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# KANSAS CITY Hispanic News

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## One-on-One with Mayor Funkhouser



Kansas City, Missouri Mayor  
Mark Funkhouser

JOE ARCE AND DEBRA DECOSTER  
HISPANIC NEWS

Kansas City, Missouri Mayor Mark Funkhouser requested a one-on-one interview with *Hispanic News* in mid-August. He wanted to take the opportunity to address concerns about his administration and misconceptions about him.

As Mayor what are your day to day activities in the office?

The reason I ran for Mayor is

THE CITY/PAGE 4

## Uno-a-Uno con el Alcalde Funkhouser

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

El Alcalde de Kansas City, Missouri Mark Funkhouser pidió una entrevista uno a uno con *Hispanic News* a mediados de agosto. Él quería aprovechar la oportunidad para tratar preocupaciones sobre su administración y suposiciones acerca de él.

¿Cómo Alcalde cuáles son las actividades diarias en su oficina?

La razón por la cual competí por el cargo de alcalde es debido a que pensé que la ciudad estaba yendo en la dirección equivocada, financiera-

mente y en lo que se trataba a los servicios que estaban siendo entregados y pensé que la gran pérdida de población que habíamos sufrido nos iba a asesinar financieramente. Quiero crear una situación en donde la gente quisiera quedarse en Kansas City, que quisieran regresar a Kansas City y yo quiero tratar de crear un gobierno que fuera físicamente sólido. Quiero restaurar el profesionalismo, la estabilidad financiera para el gobierno ciudadano y comenzar a crear una ciudad que funcione. Quiero que las calificaciones de la satisfacción ciudadana suban y quiero hacer lo que sea necesario para empujar iniciativas.

¿Cuáles son las percepciones erróneas sobre usted?

EL CONCEJO/PÁGINA 4

IN-DEPTH REPORT

## Union launches campaign against Schlitterbahn



DEBRA DECOSTER • HISPANIC NEWS

The construction industry has been hit hard by the recession. Local contractors in Kansas City have reduced their employees leaving union and non-union workers beating the bushes looking for work in a job market that has dried up not only in Kansas City and the greater metropolitan area, but also across the country.

When construction began on the Schlitterbahn Water Park, the Carpenters District Council was hopeful that large numbers of local tradesmen would be put to work on the new project.

Turner Construction Company of Kansas City, Missouri, was named the general contractor and work began at the site at 94th and State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas. Due to the economy, the own-

CARPENTERS /PAGE 6

(left to right) Andrés Bravo, Carpenters Local 1 from Chicago; Bill Stephen, Carpenters Local 168; Covy Confer, Millwright Local, stand together to send a message to the community and to state representatives that Schlitterbahn has not lived up to their agreement with the city to employ local workers and MBE and WBE goals.

(De izquierda a derecha) Andrés Bravo, Carpinteros Local 1 de Chicago; Bill Stephen, Carpinteros Local 168; Covy Confer, Millwright Local, posan juntos para enviar un mensaje a la comunidad y a representantes del estado porque Schlitterbahn no ha respetado su acuerdo con la ciudad de emplear a trabajadores locales y cumplir con los objetivos de MBE WBE.

## Back-to-school bargain hunting

JASON ALDERMAN

As back-to-school shopping veterans, my wife and I have learned our share of money-saving tricks – plus methods to lessen meltdowns and frayed nerves that come with the territory. If you are new to this parental rite of passage or simply looking for a few new strategies, read on.

First, create a realistic budget. Calculate what you can afford to spend on school-related expenses without blowing your overall household budget. Scoring bar-

COMPARE/PAGE 3

## Caza de ofertas para el regreso a clases

Como veteranos en las compras para el regreso a clase, mi esposa y yo hemos aprendido nuestros trucos de cómo ahorrar dinero, adicionado a métodos para reducir los ataques y nervios de punta que vienen con esto. Si usted es nuevo en este ritual paterno de iniciación o si sencillamente está buscando nuevas estrategias, continúe leyendo.

Primeramente, cree un presupuesto realista. Calcule lo que usted puede gastar con

COMPARE/PÁGINA 3

## Safety Tips helps parents keep kids safe



Parents of these students going to class each day know first hand how important it is to talk about being safe traveling back and forth to school. There are things children should know before heading out from home.

Padres de estos estudiantes que van a clases todos los días saben de primera mano lo importante que es hablar sobre viajar seguros de ida y regreso de la escuela. Hay cosas que los niños deberían saber antes de salir de casa.

Over 50 million kindergarten through 12th grade students have return to classrooms with backpacks full of new pencils and books. But, one more must-have item should be checked off the back-to-school list—school safety.

According to the most recent statistics from the U.S. Department of Education, an estimated

2.2 million crimes were reported on public school campuses nationwide during the 2005-06 school year alone and 78 percent of schools reported violent incidents.

Patrick Fiel, public safety advisor for ADT Security Services and former head of security for Washington, D.C.

KEEPING KIDS/PAGE 2

## Consejos de seguridad ayudan a los padres a mantener a sus hijos seguros

Más de 50 millones de estudiantes desde kindergarten hasta el doceavo grado han regresado a los salones de clases con sus mochilas repletas de lápices y libros nuevos. Pero, un artículo más que se debe tomar en cuenta en la lista para regresar a la escuela –la seguridad en la escuela.

Según las más recientes estadísticas del Departamento

de Educación de los EE.UU., una cifra calculada en los 2.2 millones de crímenes fueron reportados en los recintos de las escuelas públicas a través de la nación tan sólo durante el año escolar 2005-06 y un 78 por ciento de las escuelas reportaron incidentes violentos.

Patrick Fiel, consejero de

MANTENIE/PÁGINA 2

## Sindicato lanza campaña contra Schlitterbahn

TRADUCE PATRICIO H. LAZEN  
HISPANIC NEWS

La industria de la construcción ha sido duramente golpeada por la recesión. Contratistas locales en Kansas City han reducido la cantidad de empleados de-

jando a trabajadores afiliados a sindicatos y a otros que no lo son, dando y dando vueltas buscando trabajo en un mercado laboral que se ha secado no solamente en Kansas City y el gran área metropolitana, sino

que también en todo el país.

Cuando la construcción se inició en el Parque Acuático Schlitterbahn, el Concilio Distrital de Carpinteros estuvo esperanzado que una gran canti-

CARPINTERO/PÁGINA 6

## REMEMBERING U.S. SENATOR EDWARD “TEDDY” KENNEDY



President Barack Obama on the day of Senator Ted Kennedy's passing said, “Over the past several years, I've had the honor to call Teddy a colleague, a counselor, and a friend. And even though we have known this day was coming for some time now, we awaited it with no small amount of dread.

Since Teddy's diagnosis last year, we've seen the courage with which he battled his ill-

ness. And while these months have no doubt been difficult for him, they've also let him hear

from people in every corner of our nation and from around the world just how much he meant to all of us. His fight has given us the opportunity we were denied when his brothers John and Robert were taken from us: the blessing of time to say thank you -- and goodbye.

The outpouring of love, gratitude, and fond memories to

KENNEDY /PAGE 7

hn LETTER TO THE PUBLISHER • CARTA AL EDITOR

# Health Reform Must Endure for the Long Term

MARK MELLMAN  
HISPANIC NEWS

**Health reform has dominated the news lately, but many Americans are wondering what reform will actually entail for them.**

According to a recent survey conducted by my firm, most believe that healthcare reform will provide coverage for long-term services and supports. These are medical services for people who can't care for themselves for extended periods of time because of illness or disability. And they are critically important, as 60 percent of Americans over the age of 65 will require long-term care during their lives.

But it's hardly a foregone conclusion that the final health reform package will ensure that Americans have access to affordable long-term services. If our leaders fail to act, America will soon face a long-term care crisis.

Americans are generally under the impression that they'll be taken care of once they reach their golden years. According to an AARP survey, 59 percent of Americans over the age of 45 believe that Medicare will pay for nursing home care. Unfortunately, that's not the case. The Department of Health and Human Services explicitly states, "Medicare does not pay

for what comprises the majority of long-term care services."

Other Americans believe their health insurance policies will cover nursing home care. Not so, generally speaking.

Many seniors are therefore reliant on Medicaid — the government health plan for the poor — to pay for long-term services and supports. By some accounts, two-thirds of nursing home residents are Medicaid beneficiaries. In fact, the program pays for almost half of all long-term care in America. Nearly one-third of Medicaid dollars go to long-term care.

Of course, Medicaid was never intended to serve as the chief elder care provider in the nation. And tragically, many elderly folks purposely impoverish themselves so they can receive the care they need from Medicaid.

Will the congressional health-care reform effort fix this state of affairs? Most Americans think so. Sixty-one percent expect that reform will provide care for Alzheimer's patients (61 percent). Similar majorities think that the reform effort will help pay for assisted living facilities (57 percent) and will assist older and disabled people in taking their medications (64 percent).

Two bills under consideration — one from the Senate HELP Committee and the other from the House Energy and Commerce Committee — would deliver the solutions the American people expect. Both would create a voluntary insurance pro-

gram wherein, for premiums of just a couple dollars a day, the elderly, the disabled, or anyone who needs assistance caring for themselves could receive a benefit of up to \$37,000 a year.

This program would be a welcome addition to our nation's healthcare infrastructure.

Although many Americans recognize that they or their families may need long-term services down the road, 70 percent have not made plans to pay for such care. In fact, more than two-thirds of those who expect to need care for a family member in the next five years do not know how they will pay for it. Eighty-one percent are unprepared for the financial demands they will face.

In the absence of reform, millions of baby boomers will not be able to pay for the long-term services they need without forfeiting all their assets. Even then, it's unclear whether Medicaid will have enough funding to cover everyone.

Finding a way to make long-term care affordable for generations to come is a vital part of healthcare reform. Families and taxpayers alike are depending on it.

Mark Mellman is president of The Mellman Group, a polling and strategic communications firm that counts among its clients leading political figures, Fortune 500 companies, and some of the nation's most important public interest groups.

# Keeping kids safe during school year

CONT./PAGE 1

Public Schools says, "Parents who are actively involved in their student's school security can improve their child's safety and success on campus. Bullies, gangs, drugs, weapons and sex predators are on the streets every day." To help parents prepare for a safe school year, Fiel and ADT have developed a list of safety tips to help parents keep kids safe before, during and after school:

**Before school:**

- If your child walks or rides a bicycle to school, help him or her choose the safest possible route with the fewest street crossings and walk or ride with him or her if possible. According to a child safety organization, pedestrian injury is the second leading cause of accidental injury-related death among children ages 5 to 14. Talking with children about biking and walking safety can help to reduce their risk of injury.

- Be sure there is at least one parent with children waiting at a school bus stop. This is a time when potentially risky activity, such as bullying and fighting, can take place.

**During school:**

- Educate yourself about school

safety and security. Talk to your children about their safety concerns and visit their campus to talk with an administrator about the school's security plan. Find out whether your child's school uses technology like access control and visitor management systems to protect students from potential sex offenders and criminals who may try to gain access to the campus. If a parent can walk into a school unchallenged, so can unwanted visitors.

- Get to know the law enforcement officials or other security personnel assigned to your child's school. Find out when they are on campus and what their responsibilities include. If your child's school does not have regularly assigned law enforcement or security presence, work with school administrators and other parents to get it done.

**After school:**

- If kids are alone in the afternoons, teach them to go straight home, keep doors locked and not answer the door for anyone.

- Do not keep firearms easily accessible in your home and talk to kids about the potential dangers of guns and what to do if they find one. If you



One safety tip is if children are alone in the afternoons, teach them to go straight home from school, keep the doors locked and not answer the door for anyone.

Un consejo de seguridad si los niños pasan solos en casa por la tarde, se les debe enseñar que tienen que ir directo a la casa desde la escuela, mantener las puertas con llave y no contestarle la puerta a nadie.

do have a gun in the house, it is vital to keep it unloaded and in a locked area with the ammunition stored separately. Parents should check their weapons periodically.

Fiel added, "Keeping kids safe is one of the most important things parents, teachers, administrators and the surrounding community can help to accomplish this year. We hope that these tips will remind parents to make school safety a priority so they are able to send their students off to school with confidence."

# Manteniendo a los niños seguros durante la época escolar

CONT./PÁGINA 1

seguridad pública en ADT Security Services y ex titular de seguridad para las Escuelas Públicas de Washington D.C., dijo, "Los padres que participan activamente en la seguridad de sus estudiantes en la escuela pueden mejorar la seguridad de sus niños y el éxito en el campus. Abusadores, pandillas, drogas, armas y acechadores sexuales están en las calles todos los días". Para ayudar a los padres a preparar para un seguro año escolar, Fiel y ADT han desarrollado una lista de consejos de seguridad para ayudar a los papás para mantener sanos y salvos a sus hijos antes, durante y después de la escuela:

**Antes de la escuela:**

- Si su hijo camina o monta la bicicleta para ir a la escuela, ayúdeles a escoger la ruta más segura posible con la menor cantidad de cruces y camine o monte una bicicleta si le es posible. Según una organización para la seguridad infantil, lesiones a peatones es la segunda causa mayor de muertes accidentales relacionadas a lesiones entre niños de las edades 5 a 14 años. Platicar con los niños respecto a andar

en bicicleta y caminar de manera segura puede ayudar a reducir el riesgo de lesiones.

- Asegúrese de que haya a lo menos un papá acompañando a los niños mientras éstos esperan al bus escolar en su parada. Este es un momento en que una potencial actividad de riesgo, tal como ser víctimas de abusos y peleas, pueden ocurrir.

**Durante la escuela:**

- Eduquese a sí mismo sobre la seguridad en la escuela. Dialogue con sus hijos sobre sus inquietudes sobre la seguridad y visite sus escuelas para conversar con un administrador sobre el plan de seguridad de la escuela. Entérese si la escuela de su hijo utiliza tecnología tal como access control and visitor management systems para proteger a estudiantes en contra de posibles predadores sexuales y criminales que pudieran tratar de obtener ingreso al recinto escolar. Si un papá puede caminar hacia la escuela sin ser intimidado, también lo pueden hacer los visitantes indeseables.

- Conozca a los agentes del resguardo de la ley u otro personal de seguridad asignados a la escuela de su hijo. En-

térese cuándo se encuentran en la escuela y qué se incluye entre sus responsabilidades. Si la escuela de su hijo no tiene la presencia de policías o guardias de seguridad asignados en forma regular, trabaje con los administradores de las escuelas y otros padres para hacer que se haga.

**Después de la escuela:**

- Si los niños están solos en las tardes, enséñeles que se vayan directo a casa, mantengan las puertas cerradas y no le abran a nadie la puerta

- No permita que armas de fuego sean fácilmente accesibles en su hogar y platique con los niños sobre los posibles peligros de las armas y qué hacer si es que encuentran una. Si usted tiene un arma en la casa, es vital mantenerla descargada y en un área bajo llave con las balas guardadas en forma separada. Los papás deberían revisar sus armas periódicamente.

Fiel agregó, "Manteniendo a los muchachos sanos y salvos es lo más importante que los padres, maestros, administradores y la comunidad aledaña pueden ayudar a lograr este año. Esperamos que estos consejos le recuerden a los papás que hagan de la seguridad en la escuela una prioridad para que puedan enviar a sus estudiantes a la escuela con confianza".

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# Bienvenido de vuelta

al Distrito Escolar de Kansas City, Missouri

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MATTIE RHODES CENTER  
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PRESENTADORAS desde California:  
Josefina Nieves, Cecilia Mercado Y  
Angel Harkins~Directora Ejecutiva/  
Terapista del Comportamiento

► Dia: sabado, 29 de agosto  
► Donde: 148 N Topping Ave. Kansas City, MO

► **¿Porque Asistir?**  
Para aprender de otros padres como han formado grupos de apoyo en California con niños con capacidades diferentes

► Para los niños:  
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► Asista con toda su familia. Ud.puede traer bebidas o tostadas para compartir, nosotros proveemos el resto!

► **Horario:**  
9:30 a.m.—1 p.m  
Taller de Liderazgo para los padres 1p.m.—2 p.m.  
Almuerzo y Celebracion con toda la familia

► Desean Venir o Tienen Preguntas?  
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UMKC  
Institute for Human Development  
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## COMPARE NOTES AND BARGAINS WITH FRIENDS

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gains won't help your bottom line if you end up having to pay interest on unpaid balances.

Make a comprehensive shopping list. Gearing up for a new school year involves much more than simply buying a new backpack and a few outfits. Consider these expenses and strategies:

- Spread new clothing purchases throughout the year to foil sudden growth spurts.
- Many schools issue lists of supplies parents are expected to purchase – from pencils to paper to calculators. Share your overstocked supplies with other families or go in together on volume discounts.
- If your kids participate in athletics, band or other extra-curricular activities, find out the financial commitment for uniforms, dues, field trips, etc. (Try renting that saxophone first until you know your kid will stick with it.)
- Factor in public transportation or school bus charges, if any. If you're in a car pool, calculate your share of the gas.
- Learn what your school charges for meals and weigh their convenience (and nutri-

tional value) against the cost for home-prepared food.

- Many schools require proof of childhood immunizations. Learn your school's policy and see what's covered by your insurance – or what you could access for free at health fairs or community clinics.

Prioritize. Once you've finalized an overall list, prioritize how to spend your budgeted amount. Get your kids involved in this process so they'll learn the difference between "must-haves" and "nice-to-haves" as well as the art of compromise: If they truly want those designer jeans, together figure out a way they can earn the price difference.

Bargain hunting. After prioritizing expenses, start your research. First, look through the kids' closets to see what's still serviceable. Then:

- Compare notes with friends. They may be able to use your in-shape hand-me-downs, and vice versa.
- Check garage sales, consignment or thrift shops and online sites. While you're at it, see what items you can sell or donate to make a few bucks and free-up space.

- Clip newspaper and online coupons. Many stores will match competitors' prices even if their own items aren't on sale.

- Wait for fall clearance sales to buy some items.

- Although comparison shopping online can save money, time and gas, before purchasing anything online, factor in any shipping or return costs that might undo your savings.

- Understand your school's dress code so you don't buy inappropriate clothing.

For help devising a workable budget, visit Visa Inc.'s free personal financial management site, Practical Money Skills for Life. It's Back-to-School Budgeting section contains an interactive budgeting calculator, online shopping tips and much more (<http://www.pmsfl.com/personalfinance/savingspending/budgeting/backtoschool.php>).

In these lean times, make sure you've got a sound battle plan before entering the back-to-school shopping fray.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

## Compare notas y ofertas con amistades

CONT./PÁGINA 1

relación a la escuela sin arruinar su presupuesto total familiar. Encontrar ofertas no le va a ayudar el resultado final si usted termina pagando intereses sobre los saldos pendientes de pago.

Haga una lista total de compras. Prepararse para un año escolar nuevo implica mucho más que solamente comprar una nueva mochila y unas cuantas prendas. Considere estos gastos y estrategias:

- Esparza las compras de ropa nueva a lo largo del año para evitar un crecimiento repentino.
- Muchas escuelas publican listas de papelería que los padres deben comprar, desde lápices, papel hasta calculadoras. Comparta su sobre inventario de artículos con otras familias o vayan juntos por descuentos por volumen.
- Si sus hijos participan en deportes, agrupaciones u otras actividades extracurriculares, investigue el compromiso financiero para la adquisición de uniformes, cuotas, viajes de campo, etc. (Primero trate de rentar ese saxofón hasta que usted esté seguro de que su hijo continuará con él).
- Tome en cuenta cargos por transportación pública o transporte escolar, si fuera el caso. Si usted está en un acuerdo de transporte compartido, cal-

cule su parte de gasolina.

- Entérese de que lo que su escuela cobra por comidas y ponga en la balanza su conveniencia (y valor nutricional) contra el costo de los alimentos preparados en casa.

- Muchas escuelas exigen prueba de inmunización infantil. Investigue las políticas de su escuela y verifique que es lo que está cubierto por parte de su seguro, o de lo usted puede tener acceso sin costo en ferias de la salud o clínicas comunitarias.

Priorice. Una vez que haya finalizado una lista total, priorice cómo gastar el dinero presupuestado. Involucre a sus hijos en este proceso para que ellos aprendan la diferencia entre "debo tener" y "agradable tener", así como el arte de comprometerse: Si ellos realmente desean esos pantalones de mezclilla de diseñador, juntos pueden encontrar una forma en la que ellos puedan conseguir esa diferencia de precio.

Caza de ofertas. Después de priorizar gastos, comience su investigación. En primer lugar, mire en el armario de los chicos para saber qué es lo que todavía sirve. A continuación:

- Compare sus notas con amigos. Probablemente puedan utilizar sus artículos usados en buen estado y viceversa.
- Cheque las ventas de garaje, tiendas a consignación o de

segunda mano y sitios web en línea. Mientras esté ahí, vea que artículos puede usted vender o donar para que haga unos cuantos dólares y espacio libre.

- Recorte cupones del periódico o en línea. Muchas tiendas igualarán los precios de los competidores si sus propios artículos no están en rebaja.

- Espere por las liquidaciones de mercancías de otoño para comprar algunos artículos

- Aunque comprar en línea puede ahorrar dinero, tiempo y gasolina, antes de comprar cualquier cosa en línea, considere costos de envío o por devolución que puedan cancelar sus ahorros.

- Conozca el código de vestimenta de su escuela para que no adquiera ropa inadecuada.

Para obtener ayuda en la elaboración de un presupuesto viable, visite el sitio de Visa Inc. de administración de finanzas personales sin costo, Practical Money Skills for Life (Habilidades Prácticas Monetarias para la Vida). Su sección de presupuesto de Regreso a Clases, contiene un calculador de presupuesto interactivo, consejos de compras en línea y muchos más. (<http://www.pmsfl.com/personalfinance/savingspending/budgeting/backtoschool.php>).

En estos tiempos difíciles, asegúrese de que usted tiene un buen plan de batalla antes de entrar a al combate en las compras de regreso a clases.

Jason Alderman dirige los programas de educación financiera de Visa.

## SPORTS • DEPORTES

### KC looking to see the World in 2022



JOHN SILVA  
HISPANIC NEWS  
SPORTS

Kansas City got a small taste of world-class soccer the past couple of years when David Beckham came to town. Billed as the sporting event of the year in the Midwest, it was the first time the soccer icon was scheduled to arrive in KC. Also, an event could come to town that would increase our city's global exposure to the world exponentially.

Our fair town has made the cut as one of 27 contenders as host sites as part of the United States' bid for the World Cup in 2018 or 2022. Out of 52 cities that submitted bids to be host sites approximately half got the axe.

In 1994 the United States showed its stuff to the world when eight cities hosted the most highly attended World Cup in the event's illustrious history. Thanks to the National Football League's heavily populated stadiums, fans from around the world came to see the games, and in most cases, in groups of 70,000 fans or more.

Since then our nation has grown leaps and bounds in terms of professional soccer quality. The pool of homegrown players has grown domestically, and Americans are slowly proving their wares in some of the biggest leagues of Europe. Soccer specific stadiums are now built from coast to coast with more such as the one in Kansas City on their way.

That would indicate FIFA would have an even more successful tournament in the United States the next time around. The year 2018 seemed the natural fit, according to a rotation FIFA went by. Europe wanted a larger slice of the pie so FIFA abolished the rotation and even though Germany held the previous World Cup the favorite



for the tournament two times from next year is England. The Brits are pulling out all the stops to host the Cup for the first time since 1966 (the only time they've held the championship trophy).

FIFA has tried to quell some angry Americans by virtually saying "you're next" for the 2022 event. Next time around, the tournament figures to stay at 32 countries that it changed to after the '94 Cup from 24 participants.

Perhaps that means the United States would require 9 or 10 host sites. That would enhance Kansas City's chances. There are a handful of mortal locks to play host. Potential championship game hosts and sure to host first round games will be New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Dallas (Jerry Jones' new Cowboys Stadium can hold 100,000). Our nation's capital would seemingly be a lock to host international dignitaries at FedEx Field (the Redskins home can hold 91,000).

That would account for at least half of the sites. Don't expect dome stadiums to get the green light this time around. Not with Philadelphia is about to burst onto the national soccer scene with a new entry in MLS set to start next year and Phoenix with their beautiful retractable roof facility that can hold 71,000.

To spread things out geographically it would make sense to have one or two sites in the middle of the country. St. Louis

likely is out with a dome to offer. Indianapolis and Nashville's stadiums are under 70,000 in capacity. It could very well come down to a race between Kansas City and Denver for a spot. The Mile High City is a larger city with more hotels and a bigger international airport for travelers to more easily reach as well as MLS facilities.

What Kansas City has going for it is a newly renovated Arrowhead Stadium with a capacity that reaches 77,000 and a partnership between an MLS team and the Chiefs that has an equal stake in getting the Cup to KC. It would obviously benefit the Wizards to be able to use their new stadium and training grounds as practice sites. Perhaps they would be able to scrimmage against a side the quality of Spain or Argentina that could only be a great learning experience. The Chiefs' ownership group could add one last link to the legacy of Lamar Hunt. Kansas City's Bid Co-Chair Clark Hunt said, "Bringing the greatest international sporting event in the world to Kansas City was a dream of my father's throughout his career. The New Arrowhead Stadium and Kansas City would be magnificent hosts for the event, and we are very excited to be on the short list."

Next year FIFA will choose the host nation for 2022 and then the race will be on to play a part in the most closely watched sports competition the world over. It's a race KC is ready to run.

# Save the Date

## El Grupo Atotonilco

### Fiesta Mexicana

**Friday, September 25, 2009**  
At 6:00 in the evening  
Guadalupe Center  
1015 Avenida Cesar E. Chavez,  
Kansas City, MO

Admission \$30 (Donations are tax deductible)  
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## In loving Memory

### MARIA ANTONIA "TONA" LUNA

Maria Antonia "Tona" Luna, 83, of Kansas City, MO, died Saturday, August 22, 2009. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m. Thursday, August 27, 2009 at Sacred Heart/Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 2544 Madison, Kansas City, MO. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday August 26, 2009 at the McGilley Midtown Chapel, where the rosary will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. The family request contributions to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine.

Tona was born September 2, 1925 in San Pedro, Coahuila, Mexico to Otilio and Enequina (Martinez) Pineda. She became a naturalized US citizen June 30, 1967. She worked as a teacher's aide in the Kansas City, MO School district. Strong in her faith, Tona was a director for the Marriage Encounters for the Kansas City Diocese; a Guadalupeana and a Eucharistic Minister. In addition to her parents, Tona was preceded in death by her



husband of 39 years, Fernando Luna, Sr. January 4, 2001; two brothers and two sisters in Mexico. Maria is survived by two sons, Fernando Luna, Jr and his wife Anne-Marie and Francisco J. Luna and wife Leigh and five grandchildren, Anjelica-Maria Teresa Luna, Francisco Javier Luna, Jr., Thomas Alva Luna, Jonathan Andrew Luna and Maria Antonia Luna. Once Tona met you, you had a friend for life. Tona's family and friends loved her and will miss her deeply. (Arr. McGilley Midtown Chapel, 816-753-6200.)

# 'The City Council and I are not at war' says Funkhouser



CONT./PAGE 1

I thought the city was going in the wrong direction, financially and in terms of services delivered, and I thought the huge population loss that we had suffered was going to kill us financially. I want to create a situation where people want to stay in Kansas City, they want to move back to Kansas City, and I want to try to create a government that is fiscally sound. I want to restore professionalism, financial stability for the city government and begin to create a city that works. I want to get citizen satisfaction scores up and do what I have to do to push initiatives.

**What are the misconceptions about you or your administration that you wish to clear up for the citizens of Kansas City about what is going on at City Hall?**

One would be that there is a tremendous dysfunctional battle

## 'El Concejo Citadino y yo no estamos en guerra', dijo Funkhouser

CONT./PÁGINA 1

**ed o sobre su administración las cuales usted quisiera esclarecerle a los ciudadanos de Kansas City sobre lo que está ocurriendo en el Ayuntamiento?**

Una sería que está ocurriendo una tremenda batalla de mal funcionamiento aquí y no creo que ello sea verdad. Creo que tengo una muy buena relación con la mayoría del Concejo Citadino. Estamos todos en la misma agenda y todos estamos interesados en hacer avanzar la misma agenda, ellos quieren ser reelegidos y yo quiero ser reelegido. Queremos resolver los problemas.

**¿Qué quiere usted que la gente de Kansas City sepa sobre lo que está sucediendo con la Alcaldía y lo que está ocurriendo en la ciudad?**

Nosotros tenemos muchas cosas ocurriendo en este momento. Creo que tenemos cerca de 20 diferentes iniciativas en las que estamos trabajando. Un programa que pareciera estar trabajando verdaderamente bien es el programa, 'Una Ciudad que Funciona'. Cada martes por la tarde el Administrador de la Ciudad y yo junto a concejales y a titulares de departamentos nos reunimos a discutir asuntos en los cuales estamos calificando bajo en la Encuesta de Satisfacción Ciudadana. Estamos trabajando con ahínco para hacer mejoras en nuestros servicios tales como el mantenimiento de calles, reforzamiento de códigos y comunicación de la ciudad.

La educación es una gran preocupación y estamos trabajando para replicar la Harlem Children's Zone. Vamos a presentar un plan para replicar la Harlem Children's Zone aquí en Kansas City y me siento bien en cuanto a nuestra oportunidad de tener éxito. La Harlem Children's

maintenance, code enforcement and city communication.

Education is a big concern and we are working to replicate the Harlem Children's Zone. We are going to submit a plan to replicate the Harlem Children's Zone here in Kansas City and I feel good about our chances of succeeding. The Harlem Children's Zone is an innovative and unique community based organization offering education, social service and community building programs to children and families.

We are trying to talk to people from the school districts, charter schools and faith based schools. We want to elevate the conversation about education across the city.

We are working on a 311 Call Center where we will be able to handle the calls that come in. We get about a million calls a year to 311 but about 600,000 of those folks hang up in disgust because we don't answer the phone.

**The education summit has been going well. School districts have informed you they are not interested because it focuses too much on education and they want to talk about other things, what is your response to that?**

I think we have a lot more conversations to go because I think we have a lot more to say to each other. I think they misunderstood what I was saying; it is not simply about schools. I want to talk about the relationship between all the things that we do as a city and formal education. We need to move away from a focus on real estate development to a focus on human development. If we can have a world class education then we will have a world class workforce and we will be on our way to being a world class city.

**You have a long list of goals but it doesn't seem like you are going to achieve them unless there is a trust between you and your City Council. Who is going to be the big person**

**here to create that? Some people want to see you succeed and others want to see you fail. Somebody has to be the leader and say enough is enough let's move forward.**

The City Council and I are not at war. I think that I have a different relationship with each Council member and some council members like me better than others. While there may be a perception that we are at war we are not.

**People on the outside looking in think it is a war. What do you say?**

The people on the outside looking in think there is a war but the facts are council members and I share many of the same interests. Many of those Council members, who at any given moment are angry with me, want the same things for this community as I do and we vote together. There are issues that we don't agree on and one of the issues we disagree on is cutting the police budget. I thought the council made a terrible mistake cutting the police budget by \$15 million. It is the largest single cut that we made and no amount of hand holding and singing kumbaya is going to make us agree on that.

The first and most important issue here is city safety. At the six Town Hall meetings that I held citizens stood up and said they didn't want us cutting the police department.

**You talked about the police department and safety is an issue in Kansas City and we know that the numbers continue to climb when it comes to violence in the city. Crime is everywhere but we are seeing it more and more in our community. There are serious shootings, serious violence and homicides. I think people want to hear what is going on to stop the violence and what steps are you taking to see that it does stop?**

I know exactly what citizens

want to hear and I am with them. With regards to crime, I could tell them there is some sort of quick fix, but there is none. We need a larger emphasis on police. We do not need less police. Just like we had a surge in Iraq we need a surge in police presence in our neighborhoods.

We need a program like the Harlem Children's [Zone] to change the young children's path. If we can begin to reach these kids when they are in their mother's womb and take them from grade school to high school and through college, these are not the kids that are shooting at each other. We have a moral responsibility to give these young men of color hope in our community.

Crime is going down in our city but that is not being reported because it is overshadowed by the violent crime. Homicides are up and here is what is going on, we are doing a good job of policing and we are doing a good job of making our neighborhoods safer but in this economy where you have people being laid off, homes are being foreclosed, you have stress.

Unemployment of 16 to 19 year-olds is the highest it has been in the city since 1982. We need to find jobs for these kids and we have thousands of unemployed youth, and when they can't find work they get desperate and we have to get these young men working.

**Are you working to get stimulus dollars for the city? How dependent is the city on stimulus dollars due to our tight budget?**

Our dependency on stimulus dollars is a small fraction in terms of the operating budget of the city. We received \$2.7 million a year over the next three years and it was used to hire our police officers because we didn't have a budget for hiring them. In three years that money will go away and we are going to have to find the funds or we are going to have to lay off police officers.

We are applying for the money. The money would go

towards capital construction projects in the city. The water and sewer infrastructure is a good project where we can get stimulus dollars to help us improve them. Yes, we want stimulus money and we will take whatever we can get.

**You have held several Town Hall meetings and you have listened to the needs of the citizens. After they speak, you tell them you will check on that issue. Do you have any measurement that tells you how successful you are at getting answers back to the citizens?**

I think that you have to default that from the City Manager. Everybody works for him, they don't work for me. The City Manager has a staff of 7,000 people I only have a staff of 8. By holding these Town Hall Meetings I am adding to the city plate. I can tell how people talk to me on the street if things are going okay. I can tell from the Citizen Satisfaction scores what people think. They have been going down and down and down but if I am successful in doing what I am trying to do they will come up. I am working against 40 to 50-year trends that I am trying to turn around. I am not going to save the world today, but I want to move along the road pushing the ball in the right direction.

**Where should the media be focusing on when they cover City Hall?**

I think talking about the real honest to goodness problems in Kansas City. These are not problems that have just shown up, for example the high rate of homicides. We have real problems that have been building and we need to get a grip on them. We need to proceed with our education programs. There isn't any other way to really save this city except through education. Education is the only way out of poverty and it is the only way towards economic development, and we have to focus on that.

**rada al asunto. ¿Tiene usted algún tipo de medición que le diga qué tan exitoso es usted ofreciéndole repuestas a los ciudadanos?**

Yo creo que usted tiene que obtener eso de parte del Administrador de la Ciudad. Todos trabajan para él, ellos no trabajan para mí. El Administrador de la Ciudad tiene un personal de 7,000 personas y yo solamente tengo uno de ocho. Al realizar estas reuniones de ayuntamiento estoy agregándole al platillo de la ciudad. Puedo darme cuenta qué habla de mí la gente en la calle si las cosas van bien. Puedo enterarme de parte de las calificaciones de la Encuesta de Satisfacción Ciudadana qué es lo que piensa la gente. Éstos han estado yendo más y más hacia abajo, pero si tengo éxito en hacer lo que estoy tratando de hacer, ellos subirán. Estoy trabajando en contra de tendencias que tiene entre 40 y 50 años y las cuales estoy tratando de cambiar. No voy a salvar al mundo hoy día, pero quiero avanzar por el camino empujando la bola en la dirección correcta.

**¿En qué debería enfocarse la prensa cuando cubre el Ayuntamiento?**

Creo que en hablar de verdaderos y honestos problemas en Kansas City. Éstos no son problemas que han aparecido recientemente, por ejemplo el alto índice de homicidios. Tenemos problemas verdaderos que se han estado desarrollando y necesitamos tratarlos. Tenemos que proseguir con nuestros programas educativos. No hay otra manera de salvar verdaderamente a esta ciudad excepto mediante la educación. La educación es la única vía de escape para la pobreza y es la única vía hacia el desarrollo económico y tenemos que enfocarnos en ello.

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# Carpenters union took their dissatisfaction public

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ers of the Schlitterbahn Water Park realized they would have to downsize the project and spread the development over the next several years. They released Turner Construction as their general contractor and brought in their own construction company, Henry & Sons, to build the water rides.

The new contractor has led local union representatives to allege that local workers have lost out to other workers from the area of the Texas based company, this on top of allegations that some workers are not being paid prevailing wages.

The carpenters union took their dissatisfaction public. On August 12, 120 unemployed construction tradesmen, wearing white t-shirts stating "Boycott Schlitterbahn," lined the road surrounding the project. They were hoping to deliver a strong message to state representatives who were touring the park at the invitation of the owners.

Andres Bravo, journeyman carpenter from Carpenter Local 1 in Chicago, sat in front of the water park, with a "Shame on Schlitterbahn" sign seven days a week. He has been in the construction trade for fifteen years and has never seen the construction industry hit as hard as it is in the current recession.

"I came to Kansas City to be with my father when he had a kidney transplant. I was unemployed in Chicago and I haven't been able to find any work here in Kansas City either. It is bad and in all the years that I have been in the business, I have never been unable to find work. I may have gotten laid off but always found another job, but

that is not the case right now. It is bad all over. I am just thankful that I can do this and show my support for the local workers here in Kansas City. This is not right what is happening here with the water park," said Bravo. The Carpenters Council is upset that the Henry family, owners of the water park, have brought in their own construction company to finish the first phase at the water park, when local employees were capable of performing the same work that the Texas based company did.

The District Council has started a campaign to enlighten the community that local workers are not being used to build the park. In a recent public letter the council states, "Our members did work on the project at one time. However, the use of union labor ended after Henry & Sons was brought in, replacing Turner Construction, our good Union general contractor. At that point, Henry & Sons began importing their non-union workforce from Texas and subcontracting portions of the work to other non-union contractors. To send a clear message to Schlitterbahn and other developers we have initiated an aggressive public information campaign. Schlitterbahn Sucks, is the theme of the campaign."

Chris Ozimek, marketing director for Schlitterbahn, explained that it was mutually agreed that Turner Construction would be the general contractor on the vacation resort village and not on the water park rides.

"We used Turner Construction when we were working on the entire vacation village resort. Then in January, we had to look at what was available to us and

the state of the economy and see what we could get done this year. We focused on the water park and Henry & Sons became the general contractor for the water park because that is what we specialize in, building water parks all around the world, so why wouldn't we build our own water park," said Ozimek.

Dave Wilson, assistant director of organization for Carpenters District Council of Kansas City doesn't agree with Ozimek's comments and told *Hispanic News* that local workers are capable of building water parks.

"This is a water park, so they claim they brought in a bunch of water park experts, that is a load of bull and is really twisting the truth. They were doing concrete form work and instead of using local Wyandotte County residents to do the work, they brought in their work force from Texas to finish what Capri Pools and Turner Construction already had under contract," he said.

The Carpenters District Council hopes that the Unified Government will hold Schlitterbahn accountable to the development agreement before they release the \$225 million in Star bonds.

"Schlitterbahn has not lived up to the promises that they made... They made promises in the development agreement that they would be using local businesses, local construction workers and that they would have certain goals set for WBE, MBE and LBE and they fell well short of these goals," said Wilson.

The water park is to receive the bond money backed by sales tax revenue to subsidize the \$750 million project. But the Unified Government is refusing to release the public sub-

sidy until the Texas construction company, Henry & Sons, honors the hiring goals in the development agreement.

According to a statement released in July by the Unified Government, Schlitterbahn was falling short of the hiring goals. The agreement requires Schlitterbahn to focus on getting 18 percent of its investments to contractors based in Wyandotte County. To date, local contractors have made up 6.75 percent of the project.

Minority owned contractors have received 7.43 percent of the investment and they should be at 15 percent. Women owned businesses should make up 7 percent and are only at 1.37 percent.

Wilson and unemployed workers at the protest site, feel they are sending a clear message to the Henry family and other developers that they are not going to stand idly by as they bring in outside construction workers to do a job that local workers are capable of doing. Wilson and members of the construction trade are also upset at the loss of money that would be used in the local economy. Instead, wages that are being paid to workers from Texas will be taken back to Texas and spent in their own communities.

Ozimek understands that they have made some organizations unhappy, but he feels that the statements opponents are giving out about the park have been misleading.

"We use local union and non-union labor. We used union and non-union employees. We paid prevailing wage and we used local businesses for supplies and services. There has been no pub-



Local contractors and members of area unions wanted to make sure Schlitterbahn got their message that local union workers are available here in the metro.

Contratistas y miembros de las uniones del área querían asegurarse que Schlitterbahn recibiera el mensaje que los trabajadores de las uniones locales están disponibles en la metropolitana

lic money used to date in building this water park," said Ozimek.

"When we first saw the development agreement with Schlitterbahn, we thought it was a pretty decent agreement and that they were going to require prevailing wage, and they had protections and goals in there for local businesses and minority and women owned business. You can't fault the mayor, those things were in that development agreement and Schlitterbahn did not live up to that agreement," said Wilson.

Minority contractors on the Missouri side have heard similar promises from companies willing to meet the goals set by the city so that they can get the job and the money; only to have the deals sour after the project begins.

"We are finding out that when these projects get rolling down

the road often times after the fact that is when they didn't make their goals for the minority contractor. Despite all the promises, it is the same thing that we are suffering from on the Missouri side with the TIF projects," said Bill Torres, Hispanic Contractor Association treasurer.

The current Schlitterbahn water park sits on 24 acres of the planned 360 acre project. Future projects will be a sporting goods store and 750,000 square feet of retail stores with a hotel, cabins and tree houses built in the future for the park.

"There is going to be more development out there at the project and we certainly don't want to see contractors from out of state come in and do what local residents, local carpenters, masons, ironworkers, and local laborers should be doing," said Wilson.

# Carpinteros llevaron su descontento a la vía pública

CONT./PÁGINA 1

dad de trabajadores locales serían puestos a trabajar en el nuevo proyecto.

La Compañía Constructora Turner de Kansas City, Missouri, fue nominada como el contratista general y el trabajo comenzó en el sitio ubicado en la calle 94 con la State Avenue en Kansas City, Kansas. Debido a la economía, los propietarios del Parque Acuático Schlitterbahn se dieron cuenta que tendrían que disminuir la magnitud del proyecto y esparcir el desarrollo a lo largo de varios de los años venideros. Ellos le rescindieron el contrato a la Compañía Constructora Turner como su contratista general y trajeron su propia compañía constructora, Henry & Sons, para construir los deslizadores de agua.

El nuevo contratista ha llevado a representantes de sindicatos locales a alegar que los trabajadores locales han sido reemplazados por otros trabajadores del área de Texas que es donde aquella compañía está basada. Esto ocurre sobre otros alegatos que a algunos trabajadores no se les están pagando los salarios prevalentes.

El sindicato de carpinteros hizo público su desencanto. El 12 de agosto, 120 trabajadores desempleados, vistiendo playeras blancas en las que se leía, "Boicot Schlitterbahn", se alinearon en el camino que rodea al proyecto. Ellos tenían la esperanza de llevarle un potente mensaje a los representantes estatales quienes, a invitación de los dueños, se encontraban haciendo un tour por el parque.

Andrés Bravo, carpintero del Local 1 del Sindicato de Carpinteros de Chicago, se sentó por siete días a la semana en frente del parque acuático con una pancarta que leía "Schlitterbahn es una Vergüenza". Él había estado en el oficio de la construcción por quince años y nunca había visto a la industria de la construcción ser golpeada tan duramente como lo ha sido durante la presente recesión.

"Vine a Kansas City para estar con mi padre cuando le hici-

eron un trasplante a los riñones. Estaba desempleado en Chicago y no he podido tampoco encontrar trabajo aquí en Kansas City. Está malo y en todos los años que he estado en el negocio, nunca he dejado de encontrar trabajo. Me han despedido algunas veces pero siempre he encontrado otro trabajo, pero ese no es el caso ahora. Está malo en todas partes. Estoy simplemente agradecido de que puedo hacer esto y demostrar mi apoyo por los trabajadores de Kansas City. No es justo lo que sucede aquí con el parque acuático", dijo Bravo.

El Concilio de Carpinteros está molesto que la familia Henry, dueños del parque acuático, hayan traído a su propia compañía constructora para finalizar la primera fase del parque acuático, cuando los empleados locales son capaces de realizar el mismo trabajo que la compañía basada en Texas hizo.

El Concilio Distrital ha comenzado una campaña para informarle a la comunidad respecto a que trabajadores locales no están siendo empleados para construir el parque. En una reciente carta al público, el concilio declaró, "En una oportunidad, nuestros miembros realizaron trabajos en el proyecto. Sin embargo, la utilización de labor sindical acabó después de que se trajo a Henry & Sons para reemplazar a Turner Construction, nuestro buen contratista general sindical. En ese momento, Henry & Sons comenzó a importar desde Texas a una fuerza laboral no afiliada a sindicatos y a subcontratar porciones de la obra con otros contratistas no afiliados a sindicatos. Para enviarle un claro mensaje a Schlitterbahn y a otras empresas inmobiliarias, nosotros hemos iniciado una agresiva campaña de información pública 'Schlitterbahn es Malo', es el tema de la campaña."

Chris Ozimek, director de mercadeo de Schlitterbahn, explicó que fue de común acuerdo que Turner Construction sería el contratista general en el pueblito de vacaciones y

no en los deslizadores acuáticos del parque.

"Nosotros utilizamos a Turner Construction cuando trabajamos en la totalidad del pueblito para vacaciones. Luego en enero, tuvimos que darle una mirada al estado de la economía y a qué se encontraba a nuestra disposición y ver que podíamos completar este año. Nosotros nos enfocamos en el parque acuático y Henry & Sons se convirtió en el contratista general para el parque acuático debido a que eso es en lo que nos especializamos, construir parques acuáticos alrededor del mundo, entonces porqué no construir nuestro propio parque acuático", dijo Ozimek.

Dave Wilson, asistente del director de la organización del Concilio Distrital de Carpinteros de Kansas City no concuerda con los comentarios de Ozimek y le dijo a *Hispanic News* que los trabajadores locales son capaces de construir parques acuáticos.

"Este es un parque acuático, por lo que ellos aducen que trajeron a un puñado de expertos en parques acuáticos, eso es un montón de basura y en realidad está distorcionando la verdad. Ellos estaban haciendo trabajos poniendo formas de concreto y en lugar de utilizar a trabajadores locales del Condado de Wyandotte para hacer el trabajo, ellos trajeron a su propia fuerza de trabajo de Texas para finalizar lo que Capri Pools y Turner Construction ya estaban haciendo bajo contrato", dijo él.

El Concilio Distrital de Carpinteros espera que el Gobierno Unificado responsabilice a Schlitterbahn por el acuerdo de desarrollo antes de que le entreguen los \$225 millones en bonos Star.

"Schlitterbahn no ha cumplido con la promesa que hicieron... Ellos hicieron promesas en el acuerdo de desarrollo que utilizarían negocios locales, trabajadores de la construcción locales y ellos se impondrían ciertas metas establecidas para WBE, MBE y LBE y ellos estuvieron lejos de cumplir con estas metas", dijo Wilson.

El parque acuático recibirá

el dinero del bono respaldado por ganancias de los impuestos a la venta para subsidiar el proyecto de \$750 millones. Pero el Gobierno Unificado se está negando a entregar el subsidio público hasta que la compañía, Henry & Sons, respete las metas para contrataciones en el acuerdo de desarrollo.

Según una declaración emitida en julio por el Gobierno Unificado, Schlitterbahn no estaba cumpliendo totalmente con las metas para contrataciones. El acuerdo estipulaba que Schlitterbahn se enfocaría en darle el 18 por ciento de sus inversiones a contratistas basados en el Condado de Wyandotte. Hasta la fecha, los contratistas locales han conformado un 6,75 por ciento del proyecto.

Contratistas pertenecientes a las minorías han recibido un 7,43 por ciento de la inversión y deberían estar en un 15 por ciento. Empresas de propiedad de mujeres deberían conformar un 7 por ciento y se encuentran solamente en un 1,37 por ciento.

Wilson y trabajadores desempleados en el sitio de la protesta, creen que le están enviando un claro mensaje a la familia Henry y a otros empresarios inmobiliarios de que ellos no se van a quedar de brazos cruzados mientras éstos traen a trabajadores de la construcción de otros lugares para hacer un trabajo que los trabajadores locales son capaces de hacer. Wilson y miembros del oficio de la construcción están también molestos por la pérdida de dinero que hubiese sido usado en la economía local. En vez de ello, los salarios que le están siendo pagados a los trabajadores de Texas serán llevados de regreso a Texas y gastados en sus propias comunidades.

Ozimek entiende que han hecho sentir mal a algunas organizaciones, pero cree que declaraciones referentes al parque entregadas por los opositores han sido confusas.

"Nosotros utilizamos trabajadores afiliados y no afiliados a sindicatos. Pagamos salarios prevalentes y utilizamos negocios locales para suministros y servicios. Hasta la fecha no ha habido dinero público utilizado en la construcción de este parque acuático", dijo Ozimek.

"Cuando vimos por primera vez el acuerdo de desarrollo con Schlitterbahn, pensamos

que era un acuerdo bastante decente y ellos iban a requerir salarios prevalentes y ellos tenían protecciones y objetivos para los negocios locales y aquellos de propiedad de minorías y mujeres. Uno no puede culpar al alcalde, aquellas cosas estaban en el acuerdo de desarrollo y Schlitterbahn no cumplió con ese acuerdo", dijo Wilson.

Contratistas de las minorías del lado de Missouri han escuchado similares promesas de parte de compañías deseosas de cumplir con los objetivos establecidos por la ciudad para que ellos puedan obtener el trabajo y el dinero; tan sólo para romper los acuerdos una vez que el proyecto se haya iniciado.

"Nos estamos dando cuenta de que cuando estos proyectos se encuentran encaminados, muchas veces es allí cuando ellos no han cumplido con sus objetivos para los contratistas de las minorías. A pesar de todas las promesas, es la misma cosa que estamos sufriendo en el lado de Missouri con los proyectos TIF", dijo Bill Torres, tesoro de la Asociación de Contratistas Hispanos.

El actual parque acuático Schlitterbahn se ubica en 24 acres de un planificado proyecto para 360 acres. Futuros proyec-

tos serán una tienda de artículos deportivos y 750.000 pies cuadrados de tiendas al detalle con un hotel, cabañas y casas en árboles construidas en un futuro para el parque.

"Allí habrán más desarrollos inmobiliarios en el proyecto y nosotros ciertamente no queremos ver a más contratistas de fuera del estado que vengan y hagan lo que los residentes locales, carpinteros locales, albañiles, trabajadores en metal y trabajadores locales deberían estar haciendo", dijo Wilson.



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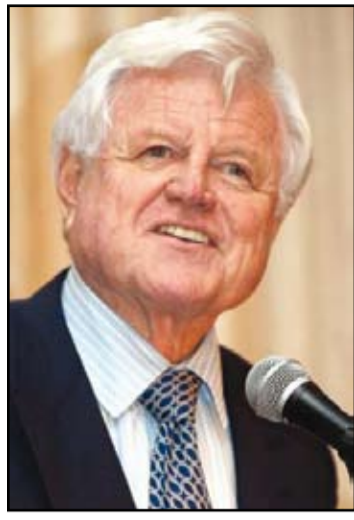
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# Kennedy praised Locally and Nationally

CONT./PAGE 1



which we've all borne witness is a testament to the way this singular figure in American history touched so many lives. His ideas and ideals are stamped on scores of laws and reflected in

millions of lives -- in seniors who know new dignity, in families that know new opportunity, in children who know education's promise, and in all who can pursue their dream in an America that is more equal and more just -- including myself.

The Kennedy name is synonymous with the Democratic Party. And at times, Ted was the target of partisan campaign attacks. But in the United States Senate, I can think of no one who engendered greater respect or affection from members of both sides of the aisle. His seriousness of purpose was perpetually matched by humility, warmth, and good cheer. He could passionately battle others and do so peerlessly on the Senate floor for the causes that he held dear, and yet still maintain warm friendships

across party lines.

And that's one reason he became not only one of the greatest senators of our time, but one of the most accomplished Americans ever to serve our democracy.

His extraordinary life on this earth has come to an end. And the extraordinary good that he did lives on. For his family, he was a guardian. For America, he was the defender of a dream.

Missouri U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said on the passing of her colleague U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy. Kennedy served in the U.S. Senate for nearly 47 years.

"This man was so much more than his image," McCaskill said. "While his vision soared, the power of his personality and the magnet of his intellect drew his colleagues to the table of compromise. It was there he did his best work. His love for the little guy and his affection for the underdog influenced everything he did. And importantly, his sense of humor and contagious laughter made him real and approachable in spite of his power and privilege."

## "IN HONOR OF SENATOR TED KENNEDY LEGACY, PASS HEALTH CARE REFORM"

Washington, DC – LULAC officials said, "We are heartbroken to learn of the passing of our dear friend and champion, Senator Ted Kennedy who fought for the voiceless."

Senator Kennedy was the third longest serving Senator and was adored by millions of Americans and was respected by colleagues on both sides of the aisle for his energy, his passion, his humor, his compassion, his friendship and above all his commitment to serve his country in pursuit of a more common good for every American.

The Senator received the LULAC National Legislative honor in 2006 for being a strong supporter of Comprehensive Immigration Reform along with Senator John McCain because of his work on Immigration Reform and rallied with millions of immigrants and LULAC members on this important issue. He used the phrase, "Si Se Puede to rally the movement."

For five decades, Senator Ted Kennedy has been a fighter on every issue to the heart of our community. Virtually every major piece of legislation to pass hate crime legislation, the Voting Rights Act of 1964, Leave No Child Behind Act, universal health care for all and the economic well being of the American people resulted from his efforts.

Senator Kennedy for his efforts to ensure civil and voting rights for minorities to equal rights for women was a champion. For providing health care to millions of our nation's children to fighting for the cause and rights of workers and organized labor, Senator Kennedy was a hero. For working to improve education and educational opportunities for children and college students to fighting for the security and dignity of older Americans, Senator Kennedy was an icon. And, for his career-long pursuit of quality, affordable health care for every American, a cause he was devoted to until the very end, Senator Kennedy was an inspi-

ration to millions of Americans who are fighting today for that just cause.

Universal health care was the cause of his life and the closest to his heart and in honor of his legacy we hope to honor his last wish to pass health care legislation this year. We hope his death will be a rallying cry for Republicans to pass his health care legislation.

Thirty-nine years ago, Senator Kennedy introduced his first bill to overhaul our nation's broken healthcare system and provide affordable coverage to all Americans. We stand closer now than ever before to achieving what Senator Kennedy called the cause of his life.

Let us continue his cause. Let us take action this year to pass healthcare reform. And let us continue to make Kennedy's vision for America a reality.

To the American people, he will be remembered as one of the greatest and most accomplished legislators in American history. And to his family he will be remembered as a father, a husband, an uncle, a brother, a grandfather and a friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Kennedy family as we mourn the loss and celebrate the extraordinary life of Senator Edward Moore Kennedy."

Kansas Democratic Party Chairman Larry Gates said "we mourn the loss of one of the most dedicated and compassionate public servants in the history of the US Senate with the passing of Ted Kennedy.

Senator Kennedy was a tireless champion for the hopes and dreams of millions of ordinary Americans. He made the struggle of the uninsured, the discriminated against, and the worker his own and devoted his life and labor their cause.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family as we mourn the loss of an icon. May Senator Kennedy rest in peace and may the dreams he fought for soon be realized."



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# Angels Take Championship Title

KANSAS CITY HISPANIC NEWS

**The Kansas City Angels, an area fastpitch team, are the reigning champions of the 2009 North American Fastpitch Association Class A World Series.**

About 40 teams across the United States and Canada converged in mid-August in Sioux Falls, S.D., to vie for the title. For the Angels, which is based in Kansas City, it was the second time to the World Series, said team manager Cris Medina Sr.

"The competition this year was good and very diverse," Medina said. "We were the only majority Latino team."

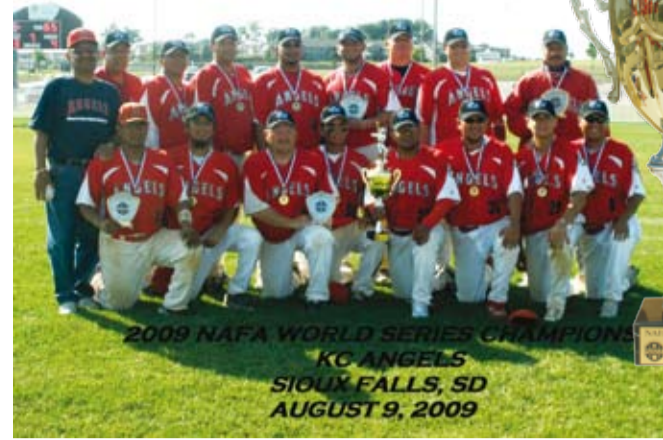
Medina said the Angels went undefeated in the six-

game bracket and trailed behind one of their competitors in the score for only one inning during one game.

"The guys just played tremendous ball and we peaked at the right time," he said, adding the Angels routinely scored early in every game and held onto that lead.

In the championship game against the Crow B of Sioux Falls, S.D., the Angels entered the seventh inning with a lead score of 3-1. The Crow B's then scored two runs and tied the game, but the Angels then earned another run in the bottom of the seventh. The final score was Angels 4, Crow B 3.

"This is something that nobody can take away from us," Medina told Hispanic News. "We are extremely proud of this, and it will be something special for the rest of our lives."



Back row Left to right:  
Manuel Hernandez,  
Cris Medina sr., Samuel  
"Bubba" Hernandez,  
Steven Roche,  
Frank Oropeza,  
Fernando  
Esquivel,  
Joe Monslow,  
Chad Miller,  
Miguel Baron.  
Front row Left to right:  
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Ralphie Sanchez,  
Joe Quinn, Eddie Diaz III,  
Brian Hernandez,  
A. J. Villegas, Cris Medina

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