

Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year 2009

¡Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo 2009!

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# KANSAS CITY Hispanic News

PERIÓDICO BILINGÜE

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## Holidays bring increase in domestic violence

Festividads acarrear aumento en la violencia doméstica



Carrie Daniels (left) and Elaine Cruz explain the services of the Rose Brooks Center, a Kansas City organization that seeks to break the cycle of domestic violence.

Carrie Daniels (A la izquierda) y Elaine Cruz explican los servicios del Centro Rose Brooks, una organización de Kansas City que busca romper el ciclo de la violencia doméstica.

L. YVONNE BRUNER  
HISPANIC NEWS

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

According to mental health experts, the Christmas season is the most crucial time of year for domestic violence and domestic abuse reporting. Financial stress coupled with unmet expectations, isolation and substance abuse contribute to the rise in reporting.

The numbers are already grim to begin with. More than 2.5 million females experience some form of violence each year, and in two-thirds of these cases, the attacker is a family member or an acquaintance – a spouse, male friend, or male relative. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a woman is beaten every 7.4 seconds in the U.S. by a male partner, and 2,000 women are murdered by abusive partners or ex-partners annually.

In some communities, the problem is exacerbated by cultural and language differences that make it

Según expertos de la salud mental, la temporada navideña es la época más crucial del año para los reportes en contra de la violencia doméstica y del abuso doméstico. La tensión financiera sumada a expectativas incumplidas, al aislamiento y al abuso de sustancias contribuye al aumento de los reportes.

Las cifras ya son nefastas para empezar. Más de 2.5 millones de mujeres experimentan algún tipo de violencia cada año y en dos tercios de estos casos, el atacante es un miembro de la familia o un conocido de ésta – un esposo, amigo o familiar del sexo masculino. Según la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones, En EE.UU. una mujer es golpeada cada 7.4 segundos por un compañero o esposo y 2,000 mujeres son asesinadas por compañeros o esposos abusivos o ex compañeros o ex esposos anualmente.

WOMEN AFRAID/PAGE 2

MUJERES/PÁGINA 2

## Life is a Christmas Blessing

La Vida es una Bendición Navideña

Teresa Flores and her daughter Sherry know that this Christmas it is not about the tree or the gifts but about the love and unity that comes with family and faith.

Teresa Flores y su hija Sherry saben que esta Navidad no se tratará del árbol o de los presentes, sino que se tratará del amor y de la unidad que viene con la familia y la fe.



JOE ARCE AND DEBRA DECOSTER  
HISPANIC NEWS

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

Christmas is a time of miracles as families gather to celebrate life and family. Tony Moreno and his family are approaching this Christmas holiday by celebrating the miracle of life, giving thanks that his step-daughter Teresa Flores' life was spared and she was given a second chance to be here with her family.

"God answers prayers. He still does miracles today. I asked him to spare her life and he honored our prayer. This is the Christmas story. God gave us her and gave us life," said Moreno.

A year ago October 50-year-old Teresa Flores was diagnosed with cancer. The doctors told the family to begin planning her funeral arrangements. "That was the hardest thing we ever had to do. We had to sit there and go through the funeral

plans, we had to pick out the cards they give out, we had to pick out the arrangements we wanted for her funeral. We had to make the funeral arrangements real fast because she wasn't expected to make it through the weekend," added Moreno.

The hardest part of the story is that Teresa had known for three years that she was sick but never told anyone. She noticed a dent in one of her breasts but never had it checked. She knew that she should be performing self-breast exams and that she should have been going for a mammogram, but never did either one.

Teresa had wanted to tell her daughter Sherry Flores but could never bring herself to say the words. Her fear was so powerful that it kept her from seeking help from family or

"I WAS LYING IN"/PAGE 3

La Navidad es una época de milagros al juntarse las familias a celebrar la vida y la familia. Tony Moreno y su familia están tratando esta Navidad como una celebración del milagro de la vida y los hacen agradeciendo que la vida de su hijastra Teresa Flores haya sido salvada y se le diera una segunda oportunidad para estar aquí con su familia.

"Dios respondió a las oraciones. Aún hoy en día él hace milagros. Yo le pedí que salvara su vida y él escuchó nuestra plegaria. Esta es la historia de Navidad. Dios nos la dio y nos dio vida", dijo Moreno.

En octubre hará un año desde que a Teresa Flores de 50 años se le diagnosticara con cáncer. Los médicos le dijeron a la familia que comenzarán

"ESTABA"/PÁGINA 3

## Amayo Remembered at Naming of Center

Amayo Rememorado en Nombramiento de Centro



Mayor Joe Reardon, Esperanza Amayo and Joe Amayo Jr. unveil the plaque that renames the Argentine community center as the Joe E. Amayo Sr. Argentine Community Center.

El Alcalde Joe Reardon, Esperanza Amayo y Joe Amayo Jr. descubren la placa que renombra el centro comunitario de Argentine como Centro Comunitario Joe Amayo Sr. de Argentine.

DEBRA DECOSTER  
HISPANIC NEWS

The tapestry of a community is woven by those whose lives are embroidered in the minds of the many people they meet. Joe Amayo Sr. was a master weaver of lives and community. His volunteerism and dedication affected many lives in the Argentine community. He passed away on December 31, 1987 but his legacy lives on in the Argentine community

His lifetime of community service touched many. The youth of Argentine were drawn to his knowledge and promotion of sports as a builder of character. He was an advocate on behalf of the nation's veterans and volunteered to make sure that senior citizens in the community were receiving meals or transportation to their appointments. He gave of his time and talent to the community he loved and never expected to receive anything in return.

AMAYO'S LEGACY/PAGE 4

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

La fibra de una comunidad es tejida por aquellos cuyas vidas están bordadas en las mentes de muchas personas que ellos conocieron. Joe Amayo Sr. fue un maestro tejedor de vidas y de comunidad. Su voluntariado y dedicación afectaron a muchas vidas en la comunidad de Argentine. Él falleció el 31 de diciembre de 1987, pero su legado perdura en la comunidad de Argentine.

Su vida dedicada al servicio comunitario influenció a muchos. La juventud de Argentine fue atraída a su conocimiento y a la promoción de los deportes como un edificador de caracteres. Él abogó a nombre de los veteranos de la nación y se ofreció de voluntario para asegurarse de que los jubilados en la comunidad estuvieran recibiendo los alimentos o siendo transportados hacia sus citas. Él le entregó su tiempo y talento a la

EL LEGADO DE/PÁGINA 4



### School/Shrine boiler out

Just days before Christmas break students at Our Lady of Guadalupe School on KC Westside found themselves wearing winter coats during classes. A \$45,000.00 boiler that heats the school and Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine gave out. Dan Ryan, Executive Director of Central City School Fund told Hispanic News they don't have the dollars to replace the boiler. However, they will replace it for now and in the coming days they will search for ways to cover the \$45,000.00 expense. We will have more on this story in our next issue of KC Hispanic News. If you would like to help or give a donation contact Central City School Fund 816-756-1850 Ext.511.



# Women Afraid to Report Domestic Abuse

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difficult to do the necessary outreach. Rose Brooks Center in Kansas City Missouri provides culturally competent services including shelter and counseling to hundreds of women who have encountered some form of domestic abuse.

Carrie Daniels, director of Community Programs, points out that domestic violence takes many forms. "We define domestic violence as a pattern of coercive or abusive behavior that one partner uses against a current or former partner. ... Usually they start out as subtle actions. Rarely do they start out as physical tactics. Mostly the cycle of power and control continues by use of financial controls, threats, intimidation, manipulation, and emotional abuse such as put-downs and criticisms, and of course, sexual assault, which ranges from rape to coercing someone to engage in sexual activities they don't want to engage in."

Elaine Cruz, Bilingual Outreach Case Manager, noted that the primary mission of the Rose Brooks Center is to assist women who find themselves in abusive relationships. "We

want women to know there is somewhere they can go for help.

Rose Brooks provides protection for abused women, and we assist them in everything from finding a place to stay to finding a job. We also want women to know that our services are free."

Daniels said that one of the biggest problems facing Rose Brooks is getting information to women in the community about what constitutes domestic violence, and what a woman's rights are. "Information is power, and the more information they have about what their options are, the more in control they are. What we've been focusing on in the last couple of years is providing equal access - particularly to immigrant women and children, because immigration status is often the greatest barrier to receiving services and getting to safety."

Kate Cavanaugh, Bilingual Outreach Therapist, said that domestic violence is under-reported, but even more so in immigrant communities, where language barriers and lack of knowledge about the legal system lead to fear and inaction.

"Sometimes the batterer will use the tactic of lying to the

woman about American laws, and saying things like, 'If you ever go to the police you'll just get deported,'" Cavanaugh said. "Or they'll say, 'If you ever go to a shelter they'll take your kids away and you'll never see them again.' So when immigrant women operate with those myths as truth in their minds, it's just another barrier to reporting the abuse or seeking services."

Center staff has noted cultural differences often making it difficult for these women to report domestic abuse. "For Latinas, we have this thing that once we get married, we're married for life," Cruz said. "So if domestic abuse occurs, family members may tell the woman, 'Well, he's your husband. You should just work it out.' So sometimes the woman has no support."

Cavanaugh noted, "A lot of Latino women say to me that sexual abuse doesn't count, 'because he's my husband.' In this country, it doesn't matter whether the man is your husband or a stranger. Rape is rape. This view does not prevail in some countries."

Fear of deportation is a major deterrent to the reporting of domestic violence by undocumented immigrant

women, according to Cavanaugh. "What is supposed to happen when a woman reports domestic violence against herself or her children is for the police to separate the batterer from the victim, and take separate statements. The woman should be referred to a shelter and should receive assistance in filling out the police report. ... The woman is not suppose to be asked about her immigration status or reported to immigration. In only the rarest situation would that happen. ... But we can't guarantee that it will never happen."

Cavanaugh pointed out that special visas are available under the federal Violence Against Women Act when women have been subjected to domestic violence or are a victim of the sex trade. "Women and children who experience domestic violence have certain protections under the Act if their batterer or abuser is a U.S. citizen or legal resident here," Cavanaugh said. "We work closely with immigration attorneys to be able to help petition for residency if they have been experiencing domestic violence."

Cruz pointed out that going to the police is not the only way for women to report domestic abuse or to get help. "They can

get connected to shelter and other services by calling Rose Brooks, by going to the hospital and reporting it to a nurse or doctor, by going to a nearby clinic, or reporting it to a school counselor."

To facilitate reporting of domestic violence, the Center has placed advocates in six main hospitals in Kansas City and in 45 greater Kansas City schools. "We have a school program called 'Project Safety' where we provide prevention from the time the child enters school till they leave," Daniels said. "We also have advocates in the Police Department's domestic violence unit, and we have advocates in the courts. So if a woman has to go to court, we can have someone with her."

In addition to providing temporary shelter, Rose Brooks provides training and counseling services for women and their children. "We have a full-time educator and a full time Chaplin," Daniels said. "The Chaplin provides spiritual guidance, and is trying to educate the clergy, because we know that many women will go to their church first. We provide individual therapy in both English and Spanish for victims and their families. We have a child

therapist, an adult therapist, and a bilingual therapist. We have many support groups for women throughout the healing process, and case management is in Spanish and English."

All Rose Brooks services are confidential. The Center provides statistical information to its funding agencies but not the names of women it serves. "A woman's residency status does not matter to us, and we try to eliminate the fears that immigrant women have about seeking our services," Daniels said. "We believe in advocacy beyond leaving the shelter, and in self-determination by the women. If a woman wants domestic violence reported we will assist her in doing that. If she does not want it reported when it's against her we won't report it."

Daniels explained that advocacy agencies such as Rose Brooks are required by law to report child abuse and elder abuse to the Department of Health and Human Services. They are not required to report spousal abuse.

Rose Brooks operates a 24-hour crisis intervention hot line. Women can call (816) 861-6100. Bilingual counselors are immediately available. The center also provides translation services in over 135 languages. The center connects those in need with shelter, counseling and continuing supportive resources.

## Mujeres Temerosas de Reportar el Abuso Doméstico

CONT./PÁGINA 1

En algunas comunidades, el problema es exacerbado por diferencias culturales o lingüísticas que dificultan el poder lograr la extensión necesaria. El Centro Rose Brooks en Kansas City Missouri le ofrece servicios culturalmente competentes incluyendo asilo y consejos a cientos de mujeres que se han encontrado con algún tipo de abuso doméstico.

Carrie Daniels, directora de Programas Comunitarios, indica que la violencia doméstica asume varias formas. "Nosotros definimos violencia doméstica como un padrón de comportamiento coercitivo o abusivo que un compañero o esposo utiliza en contra de una compañera o esposa actual o pasada. ... Comúnmente éstas comienzan como acciones imperceptibles. Raramente éstas comienzan como tácticas físicas. Mayoritariamente el ciclo de poder y control continúa mediante el uso de controles financieros, amenazas, intimidación, manipulación y abuso emocional tales como menosprecios y críticas, y por supuesto, asalto sexual, el cual varía desde una violación hasta coaccionar a alguien a participar en actividades sexuales en las que no quieren participar".

Elaine Cruz, Asistente Social Bilingüe para Extensión, hizo notar que la misión principal del Centro Rose Brooks es el de asistir a mujeres que se encuentran en relaciones abusivas. "Queremos que las mujeres sepan que existe un lugar al que pueden acudir por ayuda. El centro Rose Brooks les ofrece protección a las mujeres que son abusadas y nosotros las asistimos en todo, desde encontrar un lugar para estar hasta encontrar un trabajo. Nosotros también queremos que las mujeres sepan que nuestros servicios son gratis".

Daniels dice que uno de los mayores problemas que enfrenta Rose Brooks es entregarles información a mujeres en la comunidad sobre qué constituye violencia doméstica y cuáles son los derechos de las mujeres. "La información es poder y mientras más información ellas tengan sobre cuáles son sus opciones, más control ellas tendrán. En lo que nos hemos estado enfocando en los últimos años es en proveer igualdad de acceso - particularmente a mujeres inmigrantes y a sus hijos, ya que el estatus migratorio es a menudo la barrera más grande para recibir servicios y llegar hasta un lugar seguro".

Kate Cavanaugh, Terapeuta Bilingüe de Extensión, dice que la violencia doméstica no es reportada lo suficiente, pero lo

es más aún en las comunidades inmigrantes, en donde las barreras idiomáticas y la carencia de conocimientos sobre el sistema legal conducen al temor y a la inacción.

"Algunas veces la persona que maltrata utilizará la táctica de mentirle a las mujeres respecto a las leyes estadounidenses y decirles mentiras tales como, 'Si llegas a ir a la policía, simplemente te deportarán'", dijo Cavanaugh. "O ellos dicen, 'Si llegas a ir a un asilo, ellos te quitarán a tus hijos y nunca los veras nuevamente'. Entonces cuando las mujeres inmigrantes operan con esos mitos como verdades en sus mentes, es simplemente otra barrera en contra de reportar el abuso o buscar servicios".

El personal del centro ha notado que a menudo existen diferencias culturales que dificultan que estas mujeres reporten el abuso doméstico. "Para las latinas, tenemos este asunto que una vez que nos casamos, nos casamos para toda la vida", dijo Cruz. "Entonces si ocurre abuso doméstico, los familiares pudieran decirle a la mujer, 'Bueno, él es tu esposo. Tu simplemente deberías reconciliarte'. Entonces, algunas veces las mujeres no tienen apoyo".

Cavanaugh hizo notar, "Muchas mujeres latinas me dicen que el abuso sexual no cuenta, 'porque él es mi esposo'. En este país, no importa si el hombre es tu esposo o un extraño. Una violación es una violación. Esta opinión no cuenta en algunos países".

El temor a la deportación es un mayor elemento de disuasión cuando se trata de reportar violencias domésticas de parte de mujeres inmigrantes indocumentadas, según Cavanaugh. "Lo que se supone que pasa cuando una mujer reporta violencia doméstica en contra suya o de sus hijos, es que la policía separa al abusador de la víctima y le toma declaraciones separadas. La mujer debe ser referida a un asilo y debería recibir asistencia en completar el reporte de la policía. ... Se supone que a la mujer no se le debe preguntar por su estatus migratorio o ser reportada con la inmigración. Solamente en las situaciones más raras eso podría suceder. ... Pero no podemos garantizar que nunca podría ocurrir".

Cavanaugh indicó que visas especiales se encuentran disponibles bajo el Acta de la Violencia en Contra de las Mujeres cuando las mujeres han sido sujetas a violencia doméstica o son víctimas del comercio sexual. "Las mujeres y niños que experimentan violencia doméstica tienen ciertas protecciones bajo el Acta si es que la persona que los maltrató o abusó es un ciudadano estadounidense o residente legal

aquí", dijo Cavanaugh. "Nosotros trabajamos en forma cercana con abogados de inmigración para poder ayudarlos a hacer una petición para residencia si es que han estado experimentando violencia doméstica".

Cruz indicó que ir a la policía no es la única manera en que las mujeres puedan reportar abuso doméstico o tratar de conseguir ayuda. "Ellas pueden ser conectadas con asilos y otros servicios al llamar a Rose Brooks, pueden ir al hospital y reportárselo a una enfermera o a un médico, pueden ir a una clínica cercana o reportárselo al consejero de la escuela".

Para facilitar el reporte de la violencia doméstica, el Centro ha emplazado a personas que abogan en seis hospitales principales en Kansas City y en 45 escuelas del Gran Kansas City. "Tenemos un programa llamado 'Proyecto Seguridad' en donde ofrecemos prevención desde el momento en que el niño entra a la escuela hasta que egresa", dijo Daniels. "Nosotros también tenemos personas avocadas en la unidad de violencia doméstica del Departamento de Policía y tenemos avocados en las cortes. Entonces, si una mujer tiene que ir a la corte, nosotros podemos tener a alguien con ella".

En adición a ofrecer asilo temporal, Rose Brooks ofrece entrenamiento y servicios de consejería para las mujeres y sus niños. "Nosotros tenemos a un educador de tiempo completo y a un Capellán de tiempo completo", dijo Daniels. "El Capellán provee guía espiritual y está tratando de educar al clero, puesto que sabemos que muchas mujeres irán primero a la iglesia. Nosotros ofrecemos terapia individual tanto en inglés como en español para víctimas y sus familias. Tenemos a un terapeuta para niños y un terapeuta bilingüe. Tenemos muchos grupos de apoyo para mujeres mientras pasan por el proceso de curación y los servicios de asistencia social son en español y en inglés".

Todos los servicios de Rose Brooks son confidenciales. El centro le provee información estadística a sus agencias financiadoras, pero no los nombres de las mujeres que atiende. "A nosotros no nos importa el estatus de residencia de una mujer y tratamos de eliminar los temores que tienen las mujeres inmigrantes en lo referente a utilizar nuestros servicios", dijo Daniels. "Nosotros creemos en la abogacía más allá de dejar el asilo y en la determinación propia de las mujeres. Si una mujer quiere reportar violencia doméstica, nosotros la ayudamos a hacerlo. Si ella no quiere reportarlo cuando es en contra de ella, nosotros no lo reportamos".

Daniels explica que a las agencias de abogacía tales como Rose Brooks se les requiere por ley reportar el abuso a niños y a ancianos al Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos. A ellos no se les requiere reportar el abuso de esposos.

Rose Brooks opera una línea de 24 horas de emergencia para intervención de crisis. Las mujeres pueden llamar al (816) 861-6100. Consejeros bilingües se encuentran disponibles en forma inmediata. El centro también ofrece servicios de traducción para más de 135 idiomas. El centro conecta a aquellos en necesidad con un asilo, son consejería y recursos de apoyo continuos.

## Estudio Revela que las Mujeres Abusadas Buscan Más Atención a la Salud Infantil

Las mujeres encintas que experimentan violencia de parte de sus parejas íntimas (IPV, por sus siglas en inglés) antes, durante o después de estar encintas sufren a menudo efectos adversos de la salud, incluyendo depresión, desórdenes de tensión post traumática, ansiedad y enfermedades mentales crónicas. Ahora, investigadores de la Universidad de Missouri han descubierto que las mujeres que experimentan violencia de parte de una pareja íntima son más propensas a buscar cuidado médico para sus bebés que las mujeres que no son abusadas. El conocimiento de madres con frecuentes preocupaciones respecto a sus niños puede ayudar a los proveedores de la salud a identificar y ofrecer ayuda a mujeres que se encuentran en relaciones de abuso.

"Los proveedores del cuidado de la salud deberían considerar las frecuentes llamadas o visitas sobre preocupaciones comunes de la salud de los niños como un llamado de alerta", dice Linda Bullock, profesora de la Escuela de Enfermería Sinclair de MU. "Aunque puede ser difícil para los proveedores de la salud ver más allá de las preocupaciones inmediatas, los hallazgos sugieren que el considerar solamente las expresiones de preocupación, podrían representar oportunidades perdidas para intervenir sobre asuntos más críticos de la salud que impactan a las madres y a los niños. Los proveedores tienen una oportunidad de ayudar a las madres que pudieran no expresar preocupación respecto a la violencia de parte de una pareja íntima".

En un estudio, más del 60% de las mujeres que experimentaron violencia de parte de una pareja íntima, buscaron consultas de salud para sus niños. Las mujeres abusadas fueron más propensas a buscar cuidado médico infantil, a reportar más tensión, se mostraron más deprimidas y presentaban menos apoyo que las

## Study Finds Abused Women Seek More Infant Health Care

Pregnant women who experience intimate partner violence (IPV) before, during or after pregnancy often suffer adverse health effects, including depression, post traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and chronic mental illness. Now, University of Missouri researchers have found that women who experience intimate partner violence are more likely to seek health care for their infants than non-abused women. Awareness of mothers with frequent infant health concerns can help health care providers identify and provide aid to women in abusive relationships.

"Health care providers should view frequent calls or visits for common infant health concerns as red flags," said Linda Bullock, professor in the MU Sinclair School of Nursing. "Although it can be difficult for providers to see beyond immediate concerns, the findings suggest that considering only voiced concerns may represent lost opportunities to intervene on more critical health matters that impact mothers and children. Providers have a chance to help mothers who may not voice concerns about intimate partner violence."

In the study, more than 60 percent of women who experienced intimate partner violence sought health consultations for their infants. Abused women were more likely to seek infant care, reported more stress, were more depressed, and had less support than non-abused women. Less than 54 percent of non-abused women sought infant health consultations. Bullock said significant maternal stress may be a contributing factor to increased infant care. Additionally, women may use their children's health care problems as a way to

seek help for themselves.

Bullock recommends that pediatric and women's clinics have a routine policy of IPV screening and education for all women. Women may not voice concerns about their own safety, but multiple calls and visits to physicians can be signs of IPV.

"The most powerful intervention may be as simple as repeated screening for IPV throughout pregnancy and post-delivery visits," Bullock said. "Providers have a chance to help mothers who may not directly seek the necessary resources to help themselves. Referrals to support programs such as battered women's services, counseling, parenting support and financial services can make a positive impact on the lives of women and infants."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, IPV is difficult to measure because it often occurs in private, and victims are reluctant to report incidents because of shame or fear. Researchers analyzed data from a larger study of a smoking cessation intervention in pregnant women called Baby BEEP (Behavioral Education Enhancement of Pregnancy) conducted through rural Women, Infant and Children Nutritional Supplement (WIC) clinics in the Midwest. The women were identified by their responses to the Abuse Assessment Screen, a stress scale, a psychosocial profile and a mental health index.

The study, "Rural mothers experiencing the stress of Intimate Partner Violence or not: Their newborn health concerns," was published in the Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health in November.

mujeres que no habían sido abusadas. Menos del 54% de las mujeres no abusadas buscaron consultas sobre cuidado médico infantil. Bullock dijo que una significativa tensión maternal podría ser un factor contribuyente en el aumento del cuidado infantil. Adicionalmente, las mujeres pudieran utilizar los problemas médicos de sus niños como una manera de buscar ayuda para ellas mismas.

Bullock recomienda que las clínicas pediátricas y de mujeres tengan una política rutinaria de exámenes IPV y de educación para todas las mujeres. Las mujeres pudieran no ser capaces de expresar preocupaciones sobre su propia seguridad, pero múltiples llamadas y visitas médicas pueden ser señales de IPV.

"La intervención más poderosa puede ser algo tan simple como exámenes para IPV a lo largo del embarazo y las visitas post parto", dijo Bullock. "Los proveedores tienen una oportunidad de ayudar a las madres que pudieran no buscar en forma directa los recursos necesarios para ayudarse a sí mismas. Referencias a programas de apoyo tales como servicios para mujeres maltratadas, consejería, apoyo para padres y servicios financieros podrían tener

un impacto positivo en las vidas de mujeres y niños".

Según la Oficina de Estadísticas para la Justicia de EE.UU., el IPV es difícil de conmensurar debido que a menudo ocurre en privado y las víctimas son reacias a reportar los incidentes debido a la vergüenza o al temor. Investigadores analizaron los datos de un estudio más extenso sobre intervención para dejar de fumar entre mujeres encinta denominado Baby BEEP (Extensión de la educación del comportamiento durante el embarazo) conducido en el Medio Oeste mediante clínicas para Suplemento Nutritivo para Mujeres de áreas rurales, Bebés y Niños (WIC, por sus siglas en inglés). Las mujeres fueron identificadas por sus respuestas al Examen de Evaluación para el Abuso, una escala para medir la tensión, un perfil psicológico y un índice de salud mental.

El estudio, Mujeres de áreas rurales Experimentando o no la Tensión de la Violencia de parte de una Pareja Íntima: Preocupaciones de la salud de sus recién nacidos", fue publicado en noviembre en el periódico Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health

## "I was lying in my room dying"

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professionals. She regrets that decision knowing she may have cut her time with her family short.

In June 2007, she went to the emergency room complaining of breathing problems. Diagnosed with pneumonia she was given a round of antibiotics. "The first round of antibiotics didn't work and they gave me a second round, but I was growing weaker and weaker. I knew I was lying in my room dying," said Teresa.

She chose to ignore what was happening until that fateful day in October when she returned to the emergency room. "I was in hysterics and the emergency room doctor, who was a woman, calmed me down. She told me that there wasn't anything she hadn't seen and that ... that I couldn't show her. What I was afraid to show her was that my breast was obviously ulcerated and had an open wound. It was cancer, and unfortunately because of my failure to take care of this sooner, the cancer spread to a lung, into my liver and my bones."

mother. "She hid it for so long. Nobody knew until she went to the emergency room and that is when we found out."

For many years, Sherry had encouraged Teresa to have a mammogram done. She would make appointments for her mother and her mother would not go. "My mom has been so scared of hospitals but I don't know why. I would make her appointments and she would have some reason why she didn't want to go or she would blow it off."

Since her mother's recovery, Sherry has probed Teresa for answers wondering why she let it go so long, but her mom doesn't have an answer.

"People may say that I have no right to tell others to go and get the exams that they should, seeing as how I avoided them for as long as I did. I did nothing and a part of me is saying, 'this is what happens when you do nothing.' I really can't say why I hid it, why I never sought help, but it probably would have been treatable had I taken care of it when it first happened and I would not be where I am today," said Teresa.



Teresa Flores shares her story with anyone that will listen. She does not want any other person to suffer what she has gone through out of fear.

*Teresa Flores comparte su historia con todos los que quieran escucharla. Ella no quiere que ninguna otra persona pase por lo que ella ha sufrido debido al temor.*

Teresa began radiation and chemotherapy treatments and eventually responded to the treatments. "I am by no means cured but I look at it as though I have been given more time with my family," she explained. "I am not sure why God saved me. I ask myself that all the time. I guess he thought it was best to give me more time with my children and grandchildren. I am thankful for that."

Part of the recovery process has included a slow mending of the mother/daughter relationship. Sherry was shocked to learn that her mother had cancer and eventually was angry with her

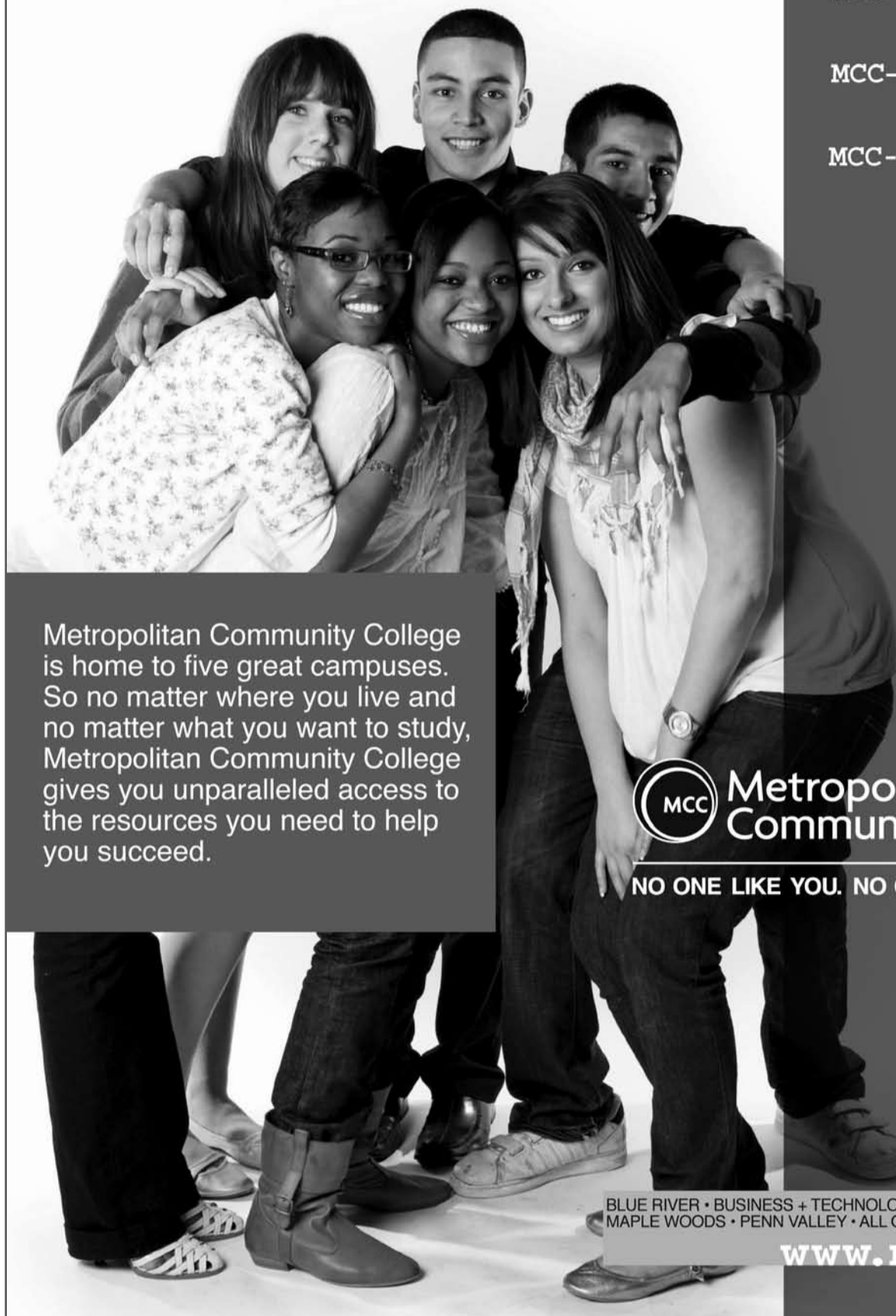
Sherry loves her mom and is terrified that her three-year-old daughter will not get the chance to know her grandma.

"I am afraid that if something happens to my mom, my daughter won't remember her. We live here and my daughter is so attached to grandma. She loves her grandma very much and it upsets her when my mom has to go to the hospital for her treatments, because my daughter doesn't think grandma is coming back home."

Sherry has done a lot of growing up since her mother's diagnosis. Living at home, she now takes a major role in

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## "Estaba postrada en mi cuarto muriéndome"

CONT./PÁGINA 1

a planear los arreglos para su funeral. "Esa fue la cosa más dura que hayamos tenido que hacer. Tuvimos que sentarnos allí e ir a través de los planes funerarios, tuvimos que escoger las opciones que ellos nos daban, tuvimos que escoger los arreglos que queríamos para su funeral. Teníamos que hacer los arreglos funerarios bastante rápido porque no se esperaba que ella sobreviviera al fin de semana", agregó Moreno.

La parte más difícil de la historia es que Teresa sabía desde hacía tres años que estaba enferma, pero no se lo había dicho a nadie. Ella notó una pequeña protuberancia en uno de sus senos, pero nunca la hizo examinar. Ella sabía que debería estar haciéndose exámenes a los senos y que debería haberse sometido a una mamografía, pero tampoco lo hizo.

Teresa le había querido decir a su hija Sherry Flores, pero nunca se encontró capaz de decirle esas palabras. Su temor era tan poderoso que no le permitió buscar ayuda de parte de la familia o de profesionales. Ella se arrepiente de esa

decisión sabiendo que ello pudiera haber reducido su tiempo con su familia.

En junio del 2007, ella acudió a la sala de emergencia quejándose de problemas respiratorios. Ella fue diagnosticada con neumonía y le dieron una dosis de antibióticos. "La primera dosis de antibióticos no tuvo efecto y ellos me dieron una segunda dosis, pero me estaba debilitando más y más. Sabía que yacía en un pieza muriéndome", dijo Teresa.

Ella optó por ignorar lo que estaba sucediendo hasta aquel fatídico día en octubre cuando ella regresó a la sala de emergencia. "Estaba histérica y el médico de la sala de emergencia, que era una mujer, me calmó. Ella me dijo que no había nada que ella no hubiera visto y que... yo no pudiera mostrarle. Lo que temía mostrar era que mi seno estaba obviamente ulcerado y tenía una herida abierta. Era cáncer y desafortunadamente, debido a mi error de no haberme preocupado de ello más temprano, el cáncer se había extendido a un pulmón, a mi hígado y a mis huesos".

Teresa comenzó a someterse

a tratamientos de radiación y quimioterapia y eventualmente respondió a los tratamientos. "Bajo ninguna circunstancia me he sanado, pero lo miro como que se me ha dado más tiempo para estar con mi familia", explicó ella. "No estoy segura porque Dios me salvó. Me hago esa pregunta todo el tiempo. Creo que él pensó que era mejor darme más tiempo con mis hijos y nietos. Estoy agradecida por eso".

Parte del proceso de recuperación ha incluido una lenta reparación de la relación madre/hija. Sherry se conmovió al enterarse de que su madre tenía cáncer y eventualmente se enfadó con ella. "Ella lo escondió por tanto tiempo. Nadie se enteró hasta que ella fue a la sala de emergencias y ahí fue donde se enteraron".

Por muchos años Sherry había exhortado a Teresa a hacerse una mamografía. Ella le concertaba citas, pero su madre no asistía. "Mi madre ha sido tan temerosa de los hospitales, pero yo no sé porqué. Yo le hacía citas y ella salía con una razón porqué no quería ir o ella no las cumplía".



Sherry Flores has taken on added tasks since her mother's illness. Cooking for her mother and her family is something she is looking forward to this Christmas.

*Sherry Flores se ha hecho cargo de tareas adicionales desde la enfermedad de su madre. Cocinar para su madre y para su familia es algo que ella está ansiosa de hacer para esta Navidad.*

Desde la recuperación de su madre, Sherry ha sondeado a Teresa para encontrar respuestas imaginándose porqué lo dejó sin atender por tanto tiempo, pero su madre no tiene una respuesta.

"La gente pudiera decir que no tengo derecho a decirle a los otros que vayan y se hagan los exámenes que necesitan, en vista de cómo los he evitado por tanto tiempo como lo he hecho. No hice nada y una parte de mí está diciendo, 'esto es lo que sucede cuando uno

time together decorating the Christmas tree, planning the dinners and cooking together. She told *Hispanic News* that this is the first time that they have decorated the tree together and, "it was awesome."

Teresa is looking forward to celebrating her second Christmas since her diagnosis with her children, grandchildren and her husband Jessie. She has been humbled by the

love and support that she has received from her family and friends. "Jessie works full time and comes home and takes care of me. My daughter Sherry takes care of the household and I am humbled and comforted by their love and support. It is our love that we have for each other that is getting us through this," said Teresa.

no hace nada'. En realidad no podría decir porqué lo escondí, porqué nunca busqué ayuda, pero probablemente hubiera tenido un tratamiento si me hubiera preocupado de ello cuando ocurrió por primera vez y no estaría aquí hoy día", dijo Teresa.

Sherry adora a su madre y está aterrada que su hija de tres años no tendrá la oportunidad de conocer a su abuela.

"Temo que si algo le sucede a mi mamá, mi hija no podrá recordarla. Vivimos aquí y mi hija es tan ligada a la abuela. Ella adora mucho a su abuela y le molesta que mi mamá tenga que ir al hospital para someterse a sus tratamientos, ya mi hija no cree que su abuela regresará a casa".

Sherry ha hecho bastante en lo que se refiere a crecer desde que se enteró del diagnóstico de su madre. Viviendo en casa, ella ahora asume un rol principal en lo que va a cuidar de su hija y de su madre. Ella también se está convirtiendo en una figura autoritaria para sus hermanos adolescentes.

"Mis hermanos tienen novias que viven cerca y ellas vienen acá y cuando ellos las acompañan a casa, tengo que esperar a que ellos regresen. ... Antes... no me importaba lo que ellos hacían y ahora me levanto y me siento,

mirando a través de la ventana, preguntándome dónde están, porqué aún no están de regreso y luego, cuando ellos regresan a casa, me les hecho encima porque no regresaron con prontitud. Tengo que encararlos en lo que va a limpiar, a lavar los platos. Repentinamente tuve que convertirme en la autoridad ahora y algunos días, solamente quiero marcharme y decir, 'ya no doy más', pero luego me doy cuenta que mi mamá no puede hacer esto por sí sola".

Al acercarse la Navidad, Sherry y su madre han pasado tiempo juntas decorando el árbol navideño, planeando las cenas y cocinando juntas. Ella le dijo a *Hispanic News* que ésta es la primera vez que ellas han decorado el árbol juntas y "fue increíble".

Teresa está esperanzada por celebrar su segunda Navidad desde su diagnóstico con sus hijos, nietos y con su esposo Jessie. Ella ha sentido humildad por el amor y el apoyo que ha recibido de su familia y amigos. "Jessie trabaja a jornada completa y llega a casa y se ocupa de mí. Mi hija Sherry se preocupa del hogar y siento humildad y me siento consolada por su amor y su apoyo. Es el amor que tenemos los unos por los otros lo que nos está ayudando a pasar por esto", dijo Teresa.

# Amayo's legacy lives on

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Family, friends, former boxers and government officials packed the room at the Argentine Community Center to pay tribute to him and his community service. Mayor Joe Reardon and representatives of the Parks and Recreation Board re-dedicated the community center as the Joe Amayo Sr. Argentine Community Center.

"We are grateful for this honor and we are humbled by it," said Joe Amayo, Jr, after the plaque bearing his father's name was unveiled.

"Kansas City, Kansas has great stories to tell and certainly the community of Argentine itself has wonderful stories to tell. It is incumbent upon each of us elected officials to make sure that the great stories that are to be told, remain told," said Mayor Joe Reardon in his dedication remarks.

Reardon reminded those present that a city is more than a collection of buildings or places. "A city is a story that is being told constantly. There are significant people that make such a difference

that they become the critical part of that story that is told. The story of Joe Amayo will be told again and again in this building, around this building and all of us will carry this story with us."

Rick Saucedo, Parks and Recreation Board member was a teenager in Argentine when he met Amayo after the 1951 flood. He told the audience that during those years, Argentine was segregated and there was always some conflict.

"One day, I was in a fight outside of the Parish House and Mr. Amayo came out and broke it up. Then he said to me, 'Rick, if you want to vent your frustrations take it out in the boxing ring.' I joined the boxing program. He was my boxing coach and I learned self-control and self-defense. Mr. Amayo was a mentor to me and to the youth. He worked with everyone in Argentine but mostly he wanted to help the Mexican-American kids in the neighborhood stay out of trouble," he said.

For 39 years, Amayo trained boxers in the basement of the Argentine Parish House.

He also sponsored the KC Golden Knights Basketball team and was the spearhead for the establishment of the Pan American Basketball tournaments at Memorial Hall.

"He gave a life time of service to the community," recalled Gary Ortiz, assistant County Administrator. Joe stood for pride, self-awareness, know who you are, what you are about, know what you believe in and don't be afraid. Stride forward with confidence and do what you know is right. Joe's qualities can be found in each of us we just need to draw them out of us and step forward and be involved in the community and our community will be a better community,"

Amayo, Sr. took the lessons he grew up with, that you help your neighbor and your community, and lived them but most importantly, he passed them on to his children. "It is a simple thing; you have to volunteer and get involved in order to get anything done. We lived it but it was something that we just did giving back to our community and never gave it a second thought," said Amayo Jr.

# El legado de Amayo perdura

CONT./PÁGINA 1

comunidad que adoraba y nunca esperó recibir nada a cambio.

Familiares, amigos, ex boxeadores y oficiales gubernamentales repletaron la sala en el Centro Comunitario Argentino para ofrecerle un tributo a él y a su servicio comunitario. El Alcalde Joe Reardon y representantes de la Junta de Parques y Recreación renombraron el centro comunitario con el nombre de Centro Comunitario Joe Amayo Sr. de Argentine.

"Nos sentimos agradecidos por este honor y sentimos humildad por ello", dijo Joe Amayo, Jr. luego de que la placa llevando el nombre de su padre fue descubierta.

"Kansas City, Kansas tiene grandes historias que contar y ciertamente que la comunidad de Argentine propiamente tal tiene maravillosas historias que contar. Es de gran incumbencia para nosotros elegir a oficiales que nos aseguren que esas historias sean contadas y continúen siendo contadas", dijo el Alcalde Joe Reardon durante su reseña dedicatoria.

Reardon le recordó a aquellos presentes que una ciudad es más que una colección de edificios o lugares. "Una ciudad es una historia que está siendo contada constantemente. Allí existen personas significativas que marcan tal diferencia y quienes se convierten en parte crítica de esa historia que está siendo contada. La historia de Joe Amayo Sr. será contada una y otra vez en este edificio, alrededor de este edificio y todos nosotros llevaremos esta historia con nosotros".

Rick Saucedo, miembro de la Junta de Parques y Recreación era un adolescente en Argentine cuando conoció a Amayo después de la inundación de 1951. Él le dijo a la audiencia que durante esos años, el vecindario de Argentine era segregado y siempre había allí algunos conflictos.



A plaque bearing the likeness of Joe Amayo Sr. will greet visitors to the newly renamed Joe Amayo Sr. Argentine Community Center.

Una placa llevando el nombre de Joe Amayo Sr. le dará la bienvenida a los visitantes al recientemente renombrado Centro Comunitario Joe Amayo Sr. de Argentine.

"Un día, me encontraba envuelto en una pelea fuera de la Casa Parroquial y el Sr. Amayo se acercó y la disolvió. Luego él me dijo, 'Rick, si tu quieres airar tus frustraciones hazlo en el cuadrilátero de boxeo'. Yo me uní al programa de boxeo. Él fue mi entrenador de boxeo y aprendí autocontrol y defensa personal. El Sr. Amayo fue un mentor para mí y para la juventud. Él trabajó con cada uno en Argentine, pero principalmente él quería ayudar a que los muchachos mexicanos-estadounidenses en el vecindario se mantuvieran alejados de los problemas", dijo él.

Por 39 años, Amayo entrenó a boxeadores en el sótano de la Casa Parroquial de Argentine. Él también patrocinó el equipo de Basketball KC Golden Knights y fue un líder para el establecimiento de los torneos Panamericanos de Basketball en el Memorial Hall.

"Él entregó toda una vida de servicio a la comunidad", recuerda Gary Ortiz, asistente del Comisionado del Condado. Joe estaba por el orgullo, por el conocimiento de uno mismo, por saber quién uno es, de qué se trata uno, saber en qué uno cree y no sentir temor. Dar

pasos adelante con confianza y hacer lo que uno cree ser lo correcto. Las cualidades de Joe pueden ser encontradas en cada uno de nosotros, nosotros simplemente tenemos que extraerlas desde nosotros mismos y dar pasos adelante y participar en la comunidad y nuestra comunidad será una mejor comunidad".

Joe Amayo, Sr. tomó las lecciones con las que creció, lecciones de que uno ayuda a su vecino y a su comunidad y las vivió, pero principalmente, él se las traspasó a sus niños. "Es una cosa simple; uno tiene que ofrecerse de voluntario y participar para poder hacer que cualquier cosa se haga. Nosotros lo vivimos, pero fue algo que simplemente hicimos al retribuirle a nuestra comunidad y nunca lo pensamos dos veces", dijo Amayo Jr.

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# These year-end actions can cut taxes

JASON ALDERMAN

December is the year's busiest month for many people, with holiday-related shopping, socializing and travel cutting into already hectic schedules. It will be tough, but try to set aside some time before year's end to consider taking a few actions that could seriously lower your 2008 tax bill.

Maximize tax-deferred retirement savings. December 31 is the 2008 contribution deadline for employer-sponsored 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plans. Remember, pretax contributions can lower your taxable income and thereby lower your federal and state income tax bills.

If your employer matches a portion of your contributions, (a common match is 50 percent on the first 6 percent of income saved) and you don't contribute at least that amount, you could be forfeiting hundreds—or thousands—of dollars in free money. Ask your Benefits department if you can increase your December paycheck deduction to boost your 2008 contribution.

The same strategy for reducing taxable income also works for Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), although you have until April 15, 2009, to open or contribute to an IRA for 2008 tax advantages.

Use up Flexible Spending Account (FSA) balances. If you participate in employer-sponsored health care or dependent care FSAs that use pretax dollars to pay for expenses, timing is important: You must spend your account balances before your employer's deadline (sometimes up to 75 days into the following year) or you'll forfeit the balances. Double-check the deadline with your Benefits department.

If there's money left in your Health Care FSA, consider qualified purchases you could make before the deadline, such as eyeglasses, contact lenses, braces, or over-the-counter medicines. IRS Publication 502 provides a complete list of allowable expenses (www.irs.gov). If you've already exhausted your 2008 FSA account balances, think about which elective expenses you could postpone until early 2009.

To learn more about 401(k) plans and FSAs, visit Practical Money Skills for Life, Visa's free personal financial management site (www.practicalmoneyskills.com/benefits).

Charitable contributions. If you itemize deductions on your federal income tax, most charitable contributions made to IRS-qualified, tax-exempt organizations by December 31 are tax-deductible. (See Publication 78 at www.irs.gov for a complete list.) Remember, you need to obtain receipts for all contributions, including small cash donations, and only donated items in good condition are deductible.

Financial gift strategy. By law, you may make financial gifts up to

\$12,000 (\$24,000 if married and making joint gifts) per person, per year, without affecting any estate taxes in effect when you die. Therefore, if you're planning to leave money to your children, family members or anyone else and can spare the cash right now; this is a good way to avoid estate taxes later on. Check with your financial advisor for details.

Prepay property taxes. Homeowners who itemize deductions can increase their 2008 deductions by prepaying 2009 property taxes before December 31, 2008. If property taxes are included

in your monthly mortgage payment, ask your lender to determine if this is feasible.

Prepay your mortgage. Another way to increase 2008 deductions is to pay your January 2009 mortgage amount this month. This is especially effective for relatively new mortgages where the bulk of the monthly payment is tax-deductible interest. Again, ask your lender how this might work for you.

By taking a few minutes out of your busy schedule now, you can potentially save a bundle on your 2008 taxes. You will thank yourself come April 15.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. Sign up for his free monthly e-Newsletter at www.practicalmoneyskills.com/newsletter.

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**Week 4: Which of these people is a Veteran? a) Captain Kangaroo (Bob Keeshan) b) Johnny Carson c) John Denver d) Ed McMann e) all of the above**

Winner to week 3 question is: Esther Buso from KCK!

# A Believable formula for Immigration change

DAVID BACON  
HISPANIC LINK NEWS SERVICE

Since 2001, the Bush Administration has deported more than a million people. It is no wonder Latinos, Asians and other communities with large immigrant populations voted for Barack Obama by huge margins.

The election, taking place as millions of people were losing their jobs and homes, had its hysteria-mongers trying to scapegoat immigrants for this crisis. But most voters did not drink the Kool-Aid. In fact,

every poll shows that a big majority rejected raids and want basic rights and fair treatment for everyone, immigrants included. People want and expect a change ending the Bush administration's failed program of raids, jail time and deportations. So, does the political coalition that put Obama into office--African-Americans, Latinos, Asian-Americans, women and union families--expect change.

From the beginning, the administration's enforcement program has been cynically designed to pressure Congress into re-establishing discredited

guest worker schemes. The Southern Poverty Law Center called the program "close to slavery."

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has cynically stated that the raids were intended to "closing the back door and opening the front door." No one whose eyes are open to the terrible human suffering caused by the raids will be very sorry to see Chertoff go. So far, Barack Obama's choice of Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano is not encouraging. The Tucson "Operation Streamline" court convenes in her home state every day. The situation for immigrants in Arizona is worse than almost anywhere else. Napolitano herself has publicly supported most of the worst ideas of the Bush administration.

The economic crisis does

not have to pit working people against each other, nor lead to demonize immigrants further. In fact, there is common ground between immigrants, communities of color, unions, churches, civil rights organizations and working families. Legalization and immigrant rights can be tied to guaranteeing jobs for anyone who wants to work, and unions to raise wages and win better conditions for everyone in the workplace.

The AFL-CIO's campaign for the Employee Free Choice Act supports the surest means of ending the low-wage, second-class status of immigrant workers -- organizing unions. Repealing unfair trade agreements and ending structural adjustment policies would raise the standard of living in places like Oaxaca or El Salvador and reduce the

pressure for migration. In the United States, jobs become more secure in working-class communities.

Stopping the raids is the first step in a process. At the same time, it can help the administration begin to address the larger issues of immigration reform, jobs and workplace rights. Here are steps the new administration can take right away:

- Stop ICE from seeking serious federal criminal charges when a worker lacks papers or has a bad Social Security numbers.
- Halt community sweeps, checkpoints and roadblocks where agents use warrants for one or two people to detain and deport dozens.
- Double the paltry 742 federal inspectors responsible for all U.S. wage and hour violations.

- Allow all workers to apply for a Social Security number and pay legally into a system.
- Re-establish worker protections, ended under Bush, connected with existing guest worker programs.
- Restore human rights in border communities, stop construction of the U.S. and Mexico border wall, and disband the Operation Streamline federal court.

*[This commentary condenses a 1,600-word analysis labor writer David Bacon prepared for the New America Media, a nationwide association of more than 700 ethnic media organizations representing the development of a more inclusive journalism. Hispanic Link is a member of NAM. Bacon is the author of "Communities without Borders," (ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, Ithaca and London, 2006.)]*

# Una Formula Creíble Para la Transformación Migratoria

DAVID BACON  
HISPANIC LINK NEWS SERVICE

Desde el año 2001, la administración de Bush ha deportado a más de un millón de personas. No es de sorprender que los latinos, los asiáticos y otras comunidades de grandes poblaciones migrantes hayan votado por Barack Obama y con márgenes enormes

Los comicios, llevándose a cabo mientras que millones de personas perdían el empleo y la vivienda, tenía a los que fomentaban la histeria a intentar poner de chivo expiatorio de la crisis a los inmigrantes. Pero la mayor parte de los votantes no comulgó con la histeria. En realidad, cada encuesta señala que una gran mayoría rechazó las redadas y que quiere para todos, incluyendo

a los inmigrantes, los derechos básicos y el trato justo. El pueblo quiere y requiere un cambio que termine con el programa fracasado de la administración de Bush de redadas, encarcelamientos, y deportaciones. De igual manera exige un cambio la coalición que logró la elección de Obama -- los africano-americanos, los latinos, los asiáticos, las mujeres y las familias miembros de sindicatos.

Desde el principio, el programa de cumplimiento de la administración se diseñó cínicamente para presionar al Congreso a volver a establecer estrategias desprestigiadas de trabajadores huésped, o braceros. El Southern Poverty Law Center llamó al programa "próximo a la esclavitud".

Secretario de la Seguridad Nacional, Michael Chertoff, ha

declarado cínicamente que las redadas se destinaban a "cerrar la puerta de atrás y abrir la de adelante". Nadie que tenga en la mira el terrible sufrimiento humano que causan se lamentará con la partida de Chertoff. Hasta el momento, la selección que hiciera Barack Obama de la gobernadora de Arizona, Janet Napolitano, para el puesto no da muchos ánimos. Cada día en su estado se reúne el tribunal "Operation Streamline" en Tucson. La situación para los migrantes en Arizona es peor que la de casi cualquier otra parte. La misma Napolitano ha apoyado públicamente la mayoría de las peores ideas de la administración de Bush.

La crisis económica no tiene por qué poner a la gente obrera uno contra el otro, ni llevar a poner de demonios más a los inmigrantes. En realidad, hay territorio en común entre los

inmigrantes, las comunidades de color, los sindicatos, las iglesias, las organizaciones de derechos civiles y las familias obreras. La legalización y los derechos del inmigrante se pueden vincular con garantizar empleo para quien quiera trabajar, y los sindicatos pueden aumentar los sueldos y mejorar las condiciones laborales para todos.

La campaña del sindicato nacional, AFL-CIO, para la ley Employee Free Choice Act, apoya la manera más segura de acabar con las condiciones de bajos recursos y segunda clase para los trabajadores inmigrantes -- la organización de sindicatos. La revocación de pactos injustos de comercio y acabar con políticas de ajuste estructural resultarían en mejorar el nivel de vida en lugares como Oaxaca o El Salvador y reduciría la presión que lleva a la migración. En los Estados Unidos, los empleos se vuelven más seguros en las comunidades obreras.

Pero el primer paso en el proceso es cesar con las redadas. Al mismo

tiempo puede ayudar a la administración a enfocarse sobre los temas mayores de la reforma migratoria, el empleo y los derechos laborales. He aquí algunos pasos que puede tomar la nueva administración de inmediato:

- Prohibir que ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) intente acusar con cargos federales de delitos cuando a un trabajador le faltan documentos o tenga número de Seguro Social erróneo.
- Cesar con la redada de lugares de trabajo.
- Cesar con las barridas de comunidades, las inspecciones y barricadas en las que los agentes tengan órdenes judiciales autorizadas para sólo dos personas y las usen para detener y deportar a docenas de personas.
- Doblar el número insignificante actual de 742 inspectores federales responsables de todas las infracciones estadounidenses de sueldo y horas laborables.
- Permitir que todos los

trabajadores soliciten un número de Seguro Social y paguen legalmente a un sistema.

- Volver a establecer protecciones al trabajador, las cuales fueron eliminadas bajo Bush, que tengan que hacer con programas de trabajadores huésped existentes.

- Restaurar los derechos humanos en las comunidades de la frontera, cesar con la construcción de un muro en la frontera entre los EE.UU. y México, y disolver Operation Streamline en la tribuna federal.

*[El presente comentario es una condensación de un análisis de 1.600 palabras que preparó escritor laboral David Bacon para New America Media, una asociación nacional de más de 700 organizaciones mediáticas étnicas y que representa el fomento del periodismo más inclusivo. Hispanic Link es miembro de NAM. Bacon es el autor de "Communities without Borders," (ILR Press, prensa de Cornell University Press, Ithaca y Londres, 2006).]*

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# KANSAS CITY Hispanic News

## SECTION B



### Toy Safety on Every Parent's Wish List this Holiday

Juguetes seguros en la lista de deseos de todos los padres en estas fiestas



Health organizations and consumer advocates welcomed new regulations on toy manufacturers put in place this year. The new regulations were a response to last year's concerns over the safety of imported toys.

Organizaciones de la salud y defensores de los consumidores le dieron la bienvenida a las nuevas regulaciones implementadas este año por los manufacturadores de juguetes. Las nuevas regulaciones fueron una respuesta a inquietudes demostradas el año pasado sobre la seguridad de juguetes importados.

HISPANIC NEWS

**L**ast holiday season's hysteria over the safety of some of the toys made overseas lodged a big lump of coal in many kids' stockings. Not only did concerns over lead paint and other quality control issues result in a sleigh full of product recalls, but it also prompted Congress to take action. A new law requires that manufacturers put in place more stringent testing procedures and reduce the levels of toxic chemicals in their toys.

The new regulations should go a long way toward giving parents confidence in the toys they are buying for their kids. However, the Grinchy

**NEW RULES/PAGE B2**

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

**L**a histeria generada en la última temporada de fiestas con respecto a la seguridad de algunos juguetes fabricados en el extranjero depositó una gran cantidad de carbón en los calcetines de muchos niños. Como resultado, no sólo surgieron muchas inquietudes sobre la pintura a base de plomo y otras cuestiones sobre el control de calidad que provocaron la retirada de productos del mercado, sino que también el Congreso debió tomar medidas. Una nueva ley exige

**NUEVAS REGLAS/PÁGINA B2**



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**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Kansas City Missouri Regional Police Academy  
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**To Participate:**  
Must be at least 20 years of age  
Must bring Valid Drivers License to test site  
No other requirements at this time  
Calculators can be used but will not be provided  
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Kansas City, Missouri  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

# New rules safer season **Nuevas reglas, temporada más segura**

CONT./PAGE B1

news this holiday is that many of these stricter rules don't go fully into effect until 2009. That means it still falls to Moms and Dads to stay vigilant about the safety of the toys they are putting under the tree or purchasing for Hanukkah this year.

The good news is that, according to toy safety experts, there are resources available to parents—both from the retailer or the manufacturer—to help parents determine just how safe the toys on their kids' wish lists are.

"Parents should not hesitate to inquire about the levels of lead in toys, about the results of product safety tests conducted by a third party, or about whether the retailer itself randomly tests the toys," said Linda DeRose Droubay, director of Safety and Quality Compliance at The Children's Group, Inc. "This kind of information should be available on a retailer's or manufacturer's Web site."

Manufacturers and retailers, now including well-known toy brands and big-box retailers, have joined longtime safety advocates such as HearthSong and Magic Cabin in instituting a range of safeguards this year.

The federal government requires that products contain no more than 600ppm (parts per million) of lead, with many states setting the limit at 90ppm and consumer groups pushing for 40ppm. HearthSong requires that all of our products are 100% non-toxic and are well below the set limits, many even as low as 5ppm.

It is a good idea for retailers to check the safety of products themselves, not just initial samples from the factory, and random testing is an excellent and effective way to do so. HearthSong, for example, regularly performs tests (for lead, quality and other safety elements) on products both in house and with third party labs to ensure the integrity of the product and verify that its safety claims are legitimate.

Make sure that a sample of every product being sold, whether it be toys, kits,

clothing or furniture, is tested to meet all applicable regulations and standards.

The federal government sets certain baseline standards, with many states imposing even stricter requirements. Even so, many companies (including HearthSong) have made a commitment to meet or exceed both state and federal requirements.

The more transparent a company is about its safety policies and procedures the more comfortable consumers should feel about its products. Look for policy statements or FAQ's that give meaningful criteria for safety and quality. For information about safety policies and procedures at HearthSong and Magic Cabin, for example, consumers can go to [http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product\\_safety.asp](http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product_safety.asp) or for a detailed Q&A on product safety go to [http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product\\_safetyfaqs.asp](http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product_safetyfaqs.asp).

[www.kchispanicnews.com](http://www.kchispanicnews.com)

CONT./PÁGINA B1

que los fabricantes apliquen procedimientos de prueba más rigurosos y disminuyan los niveles de sustancias químicas tóxicas en sus juguetes.

Las nuevas regulaciones deben brindarles confianza a los padres sobre los juguetes que compran para sus hijos. Pero la mala noticia es en estas fiestas es que muchas de estas estrictas regulaciones no entrarán en vigencia hasta 2009. Esto significa que todavía las mamás y los papás deben estar alertas sobre la seguridad de los juguetes que colocarán debajo del árbol o que comprarán para Hanukkah este año.

La buena noticia es que, según expertos en seguridad de juguetes, existen recursos disponibles para padres, tanto desde las tiendas minoristas como desde los fabricantes, para ayudarlos a determinar la seguridad de los juguetes de las listas de deseos de sus hijos.

"Los padres no deben dudar en consultar sobre los niveles de plomo de los juguetes, sobre los resultados de las pruebas de seguridad de un producto realizadas por un tercero, o sobre

si la tienda minorista examina los juguetes o no", afirmó Linda DeRose Droubay, Directora de Seguridad y Cumplimiento de Calidad de las oficinas de The Children's Group, Inc. en Virginia, editorial de los populares catálogos para niños, HearthSong® y Magic Cabin®. "Este tipo de información debe estar disponible en los sitios Web de las tiendas minoristas o los fabricantes.

Los fabricantes y minoristas, entre los que ahora se incluyen marcas de juguetes reconocidas y grandes tiendas minoristas, se han unido a defensores de seguridad de toda la vida, como HearthSong y Magic Cabin, con el objetivo de instituir una variedad de medidas preventivas este año."

El gobierno federal exige que los productos no contengan más de 600 ppm (partes por millón) de plomo; muchos estados han fijado un límite de 90 ppm y existen grupos de consumidores que presionan para que esa cifra llegue a 40 ppm. HearthSong requiere que todos nuestros productos sean 100% no tóxicos y que los niveles de plomo estén bien por debajo de los límites establecidos, incluso algunos con menos de 5 ppm.

Es aconsejable que las tiendas minoristas controlen la seguridad de sus productos, no sólo las muestras iniciales de la fábrica, y las pruebas al azar son una excelente forma de realizar esta tarea. HearthSong, por ejemplo, lleva a cabo pruebas con regularidad (en busca de plomo, sobre calidad y otros elementos de seguridad) en los productos tanto en sus instalaciones como en laboratorios de terceros a fin de garantizar la integridad del producto y verificar que los reclamos de seguridad sean legítimos.

Asegúrese de que se cada una de las muestras de productos que se venden, ya sean juguetes, kits, ropa o muebles, sean sometidas a pruebas de manera que cumplan con todas las regulaciones y normas aplicables.

El gobierno federal establece ciertas normas de referencia, y algunos estados imponen requisitos incluso más estrictos.

Aún así, muchas compañías (incluida HearthSong) se han comprometido a cumplir con o a exceder tanto las regulaciones estatales como federales.

Cuanto más transparente sea la compañía con respecto a las políticas y los procedimientos de seguridad, más cómodos se sentirán los consumidores con respecto a sus productos. Consulte las declaraciones de políticas o las preguntas frecuentes que proporcionan criterios significativos sobre seguridad y calidad. Para obtener más información sobre políticas y procedimientos de seguridad en HearthSong y Magic Cabin, los consumidores pueden visitar [http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product\\_safety.asp](http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product_safety.asp), o bien, si desean conocer las preguntas y respuestas sobre seguridad de productos pueden visitar [http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product\\_safetyfaqs.asp](http://www.hearthsong.com/hearthsong/about/product_safetyfaqs.asp).

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First row: (Left to right) Cynthia Diaz, Angie Carrillo, Barbara Hicks, Joann Close, Olivia Keith. Second row: (Left to right) Frances Ferguson, Casey Gilchrist, Shonte Reyes, Maria Smith, Donna Reyes, Sylvia Franco, Nikki Newsome, Melissa Bray and Ruth Keith.

**BARBARA HICKS**

The holidays are a time for traditions - family meals and gift exchanges. In this issue, Barbara Hicks introduces us to a holiday tradition that continues to grow here in Kansas City.

Twenty years ago, I was invited to a cookie exchange party. I would have to bake 12 dozen of 12 different kinds of cookies for 12 other women to exchange cookies and recipes. Back then, working, being a mother, wife and running the kids to activities, I didn't have time or even have 12 cookie recipes. I decided to make

my own party with friends and family members. I would provide lunch for the girls, and we'd visit sharing the kind of cookies we made and our recipes. Some of the girls would get real creative with their cookies, carry-out boxes or baskets. I started giving prizes for best cookies, most creative, and fast and easy cookies. Then we went with Baking Cookies, Candy's and Breads. The girls still come and look forward to my cookie party where we get to visit with good friends, cousins and nieces. This is a tradition I hope my daughters, Melissa and Alyssa, will continue.

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## KC is Fourth Deadliest Metro Area in Allstate Teen Study

With the holidays a dangerous time for drivers on the road, a study released by Allstate Insurance Company today finds Kansas City is the fourth deadliest metro area in the nation for fatal teen crashes from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day. St. Louis ranks as the nation's 20th deadliest metro area during the holidays and Missouri is ranked the sixth deadliest state for teen drivers during the holidays. Kansas is ranked nine.

The Allstate Holiday Teen Driving Hotspots Study examines recent federal crash statistics. Allstate claims data on teen collisions, and U.S. Census Bureau statistics to score metro areas across the nation on rates of fatal crashes involving teen drivers during the holidays. The study identifies "hotspots" where fatal teen driving crashes are highest during the holiday season and aims to draw attention to safe teen driving, especially in markets where teen crash rates are higher.

The study release helps to kick off Allstate's local Home for the Holidays teen safe driving campaign in Kansas City. Local Councilwoman Cindy Circo and her teen recently signed the Allstate Parent-Teen Contract in front of local parents, teens and media as part of Kansas City's Parent-Teen Driving Contract sign-up drive. Additionally, an Allstate-sponsored wrapped vehicle is on display at Oak Park Mall, where contracts are also being handed out, through December 24.

"The safe driving talk, backed up by signing an Allstate Parent-Teen Driving Contract, shows a commitment to family in Kansas City this holiday season. Every parent in Kansas City should have the safe driving talk with their teens throughout the year, and especially during the holidays. Through this contract, parents and teens in Kansas City say to one another that they aren't going to let themselves become tragic statistics," said Carllose Estes, local Exclusive Agent with Allstate.

The Allstate Holiday Teen Driving Hotspots Study found that the 10 deadliest hotspots for fatal teen crashes among the nation's 50 largest metro areas during the holidays are:

1. Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL
2. Jacksonville, FL
3. Orlando-Kissimmee, FL
4. Kansas City, MO-KS
5. Birmingham-Hoover, AL
6. Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ
7. Las Vegas-Paradise, NV
8. Oklahoma City, OK
9. Louisville, KY-IN
10. Richmond, VA

The cities that ranked safest for fatal teen crashes between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day are:

1. Salt Lake City, UT
2. San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA
3. Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH
4. Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA

5. Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI
6. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA
7. San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA
8. Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH
9. Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI
10. Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA

The focus of the Home for the Holidays teen safe driving campaign is to encourage parents to have the safe driving talk with their teens this holiday season. The perfect way to help make that conversation happen is by using the Allstate Parent-Teen Driving Contract, which helps families lay out expectations for smart driving decisions and consequences if those expectations are not met.

To kick off the national Parent-Teen Driving Contract Sign-Up Drive, actress Vanessa Williams of ABC's "Ugly Betty" and her teen son, Devin, signed their Allstate Parent-Teen Driving Contract in New York City on Dec. 2. With Devin on the verge of getting his learner's permit, Ms. Williams and Devin are giving each other the most important gift of all this holiday season - the safe driving talk. A video message from Vanessa Williams about this effort is at [www.allstate.com/teen](http://www.allstate.com/teen).

Through the national and local Parent-Teen Driving Contract Sign-Up Drives, Allstate encourages parents and teens to download the contract from [www.allstate.com/teen](http://www.allstate.com/teen) and discuss the importance of safe driving. By signing the contract, parents can help ensure their teens return home safely this holiday season and all year long. It's the most important gift a parent and teen can give one another this holiday season. It's a conversation and a promise and best of all it's free.

Today's release of the Kansas City study findings by Allstate continues the company's national Home for the Holidays public awareness and policy campaign, which calls for a national federal standard for graduated driver licensing (GDL) laws and urges Congress to enact the Safe Teen and Novice Driver Uniform Protection (STANDUP) Act.

Allstate also urges state lawmakers to enact stronger state-level GDL laws that allow novice drivers to gain driving experience gradually and under low-risk situations. An effective tool for saving lives, GDL laws typically involve longer periods of supervised driving, restrictions on late-night driving, limits on teen passengers and cell phone bans for drivers.

Research conducted by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development indicates intervention materials, including parent-teen driving agreements, increase parental restriction of high-risk teen driving conditions among newly licensed drivers.

*A more detailed breakdown on the study results - including other market and state comparisons - can be found at <http://media.allstate.com/>.*

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**hn SPORTS ROUND UP!**

**Clark Hunt ensures Chiefs won't continue slide**



**JOHN SILVA**  
HISPANIC NEWS  
SPORTS

Clark Hunt had seen enough. Back-to-back season records that combined wouldn't be enough to have one winning season record spelled the end of the Carl Peterson era.

Nearly half of Arrowhead Stadium was empty during the San Diego game while Hunt watched one of the most improbable losses in Kansas City history. One day after that game, Carl Peterson tendered his "resignation" effective the end of the season.

After 20 years in charge of the organization, both on and off the field, the CEO/GM/President could no longer produce the results that once made Peterson the most firmly entrenched executive in the National Football League. Lamar Hunt always backed the man he entrusted his beloved football team with after Peterson repaid Hunt's decision to hire him to turn around a moribund franchise.

The first half of Peterson's tenure brought consistent winning seasons and playoff appearances. During the tail end of his five-year plan to make the Super Bowl, Peterson acquired the great Joe Montana who took the Chiefs to the brink of it. An appearance in the AFC Championship game during the 1993-1994 season resulted in

a loss to the AFC's dominant team of the time as Buffalo went on to their fourth consecutive Super Bowl appearance.

Two of the next four seasons brought 13-3 divisional crowns, but without Montana in the huddle (or Rich Gannon in 1997's divisional playoff game) Kansas City bowed out of the playoffs one-step away from another conference championship game.

Then Marty Schottenheimer walked away from the team after a down 1998 campaign. That was the beginning of the second half of Peterson's reign, which yielded two playoff appearances, one divisional title, and zero post-season victories.

Under Gunther Cunningham, records hovered around 500. Under Dick Vermeil there was the magical 13-3 2003 season, but no other playoff appearances despite record breaking offensive performances. With Herm Edwards, KC made the playoffs his first year, but has lost more than 20 games in his subsequent two seasons.

This year's team started out with promise in the first game against New England. Afterwards, the situation turned woeful with the inability of any quarterback to take the lead until the seventh game of the season. On October 26 against the Jets, Tyler Thigpen took the reins of an overhauled spread offense and the team competed in a hostile environment nearly defeating a team battling for the AFC East divisional title.

Since that game, Thigpen and offensive coordinator Chan Gailey breathed life into that side of the ball. In nearly every game, the offense has kept the club in contention into the fourth quarter as Tony Gonzalez and Thigpen have established a rhythm no defense has been able to stop.

Despite this, the defensive minded head coach has had to scratch his head as a re-tooled defense dropped like a rock after a promising start to the season. Without Jared Allen's prowess, the pass rush has been non-existent and the young defensive line has been a mixed bag against the run.

If not for exceptional rookie play out of cornerbacks Brandon Flowers and Brandon Carr, the lowest ranked defense in the league would be giving up more big plays and adding to the most yards allowed in the NFL in 2008.

Defensive coordinator Gunther Cunningham is likely to be the fall guy for the dismal statistical performance. Will Herm Edwards follow him out the door? Herm's assertion that he's "coaching a college team now," may be challenged by the next General Manager who will want to show fans they are going to see premium players for premium prices. Now that Carl Peterson is on his way out one can only guess what the off-season will bring the franchise.

**Carl's crown goes to?**

It has been made clear that there will be multiple successors to Carl Peterson's jobs. There will be a separate person responsible for the business end and another for the football operations.

While the president position will be critical to Clark Hunt and the organization off the field, the spotlight is on the GM job. The person who Hunt selects will sign off on the philosophy he espoused in his media tour following the dismissal of Peterson.

The person brought in will have to build the team through the draft rather than through free agency, which will be a departure from the way the former regime did things. It would stand to figure someone who is a front office scouting coordinator around the NFL is a fit. Does that include Bill Kuharick, the Chiefs current vice president of Player Personnel? He seems to work well with Herm Edwards so if Hunt wants to make Edwards comfortable then that would do the trick. Kuharick is a protégé

of Carl Peterson however, so that could smack of no change and damage his chances from a PR perspective.

Hunt has mentioned he'd like to build a team along the lines of the Pittsburgh Steelers. The man credited for building Pittsburgh into the highly respected organization it is, currently works on the set of the NFL Today. Does that mean Hunt will try to coax Bill Cowher out of retirement and back onto the sidelines where he once led a ferocious defense at Arrowhead? It could happen, but would be at a hefty cost of eight or nine million dollars a year and would be under the pretense that Cowher would be de facto GM, like he was his last few years in Pittsburgh.

If Cowher power is not an option, the Steelers aren't a team you can expect to raid. Kevin Colbert, the Steelers answer to high profile Pats exec Scott Pioli, is director of football operations with complete personnel say in a stable, winning organization. He's not going anywhere. The

next rung on the Steel ladder is pro personnel Coordinator Doug Whaley. He tarnished his league name by forwarding an inappropriate email last year and can't be seen as a rising star with his name firmly planted in Commissioner Roger Goodell's head.

Therefore, that leads to other avenues to go down the same road. Whatever decision Clark Hunt makes will be initially hailed as not Carl, but will be watched closely as the Chiefs try to turn the corner back to the proud franchise they were in the 1990's and first half of this decade.

Llame para anunciarse en nuestra sección de clasificados:  
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## CLASIFICADOS CLASSIFIEDS & PUBLIC NOTICE

### Request For Bids

The Independence Housing Authority is accepting sealed bids for two flat roof projects: the replacement of the roof on the Hocker Heights office building, and the repair/refurbishing of the roof on the Pleasant Heights building. These projects will be bid separately. Both bid packages will be available beginning Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at the IHA business office, in the basement of Pleasant Heights, 210 S. Pleasant St., Independence, MO 64050. A \$50.00 refundable deposit is required for each bid package. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at each site on December 30, 2008. Sealed bids are due in the IHA business office at 210 S. Pleasant no later than 2:00 P.M., CDT, Thursday, January 15, 2009 and will be opened publicly at that time. Please direct questions to project Architect Allen Gentry, WGN Associates, Inc. at 816-931-2820 or Ed Miller, IHA Executive Director at 816-836-9200.

### MBE/WBEDBE Invitation to bid.

Mega Industries Corp. is soliciting bid proposals from approved subs for the following projects:

**St. John Benton Intersection Improvements, KCMO-CIMO, Bids: 2:00 P.M., Tuesday on the 6th day of January 2009.**

Plans and Specifications are available in our office for your review. Proposals must be in our office no later than 2hrs before bid time. Any questions, call our estimator at (816) 472-8722 or fax quotes to (816) 472-6722. An "Equal Opportunity Employer", Females/Minority Subcontractors encouraged to solicit bid proposals.

**MBE/WBEDBE Invitation to bid:** Mega Industries Corp. is soliciting bid proposals from approved subs for the following projects:

**East Holke Road Improvements, Independence, Bids: 1:50 P.M., Thursday on the 8th day of January 2009.**

Plans and Specifications are available in our office for your review. Proposals must be in our office no later than 2hrs before bid time. Any questions, call our estimator at (816) 472-8722 or fax quotes to (816) 472-6722. An "Equal Opportunity Employer", Females/Minority Subcontractors encouraged to solicit bid proposals.

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### Revisión de los cambios propuestos al programa de transporte regional



El Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) sirve como la organización metropolitana de la planificación para los ocho condados de la región de Kansas City. Al ser este programa mantenido con el dinero de sus impuestos, MARC desea saber sus comentarios sobre cambios a los planes de transporte del 2008-2012, incluyendo ocho proyectos nuevos y 17 proyectos modificados.

**Envíe sus comentarios a MARC antes de las cuatro de la tarde del 5 de enero de 2009.**

Detalles están disponibles en las oficinas de MARC durante horas de oficina o en: [www.marc.org/transportation/input.htm](http://www.marc.org/transportation/input.htm)

600 BROADWAY, SUITE 200, KANSAS CITY, MO 64105  
TELÉFONO: 816/474-4240 FAX: 816/421-7758  
CORREO ELECTRÓNICO: [tip@marc.org](mailto:tip@marc.org)

### Solicite hacerse miembro del comité de finanzas de transporte y calidad del aire

MARC está aceptando solicitudes de grupos comunitarios para asociarse al Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Committee. Este supervisa un programa que funda los proyectos de transporte para mejorar la calidad del aire y rebajar la congestión del tráfico en la región. **Las solicitudes se aceptarán hasta el lunes, 5 de enero de 2009.**

Detalles y solicitudes están disponibles en [www.marc.org/transportation/cmaq/newmembers.htm](http://www.marc.org/transportation/cmaq/newmembers.htm).

[www.marc.org](http://www.marc.org)



### Review proposed changes to regional transportation program



The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the eight-county Kansas City region. Because many of its programs are funded with your tax dollars, MARC would like your comments on eight new and 17 modified projects proposed for the 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program.

**Send comments by Monday, Jan. 5, 2009.**

Details are available at the MARC offices during business hours, and online at [www.marc.org/transportation/input.htm](http://www.marc.org/transportation/input.htm).

600 BROADWAY, SUITE 200, KANSAS CITY, MO 64105  
PHONE: 816/474-4240 FAX: 816/421-7758  
E-MAIL: [tip@marc.org](mailto:tip@marc.org)

### Apply for membership to transportation/air quality funding committee

MARC is accepting applications from community groups for voting memberships on the Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Committee. It oversees a program that funds transportation projects that improve air quality and decrease traffic congestion in the region. **Deadline is Monday, Jan. 5, 2009.**

Details and application available at [www.marc.org/transportation/cmaq/newmembers.htm](http://www.marc.org/transportation/cmaq/newmembers.htm)

[www.marc.org](http://www.marc.org)



### Executive Secretary to the City manager (Job Reference #410794)

Four positions available with the City of Kansas City, MO, Office of the City Manager. Performs confidential administrative duties for the City Manager. Responsibilities include but are not limited to screening calls, making travel and meeting arrangements, preparing reports and financial data, training and supervising other support staff, budget administration and other high level office administration tasks. Position requires adaptability, optimal customer service and interpersonal skills, computer and internet research skills, and the ability to work successfully with all levels of internal management and staff, as well as outside clients and vendors. Requires an accredited Bachelor's degree and 4 years experience of a progressively responsible nature in government; OR an equivalent combination of qualifying education and experience. Salary range: \$4,848-\$7,997/month plus excellent benefits. Application Deadline: Open until filled. Please apply online at [www.kcmo.org](http://www.kcmo.org). *The City of Kansas City, MO is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse workforce.*

### LTC-COMMUNITY ORGANIZER (Job Reference #410795)

Four positions available with the City of Kansas City, MO, Office of the City Manager. Supports the efforts of the Community Engagement committee of the New Tools Task Force primarily and the other committees in general. Each Community Organizer will be responsible for a designated geographic area within Kansas City's distress communities. Essential duties and responsibilities include building neighborhood volunteer teams; facilitating community forums; training and coaching volunteer community facilitators; collecting and consolidating community input; building, managing and maintaining a community database; and participating in all community engagement committee meetings and activities. Requires previous community organizing experience. Salary range: \$2,800-\$3,000/month. Application Deadline: Open until filled. Please apply online at [www.kcmo.org](http://www.kcmo.org). *The City of Kansas City, MO is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse workforce.*

**MBE/WBE/DBE Invitation to Bid:** Mega Industries Corp. is soliciting bid proposals from approved subs for the following projects:

**NW Hampton Road Bridge Repl., KCMO-CIMO, Bids: 2:00 P.M., Tuesday on The 6th day of January 2009.**

Plans and Specifications are available in our office for your review. Proposals must be in our office no later than 2hrs before bid time. Any questions, call our estimator at (816) 472-8722 or fax quotes to (816) 472-6722. An "Equal Opportunity Employer", Female/Minority Subcontractors encouraged to solicit bid proposals.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public School Retirement System of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri is seeking the services of an actuarial consulting firm for valuation and consulting services for a three year period. A full copy of the Request for Proposal can be found at [www.kcpsrs.org](http://www.kcpsrs.org)

The Public School Retirement System of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri is a public pension plan covering all full-time employees of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri along with all charter schools and the Public Library System. The deadline for response is Friday, January 9, 2009. Contact information for this RFP is Thomas Mann, Executive Director and contact is preferred by email at [actuaryrpf@kcpsrs.org](mailto:actuaryrpf@kcpsrs.org)

## Hispanic News

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### MBE/WBE INVITATION TO BID

**Walton Construction Company, LLC**, as Construction Manager, is seeking bid proposals of qualified MBE/WBE contractors/suppliers for **Bid Package 2 - CO-OP Concrete** on the **West Edge** project. We are requesting bids and scopes of work by **Thursday, January 22, 2009**. A CD with Documents is available for pick up or you may also view a hard copy of the Documents at the **Walton Construction Plan Room (3232 Roanoke)**. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact **Chad Brungardt** or **Molly Chasteen** at **816-753-2121**.



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