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Hispanic Alliance Inc. is seeking nominations for the 2012 HALDI program

Cleveland, December 22, 2011: The Hispanic Alliance has announced the launching of the 2012 Hispanic Alliance Leadership Development Initiative (HALDI) Program.

HALDI provides professionals and emerging leaders the training, professional development, networking and community engagement opportunities needed to contribute to the advancement of the Latino community.

The United States and Cleveland are undergoing a fundamental structural change in both human capital and market demographics. According to the Selig Center, the Latino population (including Puerto Rico)

totals over 50 million people (15.5 percent of the total U.S. population) and Latinos have over \$870 billion in purchasing power, therefore, serving the U.S. Latino market is a compelling opportunity for many major public, private, and non-profit corporations.

Unfortunately, the Latino Community is not proportionately represented within decision-making entities that have a direct impact on our community.

According to the executive director of the Hispanic Alliance, Inc., Sonia Troche, "The focus on Latino professionals, combined with the purposeful implementation of comprehensive leadership skills, differentiates HALDI from other community leadership development initiatives."

Troche continues, "HALDI addresses the lack of an inclusive leadership program designed to recruit and develop culturally competent leadership skills to become more effective

decision maker as a team member, board of director and/or volunteer.

"This is also an opportunity to connect emerging Latino leaders with local public, private and non-profit corporations looking to diversify their entities, board of directors, committees, commissions."

The Hispanic Alliance seeks nominations and applications of individuals with the desire, potential and interest in being part of the decision making process that impacts the resources and services available to the community, while collaborating with other organizations to develop strategies to increase Latino participation in all aspects of society.

HALDI spans over nine months and includes three components- training, mentorship, and community projects. Beginning in March 2012, the training component develops participants' skills in cultural competency, innovation, cross-cultural communication, self and task management, social responsibility and leadership building.

All sessions include a cultural leadership journey- experience with guest speakers and/or panel discussions. The mentorship component matches the participant with a mentor for twelve months and engages



Sonia Troche, Executive Director of Hispanic Alliance, Inc.

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Chávez enfrenta año crucial por la permanencia en el poder

CARACAS, 23 de diciembre de 2011 (AP). El presidente Hugo Chávez fue cobijado por un ambiente de sentimentalismo y solidaridad tras un diagnóstico y un tratamiento contra el cáncer, pero ahora que la enfermedad parece haber sido superada volvió a ser el centro del escrutinio ciudadano.

Desde el punto de vista político, a Chávez "no le ha ido tan bien como él quisiera", opinó Luis Pedro España, profesor de sociología en la Universidad Católica Andrés Bello en Caracas.

Es que el mandatario aspira a una reelección en los comicios de octubre de 2012 y los analistas están divididos.

"La enfermedad del presidente es una variable sin duda, pero nadie sabe, incluyendo a sus más cercanos colaboradores, qué es lo que tiene el presidente... eso puede influir en el electorado, pero es una incógnita", dijo a la AP el sociólogo Alfredo Keller.

Agregó que al principio Chávez, de 57 años, trató de explotar el sentimentalismo.

"Pero eso no funcionó ni siquiera puertas adentro de su partido", por lo cual dejó de lado esa estrategia para volver a ser el líder duro que descalifica e insulta a sus críticos, agregó Keller.

En cuanto a las posibilidades de reelección de Chávez, el director del Instituto de Estudios Políticos de la Universidad Central de Venezuela, Ángel Álvarez, sostiene que a diferencia del pasado, donde predominaba una conexión afectiva entre Chávez y la mayoría de los venezolanos, en la actualidad el gobierno "está más que nunca bajo escrutinio sobre la base de su desempeño, en relación con sus promesas y sus resultados".

Por este motivo "la victoria electoral es más complicada", acotó Álvarez, en referencia a las elecciones presidenciales del 7 de octubre de 2012.

Para hacer frente a este panorama y recuperar terreno, según algunos, Chávez activó en diciembre un nuevo programa social llamado "Misión Venezuela en Amor Mayor", que incorporará a unas 3.814 personas al sistema estatal de pensiones del Instituto Venezolano de los Seguros Sociales, y que permitirá elevar las pensiones a unos 205.600 jubilados.

Y además en paralelo, creó

el programa "Misión Hijos de Venezuela" y un Fondo de Ahorro Familiar que proveerá 100 dólares al mes a familias en pobreza extrema con niños.

Ambos programas apuntan a beneficiar a segmentos de la sociedad, compuestos en su mayoría por familias en pobreza extrema, que según encuestas recientes, tienen una baja participación en los distintos procesos electorales y que se podrían ver estimulados a acudir ahora a las urnas, dijo el director de la encuestaadora local Data Analysis, Luis Vicente León.

Esos programas además constituyen un anticipo de "una campaña muy pero muy fuerte en términos de dinero", añadió.

El cáncer, que obligó al mandatario a limitar sus actividades y a realizar sucesivos viajes para tratamientos en Cuba, se sumó a problemas nacionales de vieja data como la escasez de viviendas, la inflación y la criminalidad que minaron como nunca la popularidad del gobernante, según las encuestas.

Chávez se sometió en junio a una operación en Cuba para removerle un tumor canceroso de la región pélvica. Entre julio y septiembre recibió cuatro rondas de quimioterapia en Cuba y Venezuela, y ha dicho que quedó libre de la enfermedad.

El gobernante ha tratado de conducir a Venezuela hacia el socialismo mediante el aumento del control del Estado sobre la economía. Su gobierno ha financiado cooperativas y estatizó la compañía de teléfonos del país, el sector eléctrico, además de las principales empresas cementeras y siderúrgicas.

Pero sus críticos argumentan que los venezolanos no se han beneficiado de ese impulso hacia el socialismo mientras se registra la inflación más alta en América Latina, que en octubre se ubicó en 26,9%.

Los líderes empresariales han advertido que el recurrente clima de confrontación y la proliferación de regulaciones más estrictas reducirán aún más las inversiones y ocasionarán escasez de productos de gran demanda y la producción local se torna menos rentable.

Frenar la galopante delincuencia es otro factor que le resta respaldo al mandatario. Los secuestros, robos a mano armada y asesinatos se han incrementado, y al analizar las causas del repunte de la criminalidad, activistas de los derechos humanos mencionan la falta de una "política de control sostenido" de la delincuencia, el "quiebre institucional" y el "aumento de la impunidad".

Chávez reconoció recientemente que "donde sí no hemos podido, es en la cifra de homicidios".

Paralelamente, para aliviar la escasez de viviendas, un año problema agravado por una década de inadecuada construcción de nuevos inmuebles, el mandatario ha prometido superar el déficit y construir al menos dos millones de viviendas en los próximos seis años.

Recientemente anunció que un banco chino, cuyo nombre no precisó, aprobó para Venezuela un crédito de 4.000 millones de dólares que serán destinados para construir viviendas.

Pero según cifras de la Cámara Inmobiliaria de Venezuela, el gobierno construyó cerca de 284.000 viviendas entre 1999 y el 2010, casi la mitad respecto de las 490.000 viviendas en la década anterior.

En el ámbito electoral, en los comicios regionales de diciembre de 2008 los candidatos aliados del gobierno obtuvieron 17 de las 22 gobernaciones en disputa, pero la oposición salió fortalecida al ganar los estados Zulia, Miranda, Carabobo — las mayores del país —, Táchira y Nueva Esparta, y cuatro de las cinco alcaldías de la capital.

Dos años más tarde, el oficialismo sufrió otro importante revés, luego que sus adversarios en los comicios legislativos se llevaron 67 de los 165 escaños. Y en las primarias del 12 de febrero del 2012 los opositores de Chávez por primera vez en la historia democrática del país elegirán un candidato único para enfrentar al mandatario.

El ganador de las primarias deberá enfrentar a Chávez, quien fue electo por primera vez en 1998, reelecto en el 2000, y en 2006 logró una segunda reelección que le permitió extender su mandato hasta febrero del 2013.

Cuban-Americans stream to Cuba for the holidays,... thanks to President Obama

By LAURA WIDES-MUÑOZ, AP Hispanic Affairs Writer

MIAMI, Dec. 23, 2011 (AP). Deborah Labrada was giddy as she stood in line at Miami-Dade International Airport, waiting to fly to the town of Guantanamo, Cuba.

It is the place she visits roughly once a year to see her grandfather, aunts and uncles and cousins. She still considers it a second home, even though she has lived nearly all her 17 years in South Florida.

"The first thing I'm going to do when I get there is cry, and then give everyone hugs," she said Monday, as she leaned against her cart of bags secured in the festive, neon green airport plastic wrap. The duffel bags—cheaper to ship through than heavier, traditional luggage—bulged with food, over-the-counter medicine, toys and other necessities hard to obtain in Cuba's struggling economy.

Labrada was among thousands of Cuban-Americans flying to the island this week to celebrate the New Year. These types of annual pilgrimages would have been sharply curtailed if two South Florida, GOP Cuban-American congressmen had succeeded in returning to the Bush-era limit of once every three years. The measure backed by Republican U.S. Reps. Mario Díaz-Balart and David Rivera was tucked into the congressional spending bill, but Republican leaders jet-tisoned it last week as part

of a last minute compromise. Labrada said Monday she didn't appreciate the effort to restore the old restriction.

"I think it was very disappointing, because the least we can do is help our own families," she said. "We should go and take advantage of the opportunity to bring them things and help any way we can."

President Barack Obama allowed unlimited family visits by Cuban-Americans shortly after taking office and removed the \$1,200 annual cap on remittances. Exact numbers are difficult to come by, but the Cuban government said earlier this year it expected about 500,000 U.S. visitors annually, the vast majority of them Cuban-Americans. Cuban officials did not immediately respond to requests for corresponding statistics from past years, but they have previously said there were nearly 300,000 visits from Cubans living outside the island in 2009. It was not immediately clear whether that included repeat travelers.

Many Cuban-Americans, like Labrada, have already been traveling to Cuba for years. They just had to go through special church trips or through a third country to get around the three year ban.

Of nearly a dozen families interviewed at the Miami Airport, all but two said they'd last visited the island in the last year or two.

"I don't think it should be any different for us than it is for anyone else going to visit family in any other country," Labrada said.

Except it is different.

Most Cubans who come to the U.S. are able to immigrate here as a result of U.S. policy that views them as victims of political oppression. And as Díaz-Balart is quick to note, not everyone can travel. While average Cubans may be able to visit family off the island, their visa requests can easily be denied. The Cuban government has refused to allow blogger and internationally renowned activist Yoani Sánchez to travel to the U.S. and Europe to accept human rights awards.

But Professor Andy Gomez of the University of Miami's Institute for Cuba and Cuban-American Studies says the flood of travelers isn't likely to stop any time soon, and he says trying to stem the flow makes no sense.

"I was at the Miami airport last week, and there were flights on the hour," he said. "Stopping it? Impossible. It is the people-to-people contact we want and need, and it is already happening."

Most of the flights to Cuba still originate from South Florida, with nearly 300,000 people departing to the island just from Miami International Airport in 2010. Numbers for 2011 were not yet available. But they also now leave from places such as Tampa, Florida; Oakland, California; Los Angeles, New York City, Atlanta and Puerto Rico.

Flights to Cuba from the (Continued on Page 12)

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Fed judge cites 'derogatory comments' by Alabama lawmakers

By PHILLIP RAWLS, Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 18, 2011 (AP) — A federal judge who put part of Alabama's immigration law on hold said one reason he did it was because the Legislature's debate on the law "was laced with derogatory comments about Hispanics." The two examples he cited were from Democratic legislators who voted against the bill, not from Republicans who supported it.

The law's sponsor says that's unfair. But a lawyer challenging the law says it shows the feelings that exist in the Alabama Legislature about Latinos.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson issued a preliminary injunction against state officials requiring any mobile home occupants to prove their residency before getting the annual registrations for homes. Thompson said there is enough evidence of discriminatory bias against Latinos to warrant the move before he makes a final ruling.

Thompson cited comments made by two legislators during the debate, but he did not note that they

were Democrats or that they voted against the bill.

The judge recounted how Rep. John Rogers of Birmingham talked about seeing 30 Latinos get out of a car in the Hoover area. "I thought it was a circus. They kept getting out and kept getting out," Rogers said.

Then the judge recounted how Rep. Thomas Jackson of Thomasville talked about visiting chicken houses and seeing "4-foot Mexicans in there catching them chickens."

The judge said the comments reinforce the contention that the target of the bill—undocumented immigrants—"was just a racially discriminatory code for Hispanics."

Rogers said he, Jackson and other black Democrats filibustered against the bill for two days in an effort to kill it before white Republicans ran over them and passed it.

Rogers said his comment was meant as a compliment about Latinos' tenacity and hard work even while making low wages.

"I was saying they survive because they pool their resources on housing and transportation. I wasn't saying it disparagingly," he said.

The bill's primary sponsor, Republican Rep. Micky Hammon of Decatur, was surprised to see the judge use two opponents' remarks against the proponents. "It's hard to understand how that could be used," he said.

One of the attorneys challenging the law in federal court, Sam Brooke of the Southern Poverty Law Center, said the debate shows that everyone—proponents and opponents—knew the law was aimed at Latinos. He said it was even more telling that no proponents objected to the remarks by Rogers and Thomas.

"It would be one thing if proponents said that's not what we are doing, but no one said that," he said.

Hammon said proponents did point out repeatedly that the law contains prohibitions against profiling.

In Hammon's view, the judge's decision will change the tone of legislative debates and encourage opponents of a bill to make outrageous comments in hope of using them in legal challenges.

"If you are opponents of any legislation, now you have a new tool," Hammon said.

US agents to screen Arizona jail inmates

By BOB CHRISTIE, Associated Press

PHOENIX, Dec. 19, 2011 (AP) — The Homeland Security Department will use 50 immigration agents to screen jail inmates in Arizona's most populous county after it revoked the sheriff's authority to access its systems, the agency said Monday.

A letter from Homeland Security assistant secretary Nelson Peacock to Sen. Jon Kyl and obtained by The Associated Press said that the 50 dedicated agents will "screen, identify, apprehend and remove criminal aliens" found in Maricopa County jails.

The agents will replace county officers who had special training and the authority to perform the task in Sheriff Joe Arpaio's lockups. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano revoked

that authority last week after a Justice Department investigation concluded that Arpaio's office engaged in a pattern and practice of civil rights and constitutional violations and discriminated against Latino inmates in its jails.

"The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has no interest in supporting the unconstitutional pattern and practice of racial discrimination," Peacock wrote.

Arpaio strongly disputed the Justice Department findings and said Monday that the ICE agents won't come close to replacing the 91 officers who had been doing the work. He said agents won't be in the jails and won't deport all illegal immigrants.

"They're going to have people answering telephones and deciding what levels

they're going to deport," Arpaio said. "This is just to pacify the public that they aren't going to be released. And they are going to be released."

That's not the case, according to an ICE statement sent in response to Arpaio's comment that agents would not actually be in the jails.

"As was done previously, all individuals booked into the Maricopa County jail will be screened to determine if they are removable from the United States," the statement said. "ICE has dedicated over 50 personnel to handle the tasks previously performed by MCSO deputies and ensure that individuals, arrested for criminal offenses and also in the country illegally will be detained and removed

(Continued on Page 12)

South Carolina voter ID law rejected by US Justice Department

By MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C., Dec. 23, 2011 (AP) — The U.S. Department of Justice rejected South Carolina's voter ID law Friday, saying the new policy doesn't do enough to ensure that minority voters aren't discriminated against.

"Until South Carolina succeeds in substantially addressing the racial disparities described above, however, the state cannot meet its burden of proving that, when compared to the benchmark standard, the voter identification requirements proposed... will not have a retrogressive effect," Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Pérez wrote Friday in a letter

to the office of South Carolina's attorney general.

Pérez said that non-whites comprise about one-third of South Carolina's registered voters and also are one-third of the registered voters who don't have the right ID necessary to vote. Pérez says tens of thousands of South Carolina minorities may be unable to cast ballots.

In response, South Carolina could now sue over the rejection, pass a new law or submit more data to the Justice Department. Spokesmen for Gov. Nikki Haley and Attorney General Alan Wilson did not immediately respond to email mes-

sages sent Friday, which was a state holiday.

South Carolina's new voter ID law requires people casting ballots to show poll workers a state-issued driver's license or ID card; a U.S. military ID or a U.S. passport.

The Justice Department must approve changes to South Carolina's election laws under the federal Voting Rights Act because of the state's past failure to protect the voting rights of blacks. Groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union also are challenging it.

Kinnard can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MegKinnardAP>

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2011/12 holiday hours and route updates.

TARTA will operate as follows for the 2011/2012 Christmas and New Year holidays:

Christmas Eve Saturday, December 24, 2011 Regular Saturday Schedule

Christmas Day Sunday, December 25, 2011 Holiday Schedule

Public Holiday Monday, December 26, 2011 Holiday Schedule:

Additional lineup service at 5:20 p.m., 6:40 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 9:20 p.m.

Routes 2H - 5R - 10 - 11/12/13/14 - 15A/E - 16C/K - 17B/E

19D/F - 20/24 - 22F - 26R/L - 27H/5R - 31G/H - 32R

Holiday service will also be extended for the following Call-A-Ride routes on Monday, December 26, 2011:

1 Sylvania Call-A-Ride

7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:35 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

8 Maumee Call-A-Ride

7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and 5:20 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

9 Perrysburg Call-A-Ride

7:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve Saturday, December 31, 2011 Regular Saturday Schedule

New Year's Day Sunday, January 1, 2012 Holiday Schedule

Public Holiday Monday, January 2, 2012 Holiday Schedule

As TARTA continually evaluates its services, the following routes have been adjusted to better serve the community, effective Sunday, January 1, 2012.

• Route 22F Bancroft/Franklin Park -

Routing adjusted to traverse Secor, I-475, and Talmadge.

• Route 27H Nebraska/Dulton-Hill is now Nebraska/Hill-McTigue-

Covers Hill west to McTigue, north to Nebraska, east to Reynolds, south to Hill.

Details are provided in updated timetables and maps at **TARTA.com**, area public library branches, and at **419.243.7433**.



Adrian College gets \$20 million gift of support

ADRIAN, Dec. 20, 2011 (AP): Adrian College says it recently received a \$20 million gift that's the largest in its history.

The private college about 60 miles southwest of Detroit and 35 miles northwest of Toledo said in a statement Monday that the be-

quest is from the estate of William M. Cornelius Sr., who served as a member of the school's board of trustees from 1931 to 1948.

According to the school, Cornelius was an early innovator in rust-proofing for the automotive industry. The money will be used to

help students with tuition as well as support renovation of the college's science and business buildings.

Adrian College President Jeffrey Docking says the "benefits of this tremendous gift are difficult to quantify."

Online: www.adrian.edu

Mich. woman brings Indian remains home from Canada

MOUNT PLEASANT, Dec. 19, 2011 (AP): A Michigan woman attending college in Canada has returned home with the remains of an American Indian that were kept at a museum for more than 100 years.

The Morning Sun in Mount Pleasant (<http://bit.ly/u7uWz>) says the remains along with other items

were repatriated Monday by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in central Michigan's Isabella County. It's not known how the remains ended up at the Museum of Vancouver in British Columbia, although officials say there was much "random collecting" in the early 20th century.

The remains and other artifacts were buried Monday

in the Nibokaan Indian Cemetery.

They were transported by Emily Birky of Glenn, Mich., who is pursuing a doctorate at the University of British Columbia. She believes the remains were removed from a mound near Saginaw, around 1905.

Information from: Morning Sun, www.themorningsun.com

Cooley Law School to open immigrant rights clinic

ANN ARBOR, Dec. 18, 2011 (AP): Cooley Law School plans to open an immigrant rights and civil advocacy clinic at its Ann Arbor campus.

The clinic will offer free legal help when it opens in January.

It will be Cooley's eighth clinic where law students can

assist clients and the first in-house clinic at the Ann Arbor campus. Cooley's main campus is in Lansing.

The clinic will address a range of issues immigrants face, from landlord-tenant disputes and unfair wage claims to problems with their immigration status.

Cooley officials met with

lawyers, judges and community leaders in Washtenaw County to learn what free legal services were most needed.

Cooley associate professor Jason Eyster will supervise the students. He recently moved back to Michigan after supervising Ave Maria law school's immigrant rights clinic in Naples, Fla.

Students to sing National Anthem at Pizza Bowl

DETROIT, Dec. 27, 2011 (AP): A choir featuring Detroit Public Schools students performed the National Anthem before Tuesday's kickoff of the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl at Ford Field.

The 150-voice Com-

bined School Chorus was made up of singers from Mumford, Cody, Cass Tech, King, and the Detroit School of Arts.

Members of Cass Tech's state Division One championship football team also was recognized during a break in

the game between Purdue and Western Michigan.

Detroit students with attendance rates of at least 95 percent from nine schools with the district's overall highest attendance each received two tickets to the game.

Initiative against domestic violence

Por Claudia Annoni

Dec. 15, 2011: The Mexican Consulate in Detroit invited organizations from Michigan and Northwest Ohio that serve the Latino community to have a conversation about the issue of domestic violence. The Consulate under the leadership of Cónsul Vicente Sánchez Ventura announced the new initiative that will offer support to victims and survivors of domestic violence.

Sánchez Ventura stated: "The issue of domestic violence is a very serious problem in our community, and we have to do something about it". In this initial meeting were present representatives from Hispanic Outreach Services (Pontiac), Hispanic Center of West MI (Grand Rapids), Justice for Our Neighbors (Royal Oak), Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (Ann Arbor), Centro Multicultural La Familia (Pontiac), and El Centro de la Mujer (Toledo).

Also, in attendance attended were Vicente Colmenares (Deputy Cónsul), Ana María Reyes

(Protection Department, Legal Affairs), and Virginia Casillas (Cultural and Education Department).

This initiative is led by Rocío Maciel Franco, from the Protection Department (Legal Affairs), who also facilitated the meeting. Mrs. Maciel Franco will be in charge of developing a community resource guide and Spanish literature that will be available at their Detroit office.

• Iniciativa en contra de la violencia doméstica

El Consulado de México en Detroit invitó a una reunión a organizaciones que se encargan de servir a la comunidad latina en el área de Michigan y el noroeste de Ohio, con el fin de establecer una conversación acerca de la problemática de la violencia doméstica.

Dicho consulado, bajo liderazgo del Sr. Vicente Sánchez dio a conocer la nueva iniciativa que será establecida para ofrecer apoyo a víctimas y sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica. "El tema de la violencia doméstica es un problema muy serio en nuestra comunidad, y algo

tenemos que hacer al respecto", dijo el Sr. Sánchez.

En esta reunión inicial, se hicieron presentes representantes de Hispanic Outreach Services (Pontiac), Hispanic Center of West MI (Grand Rapids), Justice for Our Neighbors (Royal Oak), Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (Ann Arbor), Centro Multicultural La Familia (Pontiac) y El Centro de la Mujer (Toledo).

También, participaron por el Consulado de México en Detroit el Sr. Vicente Sánchez, cónsul general, Sr. Vicente Colmenares, cónsul alterno, Ana María Reyes del Departamento de Protección y Virginia Casillas del Departamento de Cultura y Educación.

La iniciativa está encabezada por Rocío Maciel Franco del Departamento de Protección de dicho consulado, quien además de facilitar la reunión será quien coordinará los esfuerzos para ofrecer una guía de recursos comunitarios e información en español que estará a disposición de quienes lo requieran en las oficinas de Detroit.

Gov. to sign bill increasing charter schools

By KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN, Associated Press

LANSING, Dec. 20, 2011 (AP): Gov. Rick Snyder has raised the limit on how many charter schools can be opened in Michigan.

The state now has 255 charter schools and new ones are allowed to open under certain circumstances. But the state currently has a limit

of 150 charter schools authorized by public universities. The cap would be gradually lifted and end in 2015 under the legislation.

Democrats, teachers unions, and some administrators say the move could hurt traditional public school districts. They add the plan does

not provide enough oversight or do enough to ensure the quality of the new schools.

Supporters say having more charter schools will boost options in public education, especially for students in poorly performing school districts.

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Tarde de Chocolate Caliente

Por Claudia Annoni

El 19 de diciembre, en anticipación a las fiestas navideñas y despidiendo el año 2011, *El Centro de la Mujer* festejó con una *Tarde de Chocolate Caliente*. Durante el evento, las participantes y sus niños gozaron de una fiesta organizada por representantes, miembros (voluntarios) y colaboradores de *El Centro*. “*Madrinas*” y “*Padrinos*” por un día, donaron regalos para los niños y para las participantes. Los niños participaron de actividades de arte relacionados al invierno y decoración con pintura en sus caras. Muchos fueron quienes colaboraron para que este evento sea un éxito, tales como estudiantes del grupo *Excel de la Universidad de To-*

ledo, el equipo de “*Keeping it Together*” de *Toledo Area Ministries*, representantes de *Second Chance*, y personal de *La Prensa*. El evento se honró con la presencia de la *Sra. Virginia Casillas* representante del *Consulado de México en Detroit*, quien se dirigió a las participantes con un cálido saludo. La jornada se completó con la visita de *Papá Noel*, quien prometió volver el año que viene.

• Tarde de Chocolate Caliente (Hot Chocolate Afternoon)

Toledo: On December 19th, 2011, *El Centro de la Mujer* (The Center for Women) celebrated the holiday with a *Tarde de Chocolate Caliente* (hot chocolate afternoon) organized by its representatives, members (vol-

unteers) and supporters. “*Madrinas*” (godmothers) and “*Padrinos*” (godfathers) for the day brought gifts for the children and the participants.

The children also participated in craft activities related to winter, face painting and story time. Numerous individuals made this event a success such as students from *University of Toledo Excel Program*, the team of *Keeping it Together from Toledo Area Ministries*, and representatives from *Second Chance* and *La Prensa*. Ms. Virginia Casillas from the *Mexican Consulate* in Detroit, stopped to join the celebration and she addressed the participants with a warm greeting. The afternoon ended with *Santa's* visit, who promised to come back next year.

Owens Community College to host Baseball High School Prospect Camp, Jan. 16

Owens Community College will offer area baseball players in high school the opportunity to learn about the fundamentals of the sport as men's baseball serves as host to the Express Winter Baseball High School Prospect Camp on Monday, January 16, 2011.

Owens' baseball program will offer two separate camp sessions as part of the daylong *Express Winter Baseball High School Prospect Camp*. The morning session will focus on infield and outfield positions and take place from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., while the afternoon session will concentrate on pitching and catching skills and occur from 1-4 p.m. Both sessions will take place in the Student Health and Activities Center on the Toledo-area Campus.

Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

Youth in grades 9-12 will be divided into groups and receive individual instruction on baseball skills, which will include an evaluation of each player's hitting, pitching, throwing and defensive techniques. In addition, attendees will learn about custom exercises for baseball and gain tips on improving their hitting and pitching.

The Owens men's baseball program finished the 2011 season with a 25-13 overall record and in second place in the OCCAC (9-5 record). Coached by Del Young, Owens lost to Vincennes University in the NJCAA Sub-Region XII Championships.

Parents and coaches are invited to attend the camp



to listen and observe at no additional charge. Participants are encouraged to wear baseball pants or sweats, T-shirts and tennis/cross training shoes. Additionally, attendees should bring their own baseball glove, bat, helmet and catcher's equipment.

The camp fee for each session is \$65 per player or \$100 per player for individuals interested in attending both sessions. For more information, or to register, call (567) 661-7936 or 1-800-GO-OWENS, Ext. 7936, or e-mail del_young@owens.edu. Individuals can also register online by accessing the College's website at www.owens.edu/athletics/camps.html.

Happy Birthday
**JACKIE
CASTILLEJA**
Dec. 31

Happy Birthday
**MICK
PEARCE**
Jan. 4

Do you think English is easy?

- 1) The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**.
- 2) The farm was used to **produce** **produce**
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**.
- 4) We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture.
- 5) He could **lead** if he would get the **lead** out.
- 6) The soldier decided to **desert** his dessert in the **desert**.
- 7) Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was time to **present** the **present**.
- 8) A **bass** was painted on the head of the **bass** drum.
- 9) When shot at, the **dove** **dove** into the bushes.
- 10) I did not **object** to the **object**.
- 11) The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**.
- 12) There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**.
- 13) They were too **close** to the door to **close** it.
- 14) The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a **sewer** fell down into a **sewer** line..
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** to **sow**.
- 17) The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting I shed a **tear**.
- 19) I had to **subject** the **subject** to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I **intimate** this to my most **intimate** friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language!

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JAN. 1

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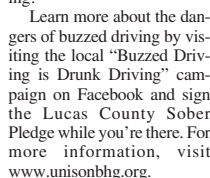
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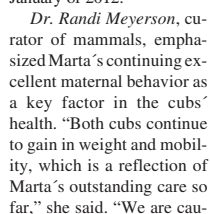


The local “Buzzed Driving

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The cubs' names come



According to the Toledo Zoo, Viktor and Talya are showing increasing confidence and coordination as they explore their off-exhibit quarters. As they grow, they are playing more and sleeping less; one of their frequent games is to pounce on their mother's tail or climb on top of her when she lies down. Their appetite is increasing, too, and they have tasted some of the solid food from Marta's dish, though they will continue to nurse for several months.

Zoeller's office said Thursday it filed a motion

in federal court in Indianapolis seeking a temporary delay in a case brought by the American Civil Liberties Union. Judge Sarah Evans Barker in June granted the ACLU a preliminary injunction blocking Indiana from enforcing two provisions in that law, including one that would allow police to arrest

illegal immigrants who are subject to immigration court removal orders.

Zoeller spokesman Bryan Corbin said the state also will seek a stay in a second lawsuit challenging the immigration law. That case was filed in northern Indiana this week by a Latino advocacy group.

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Música de Trent Reznor para "Dragón Tatuado" es un éxito

Por SANDY COHEN

LOS ANGELES, 20 de dic. del 2011 (AP): Trent Reznor y Atticus Ross comenzaron a componer la música para la nueva adaptación cinematográfica de "La chica del dragón tatuado" meses antes de conocer el guión.

"Intentamos varias propuestas en términos de entregar mucha, mucha música que fue compuesta desde un punto de vista impresionista, antes de que se filmara cualquier cosa, para que el director David (Fincher) y los cineastas pudieran internarse en el tejido de la historia", dijo Reznor. "Nada más para ver cómo funcionaba, era un nuevo experimento".

Al parecer funcionó muy bien, los compositores fueron nominados a un Globo de Oro la semana pasada por su música original, es su segunda nominación consecutiva en esa categoría de los premios. Ambos ganaron un Globo de Oro y un Oscar por su banda sonora para la cinta "The Social Network" de 2010.

Reznor, de 46 años, dijo que trabajar con Fincher en "The Social Network" los preparó como compositores para tener un manejo diferente de la música para "El dragón tatuado".

"Cuando supe cómo

funciona el proceso con 'Social Network', me impresionó que los directores usaran la música cuando las escenas se están editando", dijo. "Lo que suelen hacer es que usan un montón de música de forma provisional para tener una sensación de como creen que sonará. Pensé, si tienes un montón de música para empezar sería una herramienta muy útil mientras estás juntando las partes de la película".

Reznor y Ross le dedicaron un año al proyecto, y gran parte de la música que escribieron antes de que comenzara a filmarse llegó hasta la versión final, que se estrena en Estados Unidos el miércoles. La película cuenta la historia de un periodista, interpretado por Daniel Craig, quien quiere ayudar a una joven ciberpirata (Rooney Mara) para que investigue una serie de asesinatos ocurridos hace décadas. Una versión sueca de la película basada en la novela de Stig Larsson (conocida en español como "Los hombres que no amaban a las mujeres") se estrenó en 2009.

La película de Fincher es una experiencia visual "bastante desagradable e incómoda", dijo Reznor. "Realmente queríamos entrar bajo la piel del espectador para dar una sensación de incomodidad cuando era

adecuado, también tratamos de darle vida al paisaje donde se desarrolla, una Suecia muy fría, y actuar como vestuario para el paisaje. No es una música obvia".

Agregó que como compositores querían crear una música que "se acoplara perfecto con la iluminación o con el diseño de escenarios o de vestuario".

"Creo que no habrá algo que te lleves al salir del cine en tu cabeza en términos de música, y eso es intencional", agregó Reznor.

Esta es una manera completamente distinta de pensar para el vocalista de la banda Nine Inch Nails.

"Cuando escribo música para mí o para mis proyectos espero que lo que entra por tus orejas se coma el 100% de tu atención. Pero trabajar en una película y especialmente con David es contribuir a la experiencia en general", dijo Reznor. "Me obligó a pensar de una forma diferente en cómo componer, cual es el papel del sonido y cómo contribuir y manipular emocionalmente lo que experimentas pero no de la misma forma en la que estoy acostumbrado, y eso lo hace emocionante para mí".

Sandy Cohen está en Twitter como www.twitter.com/APsandy

Lady Gaga es elegida la artista del año

Por JAKE COYLE

NUEVA YORK, 19 de dic. del 2011 (AP): Tras un año de viajes por el mundo llenos de actos extravagantes y activismo incansable por la tolerancia, Lady Gaga fue elegida como la Artista del Año por los integrantes de The Associated Press.

Las organizaciones periodísticas que integran a la AP presentaron 135 votos, también se pidió a los editores y presentadores que emitieran su voto sobre el artista que tuvo la mayor influencia en el entretenimiento y la cultura del 2011.

"Estoy muy agradecida y aprecio mucho que me hayan nombrado 'Artista del año' de The Associated Press", dijo Lady Gaga en un comunicado emitido el lunes y firmado por "Mother Monster".

"Dedico mi mayor gratitud a los conductores y periodistas que me han apoyado a lo largo de los años, quienes a su vez apoyan a los amores de mi vida: a mis admiradores. Gracias por creer en 'Born This Way'. Ojalá sigan alimentando los sueños del entretenimiento".

Lady Gaga superó sólo por tres votos al fallecido fundador de Apple Steve Jobs. Otros que recibieron muchos votos fueron Taylor Swift, Charlie Sheen, Adele y el elenco de "Harry Potter". Entre los artistas reconocidos por la AP en años anteriores se encuentran Betty White, Swift, Tina Fey y Stephen Colbert.

Pero en 2011 la eminencia de Lady Gaga la llevó a imponerse ante

otros. Cuando la cantante recibió este año el Grammy al mejor álbum pop vocal por su disco "The Fame Monster", dijo que la fama fue simplemente algo a lo que tuvo que adaptarse.

"Cuando escribí 'Born This Way' Me imaginé que (Whitney Houston) la estaba cantando por que no estaba tan segura de mí misma como para imaginar que yo era una súper estrella", dijo.

Cuando el álbum se lanzó en mayo se vendieron 1,1 millones de copias en la primera semana, en parte por un gran descuento de Amazon, que lo vendió por 99 centavos. También cambió mucho el panorama musical pues el 60% de las ventas en la primera semana fueron digitales, en total superó por ventas a los 42 álbumes juntos de la lista Billboard y para octubre las ventas mundiales habían superado los ocho millones de copias.

"Una de mis obras de arte más grandes es el arte de la fama", dijo este año la cantante de 25 años en el programa "60 Minutes". "Soy una maestra en el arte de la fama".

Lady Gaga, cuyo nombre real es Stefani Germanotta, se prepara para su gira "Born This Way". Su gira de conciertos anterior "Monster Ball Tour" se prolongó hasta este año y la llevó a ser, de acuerdo con la revista Forbes, la música femenina con los mayores ingresos en 2011. La revista, que tomó en cuenta los ingresos antes de impuestos obtenidos de



mayo de 2010 a mayo de 2011, dijo que Lady Gaga ganó 90 millones de dólares.

Sus conciertos se tradujeron en un especial de HBO, que fue nominado a cinco premios Emmy, de los cuales ganó uno. Lady Gaga fue una presencia regular en las premiaciones del año. Ganó tres Grammy en febrero, incluyendo el premio a la mejor cantante pop femenina vocal. También ganó dos MTV Video Music Awards y recientemente fue nominada a tres Grammy para la premiación que se realizará a principios del 2012, incluyendo mejor álbum. A mediados de este año su vestido hecho con bife argentino fue puesto en una exhibición en el Salón de la Fama del Rock and Roll.

Lady Gaga visitó la Casa Blanca y se presentó en la fiesta del cumpleaños 65 del ex presidente Bill Clinton rindiendo homenaje a Marilyn Monroe. Además, sigue siendo la persona más seguida en Twitter con más de 17 millones de Pequeños Monstruos, una cifra mayor a la población de Grecia e Irlanda juntos.

En internet: Lady Gaga <http://www.ladygaga.com>

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*All individuals' quotes originally published by The Epoch Times and New Tang Dynasty Television.

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Sherwin-Williams employees package holiday cheer for H. Barbara Booker

Cleveland, Dec. 22, 2011: Belting out "Jingle Bells" as loud as their little vocal chords could muster, the students at H. Barbara Booker were able to summon the big guy himself – Santa.

The audience, filled with eager students and dotted with 60 Sherwin-Williams "elves" in green and red T-shirts, erupted in a collective cheer when the Jolly Ole Elf made his grand entrance Dec. 15. It was a holiday program that made the months of planning worth it for Maria Haller and Paula Kasmer.

"We start planning in September," said Haller, Sherwin-Williams community engagement manager at the company's Cleveland headquarters. "It takes an army to make this happen."

Haller is referring to the hundreds of employees who donate money, shop for toys and clothes, wrap more than 1,000 gifts and then stuff hundreds of stockings.

Barbara Booker special education teacher Paula Kasmer and teaching assistant *Diedra Dickerson* handle the wish lists on the other end. The two work with the teachers and parents to gather every student's list of wants and needs. The "wants" are the toys. The "needs" are clothes, school supplies, socks, underwear, winter gear and other necessities.

Collecting the information begins at the school's open house. Kasmer will call parents the following months if she doesn't get a child's list. "My biggest fear is I will leave someone out," Kasmer said.

She is just as diligent with the attendance list, making certain even last-minute transfers each receive a box or stocking of goodies. No one is missed. For some of these children, these gifts are the only ones they will receive, Kasmer



explained.

The late afternoon before the big celebration, a Sherwin-Williams semi-truck delivers 15 pallets of presents. Haller said the same driver makes the journey every year from Effingham, Ill. Eighth-graders help unload the more than 350 cardboard boxes filled with gifts. The boxes, each labeled with a sheet that shows the student photo and name, is then delivered to the preK through fifth-grade rooms. There they await the students' arrival the next day. The sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students receive stockings filled with goodies and Target and McDonald's gift cards. The preK through third-grade students also receive Sherwin-Williams drawstring bags filled with school supplies and treats.

Colleen Carpenter, Sherwin-Williams vice president of human resources, said the employee-driven gift donations began 12 years ago with Tremont Elementary first-grade students. When Tremont Elementary closed, Sherwin-Williams adopted Barbara Booker, where the Santa project has grown over eight

years.

"It's important for us to support the community where we live and work," said Haller, who explained that Sherwin-Williams employees can see the school's West 67th neighborhood from their offices.

Carpenter noted that Sherwin-Williams employees have made a commitment to Barbara Booker. "These are our kids. We want to influence them in a bigger way than just one holiday," she said, adding that employees volunteer at the school every month.

For Kasmer, satisfaction comes the final day when all the work between the school and Sherwin-Williams culminates. Because many of the younger students don't go to the malls for pictures with Santa, Kasmer said her favorite part of the day is watching the little ones' faces light up when Santa arrives. She also takes pleasure in cooking and serving the volunteers lunch that day. "We want them to feel important. It's our way of giving something back to Sherwin-Williams."

Hispanic Alliance Inc. is seeking nominations for the 2012 HALDI program

the participant in community networking and information sharing events.

The community projects prepare participants for more active and informed involvement in community affairs. These projects help increase group leadership skills, increase individual leadership skills, and learn more about non-profits in the community.

For the nomination and application process visit the Hispanic Alliance website at www.hispanicallianceinc.org or call 216-661-4249 for the application package. The program

is free for all members of the Hispanic Alliance staff, board of directors and/or volunteers. The non-member program fee is only \$200.

The Hispanic Alliance is a 501(c)(3) membership organization whose mission is to strengthen its member organizations by providing leadership and organizational capacity-building, advocacy and education, and the formation of strategic and collaborative partnerships.

For more information,



Sonia Troche

contact Hispanic Alliance, Inc. at 216-661-4249, or visit our website, www.hispanicallianceinc.org

LCCC Coed Saturday Night Volleyball League

The Lorain County Community College Winter Coed Saturday Night Volleyball League begins Saturday, January 14, 2012. This league is open to the public and includes upper and recreational divisions. Registration is required by Wednesday, January 11. There is a \$200 entry fee per team. For more information, contact Jim Powers at jpowers@lorainccc.edu or

at (440) 366-7652.

LCCC Indoors Doubles Tennis Classic

The 7th annual Lorain County Community College Indoor Doubles Tennis Classic will be held on Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19 in the LCCC Fieldhouse. This event is open to the public. Proceeds will go to the LCCC Club Tennis team.

Entry fee is \$30 per team. Teams include men's, women's and mixed- 8.0 and under combined rating. The entry deadline is Tuesday, February 14. For more information, contact Jim Powers at jpowers@lorainccc.edu or at (440) 366-7652.



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What Does Investment Landscape Look Like in 2012?

As an investor, you know that 2011 was a somewhat "choppy" year, with the financial markets going through many ups and downs. So what can you expect in 2012? As baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra is quoted as saying: "It's hard to make predictions — especially about the future." And these words are certainly applicable for anyone who would like an accurate forecast of the investment climate.

Yet we do know of some factors that may affect your portfolio in the months ahead. Here are a few of them:

- Strong business fundamentals — This past year, all the noise about the debt ceiling debate, the size of the U.S. deficit and the European financial situation tended to drown out some fairly good news: U.S. businesses' balance sheets were strong for the most part, borrowing costs remained low, and corporate profits were good — and corporate profitability remains a key driver of stock prices. Heading into 2012, these fundamentals continue to look positive, which may bode well for investors.
- Europe's debt crisis — Greece's economic problems made a lot of news in 2011, but they weren't the end of the story in Europe, as major financial difficulties also face Italy, Spain, Portugal and Ireland. It's by no means clear how these problems will be resolved, so don't be surprised to see them lead to intermittent, if short-lived, shocks to the markets.
- Election-year patterns — As you're well aware, we're voting for president in 2012. But you might be surprised to learn that the S&P 500 index has shown negative returns in only three of the last 21 presidential election years. Coincidence? No one can say for sure — and at this point, no one can say if this pattern of positive returns will continue during this election year. Still, it's an interesting phenomenon. So there you have it: the good, the bad and the quirky. Take them all together, and you still may not be able to foresee what will happen with the markets this year, but you'll have a lot to think about.

But instead of trying to predict what will happen in 2012, you may be better off following these tried-and-true investment strategies:

- Diversify your holdings. By spreading your money among a wide range of investments, you can reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio. Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't guarantee profits or protect against loss.
- Don't ignore your risk tolerance. If you worry excessively about market fluctuations, you may have too much risk in your portfolio, which means you may need to make some changes.
- Always look at the "big picture." Financial markets will always fluctuate. But if you can keep your focus on your long-term objectives, and make decisions accordingly, you can avoid overreacting to short-term events. Like other years, 2012 will bring with it periods of both turbulence and smooth sailing.

But by making the right investment moves, you can still chart a course that can allow you to move ever closer to your future goals.



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El último adiós: Personajes ilustres fallecidos en el 2011

(AP): **María Elena Walsh**, 80, cantautora argentina, famosa por sus temas infantiles, 10 de enero.

Samuel Ruiz, 86, ex obispo y firme defensor de los derechos de los indígenas, quien medió en las conversaciones entre el gobierno mexicano y el Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional, 24 de enero.

Maria Schneider, 58, actriz francesa quien actuó con Marlon Brando en "El Último Tango en París," 3 de febrero.

Alberto Granado, 88, compañero del "Che" Guevara en su viaje por Sudamérica que el guerrillero inmortalizó en sus memorias y que dio lugar a la película "Diarios de Motocicleta," 5 de marzo.

David Viñas, 83, escritor argentino, 10 de marzo.

Elizabeth Taylor, 79, actriz estadounidense de enorme glamour y tormentosa vida personal. Fue la última estrella clásica del cine, 23 de marzo.

Gloria Valencia de Castaño, 84, la "primera dama de la radio y televisión" de Colombia, 24 de marzo.

José Alencar, 75, magnate textil que fue vicepresidente los ocho años de gobierno de Lula en Brasil, 29 de marzo.

Juan Pedro Domecq Solís, 69, uno de los criadores españoles más famosos de toros de lidia y descendiente de una famosa familia de vinicultores, 18 de abril en un accidente vial.

Ernesto Sábato, 99, escritor argentino, 30 de abril.

Orlando Bosch, 84, militante anticomunista acusado de un atentado dinamitero contra un avión comercial cubano en el que murieron 75 personas en 1976, 30 de abril.

René Emilio Ponce, 64,

ex ministro de Defensa acusado de haber ordenado el asesinato en 1989 de seis sacerdotes jesuitas y otras dos personas durante la guerra civil de El Salvador, 2 de mayo.

Severiano Ballesteros, 54, carismático golfista español que ganó cinco torneos grandes, 7 de mayo, por complicaciones de un tumor cerebral canceroso.

Lidia Gueiler, 89, la única mujer presidente de Bolivia, 9 de mayo.

Jorge Semprún, 87, escritor y político español, ex ministro de cultura, 7 de junio.

Itamar Franco, 81, ex presidente brasileño que en la década de 1980 controló la inflación en el país más grande de América Latina, 2 de julio.

Manuel Galbán, 80, guitarrista cubano que se hizo famoso como integrante del colectivo musical Buena Vista Social Club, 7 de julio.

Facundo Cabral, 74, cantautor argentino asesinado en Guatemala en una emboscada contra un presunto narcotraficante, el 9 de julio.

Juan María Bordaberry, 83, ex presidente que devino en dictador y cuyo golpe de estado dio inicio a más de una década de régimen militar en Uruguay, 17 de julio.

"Joe" Arroyo, 55, salsero colombiano, autor de éxitos como "La rebelión", 26 de julio.

Baruj Benacerraf, 90, médico inmunólogo venezolano que compartió el Premio Nobel de Fisiología o Medicina en 1980, 2 de agosto.

Raúl Ruiz, 70, cineasta



Elizabeth Taylor

nacido en Chile, dirigió más de 100 cintas y se rebeló contra los convencionalismos cinematográficos, 19 de agosto.

Lorenzo Morales, 97, compositor de más de 200 canciones de vallenato, y quien es mencionado en la famosa tonada "La Gota Fría", 26 de agosto.

Felipe Camiroaga, popular animador televisivo de Chile, muerto al estrellarse un avión en un viaje a isla Robinson Crusoe, 2 de septiembre.

Gabriel Valdés, 92, ex canciller chileno y ex subsecretario de Naciones Unidas, 7 de septiembre.

Julio Mario Santo Domingo, 87, uno de los más influyentes colombianos del siglo XX y de los mayores empresarios del país, 7 de octubre.

Alfonso Cano, 63, líder de la guerrilla FARC de Colombia, abatido por el ejército, 4 de noviembre.

Francisco Blake Mora, 45, Secretario de Gobernación (ministro del interior) de México, 11 de noviembre, al accidentarse el helicóptero en el que viajaba.

Sócrates, 57, astro del fútbol brasileño famoso por su elegancia y su compromiso político, 4 de diciembre, por una infección intestinal.

Sonia Pierre, 48, activista dominicana de renombre internacional, defensora de los derechos de los haitianos en su país origen, 5 de diciembre, de un paro cardíaco.

Cesária Evora, 70, cantante de Cabo Verde que actuaba sin zapatos y alcanzó fama internacional de madura, con el álbum "La diva descalza", 17 de diciembre del 2011.

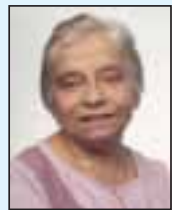
OBITUARIES

MARÍA E. COLÓN

María E. Colón (née Cruz), age 89, of Lorain, passed away on Wednesday, December 21, 2011 at her home while under the care of New Life Hospice. Born on June 16, 1922 in Coamo, Puerto Rico she came to Lorain in 1951 and has resided here since. She was a member of Sacred Heart Chapel and the Legion of Mary. She enjoyed knitting and doing needle point.

María is survived by her 5 sons, Jose (Blanca), of Lorain, Adrian (Esther), of Lorain, Alberto "Tito" (Sun Ye), of Tacoma, WA, Nelson, (Sherri), of Lorain, and Wilson (Shari), of Naperville, IL; her daughters, Gladys Rivera, Emma (Jorge) Muñoz, Lydia (Albert) Peña, Judy (Kelly) Engle, and Norma (Nelson) Muñoz, all of Lorain; 22 Grandchildren and 23 Great-Grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 30 years, Eleuterio in 1991 and her brothers, Francisco, Monserate, Pedro, Felipe and Antonio Cruz; and her sisters, Conhada Torres and Josefina Cruz.



MARY GRACE VELASQUEZ

Mary Grace Velásquez (née Peña), 86, of Vermilion, died Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at Kingston Residence of Vermilion. Mary was born March 1, 1925 in Rearet, TX. She had been a Vermilion resident since 2003 moving from Mercedes, TX. She enjoyed her family, collecting dolls, and crocheting.

She is survived by her sons, Gilbert (Sharon) Velásquez of Vermilion, Joe (Peggy) Velásquez of Vermilion, and, Arthur Gene (Michelle) Velásquez of Elyria; daughters, Elizabeth (John) Román of Houston, TX, and Jeanette Gonzáles of San Antonio, TX, 15 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband Eudaldo, Sept. 17, 2003; her parents, Fred F. and Leusia (née Deshotel) Peña; sisters, Lillian Muskavich and Lydia Comacho; and brothers, William, Alfred and Fred Peña.

All-New Lalaloopsy™ Nurse Doll - Rosy Bumps 'N' Bruises™ - Teams Up with Red Cross this Holiday Season to Promote Blood Donations and Honor Nurses

December 22, 2011: The American Red Cross and MGA Entertainment are joining together to promote blood donations and honor nurses at select hospitals nationwide this holiday season. As part of the season of giving, MGA Entertainment has donated more than 1,000 Rosy Bumps 'N' Bruises™, the all new Lalaloopsy™ nurse doll, to Red Cross hospital blood drives across the country.

"We are excited to be joining with the Red Cross to promote blood donations during the holidays," said

Isaac Larian, CEO of MGA Entertainment. "Rosy Bumps 'N' Bruises™ was sewn from bits of a nurse's uniform and was chosen for this project because she always puts safety first, a mission she shares with the American Red Cross."

The winter holidays are generally a very difficult time to collect enough blood to meet the needs of patients. With schools out, companies closed and families on vacation, it's even more important that those who are eligible to donate come forward to give the gift of life.

On December 23, 2011 the Western Lake Erie Region held a blood drive at the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo on the Mobile Donor Center. The Ronald McDonald house received a donation of Lalaloopsy dolls from the MGA Entertainment and The American Red Cross in honor of the donors.

To schedule a donation time or get more information about giving blood or platelets, people can visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

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Court: New Texas districts may be discriminatory

By CHRIS TOMLINSON, Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas, Dec. 23, 2011 (AP): There are "genuine issues" of whether Texas Republicans in the Legislature intentionally discriminated against Latinos in redrawing the state's political maps, three federal court judges said in an opinion.

The Washington-based court sought to explain why it refused to approve redistricting maps drawn earlier this year by the Legislature. Texas is one of 16 states covered by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act and must get pre-approval from either the Dept. of Justice of the federal district court in Washington before changing any voting laws. The rule applies to states with a history of racial discrimination.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott asked the Washington court earlier this year to approve the new maps, but the Justice Department and Texas minority groups argued that the redistricting plans were discriminatory and asked the court to put them on hold. The court refused to approve the maps and set a trial date for Jan. 17 to hear more detailed arguments.

In a 44-page opinion filed late Thursday, the court explained why.

"We conclude that there are genuine issues of material fact regarding whether the plans were enacted with discriminatory intent," the

court wrote. "The ability of minorities to elect a candidate of their choice can rarely be measured by a simple statistical yardstick, as is the essence of Texas' approach (to drawing fair districts)."

The groups opposing the maps argue that they are drawn to give whites a majority of seats in the Texas House, Senate and in the Texas congressional delegation, even though, according to the 2010 census, whites only make up 45.3 percent of the population. As an example, the congressional district map drawn by Republican lawmakers made voting-age whites the majority in 25 out of Texas' 36 districts.

In arguments before the court, state lawyers denied any intentional racial bias. They explained that because Republicans control the Legislature, it was only natural that they drew maps that would benefit Republican candidates. The reason Latinos are not the majority in more districts is because most Latinos vote Democratic, not because of their ethnicity, the Texas attorney general's office said.

The redistricting maps are also under attack in a second federal court case in San Antonio. Minority groups asked that district court to throw out the Legislature's maps completely, claiming they are drawn to make sure minorities do not win elections. That

court decided to wait until there was a resolution in the Washington case and drew up temporary maps for use in the 2012 election pending a resolution.

The court created those maps by working off the old districts and accounting for racial factors. Democrats welcomed that map, which gave them greater chances of winning more districts.

Abbott, however, said the San Antonio court overstepped its authority by overruling the Legislature's maps before the Washington court had made a decision. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear that appeal on Jan. 9.

In court papers filed Thursday, Abbott asked the Supreme Court to order the use of the Legislature's maps until the two pending court cases are decided. If the Supreme Court agrees, the decision would permanently change how the Voting Rights Act is enforced by allowing the use of contested maps before a court can decide if they are discriminatory or not.

Meanwhile, the uncertainty has left many politicians in limbo, not knowing what their districts will look like, and therefore, whether or not they have a chance of winning. If the courts can reach an agreement on a map for the 2012 election by late January, the Texas primary is scheduled to take place on April 3.

AZ Sheriff Arpaio sanctioned for document destruction

By JACQUES BILLEAUD, Associated Press

PHOENIX, Dec. 23, 2011 (AP): A judge overseeing a lawsuit that alleges racial profiling in Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's immigration patrols issued punishments against the agency on Friday for its acknowledged destruction of records in the case.

The punishments issued by U.S. District Judge Murray Snow came in the form of "adverse inferences" against Arpaio's office that the judge may consider when deciding the case's facts.

The judge, for instance, may assume that among the destroyed documents were citizen complaints—some of which were racially charged and didn't allege actual criminal activity—that requested immigration patrols in spots where the sheriff's office later conducted patrols.

Tim Casey, one of Arpaio's lawyers, said he expected the ruling.

"I thought that the judge, given the facts, was very fair in his evaluation," he said.

The judge had found grounds in February 2010 to sanction the sheriff's office for throwing away or shredding some records of traffic stops made during Arpaio's immigration patrols, but

held off on actually imposing the punishment until Friday.

A handful of Latinos who filed the lawsuit have alleged that Arpaio's officers based some traffic stops on the race of Latinos in vehicles, had no probable cause to pull them over and made the stops so they could inquire about their immigration status.

Arpaio has denied the racial profiling allegations, saying people pulled over in the patrols were approached because deputies had probable cause to believe they had committed crimes and that it was only afterward that deputies found many of them were undocumented immigrants.

During the patrols known as "sweeps," deputies flood an area of a city—in some cases, heavily Latino areas—over several days to seek out traffic violators and arrest other offenders. Undocumented immigrants accounted for 57 percent of the 1,500 people arrested in the 20 sweeps conducted by his office since January 2008.

Under other sanctions issued Friday, Snow can infer that the records would have suggested officers didn't follow a zero-tolerance policy requiring them to stop all traffic offenders and that the documents would have included a higher number of immigra-

tion arrests than records documenting ordinary patrol activity.

Some sheriff's officials have acknowledged deleting their emails about the patrols and throwing away and shredding officers' records of traffic stops made during the sweeps.

The sheriff's office said the destruction was an honest error that sprung from a top official not telling others in his office to preserve the documents.

The office said the traffic-stop records were thrown away after supervisors tabulated statistics from them and that thousands of other documents have been handed over.

Those records completed during the sweeps contained the number of contacts with the public, criminal arrests and civil citations, and provided a short narrative section where officers can briefly summarize arrests or other incidents.

Some sweeps-related emails that were thought to have been deleted by the sheriff's office turned out to have been saved by the county when it was discovered that the county had backed up emails by the sheriff's office as part of a routine document-preservation step in an unrelated lawsuit.

US labor secretary criticizes Alabama immigration law

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 23, 2011 (AP): The U.S. Secretary of Labor is criticizing Alabama's new immigration law and reminding workers in the state they have the right to be paid the federal minimum wage, regardless of their immigration status.

Secretary Hilda Solis is also encouraging anyone denied the federal minimum wage or overtime pay to contact the Department of Labor at (205) 397-7114 or <http://www.dol.gov>.

"Our federal government—under both Republican and Democratic presidents—has long held that all people working in this country have the right to the federal minimum wage, regardless of immigration status," Solis wrote in a post on the department's blog. She said Alabama's immigration law invalidates employment contracts for illegal immigrants who are guaranteed the federal

minimum wage under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

In response, the sponsor of Alabama's immigration law, Republican Rep. Micky Hammon of Decatur, said, "The truth is that illegal immigration brings its own set of human rights abuses ranging from human trafficking to poverty level wages to the victimization that comes with living under the radar."

Solis criticized Alabama's law for making it a crime for an undocumented immigrant to enter into a business transaction, such as signing an apartment lease or getting utility service. "Imprisoning those who seek shelter and basic sustenance runs counter to the universal rights of all free people. It's beneath the dignity of this great nation," she wrote.

Solis is the latest member of the Democratic president's administration to speak out against the law, which Alabama's Republican-con-

trolled Legislature enacted in June. The Justice Department is challenging the law in federal court, along with about 30 organizations and individuals.

One of those groups says it has received complaints about employers refusing to pay undocumented immigrants for work they've done.

"Some employers just think these are people who will not complain," Mary Bauer, attorney for the Southern Poverty Law Center, told The Birmingham News.

Hammon said the Obama administration is putting its emphasis in the wrong place. "If the Obama administration spent its time working to secure our borders rather than fighting Alabama's immigration statute, there would not be a need for our law in the first place," he said Friday.

Online: Department of Labor blog: <http://social.dol.gov/blog/universal-rights-extend-to-alabama/>

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Por primera vez dan a un asteroide el nombre de una desaparecida

BUENOSAIRES (AP) 23 de diciembre de 2011: "Querida hija, por fin puedo comunicarme con vos, ahora tengo un lugar donde encontrarte: *Asteroide 11441*, entre Marte y Júpiter".

Con estas palabras, *Zaida Franz* comienza la carta abierta que le escribió a su hija *Ana Teresa Diego*, una estudiante de astronomía desaparecida durante la última dictadura militar argentina (1976-1983), luego de que la Unión Astronómica Internacional (UAI) le comunicara a principios de este mes que un asteroide llevaría su nombre.

"Anadiego" es el primer asteroide bautizado con el nombre de una desaparecida.

"Me pareció que era meritorio que una estudiante que había querido ser astrónoma y había luchado por sus ideales, tuviera un asteroide con su nombre", declaró a la Associated Press el decano de la Facultad de Astronomía de La Plata, *Adrián Brunini*, que fue quien presentó en septiembre un pedido formal a la UAI para que un asteroide llevara el nombre de la única estudiante desaparecida de esa casa de estudios.

Gestos pequeños como este ayudan a Franz y a la mayoría de los familiares de las miles de víctimas del régimen militar a sobrellevar el duelo sin tener un cuerpo para enterrar.

"Sentí que se llenó un vacío que se originó el día que me enteré de la desaparición de mi hija", declaró Franz, quien lleva 35 años buscando a Ana. "Jamás supe dónde está el cuerpo de Ana, ahora sé que ella está en el asteroide que lleva su nombre, no sólo ella sino todos los desaparecidos".

Hasta el momento el Equipo Argentino de Antropología Forense ha recuperado e identificado apenas 510 cuerpos de las miles de víctimas de la represión ilegal. La mayoría de los 13.000 muertos reconocidos oficialmente todavía quedan desaparecidos. Los

organismos de derechos humanos hablan de 30.000 en total.

Los asteroides son escombros de las formaciones del sistema solar. Este en particular fue descubierto en 1975 por el astrónomo argentino Mario Cescio y se ubica en el Cinturón Principal (entre Marte y Júpiter). Orbita al sol en un período de 4,1 años.

Diego "fue una formidable estudiante en el Observatorio Astronómico de La Plata en la década de 1970. También fue una persona con un fuerte compromiso social quien dio su vida en defensa de la libertad", indicó la resolución del comité de designación de cuerpos menores (Committee on Small Body Nomenclature in inglés) de la Unión Astronómica Internacional.

La muchacha, de 22 años, había ganado una beca para estudiar astronomía en Europa, pero prefirió hacerlo en la Universidad Nacional de La Plata, capital de la provincia de Buenos Aires. Repartía su tiempo entre los estudios y la militancia política en las filas del Partido Comunista. La tarde del 30 de septiembre de 1976 fue secuestrada a la salida de la biblioteca universitaria. Nunca más se supo de ella.

La propuesta de Brunini fue sometida a consideración del comité de nomenclatura de cuerpos menores integrado por diez miembros permanentes de Estados Unidos, Alemania, Japón, China, Rusia, Nueva Zelanda y Uruguay, y otros cinco de países designados para el trienio 2009-2012.

Pese a que su reglamento prohíbe dar nombres con contenido político referentes a personas o eventos de los últimos 100 años, en el caso de derechos humanos ha habido excepciones: asteroides llevan nombres de disidentes alemanes contra el régimen nazi e incluso uno se llama "Madresplazamayo", en honor a esa organización fundada por las madres de los desaparecidos en Argentina.

"No era una elección arbitraria de uno entre las decenas de miles de desaparecidos que hubo. Parecía natural que los astrónomos plantearan un homenaje a alguien de su comunidad científica", explicó a AP el astrónomo uruguayo Julio Ángel Fernández, el único representante latinoamericano

del comité.

La propuesta de bautizar un asteroide con el nombre de Ana ocurre en momentos en que la reivindicación de las víctimas de la dictadura, el juzgamiento a los acusados por crímenes de lesa humanidad y la renovación de las Fuerzas Armadas son considerados ejes centrales de la política gubernamental.

La propia presidenta *Cristina Fernández*, quien estudió abogacía en La Plata en los convulsionados años 70, se refirió al asteroide con el nombre de Ana Diego en el discurso que pronunció ante el Congreso al iniciar un segundo período en diciembre.

"A lo mejor esta joven podría haber estado sentada en este mismo lugar en donde estoy sentada yo", dijo la mandataria antes de reclamarle a la justicia que acelere los juicios contra los represores "para dar vuelta definitivamente una página tan trágica de nuestra historia".

En La Plata se respiraba como en ninguna otra ciudad el espíritu idealista y el compromiso militante de los jóvenes en la década de 1970, por lo que no extraña que las fuerzas armadas concentraran allí su accionar represivo.

Diego militaba en la rama universitaria de la Federación Juvenil Comunista. Participaba de asambleas y solía pintar consignas en las paredes o difundir ideas, panfletos y prensa partidaria en barrios humildes. El PC argentino no promovía la violencia familiar y amigos de la estudiante aseguran que nunca participó en acciones armadas ni estuvo involucrada en actividades terroristas.

"A las dos nos gustaban las matemáticas y la física, aunque no hablábamos mucho de astronomía. Mas bien, cuando no hablábamos de política o de la difícil situación por las desapariciones y asesinatos de amigos y compañeros, hablábamos de nuestras familias. Ana admiraba mucho a su padre, un matemático que falleció en 1975", recordó Carmen Núñez, compañera de estudios y militancia de Diego.

"El día que la secuestraron salimos juntas del observatorio ... Ana recordó que se había olvidado de entregar un trabajo práctico a un profesor y decidió volver. Yo fui a una reunión en

la Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, y no había pasado más de media hora cuando llegó alguien corriendo y contó que se la habían llevado a Ana en un auto sin patente. No volvimos a verla".

Según el testimonio de sobrevivientes, la joven habría sido llevada a un centro clandestino de detención y torturada para forzarla a delatar a otros compañeros de militancia.

Según la justicia, la mayoría de las víctimas de estos secuestros murieron ejecutadas o cuando eran torturadas y fueron enterradas como NN en cementerios públicos de todo el país y en fosas comunes de áreas militares o policiales, como las descubiertas la semana pasada por el Equipo Argentino de Antropología Forense (EAAF) en un arsenal del ejército de la noroeste provincia de Tucumán. Allí aparecieron restos óseos calcinados y con marcas de proyectiles de arma de fuego.

Los victimarios también arrojaban a los disidentes sedados desde aviones al Río de la Plata. La prueba más contundente de esta práctica tenebrosa, conocida como los "vuelos de la muerte", la aportó días atrás a la justicia la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos (CIDH): un archivo recientemente desclasificado con más de un centenar de fotografías de cuerpos con signos de tortura hallados en la costa de Uruguay en la década de 1970.

Fue la primera vez en su historia que la CIDH entregó uno de sus archivos confidenciales a la justicia en el marco de una causa por crímenes de lesa humanidad.

"Cierro los ojos y te veo como una lucecita en el asteroide junto a todos los desaparecidos que nos miran y saludan sonrientes", expresó la madre de Diego, quien puso como sitio de residencia Villa Ventana, Planeta Tierra. "Los siento que están bien, alegres, esperando y confiados en que esta humanidad va encontrar el camino de vivir en paz, solidaridad y armonía. Seguramente te llegarán mis cartas y la de otros familiares de compañeros tuyos, porque ahora todos tenemos un destino donde hacerlo".



In the Norman Freelan photo are actors John P. Welch, Rhonda Cowell, Kimberly Finch, and Eric Simpson.

Musical Comedy Murders Opens at The Rep

John Bishop's comedy, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* takes the Rep's 10th Street stage January 13 through the 29, 2012.

The creative team, of a Broadway flop assembles at the estate of a wealthy thespian supporter, also known as an "angel." What ensues is comic mayhem as bodies drop in plain sight, knives spring out of nowhere, masked figures drag their victims behind bookcases, and accusing fingers point in all directions.

Directed by Carol Ann Erford, this side-splitting comedy is served up with a generous portion of the author's biting, satiric, and refreshingly irreverent wit. Performances are Friday and Saturday night, January

13, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28 at 8:00 pm, Thursday, January 26 at 8:00 pm, and Sunday January 22 and 29 at 2:30.

For tickets contact The Toledo Rep box office at (419) 243-9277, or order tickets online at www.toledorep.org.

TOLEDO REP AUDITIONS FOR BORDERTOWN CAFE

Auditions for Toledo Rep's production of Kelly Rebar's *Bordertown Café* will be held on Saturday, January 14th at 1:00 at the 10th Street stage. *Bordertown Café* will be directed by Amy Heuring. Performances are scheduled for April 13th through the 29th. For more information please visit The Toledo Rep's website at www.toledorep.org.

Church leaders pray for immigration law's repeal

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 19, 2011 (AP): Several leaders of the Roman Catholic, United Methodist and Episcopal churches in Alabama have written Alabama's governor, saying that they are praying he will show great political courage and support repeal of Alabama's immigration law.

The church leaders sent the letter Monday to Gov. Robert Bentley and made a copy public. They said short of repeal, they pray

the governor will work for revisions in what they call "an unjust and unfair law."

The governor's press secretary, Jennifer Ardis, says the law won't be repealed. She says the governor recognizes changes are needed to ensure Alabama's law is effective and fair, preserves jobs for legal residents, and can be enforced without prejudice.

The church leaders signing the letter previously challenged the law in federal court.

Cuban-Americans stream to Cuba for the holidays

(Continued from Page 2)

Tampa International Airport began in early September after a 50-year hiatus, and local officials are banking on it as a new source of revenue. Airport officials said about 45,000 passengers will travel the route in 2012.

Manny Martínez, a 21-year-old Tampa resident, was standing at the back of the long line four hours before Tuesday's flight. He said he's spending two weeks on the island and staying with family. Like Labrada, he said Cuba still feels like home, even though he's lived in the U.S. for 11 years.

When asked to name the first thing he would do once he arrived, he laughed.

"Party," he said. "Just go out with my old friends and have fun."

Not everyone goes just to see family.

Gomez said his maintenance man just returned

from a trip to Cuba to visit his dentist because he has no health care insurance in the U.S. and can't afford the visit here. Meanwhile, media reports are on the rise in South Florida about Cuban-Americans involved in Medicare fraud fleeing to the island.

Back at the Miami airport, *Isabel Baez*, 39, teared up as she talked about visiting her family in Santiago de Cuba. Yet, she said she knows of people who also go as "mules," taking much needed provisions for others on the island who are not relatives, sometimes even for resale.

"But most of those people still go to see their family," she said. "They bring the packages as a way to get a free ticket."

Associated Press writer Tamara Lush contributed to this report from Tampa, Florida.

US agents to screen Arizona jail inmates

(Continued from Page 3)

from the United States in line with our priorities."

The government's report released last week found that Arpaio's office committed a wide range of civil rights violations against Latinos, including unjust immigration patrols and jail policies that deprive prisoners of basic constitutional rights.

The report will be used by the Justice Department to seek major changes at Arpaio's office, such as new policies against discrimination and improvements of staff and officers.

Arpaio must decide by Jan. 4 deadline whether he wants to seek a settlement or allow the federal government to sue. A lawsuit could jeopardize

millions of dollars in federal funding for Maricopa County.

Arpaio has long denied the racial profiling allegations, saying people are stopped if deputies have probable cause to believe they have committed crimes and that deputies later find many of them are undocumented immigrants.



Cleveland gets first roll of casino dice in Ohio

By THOMAS J. SHEERAN, Associated Press

CLEVELAND, Dec. 25, 2011 (AP)—Visitors to Ohio's first casino won't see glitzy Las Vegas-style stage shows but instead will get an invitation to gamble and then sample the attractions in blue-collar Cleveland.

The *Horseshoe Casino Cleveland* will open in late March on four floors of a renovated department store overlooking Public Square in the heart of downtown.

The casino will have 2,011 slot machines, 63 table games and a 30-table poker room.

Instead of offering in-house live entertainment, the casino will bet on drawing visitors who are also interested in other Cleveland attractions including its sports teams, the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum* and its busy theater scene.

"Rather than saying, 'Come to Horseshoe Cleveland' and just come into the casino and stay the entire time, we're actually connecting to the city," the casino's manager, *Marcus Glover*, said during a year-end construction tour interview.

"We'll provide first-class amenities in terms of leveraging the amenities around us in the downtown corridor with the fine restaurants and hotels that are down here, as well as the venues and other attractions."

The city likes the idea of an estimated 5 million annual instead casino visitors strolling

through downtown to shop, eat and sample the attractions.

"It's important for the casino not to be just an enclosed shrine to betting," said *Chris Warren*, Cleveland's chief of regional development.

With walkways and pedestrian tunnels linking the casino to the sports complex and Tower City retail-office complex, "you have a unique constellation of really high-visitor, high-marquee venues that will be connected," he said.

Plans for the initial casino phase call for a buffet restaurant and a food court with three outlets. The casino eventually will expand to include a newly built casino overlooking smokestack industries along the serpentine Cuyahoga River.

By comparison, *Caesars Palace Las Vegas* has 14 places to eat, plus shops, a spa and high-end entertainment including Celine Dion during the New Year's weekend.

The Cleveland casino and one planned for Cincinnati will be operated by a joint venture between *Caesars Entertainment* and *Rock Gaming*, run by *Dan Gilbert*, owner of the NBA's *Cleveland Cavaliers* and founder of *Quicken Loans*.

Quicken Loans Arena, home of the *Cavaliers*, is within sight of the casino and the *Ritz-Carlton* hotel, which the casino recently purchased, adding to Gilbert's expand-

ing footprint in Cleveland.

The initial casino phase may have a familiar look for movie buffs. It will be in the old Higbee building, which played a starring role in the 1983 film "A Christmas Story." Planners have tried to preserve its retro look, right down to the original doors.

Two years ago, Ohio voters approved plans for four casinos, including locations in *Columbus* and *Toledo* (*Hollywood Casino*) to be run by *Penn National Gaming*.

Casino opponents, led by church groups, fought the vote and warned that gambling hits the pocketbooks of the poor the hardest. Cleveland, with a poverty rate of 34 percent, ranks as the nation's third-poorest big city.

Les Bernal, executive director of the *Stop Predatory Gambling Foundation* in Washington, D.C., predicts a litany of gambling-related problems will result in Ohio from casinos.

"Ohio is about to unleash one of the biggest public policy failures in America over the last 40 years," he said.

"It's going to increase the level of personal debt, it's going to create tens of thousands of new gambling addicts, it's going to develop an economy based on phony prosperity and it's going to ultimately result in higher taxes and worse budget deficits for the people of Ohio."

Brian Davis, a community organizer with the *Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless*, said it's an open question whether any economic benefit from a casino would outweigh additional demands on social services because of gambling addicts, debt-ridden gamblers and other issues.

In either case, a casino will simply add an additional outlet to the betting opportunities already available, he said.

"People who are struggling with gambling addiction find ways even if they live in Cleveland right now," in the pre-casino era, he said.

A key selling point in the casino campaign was creating jobs. Cleveland's casino will have about 1,600 employees and initial job postings in recent weeks have drawn tens of thousands of applicants. The \$350 million project is expected to create 2,000 construction jobs.

Cleveland's jobless rate was 9.1 percent in November, with nearly 17,000 people looking for work.

The casino also raised hopes of spinoff jobs, from initial construction work to expanded restaurant and tourism employment.

Brand Evans, whose *Pura Vida* restaurant sits a half-block from *Horseshoe Cleveland*, said he is confident the casino will thrive under Gilbert's hard-driving leadership.

"If my projected sales increase, I'll definitely have to hire at least 10 to 15 more employees," said Evans, whose restaurant opened seven months ago and employs 23.

John Krajewski, 50, a sheet-metal worker, is an early job success story. He landed work installing heating and ventilation equipment at the casino after being laid off 20 months and now expects to patronize the casino when it opens.

"I see Cleveland starting to grow again—the 'Comeback City' that it was in the '80s," he said during a lunch break with fellow hard-hats.

The job has given him a chance to resume planning for his retirement.

"My (investment) funds are starting to kick back to what they were and I'm making a decent living like I was before," he said.

Krajewski may reflect the blue-collar base of the casino. He and his wife occasionally travel to a casino in *Niagara Falls, Ontario*, but expect to give the *Cleveland casino* a chance.

"I'm not really that big of a gambler, but I would come down to monkey around on the slot machines," he said.

Glover said he isn't concerned about the casino's odds of flourishing in an increasingly crowded Midwestern gambling scene.

"Ohio will have four cas-

inos. Today, Ohio has no casinos. Everyone who lives in Ohio who wants to partake in gaming activities leaves the state today," he said.

"So, there's considerable amount of support leaving Ohio today to go participate in gaming activities in bordering states, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Michigan. So we feel pretty good about having the prospect of only having one casino here in Cleveland."

But Glover already has his antennae out for the possibility of seeing further dilution of the gambling pie if Ohio horse race tracks offer slots-like video lottery terminals.

"Tracks, if they do eventually get the VLTs, pose some level of cannibalization," he said. "But we'll have a different offering than those tracks will have."

Glover promised the casino would have an opulent look—"very rich textures, very rich color palate, very masculine color palate"—and said he's confident City Hall would keep the area neat and safe.

Asked about the potential for panhandlers and vagrants outside the casino's front door, Glover said he wasn't deterred.

"We feel good about what the city of Cleveland is going to do in terms of devoting police force and other services to make this area a much more vibrant area," he said.



Community Partnership ERSEA Transition Coordinator

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

Responsible for the implementation of Community Partnerships, and ERSEA Plans throughout the region with guidance and assistance from the Community Partnership, ERSEA and Transition Director. Oversees regional enrollment process ensuring that only eligible children are served. Provides guidance on recruitment of children. Provides training and technical assistance in the area of Community Partnerships, ERSEA and Transitions to regional staff and assists in the coordination of activities of parents and other volunteers at the center. Is responsible to provide parent involvement activities that are responsive to the expressed needs of the parents in relation to transition activities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. BA Degree in Sociology, Social Work, or Psychology or equivalent experience.
2. One (1) year providing social services to families.
3. Bilingual in English and Spanish.
4. Good oral and written communication skills with experience in public speaking.
5. Ability to communicate effectively with Migrant Families.
6. Good PC skills and experience in word processing.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. One (1) year Head Start experience.
2. Experience in Spreadsheet and Database.

This position is located in Fremont OH, is Mon-Fri and starts immediately. Please submit your cover letter, resume, copy of licenses and official copy of transcripts to:

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c/o Human Resources
601 N. Stone St., Fremont, OH 43420

Please visit www.tmccentral.org to view the full job description for this position. **TMC is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer**



EARLY INTERVENTION PREVENTION COORDINATOR

OVERVIEW:

Assist in planning & implementing goals, objectives, & all activities that are part of the Migrant Seasonal Head Start work plan as promulgated in the Head Start Performance Standards, under Child Development & Health Services. Ensure compliance with all Federal, State & Local regulations, corporate work plans, policies & procedures in the program area of Health and Safety.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Certified Medical Assistant or Associate Degree in related area. Two (2) years experience in the delivery of services to children (birth to compulsory school age) and families. Must have good PC skills and experience in word processing. Must demonstrate good training and presentation skills. Possess a basic knowledge of community agencies and/or availability of resources that migrant families can access within the service area. Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Knowledge of Federal, State and Local programs. Must obtain America Red Cross CPR and First Aid Instructor certificate within one year of hire.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

License Vocational Nurse (LVN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the state of Ohio or equivalent experience. Bachelors Degree in Health Administration or Social Work with children and families. Migrant Seasonal Head Start or Head Start experience. Spreadsheet, Database & PowerPoint experience. Bilingual in English and Spanish.

This position is located in Fremont OH, is Mon-Fri and starts immediately. Please submit your cover letter, resume, copy of licenses and official copy to:

hrohio@mail.tmccentral.org
or mail to
TMC Ohio
c/o Human Resources
601 N. Stone St., Fremont, OH 43420

Please visit www.tmccentral.org to view the full job description for this position. **TMC is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer**

Toledo Lucas County awarded \$4,154,022 from HUD 2011 Continuum of Care Competition for renewal projects

December, 2011: All twenty-four projects, recommended and submitted to HUD by the Toledo Lucas County

Homelessness Board were renewed. The projects are administered by eleven agencies and provide homeless individuals and families with a wide range of services to assist them achieve and maintain permanent housing. These include: Transitional Housing; Permanent Supportive Housing; Support Services; Leasing Subsidy; Outreach; and, Medical Transport. In addition, these dollars employ fifty people and provide rental income to over 150 landlords.

Deb Conklin, executive director of TLCHB notes, "To say these funds are vitally needed is an understatement. Agencies stretch the funds as far as they can to provide safe

and stable services and housing to as many homeless households as possible.

"These funds are also helping us respond to the new face of homelessness, those family households once adequately employed, former home-owners in some cases, who have very limited, if any, resources and continue to find themselves unable to secure affordable housing and at the bottom of the pile for employment."

U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan announced \$1.5 billion to more than 7,100 local homeless assistance programs operating in the coming year. The funding supports the Obama Administration's *Opening Doors* strategy to prevent and end homelessness.

The funding announced is \$62 million more than last year, the most homeless assistance ever awarded by the Department. HUD is renew-

ing funding through its *Continuum of Care* programs to existing local programs as quickly as possible to prevent any interruption in federal assistance and will award funds to new projects in early 2012.

"The grants we're awarding today will literally keep the doors of our shelters open and will help those on the front lines of ending homelessness do what they do best," said Donovan. "It's incredible that as we work to recover from the greatest economic decline since the Great Depression, the total number of homeless Americans is declining, in large part because of these funds."

For more information on HUD's efforts to assist communities with preventing, reducing and ending homelessness visit www.hudhre.info

Happy
57th
Birthday
DAVE
SÁNCHEZ
Dec. 28,
2011

Happy
Birthday
MARK
KULWICKI
Jan. 1,
2012

Director, First Year Programs

Owens Community College is a public, state-assisted, two-year institution of higher education. We are seeking applicants for a Director, First Year Programs (**Toledo Campus**). The Director of First Year Programs reports to the Associate Vice Provost of Academic Services and Retention and is responsible for leading and supporting the functions and activities for the First Year Programs. He/She will direct the First Year activities that promote a student centered learning environment that fosters student success. He/She will be responsible for the development and implementation of programs and services related to New Student Orientation (NSO) and First Year Programs, including retention consulting, student progress and early-alert reporting, on-line and face-to-face orientation, student success courses and First Year Experience workshops / courses. The Director provides leadership for the tracking and management of the department website and assessment. The Director will be actively involved in division and department committee meetings. The Director will also provide leadership for the First Year Experience Advisory Committee. **Qualified applicants must possess the following qualifications and must demonstrate in application material how qualifications are met. Required:** Master's degree required in higher education administration, counseling, educational leadership, student personnel, psychology, communications, or related field. 1-2 years of administrative experience in a College or University setting. 1-2 years of experience in program development. 1-2 years of experience in student advising and/or student orientation. 1-2 years of experience in assessment and evaluation. 1-2 years of experience working with professional development of college faculty in a classroom or workshop environment. **Starting salary is \$45,030 - \$53,546. Applications without salary history completed will not be considered. Completed application materials include application, cover letter, resume and scanned copies of transcripts required. To complete an Owens Community College application go to <https://jobs.owens.edu>.**

Owens Community College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Coastal Resources Advisory Council seeks new members to Fill Vacancies

Huron, OH: The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Office of Coastal Management has announced that it is accepting applications for vacancies on the Coastal Resources Advisory Council. The council consists of 19 members ranging in background from engineers, developers, realtors, researchers, conservationists, shoreline property owners, dive enthusiasts, public officials and others with an interest in Lake Erie.

The mission of the council is to advise the director of ODNR on the Ohio Coastal Management Program and to promote, protect, enhance and encourage the wise use of Lake Erie's coastal resources.

Interested applicants should contact the ODNR Office of Coastal Management at 419-626-7980 or visit www.ohiodnr.com/coastal and select the logo link for the Coastal Resources Advisory Council (<http://www.ohiodnr.com/LakeErie/CRAC/tabid/9307/Default.aspx>). Once on the council's webpage, applicants should select the "Apply for Council" link, then download and complete the necessary forms.

The council meets quarterly at locations along Lake Erie, offering the public an opportunity to learn about important lake-related topics, as well as offer ideas and concerns relative to lake issues. The next Coastal Resources Advisory Council meeting is 10 a.m. Thursday, February 9 at the:

ODNR Division of Wildlife Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve
2514 Cleveland Road East
Huron, Ohio

An agenda will be posted on the Web site prior to the meeting.

The ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR Web site at www.ohiodnr.com.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Toledo-Lucas County Convention Center and Visitors Bureau, Inc. (the CVB) requests proposals from qualified foodservice contractors to provide food/beverage services for the Seagate Centre and Huntington Center facilities. Proposals must be received at the offices of M. Bridgette A. Kabat, Chief of Staff, Board of Lucas County Commissioners, One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, Ohio 43604 to the attention of Ms. Bridgette Kabat no later than 5:00 pm (Eastern Standard Time), Tuesday, January 31, 2012. Information in printed form setting forth submittal requirements may be viewed at the same office, obtained by calling 419-213-4545 or download by going to the site; <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.asp>.

There is a mandatory pre-bid meeting at the SeaGate Convention Center, Room 102, 401 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604 at 9:00 AM (Eastern Standard Time), January 10, 2012.

Prior to 5:00 P.M., (Eastern Standard Time), January 31, 2012, each bid upon submission must be stamped for the time and date and received in the Lucas County Commissioner's office, Receptionist Area, One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, Ohio 43604. Each bid shall contain the full name of each person submitting the bid and the name of every person or company interested in same. A bond, cash or a certified or cashier's check payable to the CVB in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000) will be required to guarantee the execution of the Contract Agreement (the Bid Bond) and shall be submitted with each proposal. The Contractor shall also deliver to the CVB, at the CVB's address referenced herein hereof, within seven (7) days after the Contractor's execution of this Contract, as a performance guarantee, Five Hundred Thousand dollars (\$500,000).

This advertisement does not constitute any offer on the part of the CVB rather it is placed only in order to solicit proposals. The CVB reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

This notice is posted at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/bids.asp>

By order of the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio.

Pete Gerken - President
Tina Skeldon Wozniak - Commissioner
Carol Contrada - Commissioner

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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As of January 1, 2012 The Toledo Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee will change the application acceptance times to: Monday through Friday from 8:30am until 4:00pm. AND the 1st Monday of every month applications will be accepted until 6:00pm (applicants are requested to arrive by 5:30pm).

YOU MUST APPLY IN PERSON AND SUBMIT A \$20.00 APPLICATION FEE (payable by personal check, money order, MasterCard or Visa (no cash, please).

Applications are taken at:
803 Lime City Rd.
Rossford, OH 43460

The following documentation is required to qualify for the apprenticeship:

- **Copy of Birth Certificate** (you must be 17 to apply)
- **Official copy of High School Transcript.** (cannot hand deliver)
- **Copy of GED** if not a HS graduate (in addition to your transcript).
- **Proof of successful completion of one (1) credit of Algebra.**

Recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices is done without discrimination due to race, religion, color, national origin or gender.

Holas todos: please save the date of January 7th 2012 at 6p for our 3 Kings Day celebration. Invitation will soon follow with more details—Gracias, Club Taino, Maria González, 419-385-1150.



Life Lab presents: "Pets in the Classroom"

Come and take part of this discussion led by Marge Malinowski of the Lourdes University Life Lab! Marge has significant animal care experience including over 12 years of caring for the Life Lab animals. Mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and other arthropods will be explained in detail. Perhaps, you would consider adding some plants. Cactus, dish and "fairy gardens" are very popular right now! Some plants will even help clean your classroom air!

Presentation by Marge Malinowski
Lourdes University- Life Lab Instructor
Cost \$20.00
thursDAY, January 12, 2012, 4:00-5:30pm

Location: Life Lab of Lourdes University Campus, 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania, OH. To RSVP or for more information contact Marge Malinowski 419-824-3767 or mmalinowski@lourdes.edu

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Provides security/communication functions to ensure the safety of staff, building and property. **REQUIREMENTS:** H.S. diploma/equivalent and security-related exp. or educ. (prefer 2-year degree in Law Enforcement). Position starts at \$17.60/hr (hrs. will vary w/evening & weekend work required). See complete requirements at www.lucaskids.net. Send resume to LCCS, Human Resources, 705 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43604 or fax to 327-3291 by 11/25/11. EOE valuing diversity.

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INVITATION

The Hispanic Ministries Office
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in coordination with
Owens Community College

invite you to participate in the English classes program.
The classes will be held at SS. Peter & Paul Parish Hall,
736 South St. Clair Street, Toledo.

Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
The classes begin January 10, 2012.
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For more information please contact:
Deacon José García
Hispanic Ministries Office
Diocese of Toledo
(419) 244-6711 ext. 504



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*All individuals' quotes originally published by The Epoch Times and New Tang Dynasty Television.

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HOLLYWOOD CASINO JOB FAIRS ★ JANUARY 2012

Hollywood Casino will be hosting a series of upcoming Job Fairs in your area in January. More information to be posted at hollywoodcasinotoledo.com and [Facebook.com/HollywoodToledo](https://www.facebook.com/HollywoodToledo) soon.

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Hollywood Casino Presents Check and Food Donation to Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank
Hollywood Casino Toledo Vice President of Marketing Jason Birney (right) presents a \$5,000 check and food donation on behalf of the casino and Penn National Gaming, Inc. to James M. Caldwell (center), President and CEO of Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank; and Brian Bucher (left), Chairman of the Board of the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank and Regional President of PNC Bank in Northwest Ohio. The presentation took place on Monday, Dec. 19, 2011 at the Food Bank in Toledo.



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