabajo que empecé en 1981, así que todo va bien", dijo.

Sting saltó a la fama en 1978 con la banda The Police y éxitos como "Roxanne", y "Every Breath You Take" antes de comenzar una carrera como solista. Ha estado haciendo música por cuatro décadas y ha ganado 16 premios Grammy.

Muchos músicos jóvenes admiran su trabajo y acudieron para honrarlo cantando temas de su repertorio.

Lady Gaga interpretó "If I Ever Lose My Faith in You", Esperanza Spalding "Fragile" y Bruno Mars un popurrí de "So Lonely", "Roxanne" y "Message in a Bottle".

Bruce Springsteen también rindió homenaje a su amigo e hizo un brindis en la cena del Departamento de Estado el sábado, diciendo que la amplitud y profundidad del talento de Sting es intimidante al cruzar del folk al jazz, a la música clásica, el pop, el rock y el reggae.

"Sting me hace sentir como un músico neandertal. Cuando nos juntamos, siempre tenemos la misma discusión. Él insiste en que hay más de tres acordes, yo insisto que no", dijo Springsteen arrojando risas de

los presentes. "En una era de homogenización musical, nadie ha sonado a cantado como mi amigo".

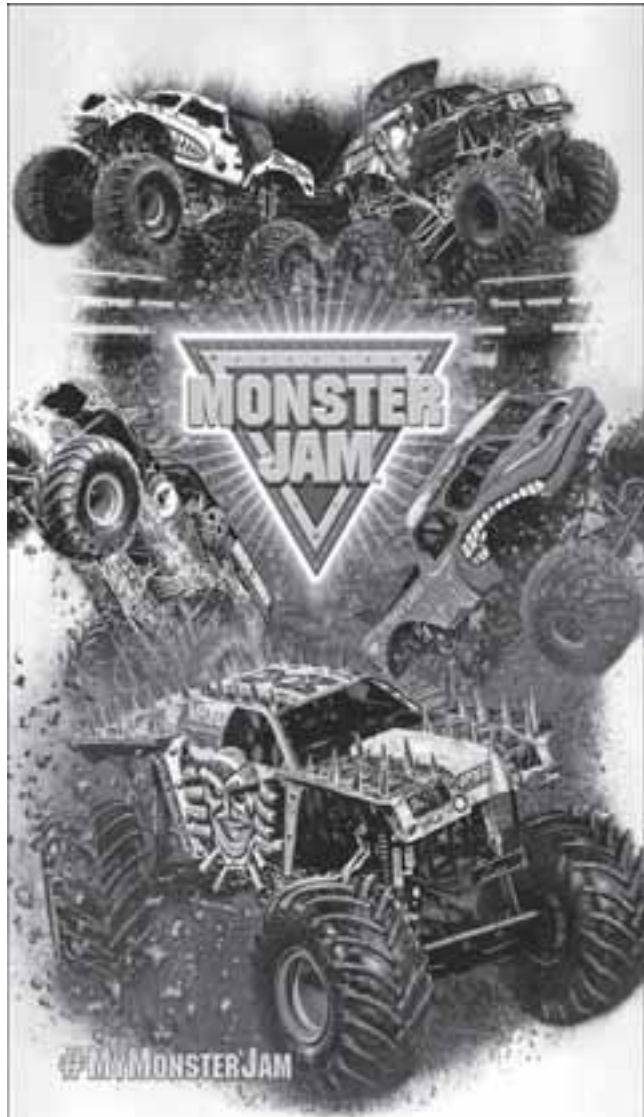
El martes, Sting se unirá al elenco de su musical en Broadway, "The Last Ship", sobre su ciudad natal.

El músico de 63 años dijo a The Associated Press que estaba desconcertado por el honor.

"El hecho de que un inglés reciba este reconocimiento, no es algo único, pero es raro, y eso me lo tomo muy en serio", dijo Sting. "Después de venir a este país en 1978 sin ninguna expectativa y terminar aquí arriba... es un gran viaje. No lo doy por hecho".

El presidente Barack Obama saludó a los agasajados el domingo en la Casa Blanca antes del espectáculo. Durante la recepción, Obama evocó el aprecio de John F. Kennedy por el papel de los artistas en la nación, lo que ayudó a inspirar la creación del Centro Kennedy como un homenaje al 35to presidente estadounidense.

"Es claro que el grupo en el escenario que me acompaña esta noche comprende lo que entendía el presidente Kennedy: que nuestro arte es un reflejo no sólo de nuestro pueblo, sino de una nación. Nos une", dijo Obama. "Las canciones y la danza y el cine expresan nuestros triunfos y nuestros fracasos, nuestras fortalezas y nuestras sensibilidades de maneras que a veces las palabras simplemente no pueden".



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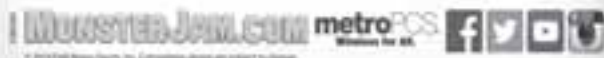
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El Centro de Servicios Sociales Upcoming Events December 2014



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Upcoming Events 2015:

January 8 - January 22, 2015 - El Centro in collaboration with Oberlin College will be providing ESL classes Monday - Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at El Centro 2800 Pearl Avenue, Lorain Ohio 44055. Class will have a pragmatic focus and be centered on medical and anatomical terminology, so as to provide participants with knowledge that they may use in routine medical visits. Call El Centro at 277-8235 to register for class.

For more information on any of these events please contact El Centro at 440-277-8235.

El Centro is a Hispanic-Latino non-profit advocacy organization whose mission is to enhance the socio-economic status of the greater Lorain County community by providing essential social, educational, cultural and community development services

Esperanza celebrates increased Latino graduation rates

(Continued from Page 1)

the amount of help Spanish-speakers can have on the OGT and other tests. After students have been in the U.S. for three years, they are limited to a Spanish-English dictionary and a little more time to complete the questions. Many believe some Latino kids would score higher if they were tested on the same material in their native language.

Saturday Academy pre-

parees Latino students for higher education with college readiness classes and field trips to college or university campuses. Success skills such as budgeting, time management, and good decision-making. But high school students have to earn their way into the Saturday Academy by maintaining at least a 2.5 GPA.

SISCO, on the other hand, is an academic program aimed at middle

school-age Latino students, providing in-school and after-school tutoring and enrichment activities, a summer learning program, high school visits, and student-parent activities. The aim is to help students prepare and successfully transition to high school—the one transit point in a child's education most likely to determine whether they will drop out of high school.



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Al Éxito: New mentor program offered to Latino students

By LAURA BIRD, Mason City Globe Gazette

HAMPTON, Iowa, Dec. 11, 2014 (AP): It's not every day that your middle school principal visits you at home.

Hampton-Dumont Middle School Principal Tony Spradlin recently visited the homes of Alex Van Cleave and Pedro Castillo, both in eighth grade; and Daniel Sánchez García, seventh grade.

None of the boys were in trouble. Spradlin wanted to introduce himself to their parents because he is serving as their mentor through a new program being offered for seventh and eighth students called *Al Éxito* (to success.)

"It's fun to be able to hang out with them," Spradlin told the Mason City Globe Gazette (<http://bit.ly/1yEdHTq>).

Al Éxito is a statewide program which targets Latino students and provides support through mentors, programs and leadership training.

The organization started in Marshalltown in 2006-2007 as an Iowa American Association of University Women (AAUW) project to provide Latino students with support. The program spread from there, including into the Belmont-Klemme and Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school districts.

In 2009, *Al Éxito* became a non-profit organization.

This fall is the first year *Al Éxito* is being offered for Hampton-Dumont seventh and eighth-grade students.

"I'm really excited," said Dawn Martínez Oropeza, executive director of *Al Éxito*, about the program expansion into Hampton-Dumont.

Site coordinator Valeria González said 44 students attended an informational meeting in October and 25 have turned in permission slips. Another seven are showing interest.

"To me it's an overwhelming response," she said. "They're excited there's a program just for Latinos."

While *Al Éxito* targets Latino students, it's open to anyone. Two of Hampton-Dumont's participants aren't Latino, said González, who is also a bilingual enrollment adviser for North Iowa Area Community College.

In addition to a kickoff, a family festival was held in November. Only five families attended, but González said that was expected since they're just getting started.

Twenty-three students also went on a tour of NIACC on Dec. 1.

"It was fun," Alex said about the visit.

Daniel said he liked visiting the NIACC farm and seeing the rest of campus.

González said the goal is to get students on a college campus at least twice a year so students start thinking about future plans.

They plan to go to Iowa

State University in March. Both she and Spradlin said students are already excited about visiting ISU.

Al Éxito will also meet once a month with different topics each time. For example, next month will be about civic engagement and likely include Hampton Mayor Brook Boehmler. February will include vision boards.

"If you have a vision of your goals you can make it happen," González said.

Mentors are encouraged to attend the meetings if possible and check in with and spend time with mentees throughout the month. Mentors are also encouraged to talk about the student's goals, interests and what they might want to do beyond high school, González said.

Spradlin said he was happy to become a mentor.

"I just know how it is when these students come and they don't have any friends," he said. "Their parents maybe know a few people. I feel like me being a mentor I can help them build some relationships with other people in the community."

González said she is still looking for mentors, especially Latino ones. Anyone can be a mentor; however, they must undergo a background check.

Information from: Globe Gazette, <http://www.globegazette.com/>

UT teams with community colleges to attract international students

The University of Toledo is changing the way international students study in the United States, with the help of a few community colleges.

A new program called the *UT-Community College Internationalization Consortium* will kick off in fall semester 2015. It brings together four community colleges in Ohio and Michigan — *Henry Ford College, Jackson College, Schoolcraft College, and Columbus State Community* — with eight higher vocational colleges in Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Hebei, and Hunan provinces in China.

The Chinese students who participate in the program will spend their first two years of college in their home country and their last year at one of the community colleges, receiving both a Chinese diploma and associate's degree upon completion. They will then spend their next two years earning a bachelor's degree at UT.

"I think if you really want to be educated for the work force of the future, you're going to have to develop your global competence," said Dr. Ron Opp, UT associate professor of higher education and a member of the

consortium's UT Oversight Board.

"You're going to have to have the ability to communicate inter-culturally; that's going to be the nature of work in a global economy."

In China, higher vocational colleges are postsecondary schools similar to community colleges in the U.S. Each college tends to have a niche — whether it's environmental sciences, engineering, business or another subject. Each community college in the consortium will be matched with two vocational colleges based on their niche.

Many community colleges want to have more international students, but often don't have the resources four-year schools have, Opp said. That's where UT comes in with its Center for International Studies and Programs that helps students with their visas, setting up bank accounts, housing, improving their English speaking skills, and more.

The consortium will begin by accepting five students from each Chinese college in the fall of 2015, 10 students the following fall, 15 the following year, and so on. By 2018, the first 40 students will be enrolling at UT



for their bachelor's degree programs.

The consortium also will include leadership programing with faculty and administrators from all of the colleges involved to learn more about the partner institutions, with individuals here traveling to China and vice versa.

Another aspect of the consortium is that some faculty from the community colleges involved will teach at the vocational schools in China. Those who do will get assistance with their flight, housing, and living expenses.

"It may be more helpful in the long run that we get our faculty over there to see how China is developing," Opp said. "Because once you get over there and you see what's going on, you realize how important developing global perspectives is."

Opp said the goal of bringing faculty members to China is that they will bring their experience back to UT and the community colleges.

For more information visit utoledo.edu/cs/jhs/higher_education/consortium.

'Los Angeles Unified' to require ethnic studies

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 9, 2014 (AP): Unlike the draconian state of *Arizona*, which bans ethnic studies in its public schools, *Los Angeles Unified* will require students to take ethnic studies classes as part of an effort to promote stronger cultural understanding within the nation's second-largest school district.

Officials say the new rules are aimed at pushing students to achieve through the exploration of different perspectives in literature, history and social justice. LA Unified students are largely Latino, but more than 90 languages are spoken within the district.

By the 2017-18 school year, every high school must offer at least one semester of ethnic studies, the *Los Angeles Times* reported Monday (<http://lat.ms/1uF9FOJ>). The graduation

requirement takes effect for the 2018-19 school year.

The effort was largely driven by students, who wrote letters, led petition drives that gathered thousands of signatures and met with educators and elected officials to build support, the newspaper said.

"This is a reform that came from the bottom up," said José Lara, a social studies teacher at Santee Education Complex. "It's students demanding more from their education."

Lara, a leading advocate of the move, said teachers will have the freedom to craft curriculum to suit the needs and interests of their students.

"In East LA, it might be Chicano history. In Koreatown, it might be Asian-American courses," he said.

A task force of students, parents, district officials, experts and teachers will determine how much curriculum

will be developed and how much will be adapted from other districts, Board of Education member Steve Zimmer said.

Supporters of the measure succeeded in Los Angeles despite the failure of similar efforts elsewhere, the *Times* said. This year, California lawmakers proposed legislation to look into providing an ethnic studies curriculum statewide, but the effort stalled for lack of funds.

In Southern California, supporters gained momentum after *El Rancho Unifed School District* in Pico Rivera passed a measure in June requiring ethnic studies course work. The class of 2016 at *El Rancho High School* is believed to be the first in California with such a graduation requirement.

Information from: *Los Angeles Times*, <http://www.latimes.com>

ACLU urges school board to give teacher job back

CLEVELAND, Dec. 15, 2014: *The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio* sent a letter to the Green Local Board of Education in Smithville, reminding the school district that teachers have a First Amendment right to engage in free speech.

The ACLU urges the school board to immediately reinstate former teacher Keith Allison to his position with Green Local Schools and issue an apology.

Keith Allison was removed as a Title I tutor by the school district in August for sharing his personal beliefs about the treatment of animals on dairy farms and encouraging people to drink plant-based milk on his Facebook page. The message was posted on Mr. Allison's personal time, off school grounds, using his own computer.

"Teachers do not give



up their right as citizens to free speech simply because they work for a public school system," said Joseph Mead, a cooperating attorney with the ACLU of Ohio representing Keith Allison. "This is an important civics lesson. As the training ground for future citizens, schools have a special obligation to follow the Constitution."

The Facebook post did not violate any laws, Mead said. The reason given for Mr. Allison's termination by Superintendent Judy Robinson was that it offended the owner of a farm depicted in a photograph on the post, even though the identity of the landowner or location of the farm

was not specified.

"All public employees, including teachers, are allowed to express their point of view whether you agree with it or not" said Freda Levenson, legal director for the ACLU of Ohio. "A school district cannot punish an employee simply because a member of the community objects to what the employee has to say."

EDITOR'S NOTES: Letter to the Green Local Board of Education can be viewed at: http://www.acluohio.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/LetterToGreenLocalBoardOfEducation2014_1210.pdf



ICYMI: Former OH Gov. Ted Strickland blasts Gov. Kasich and AG DeWine's Decision to join Texas Immigration Lawsuit

"I Do Not Know Why this Man Has Chosen to Use Ohio Resources and Ohio's Prestige in this Way"

Op Ed by www.americasvoice.org

Washington, DC, December 11, 2014: Last week, the State of Ohio joined nineteen other states in suing the federal government over the President's recent executive action on immigration. In addition to subjecting thousands of Ohio families to deportation, the lawsuit, if successful, would deny \$41 million in much needed tax revenue to the state over the next five years.

In the wake of this news, Ohio leaders have been quick to blast the decision by Governor John Kasich and Attorney General Mike DeWine to join this frivolous lawsuit. Former Ohio Governor Ted Strickland also added his voice to the mix, highlighting how DeWine's action stands in stark contrast to Ohio values.

As the *Northeast Ohio Media Group* reports in a recent sit-down interview with Strickland:

"Strickland then brought up Mike DeWine and the fact that the Ohio attorney general says he intends to join a lawsuit, led by Texas, in an effort to strike down President Barack Obama's immigration order. That order, announced in November, would shield up to 5 million undocumented immigrants from deportation. Obama said he was issuing

the order because Congress failed to find a way to deal with a broken immigration system. Conservative critics including DeWine say Obama overstepped his bounds.

"That is so troubling to me," Strickland said. "Mike DeWine, rightly so, has always advocated for families and children. He is engaged heavily with Haiti, working with the orphanage and so forth.

"I see a major contradiction in Mike DeWine's behavior here, because this immigration executive order at its heart is a family values issue—keeping parents and children together and allowing them to come out of the shadows in which they are forced to live in this country. I do not know why this man has chosen to use Ohio resources and Ohio's prestige in this way. I find it really troubling. I'd like to talk to Mike DeWine about that, because it is such a contradiction to so much of what he does in his personal life."

Asked to respond, DeWine sent this statement:

"My decision to join the lawsuit in Texas has nothing to do with immigration policy. It has everything to do with preserving our Constitution's separation of

powers and combating the current administration's consistent efforts to expand presidential authority into the traditional powers of Congress to make and change federal laws."

"Governor Strickland is right—Attorney General DeWine and Governor Kasich should know better. By joining this lawsuit, they're putting anti-Obama partisanship over Ohio families. The effect of DeWine and Kasich's lawsuit would be to prevent tens of thousands of Ohio residents from getting their papers together and paying more in taxes. It does not make any kind of sense—not moral sense, and certainly not economic sense—to involve Ohio in this frivolous, anti-Obama political exercise. And it certainly doesn't move our country toward any sort of permanent solution on immigration," said Lynn Tramonte, Deputy Director of America's Voice.

Editor's Note: Follow Frank Sharry and America's Voice on twitter @FrankSharry and @AmericasVoice. America's Voice—Harnessing the power of American voices and American values to win common sense immigration reform



"Songs For Justice" rallies Latinos, honors Sesario and Lucy Durán to packed ballroom

Op Ed by *Monica Morales, FLOC Outreach Advocate*

Each year, the *Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC)* hosts a benefit concert to raise funds to support the ongoing fight to bring justice to migrant workers throughout the Midwest and South, and now local Latinos. This year's FLOC's benefit concert was entitled *Songs for Justice*, and was venue at *Forrester's on the River* restaurant.

FLOC President *Baldemar Velásquez* and the *Águila Negra Band* entertained a full house with songs that told tales of the struggles migrant workers face as they stand up for their rights.

The theme song for the night was titled *Solo Le Pido Adios* I only ask of God written by *León Giego*. This song asks its listeners to not be indifferent to injustice and discrimination in the world but to fight alongside the poor and exploited. Shouts of approval rang throughout the hall as audience members found themselves moved by the music.

The guests of honor during the night were *Sesario and Lucy Durán*, longtime residents of Toledo. They were honored for their many years of support and commitment to FLOC and the community.

Father Richard Notter, retired pastor of SS. Peter & Paul Church, described Sesario and Lucy as, "always dedicated, providing

nothing but support for their church and community, and always humble."

Velásquez shared some of the many experiences he and the Duráns have had throughout the many years of marching, rallying, and fighting for the rights of others. A moving slide show to the backdrop music of "Pioneer" documented Sesario and Lucy's history in the many marches, rallies since 1968. He and all of FLOC's staff presented the Duráns with a commemorative plaque and gifts as a token of thanks for all they have done, and all the support they continue to give.

When presented with the gifts, *Christiana Wagner*, daughter of *Velásquez*, shared these words with the audience: "Sesario and Lucy Durán have a rich history with FLOC and we are truly blessed to honor them tonight. Sesario and Lucy have been with FLOC from day one. At every march and rally, they represented a sense of passion and justice that is truly irreplaceable. Through the hard times of struggle, they stood by our side. Through the great times of victory, they rejoiced with us.

"Working hard, as a part of the FLOC family, Sesario and Lucy have been unwavering in their dedication and commitment to the cause. It has been a true honor to watch them grow in family and in faith. Their faith has been a true testament of their loyalty and character. Their countless

prayer meetings with staff and friends touch the heart of what FLOC stands for: Justice and passion for giving a voice for those who do not have one.

"We wish them well in whatever life brings. A simple thank you does not seem to be enough, so tonight, let us celebrate their service and their commitment to seeing justice brought to life!"

The event was a success as community members and sponsors enjoyed the presence of one another and celebrated the many victories FLOC has had due to the hard work and dedication of people like the Duráns, FLOC staff, and countless community volunteers.

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee/Campaign for Migrant Workers Justice would like to thank all those who sponsored the event and continue to provide support.

FLOC recognizes that building a strong community is imperative to making changes and creating opportunities for the disadvantaged. FLOC encourages the public to become an associate member. Visit the FLOC website at floc.com for membership details, and how your support can make a big difference. The fight for justice is never ending; your support helps FLOC provide a voice for others.

Ariel International Center plans India Trade Mission

By *Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent*

The *Ariel International Center* plans to organize a trade mission to India early next year and is looking for Ohio businesses to include in the trip. An informational session and reception is planned for Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, 4 to 6 p.m., at the center, Skyline Lake Room, 1163 East 40th Street, 4th floor, Cleveland.

The trade mission to India would run from Feb. 27 to March 9, 2015, and include the cities of Delhi, Chennai (Madras), Hyderabad, and Mumbai (Bombay). *Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra*, Deputy Consul General of India, New York, will be on hand for the reception to welcome businesses interested in investing or expanding their business to India.

The information session and reception are co-sponsored by the Ariel International Center, the Consulate General of India, NY, and *Federation of Indian Associations (FIA)*. Appetizers will be served and there will be a cash bar.

Radhika Reddy, founder of the Ariel International Center and a native of India, is helping to organize the trade mission early next year. She explained that this is a high-level meeting, because *Dr. Mohapatra* is the "number two guy from India" in the U.S. and the official "key person for commerce and trade and international trade."

Ms. Reddy has accompanied then-Ohio Gov. *George Voinovich* on a trade mission to India in 1997 and helped organize a visit by India-based business owners and investors

to the Cleveland area a decade later, which included a presentation by then-Ohio Lt. Gov. *Lee Fisher*.

"I have arranged for trade missions, worked together with other people to bring trade missions to the U.S.," she said. "But this is the first one on my own, back taking a trade mission back to India because of the recent landslide victory of the new prime minister."

Ms. Reddy stated the political climate has changed as a result, with a prime minister who will welcome new businesses and investment in India and is working to root out the corruption and bureaucracy that has infected her home country.

"This is the right time for us to go to India because they will make things happen," she said. "You need the right kind of leader to perform changes for the country. This one has the mandate of the people; before it was all coalition government. Sometimes you're stuck in the politics and you can't get things done. Things are really changing."

The Ariel International Center was founded by Ms. Reddy and other investors to create a one-stop international business incubator, office, and an international business and intercultural event center in Cleveland. "There is a lot of synergy between India and Ohio," she said.

Ms. Reddy hopes to attract Ohio companies who specialize in biomedical, pharmaceutical, renewable energy, and cutting-edge manufacturing to

accompany her on the trade mission. She is especially anxious to take along packaging companies.

"India is one of the largest producers of fresh foods and a lot of it gets wasted by the time it reaches the markets because of rotting food," she explained. "The U.S. ability to package agriculture and those types of technologies are needed."

But the Ariel International Center founder also is quick to point out the trade trip "is a two-way street."

"One is to take companies interested in capturing the growing market in India, Ohio companies that want to expand," said Ms. Reddy. "The other is to attract Indian companies to come to Ohio. We're trying to create an international trade district (in Cleveland). If we can bring companies back here to locate, warehousing and distribution—I'm hoping to achieve that for my own company."

Ms. Reddy explained that northern Ohio is perfect for international commerce, because freighters can traverse the Great Lakes to welcoming ports in Toledo, Cleveland, Detroit, and elsewhere. She is currently working with Cleveland's port authority, trying to attract new international markets.

"We do have (international) shipments that do come from Bombay towards Europe, towards Cleveland," she said. "It would be great to make connections to make direct shipments to and from Cleve-

land. We're at a huge turning point and a potential upside."

Ms. Reddy explained that Cleveland's Indian community is not as large as New York or Chicago, but is very active and has courted the support of local leaders, such as Cleveland's mayor and former Cuyahoga County executive *Ed FitzGerald*.

Ms. Reddy is on the global markets advisory team for the State of Ohio, providing advice on strategies to help Ohio companies export and market globally, attract foreign direct investment into Ohio, and attract global companies to locate in Ohio. She is also on the international advisory committee for the City of Cleveland, helping to develop strategies to attract international businesses to Northeast Ohio for economic development.

Reddy came to Cleveland from Hyderabad, India, 25 years ago to study at *Case Western Reserve University*. "I came as a student with \$20 and a one-year scholarship," Ms. Reddy once told the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. She had a relative, *Mohan Reddy*, who was a professor at Case Western Reserve at the time. Ms. Reddy has since earned an MBA in Finance & MIS from Case and a Masters in Accounting/Taxation from Cleveland State University.

Ms. Reddy also offers international business, export/import documentation, finance, tax and IT services, to help US companies meet the challenges of operating in a global marketplace. Ms. Reddy has helped Ohio companies set up subsidiaries in

India, Hong Kong, Canada, Brazil, Denmark, UK, and Singapore. She has a total of 30 years of management experience (20 years in the U.S. and a decade in India) in real estate, renewable energy, economic development, international banking, and business.

Ms. Reddy also offers international companies expertise in complex financial transactions and tax credits. She has helped to provide deal structuring, financial and cash flow modeling and compliance for over \$1.5 billion of tax credit transactions, to structure multi-layered project financing in public-private partnerships, combining comprehensive economic development incentives to attract businesses and stimulate economic development.

Latino groups celebrate the Holidays

By Kevin Milliken, La Prensa Correspondent
Latino organizations across northern Ohio will gather to celebrate the holidays this month in any number of ways— with family events, fundraisers, and gatherings simply to share good tidings. Below are those events that have been reported to *La Prensa*:

On Wednesday, December 17, 2014, the *Spanish-American Organization (SAO)* will gather at the home of Phil (& Lisa) Barbosa at 6 p.m. for its annual effort to help seven families in need in the Old South End. The gathering of SAO members, family, and friends begins with each participant asked to bring canned goods or non-perishable food. Large boxes are prepared for each family with a holiday meal, toys for the children, and other needed items. Those are then delivered to each family by teams of "Santa's elves." Everyone then returns for an evening of fellowship and friendship.

Also, *Adelante, Inc.* will throw a Family Christmas Party on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014, 5 to 8 p.m. at *L. Hollingsworth School*, 653 Miami St., Toledo. Each family in attendance is asked to bring a covered dish to share. While *Adelante* has held holiday parties of one sort or another for several years, this is the first time the nonprofit group has combined its family and youth divisions.

"Hollingsworth is one of the places where we do afterschool programs, and they have generously opened their gym to us. We needed a space capable of holding more than 200 people and volunteers," said *Guiselle Mendoza*, *Adelante* executive director.

Adelante currently serves more than 200 families across metro Toledo. The evening will begin with a family activity at each table, followed by dinner and Christmas presents for the children.

"We're really excited about it, because this is really a first for all of our new staff," said Ms. *Mendoza*. "It's something we'll see if we can continue doing in years to come. It's also cost-effective because we're not having two different holiday parties and our donors and supporters only have to give once, not twice."

The party serves as a year-end wrap-up for the non-

profit organization, which also is Ms. *Mendoza's* first year at the helm. She stated the agency has a lot to celebrate in 2014.

"This year has been very successful overall. We had a lot of good things happen financially— donations, fundraising, sponsorships, new grants that we haven't received before, collaborations, and partnerships," said the *Adelante* director. "2015 is looking very vibrant and we'll be working very hard. I'm very grateful for the hard-working staff I have."

Toledo's *Latino Alliance* gathers Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014 for its first-ever Holiday Social. Alliance members and people who belong to its partner organizations are invited to attend the event, 5:30 to 9 p.m. at *El Camino Real* restaurant, 2500 W. Sylvania Ave., Toledo. There will be a full cash bar and \$5 taco bar in the lower level of the restaurant. The event is open to the public.

"We figured we'd get together before the year ends and tell everybody what the Alliance does, come celebrate with us the year that we've had, and talk about the future of the Alliance," said Ms. *Mendoza*, who also serves as that group's secretary. "That's why the alliance is there—to bring groups together on issues and set agendas throughout Toledo, not just individually. I think we want to move away from that. When you organize people together you speak with a louder voice. We want to do that together."

The *Latino Alliance of Wood County (La Conexión)* celebrated Christmas, Three Kings Day, and a variety of other special events in Bowling Green on Dec. 7th in a celebration entitled "Holidays Across the Americas."

Nuestra Gente Community Projects, Inc., will host a holiday-themed fundraiser *Feliz Navidad Dinner* at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 19, at *Los Dos Gallos* restaurant, 5327 Dorr St., Toledo. Tickets are \$20 each, available at the door, and go to benefit *Nuestra Gente's* mission and programs throughout Northwest Ohio, many of which focus on the general health and well-being of the Latino community. The agency has set a goal of raising \$3,000 from the dinner.

La Prensa, *Tony Rios*, and



TRE, Inc. will be hosting two more Friday night celebrations to honor La Navidad and Tejano music; they are scheduling through the holidays for *Tejano Friday Nights* at the elegant *Pulse Ultra*, 1260 W. Alexis Rd., Toledo. Doors open at 9 p.m. with a cover charge of \$10. *Los Hermanos Villegas* (from *Adrian MI*) will perform Dec. 19 and *La Corporación* (from *Lansing MI*) will take the stage Dec. 26, 2014.

The *University of Toledo Latino Alumni Affiliate* got an early jump on the holiday celebrations with a party at the *Sylvania Township* home of one of its members Friday evening, Dec. 12. Members shared a covered dish dinner and brought donations of hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for distribution to needy schoolchildren.

According to its president *Chevo Torres*, Toledo's *Latinos United* celebrated Christmas early on Dec. 13th at the club, with gifts to over 80 children.

There were numerous celebrations on Dec. 12 and Dec. 13 regarding the honoring of "Our Lady of Guadalupe," including a celebration and Mass by the diocese at St. Wendelin's Church in Fostoria.

Mexican Mutual Society—Ohio's oldest Mexican Social Club

The Lorain-based *Mexican Mutual Society* also has chosen Wednesday, Dec. 17th, 5 to 7 p.m., for its annual Christmas Buffet at the organization's clubhouse, 1820 E. 28th St. Tickets are \$10 each or members can bring a side dish of the same value to share.

The *Mexican Mutual Society* presents *Celebrity Bartender Night* each Friday from 6-9 pm. On December 19th, hosts will be Lorain's Own *George Clooney*, *Pete Garcia* and his beautiful bride, *Michele*. **December 26th** presents *Jim Palmer*, retired Lorain Firefighter known as the "Hottest Guy in Town," accompanied by the "Pole Sliders." Come and enjoy the fun!

Cleveland, DOJ to begin talks on police reforms

CLEVELAND, Dec. 10, 2014 (AP): Negotiations between the city of Cleveland and the U.S. Justice Department over allegations of a pattern and practice of excessive force by police are expected to begin next week.

The city law director told a city council commit-

tee on Wednesday that Mayor Frank Jackson's administration is analyzing the Justice Department report made public last week. The report leveled harsh criticism at officers, supervisors and the administration for how the police department is run and how allegations of excessive force by police are investigated.

The official told council members that the city will confront problems detailed in the report. The DOJ is seeking an agreement with the city that will lead to a court-ordered consent decree and the appointment of an independent monitor to oversee reforms.

Kerry to climate talks: No excuses, get to work

By KARL RITTER and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 11, 2014 (AP): Secretary of State John Kerry tried to spur slow-moving U.N. climate talks Thursday, telling nations to stop bickering over who is to blame for global warming and to shun the cheap route of high-polluting coal to grow their economies.

In a speech during a brief stop in Lima, Kerry said neglecting to seize the moment and forge an effective plan to fight climate change would be judged a "massive, collective moral failure of historical consequences."

"If we don't lead, future generations will not forgive us," Kerry said. "They will want to know how we together could possibly have been so blind, so ideological, so dysfunctional and, frankly, so stubborn" by failing to act on overwhelming scientific evidence.

Kerry also took a swipe at U.S. politicians who continue to deny the preponderant view of scientists that climate change is man-made, mainly caused by emissions from burning fossil fuels.

"You don't need a Ph.D. to see that the world is already changing," Kerry said. "You just need to pay attention. Thirteen of the warmest years on record have occurred since 2000, with this year, again, on track to be the warmest of all."

He called adopting a global pact next year to rein in heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions an "urgent necessity" and warned against getting "bogged down in abstract

debates." Rich nations have to play a major role in cutting emissions, "but that doesn't mean that other nations are just free to go off and repeat the mistakes of the past," Kerry said, noting that more than half of global emissions are coming from developing countries.

How to divide the emissions cuts that scientists say are needed to avoid dangerous levels of warming is a major sticking point in the negotiations toward an agreement a year from now in Paris.

The optimism injected into the negotiations last month by a joint U.S.-China announcement on their planned efforts to limit emissions has faded in Lima as splits between rich and poor countries re-emerged over who should do what.

Some delegates said they were surprised that China—the world's No. 1 greenhouse gas polluter—continued to take a tough stance at the Lima talks on keeping clear dividing lines between the climate action expected from developed and developing nations.

"I thought that they would not be as stern as they used to be in the past," said Tony de Brum, the foreign minister of the Marshall Islands, which is among the small island states that fear they will be submerged by rising seas caused by global warming.

Liu Zheming, the deputy head of the Chinese delegation, stressed that rich countries have a greater responsibility to fight climate change and called China's announcement last month that it would peak its emis-

sions by 2030 "a very ambitious target" that would require tremendous action.

Chinese experts are still calculating how high emissions will be when they peak but "it will be a very big volume," Zheming said.

Earlier Thursday, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged big carbon polluters to follow the examples of China, the U.S. and the European Union and announce emissions targets for the Paris deal. India, Russia and Japan and other major carbon emitters haven't made pledges.

Governments are supposed to submit their pledges by the end of March, though many have indicated they need more time.

Rich countries insist the pledges should focus on efforts to control emissions and are resisting demands to include promises of financing to help poor countries tackle climate change.

Scientific reports say climate impacts are already happening and include rising sea levels, intensifying heat waves and shifts in weather patterns causing floods in some areas and droughts in others.

Ban said the message from scientists that emissions need to come down urgently is unambiguous.

"They are even shouting from the rooftops," he said. "Scientists are saying that climate change is happening much, much faster than we expect, than we realize."

Associated Press writer Frank Bajak contributed to this report.

MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY (MMS) DECEMBER 2014 EVENTS

Continuing the "SAVE THE CLUB" Campaign by family and friends of the Mexican Mutual Society, 1820 East 28th Street, Lorain, OH, the following fundraiser events are planned for the month of December 2014 to raise funds to support the Club's operation:

◆ CELEBRITY BARTENDER NIGHT. Every Friday night from 6-9 pm.

Mexican food will be available.

• **December 19, 2014.** Lorain's Own *George Clooney*, *Pete Garcia*, with his beautiful *Bride, Michele*.

• **December 26, 2014.** *Jim Palmer* retired Lorain Firefighter, the "Hottest" Guy in Town, accompanied by the "Pole Sliders".

◆ **MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BUFFET.** Come and celebrate the Christmas holiday with your favorite Mexican food on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 from 5-7 pm. Cost is \$10. Cash bar.

◆ **MEXICAN MUTUAL SOCIETY ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY.** Ring in the New Year, December 31, 2014 from 9 pm-1 am, with holiday food and a champagne toast at midnight. Cash bar.

◆ **2015 Membership Drive.** Social Membership is open to the public for \$10. Membership forms available at the Club.

◆ **New Club Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday, 1-10pm; Friday and Saturday, 1 pm-12; and Sunday 1-10 pm. Food available daily from Hector's Kitchen.

◆ Hall rentals available. ◆

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

Immigrants flock to workshops after Obama reprieve

Advocates are warning immigrants not to pay anyone to get in line to apply and to avoid being duped into filling out fake applications.

By AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

Dec. 12, 2014 (AP): In small-town community centers, schools, churches and a vast city convention center, immigrant advocates are spreading the word about President Barack Obama's plan to give millions of immigrants living in the U.S. without documentation a temporary reprieve.

The November announcement promising work permits and protection from deportation made a splash, but lawyers say the events are crucial to dispel rumors about eligibility, ward off fraud, and help immigrants determine what they might need to apply.

Immigrants are eager to see if they qualify for Obama's executive actions to spare nearly 5 million people from deportation and to refocus enforcement efforts on criminals.

At least 20 states—including Ohio—have filed a lawsuit to try to block the measure, which aims to benefit immigrants who have been in the country without documentation for more than five years and have children who are U.S.-American citizens or permanent residency green card holders, along with some immigrants who entered the country without documentation as children.

In Los Angeles, advocates are hosting an information session for as many as 10,000 people at the city's convention center Sunday.

"After this big forum,

we're going to have daily orientations. That is what we have to do in order to deal with the demand," said *Angelica Salas*, executive director of the *Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles*.

For immigrant advocates, the challenge is reaching prospective applicants in diverse communities that speak multiple languages and often know little about the United States' byzantine immigration laws. While some immigrants find strength in numbers, others shy away from public meetings because of fear or stigma over their immigration status.

At recent workshops and on telephone hotlines, immigrants have questioned advocates about who will qualify and what documents they will need. Many want to know how they can prove their identity after living under the radar for so long, Salas said.

At a recent forum at a San Diego community center, an immigration attorney fielded questions for two hours, and many hands were still raised when time ran out.

Anahi Maldonado, a 32-year-old mother of two U.S.-American-born children, said she attended to verify that she and her husband would qualify for the program. She's been living in the U.S. for 14 years after crossing the border from Mexico and wanted to ensure she didn't need a visa to apply.

"The thing is, sometimes someone has questions that the president is not going to answer," said Maldonado, adding that she also won-

dered if she would need a good conduct letter from police, and how she could get one since she didn't have valid immigration papers.

Immigrant advocates are doling out whatever information they have, much of it based on their experiences with a 2012 program to assist U.S.-educated immigrant children. But there is still much that is unknown, and no application form yet.

Advocates are warning immigrants not to pay anyone to get in line to apply and to avoid being duped into filling out fake applications.

Many are also planning one-on-one consultations to help immigrants determine if they're eligible and if that's their best shot at immigration relief, since sometimes people may qualify for a visa or other benefits.

Michelle Saucedo, a legal advocate for *Asian-Americans Advancing Justice* in Los Angeles, said Asian immigrants are more likely to turn out for one-on-one consultations than group sessions because some feel a sense of shame over their immigration status. When advocates advertised large workshops about the 2012 program in the Chinese community, only one or two people would show up, she said.

Contributing to this report were Associated Press writers *Elliot Spagat* in San Diego, *Manuel Valdes* in Seattle, *Travis Loller* in Nashville, *Tennessee*, and *Russell Contreras* in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Wealth gap widens between whites and minorities

Dec. 12, 2014 (AP): The economic recovery has not been equal among the races, according to a *Pew Research Center* study released Friday.

The study found that the wealth gap between white households and minorities has widened in recent years. The wealth of white households was 13 times greater than that of black households in 2013, versus eight times the wealth in 2010. And the wealth of white households was more than 10 times that of Latino households, up from nine times the wealth in 2010.

Pew researchers—analyzing data from the Federal Reserve's Survey of Consumer Finances—

found that the gap between whites and blacks has reached its highest point since 1989. The wealth ratio for whites-to-Latinos is at a level not seen since 2001.

Net worth is a measure of the difference between the household's assets and their liabilities. The typical household had a net worth of \$81,400 in 2013, according to the Fed's survey.

The recession was universally hard on US-American families as a stock market crash and plunging house prices ate into their net worth. From 2007 to 2010, the median net worth of US-American families fell 39 percent.

Researchers say a number of factors may be responsible for the uneven re-

covery: falling income, lower savings rate and different asset holdings.

The median income in minority households fell 9 percent from 2010 and 2013, versus a 1 percent drop in white households. And in turn, researchers say, minority households may have either been forced to draw down from savings to get by or were unable to replenish their savings as much as white households.

Additionally, certain financial assets, such as stocks, recovered more quickly than housing since the recession ended. And white households are more likely than minorities to own stocks, putting them in a better position for a recovery.

President Obama has issued administrative relief

Michigan United prepares immigrants for Executive Action

Michigan, Dec. 2014: According to *Michigan United*, "Millions of immigrant families will not be separated this holiday season. They no longer have to live with fear of losing a loved one due to deportations. Now, we have a monumental task ahead of us to implement this new policy."

Michigan United is hosting information sessions through December of 2014 and January of 2015:

- Dec. 16, 2014 at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, 47 N. 23rd St. Battle Creek, MI 49015, in Spanish at 6:00 pm.

- Dec. 21, 2014 at St. Stephens Catholic Church, 4311 Central Ave. Detroit, MI 48210 in Spanish at 12:00 pm.

- Jan. 4, 2015 at First Latin American Baptist Church, 6205 W. Fort St. Detroit, MI 48209 in Spanish at 12:30 pm.

- Jan. 22, 2015 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 1721 Junction St. Detroit, MI 48209 in Spanish at 6:00 pm.

Beware of Scams!

According to Adonis Flores of *Michigan United*, "Some unscrupulous "notaries" and scam artists are ready to take advantage of you and steal your money. There are no applications yet. Do not pay anyone any

money yet.

"Instead, come to one of our upcoming Info Sessions to get reliable and accurate information. Remember that this is a temporary solution. Our efforts continue to get CIR a permanent solution that includes all immigrants."

Editor's Note: *Michigan United* is "a broad statewide coalition working to reform the U.S. broken immigration system, advance housing justice, protect the rights of low-wage workers, and develop leadership." More information can be found at the *Michigan United's* website: www.miunited.org

¡El Presidente Obama nos dio un alivio de inmigración!

Michigan Unido prepara a la comunidad inmigrante para el Alivio de Inmigración

¡Millones de familias no serán separadas estos días festivos! Ya no tendrán que vivir con miedo de perder a un ser querido debido a las deportaciones. Ahora tenemos una tarea inmensa para implementar estos cambios de Inmigración.

Venga a una de nuestras sesiones informativas.

• 16 de diciembre del 2014



en la escuela St. Joseph Catholic Elementary, 47 N. 23rd St. Battle Creek, MI 49015, en Español a las 6:00 pm.

• 21 de diciembre del 2014 en la iglesia St. Stephens, 4311 Central Ave. Detroit, MI 48210 en Español a las 12:00 pm.

• 4 de enero del 2015 en la iglesia First Latin American Baptist Church, 6205 W. Fort St. Detroit, MI 48209 en Español a las 12:30 pm.

• 22 de enero del 2015 en la iglesia Holy Redeemer, 1721 Junction St. Detroit, MI 48209 en Español a las 6:00 pm.

¡No seas víctima de fraude!

Algunos estafadores y "notaries" están listos para robar su dinero. Aún no hay aplicaciones disponibles. No le pague dinero a nadie que le haga promesas de ser de los primeros en aplicar.

Esta es una solución temporal. La lucha por una reforma permanente que incluya a todos los inmigrantes continúa.

Lawsuit alleges discrimination at MLB headquarters

By LARRY NEUMEISTER, Associated Press

NEW YORK, Dec. 11, 2014 (AP): The highest-ranking Latina in a management position at *Major League Baseball* headquarters said in a lawsuit on Thursday she has faced discrimination there for two decades.

Sylvia Lind's lawsuit, filed in Manhattan federal court, seeks unspecified damages for what she describes as a failure by the league to consider, interview, appoint, and promote qualified Latinas to managerial and executive positions. Lind, 48, says the league has created a hostile work environment for her because of her age.

Lind, the league's director of baseball initiatives in its Office of the Commissioner, names as defendants the league, Commissioner *Bud Selig* and Hall of Famer *Frank Robinson*, who supervised her. Messages to the league were not immediately returned Thursday.

The lawsuit says Lind works in an industry dominated by white men and has been passed over for pro-

motions and underpaid since 1995.

Lind said Latinas are underrepresented in the management level while baseball has a high percentage of Latino players [almost 30 percent]. She said of 52 people who are vice presidents or above only two are Latino and only 12 are women.

According to the lawsuit, Lind, who is of Cuban descent and lives in New Jersey, earned her law degree from *Fordham University School of Law* in 1995. It says she began working for *Major League Baseball* on Nov. 21, 1995, as supervisor in the legal department of *MLB Properties Inc.* at an annual salary of \$43,000.

She said she was the only Latina lawyer in the legal department at the time and no Latino attorneys have been hired since.

Lind said her troubles with the league worsened after *Robinson*, who played for several teams between 1956 and 1976, became executive vice president of baseball development in

June 2012 and criticized her writing and other skills.

She said *Robinson*, who won rookie of the year and MVP honors with the *Cincinnati Reds* and MVP with the *Baltimore Orioles*, lacked the educational credentials, professional license and executive experience to qualify for the job, which paid him more than \$1 million annually.

Lind said the league's discriminatory conduct was carried out even as she was assigned to plan, advance, and promote the league's annual *Civil Rights Game*.

"While plaintiff has always maintained a professional demeanor to the public and endeavored to do what is in the best interest for *MLB*, it has been extremely disheartening, utterly demoralizing and extraordinarily taxing on her, both emotionally and psychologically, to almost singlehandedly perpetuate what she has known to be the diversity and equal employment opportunity falsehood," the lawsuit said.



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- Executive Assistant 2
- Medical Assistant
- Monitor Tech
- Painter 2
- Program Coordinator
- Program Marketing & Recruitment Specialist
- Rehab Technician
- Resource Utilization Coordinator
- Senior Business Manager
- Staffing Coordinator
- Staff Nurse
- Speech Pathologist
- Surgical Technician
- Temporary Office Staff
- **Faculty Positions in Accounting, Art, Bio-Engineering, Business Technology, Chemical/Environmental Engineer, Civil Engineering, Chemistry, College of Nursing, Communication, Counselor Education and School Psychology, Criminal Justice, Early Child Psychology, Educational Leadership, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Technology, English, Environmental Sciences, General Libraries, Health Science, IOTM, Management, Mathematics, Medicine, MIME, Pharmacology, Psychology, Rehabilitation Services, Social Work, Sociology, Theatre**

The University of Toledo offers an excellent salary and benefit package, which includes the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and State Teachers Retirement System for faculty with employer contribution, medical coverage, paid sick and vacation time, tuition to UT is waived for employees and their eligible spouses and dependents and 10 paid holidays.

For a complete listing of our openings and desired qualifications or to apply, please proceed to our website at <https://jobs.utoledo.edu>. We ask that applications and required documents be submitted electronically. UT and UTMC are EO/AA employers and educators M/F/D/V

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Fecha Límite para Inscripción de Electores para la Elección Especial del 3 de febrero de 2015

Por la presente, la Junta Electoral del Condado de Cuyahoga notifica a las personas que deseen votar en la Elección Especial del 3 de febrero de 2015 que deben inscribirse para votar a no más tardar del 5 de enero de 2015. Pueden inscribirse en la Junta Electoral del Condado de Cuyahoga, en la 2925 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, que abre de lunes a viernes de 8:30 AM a 4:30 PM.

- Formularios de inscripción de electores estándisponibles en los siguientes sitios:
1. La oficina del Secretario de Estado o cualquiera de las 88 juntas electorales de los condados.
 2. La oficina de cualquier registrador delegado del Departamento de Vehículos de Motor de Ohio.
 3. Oficinas de agencias designadas que proporcionan programas de asistencia pública o para incapacidades.
 4. Bibliotecas públicas.
 5. Escuelas secundarias públicas o vocacionales.
 6. Oficinas del tesorero del condado.
 7. Oficinas de agencias designadas:
 - El Departamento de Servicios del Trabajo y de la Familia
 - El Departamento de Salud (Incluye el programa de la mujer, infantes y niños WIC)
 - El Departamento de Salud Mental
 - El Departamento de Retraso Mental y Desarrollo de Discapacidades
 - La Comisión de Servicios de Rehabilitación
 - Cualquier universidad o colegio que es asistido por el estado que provee asistencia a estudiantes con incapacidades

Las personas que deseen inscribirse por correo pueden llamar, escribir o enviar un mensaje de correo electrónico a la Junta Electoral y solicitar que les envíen formularios por correo. Estos formularios deben completarse y devolverse a la Junta Electoral antes de la fecha límite indicada arriba.

Las personas que deseen actualizar su dirección residencial en-línea pueden hacerlo en el www.443vote.com, clic "español" y luego haga un clic en "Actualizar mi dirección". Esto también debe realizarse antes de la fecha límite indicada arriba.

Si una persona ya está inscrita para votar dentro del Estado de Ohio y desea cambiar de nombre y/o de dirección al Condado de Cuyahoga, puede hacerlo en la Junta Electoral del Condado de Cuyahoga, hasta e incluso el Día de las Elecciones. El Día de las Elecciones, usted puede informar el cambio de dirección y votar con una papeleta provisional en la oficina de la Junta Electoral o en el lugar de votación del distrito electoral en el cual está ubicado su nueva dirección electoral.

- Usted está calificado para inscribirse para votar en Ohio si cumple con todos los siguientes requisitos:
1. Es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos.
 2. Tendrá al menos 18 años de edad antes del o el día de la elección general.
 3. Será residente de Ohio por al menos 30 días consecutivos antes de la elección en la cual usted desea votar.
 4. No está encarcelado (en prisión) por una sentencia de delito mayor según las leyes de este estado, otro estado o los Estados Unidos.
 5. Ningún tribunal de sucesiones le ha declarado incompetente para fines electorales.
 6. No ha sido privado de sus derechos permanentemente por violaciones a las leyes electorales.

POR ORDEN DE LA JUNTA ELECTORAL DEL CONDADO DE CUYAHOGA
INAJO DAVIS CHAPPELL, PRESIDENTE
PAT MCDONALD, DIRECTOR

NOTICE TO FIRMS

SEALED LETTERS OF INTEREST marked "Isaac Ludwig Mill Stabilization" will be received at the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Fallen Timbers Field Office, 6101 Fallen Timbers Lane, Maumee, Ohio 43537, until

1:00 PM Local Time on Friday, January 9, 2015

Letters of Interest received after the specified due date and time will not be considered.

In General, THE SCOPE OF SERVICES consists of providing professional construction services required for the structural stabilization of the Isaac Ludwig Mill, Providence Metropark, Grand Rapids, Ohio. Construction work will be closely coordinated and monitored by the Metroparks-provided criteria-structural-engineer.

Information packets for the Letter of Interest requirements may be obtained electronically as an email attachment by contacting Jon Zvanovec, Project Manager at jon.zvanovec@metroparkstoledo.com, (419) 407-9732. Three (3) paper copies and one (1) PDF copy of the Letter of Interest must be sealed, marked and submitted as above. The Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area will directly select a firm based on the Letter of Interest.

By order of the Board of Park Commissioners
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA
Stephen W. Madewell, Director

Baby gibbon born at Toledo Zoo on Nov. 30 is now viewable for the public

Dec. 16, 2014: A female gibbon was born on Nov. 30 at the Toledo Zoo. Animal-care staff is allowing the mother and baby to bond without human intervention.



Photo courtesy Katie Clifton

This is the fourth offspring for mother *Hue* and father *Batu*. Hue is providing acceptable maternal care, which is good news because gibbons are thought to have a higher incidence of maternal neglect than other primate species.

Mother and baby are easy to spot because both are cream-colored, while most of the Zoo's other gibbons are black. Baby gibbons are born a cream color, darkening as they mature. Males stay black their whole lives, but females, when they reach maturity, change back to a cream color.

The new family is scheduled to be on exhibit during daytime hours, indoors at Primate Forest. However, public viewing during these times may be irregular depending on the animals' needs.

This baby gibbon's arrival is more than great news for the Zoo; it's important for the preservation of this species, which is critically endangered and faces extinction. In southeast Asia — where gibbons spend all their lives in the trees of tropical rainforests — deforestation, hunting and poaching threaten their survival. The species' population numbers continue to decline.

As part of the ongoing efforts to preserve the species, the Toledo Zoo participates in a Species Survival Plan (SSP) in conjunction with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Through this cooperative breeding and conservation program, the Zoo works with other zoos around the country to help ensure a future for many species, including the gibbon.

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MAKE "BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT" YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Help Lucas County Children By Becoming A Licensed Foster/Adoptive Parent.

Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) is looking ahead to 2015 and asking individuals and families to make becoming a licensed foster/adoptive caregiver one of their New Year's resolutions.

LCCS currently needs families willing to foster children of all ages, particularly young children and groups of three or more brothers and sisters who have been victims of abuse or neglect.

The agency is again providing its free information and training classes at its offices, located at 705 Adams Street in downtown Toledo. Tuesday/Thursday evening classes run January 6 through February 12, 2015, from 6 to 9 p.m.; Saturday sessions are scheduled for February 14 through March 21, 2015, and April 11 through May 16, 2015, both from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. To register for any of these sessions, please call 419-213-3336 or visit www.lucaskids.net.

Qualifying to be a foster or adoptive parent is easier than you think. You...

- * Must be at least 18 years of age to adopt; 21 to become a foster parent;
- * Can be married, single or in a relationship;
- * Can own or rent a home with at least two bedrooms;
- * Can work outside the home;
- * Must demonstrate a source of income sufficient to care for yourself;
- * Need a safety inspection for your home;
- * Agree to a background check;
- * Receive free training;
- * Receive financial support, based on your child(ren)'s needs.

About Lucas County Children Services

The mission of Lucas County Children Services is to lead the community in the protection of children at risk of abuse and neglect. This is accomplished by working with families, service providers and community members to assess risk and coordinate community-based services resulting in safe, stable and permanent families for children.

Sincerely,

Julie Malkin
Public Information Officer
Lucas County Children Services
705 Adams Street
Toledo, OH 43604



Some driving fines may be erased by community service

Eligible motorists will be notified by letter from Treasury in December

LANSING, Dec. 16, 2014: Secretary of State Ruth Johnson and State Treasurer Kevin Clinton today announced that select motorists are being sent letters this month stating they are eligible to perform community service in place of paying certain Driver Responsibility fees.

About 168,000 residents meet the criteria for the Driver Responsibility Fee Community Service program. The new law, which was passed in 2014, requires individuals to complete 10 hours of community service for each qualifying Driver Responsibility assessment.

"This new law allows eligible residents to perform a service for their com-

munity while easing the burden of paying the Driver Responsibility fee," Johnson said. "It provides a benefit to the individual and the community."

"The elimination of fees for lesser driving violations removes some unintended consequences of the original law," Treasurer Clinton said. "Additionally, allowing qualifying individuals to perform community service is a win for everyone involved."

It will take a couple of weeks to complete the mailing to the 168,000 recipients. Motorists with questions are asked to refrain from calling Treasury until after the information arrives and they have had a chance to read it.

Under the program, com-

munity service is defined as engaging in a useful and productive activity for someone other than a family member without receiving any compensation (money or gifts). Volunteer work at local nonprofits (organizations classified as a 501c (3), churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and other places of worship, schools, or city and state agencies can count.

The Driver Responsibility fees that can be erased by community service are for no proof of insurance, no insurance, driving without proper license/endorsement/vehicle group designator, driving while license is expired and driving while unlicensed or with an invalid license.





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OVERVIEW

Cuyahoga Community College's Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) opened in early October 2014. The PSTC incorporates ideas and needs of area fire, law enforcement, rescue, emergency medical services and public safety agencies.

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- Taser Operator
- Active Shooter Training
- First Aid/CPR

Full-Time Day Academy

Starts March 16

Part-Time Evening/Weekend Academy

Starts fall 2015

FIRE ACADEMY

State of Ohio Certified | 260-Hour Program

CERTIFICATIONS

- HAZ-MAT Awareness and Operations Level
- Emergency Vehicle Driving
- CPR
- ProBoard National Certification

Full-Time Day Academy

Starts January 21

Part-Time Evening/Weekend Academy

Starts January 24

PRIVATE SECURITY ACADEMY

Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission Certified | 208-Hour Program

CERTIFICATIONS

- Homeland Security
- Taser Operation
- First Aid/CPR
- Optional Firearms Training

Full-Time Day Academy

Starts February 16 (Metropolitan Campus)

Part-Time Evening Academy

Starts January 19 (Western Campus) and January 26 (Metropolitan Campus)

Weekend Academy

Starts January 31 (Metropolitan Campus)

INFORMATION

Basic Police Academy | 216-987-3076

Private Security Academy | 216-987-3037

Fire Academy | 216-987-5076

Law Enforcement Advanced Training | 216-987-3033

Fire and Emergency Medical Services Advanced Training | 216-987-5429

Public Safety Training Center | www.tri-c.edu/pstc
Public Safety Programs | www.tri-c.edu/publicsafety



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- **Thursday, December 18** Susan Hedler & Cecilia Johnson - Harp/Violin Duo
- **Friday, December 19** Masterworks Chorale
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For more details, log on to toledolibrary.org or call 419.259.5200.

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