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NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF AWARENESS, EDUCATION, AND EMPOWERMENT.

EL MES DE CONCIENTIZACIÓN NACIONAL DEL CÁNCER
DE SENO. CELEBRANDO 25 AÑOS DE CONCIENTIZACIÓN,
EDUCACIÓN Y CAPACITACIÓN.



IT'S OFFICIAL, KCMO
MAYOR MARK FUNKHOUSER
ANNOUNCES HIS
CAMPAIGN FOR RE-
ELECTION. SEE PAGE 7
FOR DETAILS.

La Policía de KCMO da Honores a un oficial por 25 años de Servicio KCMO Police honors officer for 25 years of service



KCMO Police Chief James Corwin said employees such as Cruz are an example of professionalism that makes him proud to lead the department.

El jefe de Policía de KCMO, James Corwin, dijo que los empleados como Cruz son un ejemplo de profesionalismo que lo hace orgulloso de dirigir al departamento.

TRADUCIDO POR RICO ROGERS
KC HISPANIC NEWS

Como un joven creciendo en un barrio bravo de Chicago, Alejandro Cruz tuvo muchos encuentros con la policía - y no todos fueron positivos.

"Yo crecí en el centro de la ciudad y estaba infestada de pandillas y tuve que andar con ellos para pasar desapercibido", dijo Cruz a Hispanic News. "Tuve muchos encuentros negativos con la policía en ese entonces. Pues, nunca tenía la intención de convertirme en un agente de policía

Eventualmente, un pastor de su iglesia le instó a examinar los trabajos de la policía y le presentó a otro parroquiano que trabajaba para el departamento local.

"Él (el pastor) me apoyaba y me animaba mucho para conseguir que yo lo hiciera. Yo acepté su oferta y me alegro de haberlo hecho. Pienso mucho en las experiencias de mi vida - incluso las partes negativas - todos me prepararon para lo que hago ahora".

Ahora un policía veterano del Departamento de Policía de Kansas City, Missouri, Cruz fue galardonado recientemente junto con otros empleados del departamento por sus 25 años de servicio.

En una ceremonia a la que asistieron

ES UN MOMENTO DE ORGULLO PARA LOS / PÁGINA 8

JOE ARCE AND TONY BALANDRAN
KC HISPANIC NEWS

As a youth growing up in a tough Chicago neighborhood, Alexander Cruz had many contacts with law enforcement - and not all were positive ones.

"I grew up in the inner city and it was infested with gangs and I had to hang out to blend in," Cruz told Hispanic News. "I had a lot of negative contact with the police at that time, so I never really had any intentions of becoming a police officer."

Eventually, a pastor at his church urged him to look into police work and introduced him to another parishioner who worked for the local department.

"He (the pastor) was very supportive and encouraging to get me to do that. I took him up on that offer and I am glad I did. I think a lot of my life experiences - even the negative parts - all prepared me for what I do now."

Now a veteran Kansas City, Mo., police officer, Cruz was honored recently along with other employees of the department for their 25 years of service.

ITS A PROUD MOMENT FOR POLICE OFFICERS / PAGE 8



Federal grant money gives added life to health center Fondos federales de una subvención dá mayor vida al centro de salud

JOE ARCE AND TONY BALANDRAN
KC HISPANIC NEWS

TRADUCIDO POR RICO ROGERS
KC HISPANIC NEWS

U.S. Rep. Emanuel Cleaver II presented an \$8.2 million federal grant to the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center that will help expand its services to thousands more Kansas City residents.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will cover about half the construction cost of the center's planned expansion at its current location at 825 Euclid Ave.

El Congresista estadounidense Emanuel Cleaver II presentó una subvención de 8,2 millones de dólares federales al Centro de Salud 'Samuel U. Rodgers' que le ayudará a ampliar sus servicios a miles residentes de Kansas City.

La concesión del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de los EE.UU. cubrirá aproximadamente la mitad del costo de la construcción de

EXPANSION BRINGS OPPORTUNITY TO / PAGE 3

LA EXPANSIÓN TRAE LA OPORTUNIDAD AL / PÁGINA 3

Male Diagnosed with Breast Cancer Begins an Awareness Campaign Bret Miller diagnosticado con cáncer de mama; Comienza una campaña de concientización

DEBRA DECOSTER
KC HISPANIC NEWS

Bret Miller entered St. Joseph Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri on May 18 to have a mastectomy. The 24 year old visited a doctor for a physical in March, 2010 and discussed with the physician that he had a lump in his right breast under the nipple for seven years. On April 27, he had a lumpectomy done and the next day the doctor called to inform him that the .9 centimeter tumor that they removed was cancerous.

"I first found the lump under my nipple when I was 17 years old. I scratched my chest and I felt it. I told my pediatrician about it when I went for my college physical and he said it was puberty, calcium build up, just to keep an eye on it and it will go away eventually. But if the lump changed in size to let them know," said Miller.

As he attended college at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, he didn't worry about the lump since it hadn't changed in size. But it was during his college years that he noticed if he bumped his breast or was punched in the right breast by good natured friends that it would ooze a yellow orange discharge.

MILLER BEGINS A BREAST CANCER AWARENESS / PAGE 2

TRADUCIDO POR RICO ROGERS
KC HISPANIC NEWS

Bret Miller entró al Centro Médico St. Joseph en Kansas City, Missouri, el 18 de mayo para tener una mastectomía. Él, 24 años de edad, visitó a un médico para un examen físico en marzo de 2010 y dijo al médico que durante siete años tenía un bulto en el pecho justo debajo del pezón. El 27 de abril, se realizó una tumorectomía y al día siguiente el médico llamó para informarle de que el tumor de 0,9 centímetros que le quitaron era canceroso.

"La primera vez que encontré el bulto debajo de mi pezón yo tenía 17 años de edad. Me rasqué el pecho y lo sentí. Le dije a mi pediatra cuando me fui para mi un examen para entrar a la universidad y él me dijo que era debido a la pubertad, la acumulación de calcio. Me dijo sólo observarlo y desaparecería con el tiempo. Pero llamarle si la masa cambiara de tamaño", dijo Miller.

Mientras asistía a la universidad en la Universidad de Kansas en Lawrence, no se preocupó de la masa, ya que no había cambiado de tamaño. Pero fue durante sus años de estudios en la universidad se dio cuenta de que si le golpeaba el pecho o recibiera un puñetazo en el pecho derecho durante juego con sus amigos que saldría una secreción amarilla anaranjada.

MILLER COMIENZA UNA CAMPAÑA DE CONCIENTIZACION SOBRE / PÁGINA 2



At a young age of 17 Bret Miller found a lump on his breast. Doctor's told him is was puberty, calcium build up. He was also told to keep an eye on it and it would go away. Seven years later at the age of 24 he was diagnosed with breast cancer and had a mastectomy.

En una edad joven de 17 años, Bret Miller encontró un bulto en el pecho. Los médicos le dijeron que era la acumulación de calcio debido a la pubertad. También se le dijo seguir observándolo y que se iba a desaparecer. Siete años más tarde, a la edad de 24 años, él fue diagnosticado con cáncer de mama y tuvo una mastectomía.

Miller begins a Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign

CONT./PAGE 1

"You couldn't physically see the lump but if you touched under the nipple you could feel it. At first I was embarrassed about it. I never really thought it was breast cancer ever, but in the back of my mind, I did wonder maybe it could be and what if it is," he said.

According to a Breast Cancer Facts and Figures 2009-2010 report by the American Cancer Society, men are generally at low risk for developing breast cancer. However, they should report any change in their breasts to a physician.

While breast cancer is rare in men they do account for one percent of breast cancer cases in the United States. Late stage diagnoses are more common in men because they may not be aware of or respond as quickly to changes in their breasts.

Since his breast cancer diagnosis, Miller has started a campaign for males. He and his mother Peggy Miller have created a website, www.CHECK-THEM.org. The Bret Miller IT Foundation is building awareness one man at a time, letting guys know that they shouldn't be afraid to do a breast exam.

His mother Peggy told Hispanic News that when they received the news that their son had breast cancer, she said 'I was blown away.' Her advice to families today is to start a family medical history tree before you are in a crisis.

"When they tell you that you have cancer, the doctors want the family history on the mother and father side. They want to know what types of cancer are in the family," she said.

His aunt Betsy Green has had cancer for about seven years. She had some of the family cancer history, but it was not complete. So Peggy and her husband, Bob, spent 18 hours on the telephone calling relatives and asking if family members had cancer and what type of cancer.

The Millers' awareness campaign is targeting young people. "Breast cancer has been a woman's disease but men get it too. Young men and women need to be aware that they can get breast cancer and it just doesn't happen to older women. Insurance companies need to be aware that young people can get the disease and they should cover mammograms for young people," he said.

Before the doctor made the decision that he needed a mastectomy, they sent him to the Women's Imaging Center of Kansas City to have an ultra sound scan. It was at the imaging center that the attending doctor decided that he should have a mammogram performed.

"When they told me they wanted to do that, I said ok is that possible and yes it was," he said. Based upon the ultrasound and mammogram results, surgery was recommended. Dr. Steven Behrends performed the lumpectomy, but when it was recommended that he have a mastectomy, he went to Kansas City surgeon Dr. Lon McKrosky.

Dr. McKrosky specializes in male mastectomies. The biopsy that was performed confirmed that he had Ductal Carcinoma in situ, indicating the cancer cells were confined to his breast.

"He was lucky. God was good to him and the cancer had not spread into his tissue or bone," said his mom, Peggy.

After his mastectomy, he began chemotherapy treatment July 20 and it ended September 21. Next week he meets with his doctor to determine which medicine he will begin. He does know that he will be taking one pill a day for the next five years.

The doctors tested his blood to see if he carries the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutations that cause hereditary breast cancer. His tests were negative. No immediate family members has had cancer but they have found in their family history research that distant relatives under the age of fifty had cancer.

The young athletic Miller handled the chemotherapy with very little side effects. He did not become ill from his treatments, but he did begin to lose his hair. As he readied for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Walk, he did a buzz cut to his hair.

He likes to joke about the disease that has caused him to lose his right breast. "I was the first one to joke about it. I have joked about putting a zipper tattoo across the scar, it is a serious disease and it is something that you need to take serious but at the same time you need to joke about it. There is a quote from a movie that said don't take life too seriously, you'll never make it out alive. It is a really good quote to use for cancer. Don't take it too seriously or you won't survive it. You won't make it out, you will bury yourself with the what if's.



Miller and his mom, Peggy Miller, will be taking their awareness campaign to the street as they walk in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer this Saturday. They have made t-shirts to wear that state, "Guys don't be afraid to Touch Yourself." Miller y su madre, Peggy Miller, van a llevar su campaña de sensibilización a las calles en la caminata de 'la Sociedad Americana Del Cáncer Haciendo Grandes Progresos Contra el Cáncer de Mama' este sábado. Ellos han confeccionado camisetas para usar ese estado, "Hombres, no tengan miedo de tocarse a sí mismo."

I have been making light of the situation but I am attacking it head on," he said.

This Saturday, Miller and his family will be taking their awareness campaign to the street as they walk in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. They have made t-shirts to wear that state, "Guys don't be afraid to Touch Yourself. Each step will help save a life as walkers raise money for breast cancer research.

"We have a goal of \$4,000 that we want to raise for the walk. We are almost there, we have \$3,200 raised," said Peggy Miller.

"Any amount that people want to donate is accepted. They can give us \$5 or \$10, it doesn't matter. Any little bit helps us to reach our goal and helps in research. The money that is raised in Kansas City will stay in Kansas City for cancer research here," said Bret Miller.

The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk will start at Liberty Memorial, where people can register beginning at 8 a.m. The walk starts at 9 a.m. The walk is a celebration of survivorship and to express hope and to share a goal to end a disease that affects many lives. There is no registration fee or minimum fundraising amount. People of all ages are welcome to participate.

CONT./PÁGINA 1

"No se podía ver físicamente el bulto, pero si me tocara por debajo del pezón podría sentirlo. Al principio me daba vergüenza de ello. Realmente nunca pensé que era cáncer de mama, pero en el fondo de mi mente, me pregunté tal vez lo podría ser y si lo fuera," dijo.

De acuerdo con un informe de 2009-2010 acerca de los datos y cifras sobre el cáncer de mama publicado por la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer, por lo general los hombres son de riesgo bajo para desarrollar el cáncer de mama. Sin embargo, deben informar de cualquier cambio en sus senos a un médico.

Mientras que el cáncer de mama es raro en los hombres, representan el uno por ciento de los casos de cáncer de mama en los Estados Unidos. Los diagnósticos en la última etapa son más comunes en los hombres porque están al tanto de su condición o no responden rápidamente a los cambios en sus senos.

Desde su diagnóstico de cáncer de mama, Miller ha iniciado una campaña para los hombres. Él y su madre Peggy Miller han creado una página web, www.CHECK-THEM.org. La Fundación 'Bret Miller IT' está aumentando la concientización de un hombre a la vez informándolos que los hombres no deben tener miedo de hacerse un examen de los senos.

Miller comienza una campaña de concientización sobre el cáncer de mama

Su madre, Peggy, le dijo a Hispanic News que cuando recibieron la noticia de que su hijo tenía cáncer de mama, ella dijo "me sorprendió." Su consejo para las familias de hoy es que empiecen un árbol genealógico médico antes de una crisis médica.

"Cuando te dicen que tienes cáncer, los médicos quieren saber la historia médica de la familia de la madre y el padre. Ellos quieren saber qué tipos de cáncer corre en la familia", ella dijo.

Su tía Betsy Green ha tenido cáncer por cerca de siete años. Ella sabía alguna de la historia de cáncer de la familia, pero no era completa. Por eso, Peggy y su esposo, Bob, pasaron 18 horas en el teléfono llamando a familiares y le preguntaba cuáles parientes tenían cáncer y qué tipo de cáncer tenían.

La campaña de concientización de los Millers se dirige a los jóvenes. "El cáncer de mama ha sido la enfermedad de la mujer pero los hombres lo contraen también. Los jóvenes, hombres y las mujeres, necesitan ser conscientes de que pueden desarrollar cáncer de mama y que no sólo afecta a las mujeres mayores. Las compañías de seguros tienen que ser conscientes de que los jóvenes pueden contraer la enfermedad y deben cubrir el costo de las mamografías para la gente joven", dijo.

Antes de determinar que él necesitaba una mastectomía, el médico lo envió al Women Imaging Center of Kansas City para tener una exploración vía ultrasonido. Fue en el centro de la imágenes que el médico tratante decidió que debería realizar una mamografía.

"Cuando me dijeron que querían hacer eso, le dije ok si fuera posible, y sí que era posible", él dijo. Según los resultados de la ecografía y la mamografía, se recomendó la cirugía. El Dr. Steven Behrends realizó la tumorectomía, pero cuando se recomendó que tuviera una mastectomía, él fue al cirujano Dr. Lon McKrosky de Kansas City.

Dr. McKrosky se especializa en las mastectomías masculinas. La biopsia que se realizó confirmó que había Carcinoma ductal in situ, lo que indicaba que las células cancerosas se limitaban en su pecho.

"Tuvo suerte. Dios fue bueno con él y el cáncer no se había extendido a su tejido o hueso", dijo su madre, Peggy.

Después de su mastectomía, él comenzó un tratamiento de quimioterapia el 20 de julio y terminó el 21 de septiembre. La próxima semana se reúne con su médico para determinar qué medicamento va a comenzar. Él sabe que él va a tomar una píldora al día durante los próximos cinco años.

Los médicos probaron su sangre para ver si lleva las mutaciones del

gen BRCA1 o BRCA2 que causan el cáncer de mama hereditario. Sus pruebas fueron negativas. No hay miembros de la familia inmediata que ha tenido cáncer pero que han encontrado en sus investigaciones sobre la historia de la familia que parientes lejanos menor de cincuenta años de edad tuvieron cáncer.

Miller, joven y atlético, aguantó la quimioterapia con pocos efectos secundarios. Él no se enfermó de sus tratamientos, pero sí comenzó a perder su cabello. Mientras preparaba para la Caminata 'Susan G. Komen for the Cure', se hizo una corte buzz a su pelo.

Le gusta bromear sobre la enfermedad que le hizo perder su seno derecho. "Yo fui el primero de bromear al respecto. He bromeadado acerca de poner un tatuaje de cremallera sobre la cicatriz. Es una enfermedad seria y es algo que tiene que tomar en serio, pero al mismo tiempo necesita mantener su sentido del humor. Hay una expresión de una película que dice, no tome la vida tan en serio porque nunca logrará salir con vida. Es una muy buena expresión para usar con el cáncer. No lo tome demasiado en serio o no sobrevivirá. Tú no sobrevivirás. Te enterrarán a ti mismo con preguntas como '¿qué tal si...?' He estado bromeadando sobre la situación pero lo estoy atacando de frente", dijo.

Este sábado, Miller y su familia van a llevar su campaña de sensibilización a las calles en la caminata de 'la Sociedad Americana Del Cáncer Haciendo Grandes Progresos Contra el Cáncer de Mama' este sábado. Ellos han confeccionado camisetas para usar ese estado, "Hombres, no tengan miedo de tocarse a sí mismo." Cada paso le ayudará a salvar una vida mientras cada caminante recauda fondos para la investigación del cáncer de mama.

"Tenemos una meta de \$ 4000 que queremos recaudar para la caminata. Casi alcanzamos la meta, he juntado \$ 3200", dijo Peggy Miller.

"Se acepta cualquier cantidad que la gente quiere donar. Ellos nos pueden dar \$ 5 o \$ 10, no importa. Lo poco que sea, nos ayuda a alcanzar nuestro objetivo y ayuda en la investigación. El dinero que se junta en Kansas City, se quedará en Kansas City para la investigación del cáncer aquí", dijo Bret Miller.

La caminata 'Haciendo Grandes Progresos Contra el Cáncer de Mama' comenzará en el Liberty Memorial, donde las personas pueden inscribirse a partir de las 8 de la mañana. La caminata comienza a las 9 de la mañana. La caminata es una celebración de la supervivencia, para expresar la esperanza y para compartir el objetivo de poner fin a una enfermedad que afecta a muchas vidas. No hay costo de inscripción o cantidad mínima de recaudación de fondos. Se invita a las personas de todas las edades a participar.

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The KCKLGCC, or the Community Campaign Committee is a group of community volunteers assisting in raising the funds necessary for a new library in Southern Wyandotte County. So far, \$1.3 million has been raised through the community's combined efforts, the old Thriftway in Argentine where the new library will be located has been purchased and is scheduled to be demolished in October 2010, and detailed construction documents for the new library are being finalized.

Tickets can be purchased from Community Campaign Committee members or call Victor Hernandez at: (913) 449-1952. Cash accepted for tickets, or make your checks payable to the KCKLGCC.

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Olivia Raya Foundation

Expansion brings opportunity to neighborhood



Congressman Emanuel Cleaver explains how the \$8.2 million federal grant will help the health center’s expansion, but emphasized that more dollars are needed to complete the project. Hilda Fuentes, the chief executive officer for the Samuel Rodgers Health Center, said the grant will allow many in the community to lead healthier lives.

Congresista Emanuel Cleaver explica cómo la subvención federal de 8,2 millones de dólares ayudará a la ampliación del centro de salud, pero hizo hincapié en que más dólares se necesitan para completar el proyecto. Hilda Fuentes, la directora ejecutiva del Centro de Salud ‘Samuel Rogers’, dijo que el subsidio permitirá que muchos puedan llevar vidas más saludables en la comunidad.

CONT./PAGE 1

Cleaver, who presented the grant award, said the federal money means a greater number of indigent residents will be treated in a top-quality facility.

The grant announcement was made at the current health center. “I don’t know whether people realize that there are parts of this building where there are buckets placed on the floor to catch rains because of leaks,” said Cleaver.

Hilda Fuentes, the chief executive officer for the Samuel Rodgers Health Center, said the grant will allow many in the community to lead healthier lives. “We need this new facility at a time when demand for services is at an all time high.”

Fuentes said with all levels of government funding shrinking substantially in the health care field, the grant money is an enormous help. So health center officials will continue to seek additional dollars, she said.

Samuel Rodgers Health Center treats annually about 17,000 patients, who speak collectively between 20 and 25 languages. Fuentes said the center’s staff can communicate in 13 languages. “People come here because they know that we speak their language and that we understand their culture and they trust us to receive quality care.”

Fuentes told Hispanic News that constructing a new health care center in one of Kansas City’s poorest neighborhoods is an investment of urban renewal in the community.

“Being able to stay in this community and make a difference in this community and on the people who live here is a great thing for us,” she said.

Cleaver agreed. “One of the things that always happens in areas that are depressed and decrepit is that if people who own property in the area are able to see that someone or some institution or some agency is committed to rebuilding that neighborhood ... then it gives them some encouragement to invest money. This is going to be a fantastic facility in an area that is, quite honestly, ugly.”

Cleaver said a similar scenario occurred a few years ago when St. James United Methodist Church constructed a new \$8 million at 56th Street and Paseo.

“People all around us began to paint, to get home-improvement loans,” he recalled. “It was almost as if they were saying that this neighborhood is not going down. We are in the middle of resurgence and that is going to happen here.”

Ralph Caro, chief operating officer for the center, said total cost of the expansion project is \$26 million, which includes a construction price tag of \$16.6 million. The additional costs, he said, include furnishings and medical equipment.

Once the facility is completed, the center will have the equivalent of 25 additional full-time employees, Caro said. Among those new positions will be two new dentists, a doctor for women’s health and a pediatrician.

The financial impact of the new building on the area is estimated to be about \$30 million annually – in terms of goods, services and wages paid to employees. Also, Caro said, the expansion may lead to expanding hours of service at the health center.

“We could have built this health center virtually anywhere, but we are making a statement to the community,” he said. “This is an area of high-need, high-risk patients and we decided not to abandon them.”

He said with so many languages spoken at the health care center, “we really are the mini-United Nations when it comes to a melting pot in Kansas City.”

La expansión trae la oportunidad al barrio

CONT./PÁGINA 1

la ampliación prevista del centro en su ubicación actual en 825 Euclid Ave..

Cleaver, quien presentó la concesión de una subvención, dijo que el dinero federal significa que un mayor número de residentes indigentes sean tratados en instalaciones de alta calidad.

El anuncio de la subvención se realizó en el centro de salud actual. "No sé si la gente se da cuenta de que hay partes de este edificio donde hay cubos colocados en el piso para atrapar la lluvia a causa de las fugas", dijo Cleaver.

Hilda Fuentes, la directora ejecutiva del Centro de Salud ‘Samuel Rogers’, dijo que el subsidio permitirá que muchos puedan llevar vidas más saludables en la comunidad. "Necesitamos esta nueva instalación en un momento en que la demanda de servicios se encuentra en su punto más alto."

Fuentes, dijo que con la reducción sustancial de financiación de todos los niveles del gobierno en el campo de la salud, el dinero de la subvención es una ayuda enorme. Así que los funcionarios del centro de salud seguirán buscando dólares adicionales, dijo ella.

El Centro de Salud ‘Samuel Rodgers’ trata anualmente a unos 17.000 pacientes, que hablan colectivamente entre 20 y 25 idiomas. Fuentes, dijo que el personal del centro se puede comunicar en 13 idiomas. "La gente viene aquí porque sabe que hablamos su idioma y que entienden su cultura y que confían en nosotros para recibir una atención de calidad."

Fuentes, dijo a Hispanic News que la construcción de un centro de salud nuevo en uno de los barrios más pobres de Kansas City es una inversión de la renovación urbana en la comunidad.

"Ser capaz de permanecer en esta comunidad y hacer una diferencia en esta comunidad y en la gente que vive aquí es una gran cosa para nosotros", dijo ella.

Cleaver agregó. "Una de las cosas que siempre sucede en las zonas que están deprimidas y deterioradas es que si las personas que son dueños de propiedad en la zona son capaces de ver que alguien o alguna institución o entidad alguna se ha comprometido a la reconstrucción de ese barrio ... entonces se les da un cierto estímulo para invertir el dinero. Esto va a ser una instalación excepcional en un área que es, sinceramente, fea."

Cleaver dijo que un escenario similar ocurrió hace unos años, cuando St. James United Methodist Church construyó un nuevo edificio que costó 8 millones de dólares en la calle 56 y Paseo.

"La gente alrededor de nosotros comenzó a pintar, para obtener préstamos para arreglar las casas", recordó. "Fue casi como si estuvieran diciendo que este barrio no se va hacia abajo. Estamos en medio de un resurgimiento y que va a suceder aquí".

Rafael Caro, director de operaciones para el centro, dijo que el costo total del proyecto de ampliación es de 26 millones de dólares que incluye una etiqueta de precio de construcción de 16,6 millones de dólares. Los costos adicionales, dijo, incluyen mobiliario y equipo médico.

Una vez que la instalación haya finalizado, el centro contará con el equivalente a 25 empleados adicionales a tiempo completo, dijo Caro. Entre los nuevos cargos será de dos nuevos dentistas, un médico para la salud de la mujer y un pediatra.

El impacto financiero del nuevo edificio en la zona se estima en alrededor de 30 millones de dólares al año - en términos de bienes, servicios y salarios pagados a los empleados. Asimismo, Caro dijo, la ampliación puede conducir a la ampliación de horas de servicio en el centro de salud.

"Podríamos haber construido este centro de salud prácticamente en cualquier lugar, pero estamos haciendo una declaración a la comunidad", dijo. "Esta es un área de alta necesidad, los pacientes de alto riesgo y hemos decidido no abandonarlos".

Dijo que con tantas lenguas que se hablan en el centro de atención de salud ", que realmente son las mini-Naciones Unidas cuando se trata de un crisol de culturas diversas en Kansas City."

Vote YES on Prop A

VOTE

YES on Prop A lets voters in St. Louis and Kansas City decide for themselves – in future local elections – if they want to keep the existing earnings tax in their city, or gradually phase it out over 10 years.

VOTE

YES on Prop A protects taxpayers throughout the state, by prohibiting the politicians from imposing any new local earnings taxes on working people.

On November 2

VOTE

YES on A

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Vote SÍ a la Proposición A

VOTE

SÍ a la Proposición A permite a los votantes de St. Louis y Kansas City decidir por sí mismos, en futuras elecciones locales, si quieren seguir pagando impuestos a las ganancias en su ciudad o eliminarlos gradualmente a lo largo de 10 años.

VOTE

SÍ a la Proposición A protege a los contribuyentes de todo el estado, prohibiendo a los políticos aplicar nuevos impuestos locales a las ganancias de los trabajadores.

El 2 de noviembre

VOTE

SÍ a la Proposición A

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Scope questions related to this work should be directed to Beth Valdez at 816-886-4600. Contract questions should be directed to Josh Jones or Ryan Elder at 816.283.0555.

Bids are to be directed to Josh Jones at 2345 Grand, Suite 1000, Kansas City, MO 64108 or faxed to 816.283.0558. **ALL BIDS ARE DUE BY 2:00 PM, CDST ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2010.**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2011 ANNUAL PLAN AND CAPITAL FUNDS PROGRAM BUDGETS

Notice is hereby given that the Kansas City, Kansas Housing Authority will conduct a Public Hearing on the Capital Funds Program Budgets for 2011 at 5:00pm, on Thursday, December 9th, 2010 in the Community Center of Wyandotte Towers at 915 Washington Blvd, in Kansas City, Kansas.

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Navigating marriage's financial minefields

BY JASON ALDEMAR

As with all challenges in a marriage, often what starts as a small issue can fester and grow into a large problem, given enough time. It's not surprising that after being together a few years, some couples realize that the financial quirks they initially found amusing or simply ignored in their spouse now dominate their marital disagreements. In fact, money issues tend to top the reasons for divorce.

If you're having financial difficulties, long before they escalate step back and examine how and when you and your spouse discuss – or don't discuss – your financial situation, and explore ways to ease the tension.

Put it on the calendar. You're both busy and have probably divvied up the chores, including who pays the bills. But even if you completely agree on money matters, the family "accountant" should keep his or her spouse in the loop – if for no other reason than so they can easily take over managing the finances in an emergency.

Set up monthly or even weekly meetings to discuss things like bill payments, progress or setbacks regarding savings goals, budgeting for upcoming expenses (property taxes, insurance premiums,

back-to-school supplies, etc.), and strategies for coping with unforeseen expenses (car repairs, emergency dental work, bailing out a family member, etc.)

Don't postpone painful discussions. Say you accidentally bounce a check or miss a payment. Don't wait until your next conversation to address it or try to hide the problem – you'll only make matters worse and create an atmosphere of mistrust. Sometimes it's best to rip off the bandage with one quick tug.

Be on the same page. When the news isn't good – say your 401(k) balances tanked last quarter or one of you got laid off – communication is all the more important. Whether you need to temporarily tighten the budget or make a major life-altering decision like postponing retirement, talk it through and prepare to compromise so neither party becomes the bad guy.

Realign your goals. Couples often start out with one game plan but then life deals an unexpected hand and goals change. Periodically touch base on how you both feel about such major events as family size, home ownership, career changes, financing college for your kids (or yourselves), appetite for financial risk, and when and where you'll retire.

Follow your budget. Some of the worst financial battles occur when one or both parties sabotage the family budget. If you don't already have one, numerous free budgeting tools are available online. Check out the U.S. Financial Literacy and Education Commission's www.mymoney.gov, the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (www.nfcc.org under "Consumer Tools"), and www.mint.com, among other sites.

Seek help. If you're no longer on the same page regarding how to handle your finances and can't reach compromises, you may want to consider outside help.

* The National Foundation for Credit Counseling (www.nfcc.org) can help you find a local non-profit credit-counseling agency.

* Find a financial planner or advisor at the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards (www.cfp.net), the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (www.napfa.org) or the Financial Planning Association (www.fpanet.org).

Like any other joint venture, marriages can derail when partners don't communicate. Make sure that doesn't happen to you. Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

Cómo abordar los problemas financieros del matrimonio

TRADUCIDO POR RICO ROGERS
KC HISPANIC NEWS

Al igual que con cualquier otro problema matrimonial, a menudo, lo que comienza como un tema menor suele convertirse en un gran problema con el tiempo. No es sorprendente que, después de haber compartido algunos años, algunas parejas se den cuenta de que las excentricidades financieras que solían ser divertidas o simplemente ignoradas por alguno de los cónyuges, ahora son motivo de sus principales discusiones. De hecho, los problemas de dinero tienden a ser cada vez más causa de divorcio.

Si usted está atravesando por dificultades financieras, mucho antes de que pasen a un plano mayor, deténgase y vea cómo y cuándo tratar –o no tratar- estos problemas con su esposo/a, y busque la manera de aliviar la tensión.

Anótelos en el calendario. Los dos suelen estar muy ocupados y probablemente se hayan repartido las tareas, incluyendo quién paga las cuentas. Pero aun cuando ambos estén completamente de acuerdo sobre las cuestiones monetarias, el "contador" de la familia debe mantener a su esposo/a informado/a –aunque más no sea para poder continuar manejando las finanzas en caso de emergencia.

Fije una reunión mensual o incluso semanal para hablar sobre el pago de las cuentas, los avances o retrocesos con respecto a los objetivos de ahorro, los presupuestos de los gastos por venir (impuesto a los bienes, primas de seguros, útiles escolares, etc.), y las estrategias para afrontar gastos inesperados (reparaciones de automóviles, trabajos dentales de emergencia, pagar una fianza por algún familiar, etc.)

No posponga los temas difíciles de hablar. Digamos, por ejemplo, que le vino un cheque rebotado o no pagó algo. No espere hasta la próxima charla para hablar de este tema ni intente ocultarlo –solo empeorará las cosas y generará un clima de desconfianza. A veces, es mejor sacarse el apósito de un solo tirón.

Pónganse de acuerdo. Cuando hay malas noticias –el saldo de su plan de jubilación 401(k) cayó en el último trimestre o alguno de los dos fue despedido de su trabajo- la comunicación es lo más importante. Si necesita ajustar temporariamente su presupuesto o tomar alguna decisión importante que modifique su vida, como posponer la jubilación, hágalo y esté dispuesto a comprometerse para que ninguno de los dos se convierta en el malo de la película.

Reorganice sus metas. A menudo las parejas comienzan con un plan de acción y luego la vida les juega una mala pasada y las metas cambian. Hablen periódicamente sobre qué sienten frente a eventos tan importantes como agrandar la familia, comprar una casa, cambiar de carrera, financiar la universidad de sus hijos (o de ustedes mismos), arriesgarse financieramente, y cuándo y dónde jubilarse.

Ajústese a su presupuesto. Algunas de las peores batallas financieras ocurren cuando una o ambas partes sabotean el presupuesto familiar. Si todavía no tiene un presupuesto, hay numerosas herramientas en Internet para crear uno. Busque en el sitio de la Comisión Federal de Educación Financiera de EE.UU. www.mymoney.gov, la Fundación Nacional de Asesoramiento Crediticio (www.nfcc.org bajo "Herramientas para el Consumidor"), y www.mint.com, entre otros sitios.

Busque ayuda. Si ya no puede ponerse de acuerdo sobre cómo

manejar sus finanzas y no puede llegar a un compromiso, tal vez desee buscar ayuda externa.

* La Fundación Nacional de Asesoramiento Crediticio (www.nfcc.org) puede ayudarlo a encontrar agencias de asesoramiento crediticio locales sin fines de lucro.

* Busque un planificador o asesor financiero en el Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards (www.cfp.net), la Asociación Nacional de Asesores Financieros Personales (www.napfa.org), o la Asociación de Planificación Financiera (www.fpanet.org).

Al igual que en cualquier otra empresa conjunta, los matrimonios pueden descarrilar cuando sus miembros no se comunican. Asegúrese de que eso no le suceda a usted.

Jason Alderman dirige los programas de educación financiera de Visa. Para seguir a Jason Alderman en Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.

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Fewer Latinos benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Nearly One in Three Hispanic/Latino Children in the U.S. Lives in a Family Receiving Food Assistance From The Feeding America Network

Findings confirm relatively low rates of SNAP receipt among Latino client households with children

Nearly one in three Latino children, more than four million, in the United States lives in a family receiving private emergency food assistance from a food pantry or soup kitchen. This compares to one in ten white children, according to Feeding America's quadrennial study, *Hunger in America 2010*. Further, children from Latino families served by food banks apply for fewer benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the cornerstone of the federal nutrition safety net, than either white or African American children. At its core, the finding that 31 percent of children served by the Feeding America network is Latino indicates a growing need for culturally-appropriate service delivery.

The data collection for *Hunger in America 2010* conducted in early 2009 is the first comprehensive research study to capture the connection

between the recent economic downturn and increased needs for emergency food.

ConAgra Foods Foundation, Feeding America's Leadership Partner in the Fight Against Child Hunger, sponsored two reports by the Urban Institute about the use of emergency food assistance and federal nutrition programs among low-income Latino or Hispanic children. The 2010 reports, "Emergency Food Assistance Helps Many Low-Income Hispanic Children," and "Low-Income Hispanic Children Need Both Private and Public Food Assistance" both by researchers Michael Martinez-Schiferl and Sheila R. Zedlewski suggest that, overall, emergency food assistance from private providers offers a lifeline to many Latino families whose needs are not being met by their own resources or by the federal nutrition safety net.

The following represent some of the reports' key findings:

Hispanic families are less likely to receive SNAP benefits than families in other demographic groups. Only 41 percent of Hispanic families served by the Feeding America network access SNAP, which is significantly lower than black (56 percent) and white (61 percent) families.

Lower receipt of SNAP benefits by Latino families

served by the Feeding America network suggest that low-income Hispanic families may be at greater nutritional risk than other demographic groups.

Latino children served by the Feeding America network are significantly more likely to live in households with working adults (63 percent) than Caucasian (51 percent) or African American children (40 percent). Even so, Hispanic children in the U.S. remain highly likely to be poor: 30 percent of Hispanic children lived in poverty in 2008.

"During this economic downturn, the social safety net needs to be stronger to help prevent low-income families from sinking even further into hunger and to make sure Hispanic children have the resources they need to become productive adults," said Vicki Escarra, president and CEO of Feeding America. "Childhood hunger is an issue that demands ongoing attention, advocacy, and a critical need for access to federal nutrition programs."

Martinez-Schiferl and Zedlewski note, "Most of the households with children that turn to food banks get help multiple times during the year, reflecting high rates of deep poverty – below one-half of the federal poverty level – and food insecurity."

Algunos Latinos se benefician del programa suplemental de asistencia nutricional

Casi uno de cada tres niños hispanos o latinos en los Estados Unidos vive en una familia que recibe asistencia alimentaria de la red de Feeding America

Los hallazgos confirman índices relativamente bajos de recepción del SNAP entre los hogares clientes latinos con niños

Casi uno de cada tres niños latinos, más de cuatro millones, en los Estados Unidos vive en una familia que recibe asistencia alimentaria de emergencia privada, por ejemplo, de un comedor público o de beneficencia. En el caso de los niños blancos, esa relación es de uno de cada diez, de acuerdo con el estudio cuatrienal *Hunger in America 2010* (Hambre en Estados Unidos 2010) de Feeding America. Además, los niños de familias latinas atendidos por los bancos alimentarios solicitan menos beneficios del Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Programa de Asistencia Alimentaria Suplementaria; SNAP, según su sigla en inglés), piedra angular de la red federal de seguridad de nutrición, que los niños blancos o afroamericanos. Fundamentalmente, el hallazgo de que el 31% de los niños a los que la red de Feeding America presta servicios son latinos indica una creciente necesidad de una entrega de servicio culturalmente adecuada.

La recolección de datos para *Hunger in America 2010* llevada a cabo a comienzos del año 2009 es el primer estudio de investigación exhaustivo que captura la conexión entre la

reciente depresión económica y las mayores necesidades de alimentación de emergencia.

ConAgra Foods Foundation, socia de liderazgo de Feeding America en la lucha contra el hambre infantil, patrocinó dos informes del Urban Institute sobre el uso de asistencia alimentaria de emergencia y los programas federales de nutrición entre niños latinos o hispanos de bajos recursos. Los informes del 2010, "Emergency Food Assistance Helps Many Low-Income Hispanic Children" (La asistencia alimentaria de emergencia ayuda a muchos niños hispanos de bajos recursos) y "Low-Income Hispanic Children Need Both Private and Public Food Assistance" (Los niños hispanos de bajos recursos necesitan asistencia alimentaria privada y pública), ambos realizados por los investigadores Michael Martinez-Schiferl y Sheila R. Zedlewski, sugieren que, en general, la asistencia alimentaria de emergencia de proveedores privados ofrece una tabla de salvación para muchas familias latinas cuyas necesidades no son satisfechas por sus propios recursos o por la red federal de seguridad de nutrición.

Los siguientes son algunos de los resultados fundamentales de los informes:

Las familias hispanas tienen menos probabilidades de recibir beneficios del SNAP que las familias pertenecientes a otros grupos demográficos. Solo el 41% de las familias hispanas atendidas por la red de Feeding America accede al SNAP, porcentaje significativamente

inferior al de las familias negras (56%) y blancas (61%).

La menor recepción de los beneficios del SNAP en las familias latinas atendidas por la red de Feeding America sugiere que las familias hispanas de bajos recursos pueden estar en un mayor riesgo nutricional que otros grupos demográficos.

Los niños latinos atendidos por la red de Feeding America tienen más probabilidades de vivir en hogares con adultos en edad laboral (63%) que los niños caucásicos (51%) o afroamericanos (40%). Aun así, es mucho más probable que los niños hispanos en los Estados Unidos sean pobres: el 30% de los niños hispanos vivió en la pobreza durante el año 2008.

"Durante esta depresión económica, la red de seguridad social necesita ser más fuerte para ayudar a evitar que las familias de bajos recursos se hundan más aún en el hambre y para asegurar que los niños hispanos tengan los recursos necesarios para llegar a ser adultos productivos", afirma Vicki Escarra, presidenta y CEO de Feeding America. "El hambre infantil es un problema que exige atención permanente y apoyo, y necesita de manera crítica acceso a programas federales de nutrición".

Martinez-Schiferl y Zedlewski señalan: "La mayoría de los hogares con niños que recurren a bancos de alimentos reciben ayuda múltiples veces a lo largo del año, lo cual refleja altos índices de pobreza extrema -- por debajo de la mitad del nivel federal de pobreza -- e inseguridad alimentaria".

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 - fire performance, juggling, and a balloon artist
 - face painting station
 - costume station (free costumes for those who need one or want to improve their own)
 - pumpkin painting station
 - Art installations
 - Offering a \$50 "Motivation Grant" for supplies to create an art piece specifically for the event.
- Applications to be submitted to: <http://parisolearts.org/scarrit.aspx>
- Live Chalk Art demonstration provided by our own Wolfgang Bucher, <http://www.mosaicbrain.org>
- A barrel train for kids to take a ride on
- Two clowns, an accordionist and other characters in costume
- Fire Truck "Chutes and Ladders" by Kansas City Fire Department
- Kansas City Museum's Fairy Princess Costume Contest
- Fabric Art lining the Boulevard provided by Cicada Rhythm Productions

What a wonderful neighborhood tradition for Historic Northeasterners and greater Kansas Citians alike. OPEN TO ALL AGES.

If you are interested in volunteering, have an idea for another addition to the event, or if you are a small business that would like to advertise in the Event Program, please contact: Amanda Stringer (913) 909-6656

Donations to support the event are greatly appreciated, and are tax deductible. Checks may be made payable to: Scarritt Renaissance Neighborhood Association (SRNA) PO Box 17641, Kansas City, MO 64123



~ SAVE THE DATES ~

VETERANS DAY EVENTS

All events are open to the public – Everyone is welcome!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2010
Veterans Day Reception
Guadalupe Center, Inc.
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
1015 Avenida de Cesar Chavez
Kansas City, Missouri

Everyone is invited to join us for a reception to commemorate Veterans Day. Admission is free, donations are welcome, and refreshments will be served. All Military and Veterans in attendance will receive a gift. For more information contact Chapter Commander Rudy Padilla at (913) 381-2272

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2010
American GI Forum 9th Annual Taco Dinner & Dance
Featuring Kansas City's "Las Estrellas"
& Crazy 8 Ent. DJ's Louie & Richard
Guardian Angels School Basement
5:00 pm – Midnight
1310 Westport Road
Kansas City, Missouri
\$12 in advance / \$15 at door & includes:
Taco dinner, first drink, & dance
Children 10 & under - \$6.00 / To-Go Orders Available - \$6.00
Pay at the door or advance tickets call Christina Enriquez at (816) 726-8264
No Coolers please

All proceeds benefit the local AGIF Scholarship Fund





American
GI Forum
Kansas City
Metro Chapter



www.kchispanicnews.com

To advertise in our classified section please call:
(816) 472.5246

HN FYI

Great Wolf Lodge Halloween Safety Tips

Supervise your children, no matter what the outing.

Whether you're going traditional trick-or-treating, or you're attending a themed event – like Great Wolf's "Howl-O-Ween," it's important to supervise your children's Halloween activities. Don't let the excitement of Halloween let your children forget about the standard safety rules you've taught them. For instance, not talking to strangers, staying in groups, using a cell phone in case of emergency, etc. Remind them of these rules in advance of Halloween, so they are top-of-mind on the big night.

Help your children choose safe and fun Halloween costumes.

First and foremost, only purchase and use flame-retardant costumes, but keep in mind that flame-retardant does not mean fire-proof. Children should stay away from all types of open flames and heat sources when trick-or-treating. If they're going to be trick-or-treating outdoors, consider white, reflective clothing, or use reflective tape, and carry either a flashlight or glow stick. Avoid loose or baggy costumes to reduce the risk of injury, and opt for non-toxic face paint over masks, so your child can see and hear clearly.

Create a plan that puts safety first.

Be sure you've chosen a trick-or-treating area that is safe and well-lit. Whether that means indoors

at a place like Great Wolf Lodge, or outdoors in your neighborhood, be sure you have a plan in place well before the big night. Older children should have their route mapped out ahead of time so you are aware of where they'll be. And, it's important to set a clear expectation of how long your child has to trick-or-treat, no matter what the age. If participating in a traditional trick-or-treat outing, children should only visit homes with porch lights on, and they should never go inside a person's home to get their candy. But no matter what the Halloween venue, make sure older children have a cell phone and the proper numbers to use in case of an emergency. Younger children should know their name, address and phone number. Check your children's candy when you get home, and throw away any candy that is not factory sealed or wrapped by a candy manufacturer.

Be careful on the roads.

According to the United States Department of Transportation, the majority of fatal collisions between motor vehicles and young pedestrians (under 15 years of age) happen most frequently between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. – during trick-or-treating hours. In addition, 84 percent of deaths among young pedestrians occurred at non-intersection locations, indicating that children are likely to dart and dash from mid-block into the street.

Whether you're trick-or-treating by foot, or driving to an indoor location like Great

Wolf Lodge, be extra cautious on the roads. If on-foot, use sidewalks, don't take shortcuts through yards or dark alleys, and look both ways before crossing the street. If driving, go the speed limit or under, especially when in residential neighborhoods, be on the lookout for kids in dark costumes, and use caution when pulling in and out of driveways.

Consider an alternative Halloween outing.

Depending on the ages and interests of your kids, decide how your Halloween will be spent ahead of time so there are no surprises. Will you participate in a traditional trick-or-treat outing, or will you take advantage of other themed activities that provide a safe, controlled environment for your kids – and are also weather-proof? Many local malls hold trick-or-treat nights on Oct. 31. Or, if you're looking for some Halloween fun before the actual day, Great Wolf's "Howl-O-Ween," runs from Oct. 8-31, and offers a ton of fun Halloween themed activities, including an interactive Trick-or-Treat Trail, "Witchy Crafts," "Spooktacular Story Time," a Monster Bash Dance Party, costume contests, pumpkin painting and more.

For more information, visit www.greatwolf lodge.com.

Funkhouser seeks second term



BY JOE ARCE

Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser will seek a second term in office. At his press conference on Tuesday (at his new campaign headquarters in the River Market) he said, in 2007, the voters wanted change, "they chose fiscal responsibility, they chose basics over frills, they chose someone who would fight the status quo, even when the status quo pushed back hard." Funkhouser added, "they chose a mayor who would work for their interest, not special interests and that is why I am officially announcing today that I am running for re-election as Mayor of Kansas City. My administration has made many of those changes; it admittedly has not always been easy. The men and women who wield power, and have profited from it, they don't like change and as with any change that is worthwhile, there comes a fight. The fight is worth it for the residents of Kansas City.

I have been the mayor they voted for, I have kept my promise to be smart with the

money, and to fight those who are greed-driven and wasteful, and it's because I haven't backed down from that fight that I have been able to keep my promises to you. Do you want a mayor who makes insider deals that benefit only the well-connected few? Or do you want a mayor who is above board and who is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and tackle the hard issues? Do you want a Mayor who votes for questionable projects just to go along? Or do you want a mayor who isn't afraid to face his residents at over 100 town hall meetings and explain hard votes?

Today is just the start, I look forward to the forums that are to come. I look forward to blowing away the smoke and mirrors. I have a lot of confidence in the wisdom of regular folks. In the meantime, I have a job to do as your mayor and I will continue to work hard, and fight hard for you, because I still choose you."

Reaction came the mayor's way within minutes of his announcement. Jim Rowland, candidate for mayor,

emailed KC Hispanic News his thoughts on Mayor Funkhousers' re-election campaign. "Your money is almost all gone, the only voice he listens to is Gloria's, and he is not anybody's mayor but his own."

KCMO Mayor candidate Sly James emailed into the newsroom his comment, as well. "Regardless of what the mayor said today, after four years of watching city hall bounce from crisis to crisis, you have to wonder if they'll ever produce any real results. Too often they've been distracted by personal drama and I think we've had enough of that. We have some real challenges in Kansas City, but we also have some incredible opportunities. What we need now is a mayor who understands both and knows how to bring people together to deliver real results. As a small business owner and former Marine MP, I know what it takes to get the job done. That's why I'm running for Mayor."

Look for our Facebook Page Today! Search **Kansas City Hispanic News.**

facebook

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I NEED YOUR VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- I was elected the **first black Mayor of Kansas City**. We undertook huge job-creating projects like the **Bruce R. Watkins Drive**, **Union Station**, **18th and Vine**, **Brush Creek** and made **Bartle Hall** the largest column-free convention space in the world. We created youth programs, like the **Mayor's Night Hoops** and **Hot Summer Nights**.
- In the last two years, I have been able to secure **hundreds of millions of dollars** for infrastructure projects in our community.
- These are **wise investments** in people and neighborhoods that have been neglected for far too long.
- These investments have **created thousands of jobs**, including **1,200 youth jobs** this past summer.

Emanuel Cleaver

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II

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Rafaela "Lali" Garcia
Community Leader

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a man by looking at how he lives his life and the **CHOICES** he makes.

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IT'S A PROUD MOMENT FOR POLICE OFFICERS

CONT./PAGE 1

At a ceremony attended by his peers, Cruz was given a service ring by Police Chief James Corwin, symbolizing the department's appreciation for his work.

Cruz was hired by the department in August 1984, when he entered the academy. During his tenure, his assignments include East Patrol Division, Metro Patrol Division – Tactical Response Unit, Special Projects Program, and Internal Affairs.

His favorite assignment, he said, was Tactical Response, where he said his squad was on loan to the then-Special Investigations Division and was probably what sparked the Street Narcotics Unit.

His career highlights include numerous awards and special citations, including the Medal of Valor, KMBC Silver Award for Valor, and the National Latino Police Officers Association Medal of Valor, the Meritorious Service Award and the Distinguished Service Medal.

His significant accomplishments, according to the police department, include interrupting a robbery in progress at Blue Valley Market, assisting another officer in preventing a man from jumping off the roof of the Hyatt. Cruz also prevented a man from attacking and cutting his family with a kitchen knife and stopped a man from shooting three other officers at West Pennway and Interstate 35.

His most significant accomplishment was preventing an armed suspect from shooting a disarmed officer. The officer later honored Cruz by naming his first-born son after him.

Cruz said having a child named after him was an incredible experience. "That is the ultimate gesture of saying thank you for what you did."

Sgt. Ramona Arroyo, another department veteran, said she has watched Cruz grow from a young man into a disciplined professional. She said he is one of most highly decorated officers in the department.

"He is a hard worker and he puts his heart and soul into everything he has done," said Arroyo, who worked closely with Cruz on the Latino Police Officers Association. "He's a good cop and they don't make them like that anymore."

Corwin said employees such as Cruz are an example of professionalism that make him proud to lead the department.

"When you work in an organization for 25 years, it really is not a job, but a way of life. And this truly is our family."

After the ceremony, Cruz said, "The first thing that enters my mind is how fast 25 years went by. It was incredibly fast. I've had a really good career. I've had a lot of great moments and great experiences, and I've worked with a lot of great people. It's amazing how fast the time has gone by."

In addition to the patrol work, Cruz continues to contribute to the community through his work with the 1st



KCMO Police Sgt. Ramona Arroyo and KCI Police officer Robert Mesa wanted to express to Alex Cruz how happy they were to see him accomplish this mile stone of 25 years of service with the KC police department. Arroyo said, "He is one of most highly decorated officers in the department."

Ramona Arroya, Sargenta de la Policía de KCMO, y Roberto Mesa, oficial de la Policía de KCI, querían expresar su alegría a Alex Cruz, de verlo cumplir el evento significativo de 25 años de servicio en el Departamento de Policía de Kansas City. Arroyo dijo, "Él es uno de los oficiales más condecorado en el departamento."

offender youth program as a counselor. The program named "Positive Steps" is sponsored by Research Hospital. Also, he coaches youth soccer for Holy Trinity Church, taking his team to four indoor championships and two second-place outdoor championships.

Cruz said he is preparing to take the sergeant's exam once again, a goal that still remains in his cross-hairs. In the meantime, he continues to encourage young people, particularly Latinos, to explore the world of police work as a profession.

"There are a lot of relationships you build throughout the years, and with some of the ordeals you are involved in, you become very close to a lot of people here," Cruz said.

Corwin also awarded 25-year service rings to two other employees of the department.

Master Patrol Officer James Schriever joined the department on Sept. 19, 1985, and was assigned to the Detention Unit. He also worked in the Central Patrol Division where he is currently assigned.

Schriever said his favorite assignment was partnering with Steve Kendall and teaming up with retired Major Harry Pottinger and several other retired officers to take the KC Housing Authority from one of the worst in receiver-ship to a high performer.



William Palmer (Civilian Employee), Alex Cruz (Officer), James Schriever (Master Patrol Officer) and Chief James Corwin congratulates the three individuals for their service to the police dept. El Jefe de la policía felicita los tres individuos por su servicio al departamento de la policía.

ES UN MOMENTO DE ORGULLO PARA LOS OFICIALES DE POLICÍA

CONT./PÁGINA 1

sus compañeros, el Jefe de Policía, James Corwin, le dio a Cruz un anillo de servicio que simboliza el aprecio del departamento por su trabajo.

Cruz fue contratado por el departamento en agosto de 1984, cuando entró en la academia. Durante su mandato, sus tareas incluyen la División Este de la Patrulla, la División de la Patrulla Metro - Unidad de Respuesta Táctica, Programa de Proyectos Especiales y Asuntos Interiores.

Su misión favorita, dijo él, fue la Respuesta Táctica, donde dijo que su equipo estaba prestado a la entonces 'División de Investigaciones Especiales' y fue probablemente lo que provocó la creación de la 'Unidad Narcóticas Callejeras.'

Los eventos de su carrera incluyen numerosos premios y menciones especiales, incluyendo la Medalla de Valor, el Premio de Plata de Valor de KMBC, y la Medalla de Valor de la Asociación de Oficiales de la Policía Nacional Latina, el Premio al Servicio Meritorio y la Medalla de Servicio Distinguido.

Sus logros significativos, de acuerdo con el departamento de policía, incluyen la interrupción de un robo en progreso en el Mercado 'Blue Valley', también ayudando a otro oficial a prevenir que un hombre salte desde el techo del Hyatt. Cruz también impidió que un hombre atacara a su familia con un cuchillo de cocina y él impidió a un hombre disparar a tres otros oficiales de West Pennway y la Interestatal 35.

Su logro más significativo fue la prevención de un sospechoso armado de disparar a un oficial desarmado. En honor a Cruz, el oficial nombró a su primer hijo Akex.

Cruz dijo que fue una experiencia increíble que alguien nombrara a su niño por él. "Eso es el gesto más valioso para decir gracias por lo que hizo."

La Sargenta Ramona Arroyo, otra veterana del departamento, dijo que ha visto crecer a Cruz desde un joven a un profesional disciplinado. Ella dijo que él es uno de los oficiales más condecorados en el departamento.

"Él es un trabajador y él ha puesto su corazón y alma en todo lo que ha hecho", dijo Arroyo, quien trabajó en estrecha colab-

oración con Cruz en la Asociación de Policías Latinos. "Es un buen policía y ya no hay como él."

Corwin dijo que empleados como Cruz son un ejemplo del profesionalismo que lo hace orgulloso de dirigir al departamento.

"Cuando trabajas en una organización durante 25 años, realmente no es un trabajo, sino una forma de vida. Y esta realmente es nuestra familia."

Después de la ceremonia, Cruz dijo: "Lo primero que entra en mi mente es que 25 años han pasado rápidamente. Pasaron increíblemente rápido. He tenido una carrera muy buena. He pasado un montón de grandes momentos y grandes experiencias, y he trabajado con un montón de buenas personas. Es increíble lo rápido que ha pasado el tiempo."

Además de la labor de patrulla, Cruz sigue contribuyendo a la comunidad a través de su trabajo con 'el programa juvenil del Primer Delincuente' como consejero. El programa denominado "pasos positivos" es patrocinado por Research Hospital. También, él es entrenador para el equipo juvenil de fútbol de la Iglesia Holy Trinity, llevando a su equipo a cuatro campeonatos del fútbol de salón y dos campeonatos del segundo lugar del fútbol al aire libre.

Cruz dijo que se está preparando para tomar el examen de sargento, una vez más, una meta que aún se mantiene en su punto de mira. Mientras tanto, él continúa animando a los jóvenes, especialmente los latinos, a explorar el mundo del trabajo policial como una profesión.

"Hay un montón de relaciones que uno construye a través de los años, y con algunas de las terribles experiencias en que se involucra, aquí uno desarrolla relaciones con un montón de personas.", dijo Cruz.

Corwin también concedió anillos de servicio de 25 años a dos otros empleados del departamento.

El Maestro Patrullero, James Schriever, se unió al departamento el 19 de septiembre de 1985, y fue asignado a la Unidad de la Detención. También trabajó en la División Central de la Patrulla donde actualmente está asignado.

Schriever dijo que su tarea favorita fue su asociación con Steve Kendall y trabajando con el Mayor Jubilado Harry Pottinger y varios otros oficiales jubilados para tomar el KC Housing Authority de uno de las peores sindicaturas a un alto desempeño.



Alex Cruz celebrates 25 years of service. Alex Cruz celebra 25 años de servicio.

Otros puntos destacados de su carrera incluyen ser nombrado 'Oficial del Año del Consejo Nacional de la Prevención del Crimen de 2001' en Washington, DC y entrenando a 39 reclutas - muchos de los cuales son sargentos y capitanes.

Schriever ha hecho importantes contribuciones a la comunidad, incluyendo el desarrollo y ejecución de un programa de monitoreo de actividad de pandillas en la vivienda pública durante ocho años.

Ha sido galardonado con el Premio Salva Vidas (Life Saving Award), Premio de Servicio Meritorio, Certificado de Felicitación, dos Menciones de Unidad Especial, la Medalla de Valor de KMBC, y ganó las cintas de Competencia con Armas de Fuego, Oficial de Entrenamiento de Campo, Buena Conducta, Conducción Segura, y la Tenencia.

William Palmer, un empleado civil en el departamento, también ganó un anillo de servicio. Palmer fue contratado el 14 de octubre de 1985. Su primera asignación fue de Mantenimiento del Edificio. Otros cargos incluyen la Operación del Edificio y la Seguridad del Edificio, donde se encuentra actualmente asignado.

El punto culminante de la carrera de Palmer, dijo él, ha sido la oportunidad de trabajar con gente interesante a lo largo de su mandato.

Palmer sufrió un ataque al corazón en 2007. Dijo que la efusión de los demás y preocupación que mostraron por él cambió su visión de la vida y lo motivó a ser una mejor persona

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