

Five Candidates Seek KCK Mayor/CEO Title of The City

Cinco Candidatos Buscan El Título de Alcalde y Presidente de la Ciudad de KCK



These five candidates have a few weeks to get their message out to the voters of Wyandotte County. They will share their vision for the City as they vie for the top spot of Mayor in KCK. Estos cinco candidatos tienen algunas semanas para transmitir su mensaje a los votantes del Condado de Wyandotte. Ellos compartirán su visión de la ciudad, ya que compiten por el primer puesto a la Alcaldía en KCK.

By DEBRA DECOSTER

Mayor Joe Reardon's decision to not seek a third term sent five potential candidates racing to the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and KCK Election office to file for his seat in office.

Announcing their campaign for mayor are three commissioners; Nathan Barnes, commissioner District 1; Mark Holland, commissioner At-Large District 1 and Ann Murguía, commissioner, District 3. Business owner Cordell Meeks III and Kansas City, Kansas life-long resident Janice Witt, round out the race.

The primary election will be held on Tuesday, February 26.

Murguía is the executive director of the Argentine Neighborhood Development Association. In 2011, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City named her Humanitarian of the Year for her work with the Latino community.

Murguía said in her press release, "The mayor of this community needs to be able to communicate with all kinds of people. I have spent all of my professional life organizing neighborhoods and listening to everyone from the homeless to the very wealthy. I want to use this experience to help the entire county prosper."

"I announce my candidacy for Mayor so that I can take the success that I have had as the 3rd District Commissioner and help the rest of Wyandotte County," added Murguía. "This means being accessible and responsive to residents, working with the Board of County

SOME CANDIDATES... / PAGE 3

Traduce GEMMA TORNERO

La decisión del alcalde Joe Reardon, de no buscar un tercer término, envió a cinco potenciales candidatos a correr ante la oficina electoral del Gobierno Unificado del Condado de Wyandotte y KCK a presentar su candidatura para el gobierno.

Anunciando la campaña para alcalde, están tres comisionados; Nathan Barnes, Comisionado del Distrito 1; Mark Holland, Comisionado General del Distrito 1 y Ann Murguía, Comisionada del Distrito 3. El empresario Cordell Meeks III y la residente de toda la vida de Kansas City, Kansas Janice Witt, cierran la contienda.

La elección primaria será llevada a cabo el martes, 26 de febrero.

Murguía es la Directora Ejecutiva de la Asociación de Desarrollo del Vecindario de Argentine. En el 2011, la Cámara de Comercio Hispano de Kansas City, la nombro el 'Humanitario del Año', por su trabajo con la comunidad latina.

Murguía dijo en su comunicado de prensa, "El alcalde de ésta comunidad, tiene que ser capaz de comunicarse con todas las clases de personas. He dedicado toda mi vida profesional organizando vecindarios y escuchando a todos desde la persona sin hogar hasta el más rico. Quiero usar ésta experiencia para ayudar al condado entero a prosperar".

Anuncie mi candidatura, para alcaldesa, de modo que yo pueda llevar el éxito que he tenido como Comisionada del 3er Distrito, y ayudar al resto del Condado de Wyandotte", añadió Murguía. "Ésto significa ser accesible y sensible para los residentes,

ALGUNOS CANDIDATOS... / PÁGINA 3

Gun Advocates Gather In Topeka

Defensores De Las Armas Se Reunén En Topeka



People from all walks of life gathered at the state capital in Topeka to protest against what they perceive is an assault on the second amendment by the Obama administration.

Gente de todas las condiciones sociales se reunieron en la capital del estado en Topeka, para protestar contra lo que ellos perciben, es un ataque a la segunda enmienda por la administración de Obama.

By JOE ARCE & JOSE FAUS

It was an ambitious plan. Guns Across America, a grassroots group sought to organize in all fifty state capitals to pressure legislators to hold the line against proposed legislation aimed to control assault weapons and large capacity ammunition clips.

On January 19 activists across the country answered the call. In Topeka about 200 or so supporters attended the rally on the south side of the state

"GUN FREE... / PAGE 2

Traduce GEMMA TORNERO

Era un plan ambicioso. 'Armas a través de América', un grupo de base, buscó organizar mítines en las cincuenta capitales del estado para presionar a los legisladores, para permanecer en la línea contra la legislación propuesta, con el objetivo de controlar armas de asalto y grandes cantidades de municiones.

El 19 de enero, los activistas a lo largo y ancho del país, contestaron el llamado.

LAS ZONAS LIBRES... / PÁGINA 2

By JOSE FAUS

A crowd estimated between 600,000 to 800,000, well below the two million that attended President Barack Obama's first inauguration, waited patiently in the cool Washington DC morning to hear the presidential oath of office administered.

The President's first words were fitting to an oath administered on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

"We affirm the promise of our democracy. We recall that what binds this nation together is not the colors of our skin or the tenets of our faith or the origins of our names. What makes us exceptional ... is our allegiance to an idea articulated in a declaration made more than two centuries ago: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that

LARGE PARTY... / PAGE 7

Traduce GEMMA TORNERO

Una multitud estimada entre 600 mil a 800 mil; muy por debajo a los 2 millones que asistieron a la primera inauguración del Presidente Barack Obama, esperaba pacientemente en la fría mañana de Washington, para oír el juramento administrativo a la presidencia.

Las primeras palabras presidenciales embonaban a un juramento de administración para el 'Día de Martin Luther King, Hijo'.

"Afirmamos la promesa de nuestra democracia. Recordemos que lo que une a ésta nación, no son los colores de nuestra piel o los principios de nuestra fé o los orígenes de nuestros nombres. Lo que nos hace excepcionales, es nuestra lealtad a una idea articulada en una declaración que se hizo hace más de dos siglos: 'Creemos que estas verdades son evidentes, que todos los hombres son creados iguales; que ellos

GRAN FIESTA... / PÁGINA 7

Barack Obama Sworn In for Second Term



Barack Obama Toma Juramento Para Un Segundo Término



Cruz Gallegos will cherish this past weekend for many years to come. As he begins his path to priesthood, he will not walk alone knowing his community and family support him and walk beside him. See Page 8.

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# "Gun Free Zones Don't Work"

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capital. Many carried signs and spoke during an open mic presentation.

Thomas Stelder helped organize what he called a pro second amendment rally. "Our message is that gun owners are not evil people. We are everyday citizens. ... We are all walks of life and all races. We are peaceful people and we just believe in the right to keep and bear arms."

Stelder believes that some politicians are using the death of the twenty six children and adults in an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut to restrict the second amendment.

"Gun free zones don't work. We have been doing this over and over and criminals don't abide by the law," explained Stelder. "That is why they are criminals. We need to do something that actually works. We need to have armed officers or conceal and carry in the schools. I don't think we should be punishing law abiding citizens so that everyone can feel a little safer."

Jason Startup attended the rally. "We are living under a tyrannical government and it is going that way more and more. The infringement on the constitution and the bill of rights is happening more and more. The president's executive order to ban all assault rifles is just an example of that. They start with that and then they will go for the first amendment. They are impeding the fourth amendment and enough is enough. It is now or never to protect your constitutional rights."

Darryl Worley attended the rally and spoke to Hispanic News before he addressed the crowd. "In 1918 the Russians were heavenly armed. It is part of their culture. They got

convinced by the Marxists to turn over their guns. They were told they would be safe and what it got them was a bullet behind the ear. Any society that thinks they can give up their freedom to protect themselves, do not deserve the freedom they have. ... We deserve the liberty but we have to stand up for it. This is the government making those first steps towards taking those liberties away."

Kevin Frederick is an Air Force veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and retired in 2009. He told Hispanic News that there is another agenda when it comes to guns.

"The tragedy in Connecticut is an awful thing, but I think some politicians are using that to advance their own agenda against the second amendment. It is not the firearms, it is the individuals using them. We need more mental health screening and protection from those folks. I think the NRA is right when they said we need more armed guards in schools. This does not mean that the guards need to display weapons. They just need to carry it to stop someone from coming in to the school like that."

Robert Jones views himself as a hobbyist who enjoys target practice. He was concerned that his right to own guns may not pass on to his children. "I believe that my kids should enjoy the same freedoms I enjoy. I believe in our constitution and I believe in the United States and I believe that my kids should enjoy the same rights that I do and would like that they continue enjoying them."

When it comes to defending himself he sees a double standard. "I should have the right to defend myself too. I do not have a Secret Service and hundreds of thousands of dollars taxpayer's dollars protecting my children or



**Thomas Stelder (Left) helped organize what he called a pro second amendment rally. "Our message is that gun owners are not evil people. We are everyday citizens. ...We are all walks of life and all races."** Thomas Stelder (A la izquierda) ayudó a organizar lo que él llamó un mitin pro segunda enmienda. "Nuestro mensaje es que los dueños de armas no son malas personas. Somos ciudadanos comunes y corrientes. ...Somos todas las clases sociales y todas las razas."

protecting me like the President of the United States. ... I don't like seeing gun violence at all. ... That really sickens and it really bothers me. ... I don't know what the true answer is but I don't like my rights taken away or infringed on and that is what this is all about, infringing on people's rights. ... I don't think our right should be infringed no matter what it is."

# "Las Zonas Libres de Armas No Funcionan"

CONT./PÁGINA 1

En Topeka aproximadamente 200 o más partidarios, asistieron al mitin en el lado sur de la capital del estado. Muchos llevaban pancartas y hablaron durante una presentación con micrófono abierto.

Thomas Stelder ayudó a organizar lo que él llamó 'un segundo mitin pro-enmienda'. "Nuestro mensaje es que los dueños de armas no son gente mala. Somos ciudadanos cotidianos. Somos de todas las condiciones sociales y todas las razas. Somos gente pacífica y sólo creemos en el derecho de tener y llevar armas".

Stelder cree que algunos políticos están usando la muerte de los veintiséis niños y adultos en una escuela primaria en Newton, Connecticut, para restringir la segunda enmienda.

"Las zonas libres de armas no funcionan. Hemos estado haciendo esto repetidas veces y los criminales no cumplen con la ley", explicó Stelder. "Por eso ellos son criminales. Necesitamos hacer algo que realmente funcione. Necesitamos tener oficiales armados encubiertos y llevarlos a las escuelas. No creo que debiéramos castigar la ley, ocultando a los ciudadanos, de manera que cada uno pueda sentirse un poco más seguro".

Jason Startup asistió al mitin. "Vivimos bajo un gobierno tiránico y esto es así cada vez más y más. La infracción a la

constitución y a la declaración de derechos sucede cada vez más. La orden ejecutiva presidencial para prohibir todos los fusiles de asalto, es sólo un ejemplo de esto. Ellos comienzan con esto y luego irán por la primera enmienda. Ellos impiden la cuarta enmienda y ya es suficiente. Es ahora o nunca, el proteger ahora sus derechos constitucionales".

Darryl Worley asistió al mitin y habló con Hispanic News antes de que él se dirigiera a la multitud. "En 1918 los rusos estaban divinamente armados. Es parte de su cultura. Ellos fueron convencidos por los 'Marxistas' de remover sus armas. Les dijeron que ellos estarían seguros y lo que consiguieron fue una bala detrás del oído. Cualquier sociedad que crea que ellos pueden dejar su libertad de protegerse, no merecen la libertad que ellos tienen. Merecemos la libertad pero tenemos que defenderla. Esto es el gobierno dando esos primeros pasos para llevarse esas libertades".

Kevin Frederick es un veterano de la Fuerza Aérea, que sirvió en Irak y Afganistán y se retiró en el 2009. Él dijo a Hispanic News que hay otra orden del día, cuando se trata de armas.

"La tragedia en Connecticut es una cosa horrible, pero creo que algunos políticos usan esto para avanzar en su propio beneficio contra la segunda enmienda. No son las armas de fuego son los individuos que las usan. Necesitamos más revisión

de salud mental y protección de esa gente. Creo que el NRA está en lo correcto, cuando dicen que necesitamos más guardias armados en las escuelas. Esto no significa que los guardias tienen que mostrar las armas. Ellos sólo tienen que portarlas para detener a alguien de entrar a la escuela de esa manera".

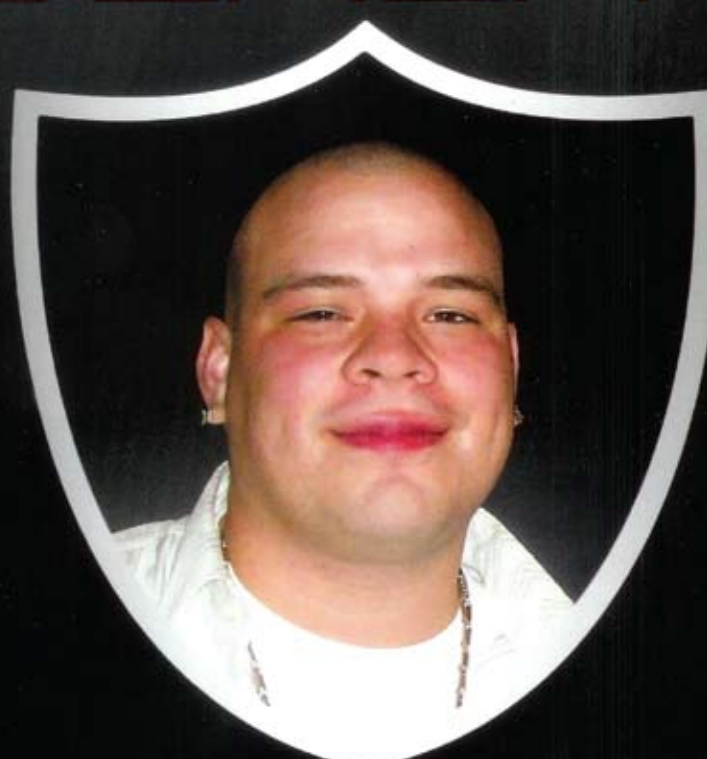
Robert Jones se ve a sí mismo como un aficionado que disfruta del tiro al blanco. Él estaba preocupado de que su derecho de poseer armas pueda no pasar a sus niños. "Creo que mis niños deberían disfrutar de las mismas libertades de las cuales disfruto. Creo en nuestra constitución y creo en los Estados Unidos, y creo que mis niños deberían disfrutar de los mismos derechos que yo tengo y me gustaría que ellos sigan disfrutando de esos derechos".

Cuando se trata de defenderse a él mismo, ve un doble estándar. "Yo debería tener el derecho de defenderme también. No tengo un servicio secreto y cientos de miles de dólares del contribuyente protegiendo a mis niños o protegiéndome como al presidente de los Estados Unidos. No me gusta ver la violencia con armas en absoluto. Esto realmente me enferma y me molesta. No sé la verdadera respuesta, es sólo que no me gusta que me quiten o infrinjan mis derechos y de eso se trata todo esto, la transgresión de los derechos de la gente. No creo que nuestro derecho debiera ser infringido pase lo que pase".

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS, 4232 MERCIER, KCMO 64111

*Johnny Val-entine*

# BENEFIT



Please come to lend a helping hand in the unsolved murder of John Valdivia. The family is hosting a fundraiser to increase the tips hotline reward fund. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated. For questions or donations, please contact Lupe Garcia Rennau at 816-753-3874.

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2918 Southwest Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108-1911  
PHONE: (816)472-KCHN  
FAX: (816)931-NEWS  
E-MAIL: kchnews@swbell.net  
www.kchispanicnews.com

# Some Candidates Talk About Lowering Taxes

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Commissioners, the Unified Government staff, businesses,



ANN MURGUÍA

neighborhood groups, not-for-profit organizations and across political party lines. The goal is to get residents in Wyandotte County what they need and want. I will continue to take a stand against higher taxes and work relentlessly to improve government services. Public safety is a priority with the residents of this community and it will continue to be a priority with me.”

Holland cited his long commitment to the community as his reason for running. “After much thought and prayer, I have made the decision to file for the Office of Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas. As a fourth generation Dotte and a third generation pastor in KCK, I am passionate about the direction of our community.”

Holland said he is committed to raising his family in a dynamic and growing community, adding that his service on the Commission in the at-large position has given him the opportunity to see “the big picture” when it comes to Wyandotte County.

“Our community needs thoughtful, reasonable people to bring the kind of professionalism and service driven environment required of growing communities. We need ethical, accountable leadership and I believe I have the experience, passion, and vision for our community that will enable us to go to even greater heights,” said Holland.

Barnes enters the race with a slogan in hand - “Your Voice Will Be Heard.” He wants to work towards providing economic development for all areas of Kansas City, Kansas including the northeast area that he represents as Commissioner.

Barnes has been involved in making sure that companies that receive tax breaks hire minority, women and local contractors or employees. He has worked to implement an amnesty program for people with traffic tickets. He was involved in the expansion of new homes in the Quindaro neighborhood of Kansas City, Kansas.

He has been outspoken on the Google Fiber project wanting assurances that low-income and remote areas would be served

and has expressed concerns that the minimum connection fee would keep some people from receiving Google Fiber.

Barnes is the owner of the Nefertiti Ballroom and a real estate developer. He has a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration degree from the University of Arkansas. He has served as chairman of the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee since 2001. He also served as past chairman of the Wyandotte County Democratic Central Committee and the Boys and Girls Club Kansas City, Kansas Advisory Board.



JANICE WITT

Witt, a lifelong resident of Wyandotte County, ran in 2011 for the At-Large District 1 Commissioner Seat against incumbent Mark Holland and Mike Gilstrap. Finishing in third place for the commissioner seat, she continued to campaign for the commissioner seat as a write in candidate in the 2011 race.

In her campaign she pledges to “unite the whole city so that we can grow together beautifully as the one unique city that we are. The people of this county need a seat at the table. We need to be served, rather than served up. Our leadership is absolutely in power and we are not. It is time to unify and free the Dotte,” she said.

Her vision for the city is to create a healthy environment for the city’s children, continue to encourage small business growth and to address the neighborhoods infrastructure. Witt states that her platform is very simple.

“The arrogance must stop. We need a return of leadership to the people of this county; our voices must be heard and respected. No more of the same old names and games. Open doors, open communication, respect and full disclosure. No more smoke and mirrors. We need to reclaim ownership of city hall, it belongs to the people who payed for it and to work to keep it functioning,” she said.

Cordell Meeks III announced his candidacy on the steps of the courthouse plaza named after his grandfather, Cordell Meeks, Sr., the first African American district judge in Kansas. His father, Cordell Meeks, Jr., was elected district court judge. Meeks is CEO of Meeks Multicultural Consulting, a corporate training business and served as chairman of the Unified Government Human Relations Commission

appointed by Mayor Joe Reardon in 2005. He is a lifelong KCK resident.

“I will run for mayor for the city that I love. I believe that with your help I can lead this community to the next level of economic development and education. Thanks to the strong leadership and bold moves of Carol Marinovich and steady leadership of Joe Reardon, Kansas City, Kansas has prospered and grown. Now that Google and Cerner has shown the world that Wyandotte County is the place to be, we must continue that energy to create more jobs and more opportunities in all parts of our county,” he said.



CORDELL MECKS

Meeks platform is to promote economic development that benefits all of Wyandotte County. He will work to produce balanced budgets that keep property taxes low while serving the needs of all citizens. Education and supporting

the school district to push for excellence in the classroom will be a priority for him.

“We will continue to work to lower property taxes, tax breaks for the businesses coming in. We want to attract not only large businesses but small businesses as well. We want to work with the residents on their property taxes, with community leaders and corporate executives and leaders across the city,” said Meeks.

“What will stand out in my leadership style is my ability to listen well. I may not have the solutions right away, I want everyone to know in this county I am willing to go door to door and listen to what their issues are before I come out with what my priorities are.”

As a member of the Law Enforcement Advisory Board, he feels it is important to support the city’s emergency services and look for ways to be able to keep fire and police staffed.

“Public safety is very important we want citizens to feel safe in their homes and in their businesses, and in the general community. I have served for seven years on the Police Advisory Board and I have worked with the last three Police Chiefs in KCK and had a lot of success and I am proud of the work they are doing. That is exhibited in the fact that we have a 30-year low in crime in the city.”

# Algunos Candidatos Hablan De Bajar Los Impuestos

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trabajando con el Consejo de Comisionados del Condado, el personal del Gobierno Unificado, negocios, grupos vecinales, organizaciones sin fines de lucro y líneas de partidos políticos en todo su espectro. El objetivo es conseguir para los residentes en el Condado de Wyandotte, lo que ellos necesitan y quieren. Seguiré adoptando una actitud contra el alza de impuestos y trabajaré incansablemente para mejorar los servicios del gobierno. La seguridad pública es una prioridad con los residentes de ésta comunidad y ésto seguirá siendo una prioridad conmigo”.



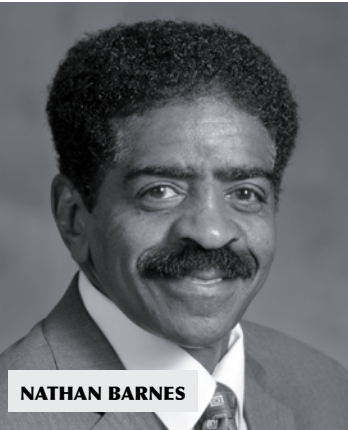
MARK HOLLAND

Holland citó su largo compromiso ante la comunidad como su razón para competir. “Después de pensarlo mucho y de orar, he tomado la decisión de postularme para el puesto de Alcalde/Presidente del Gobierno Unificado del Condado de Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kansas. Como una cuarta generación Dotte y un pastor de tercer generación en KCK, soy un apasionado de la dirección de nuestra comunidad”.

Holland dijo que él está comprometido a criar a su familia en una comunidad dinámica y creciente, añadiendo que su servicio en la Comisión con su puesto en un distrito general, le ha dado la oportunidad de ver el panorama general, cuando se trata del Condado de Wyandotte.

Nuestra comunidad necesita gente considerada, razonable que brinde el ambiente de profesionalismo y servicio requerido en comunidades crecientes. Necesitamos un liderazgo ético, responsable y creo que tengo la experiencia, pasión, y visión para nuestra comunidad, que nos permitirá ir a aún a mayores alturas”, expresó Holland.

Barnes entra a la contienda con un lema en la mano - “Su Voz Será Oída”. Él quiere trabajar para conseguir el suministro del desarrollo económico para todas las áreas de Kansas City, Kansas., incluyendo el área noreste que él representa como Comisionado.



NATHAN BARNES

Barnes ha estado involucrado en asegurarse que las compañías que reciben reducciones de impuestos contratan minorías, mujeres y contratistas o empleados locales. Él ha trabajado para poner en práctica un programa de amnistía para la gente con infracciones de tráfico. Él estaba involucrado en la extensión de nuevas casas en el vecindario de Quindaro, en Kansas City, Kansas.

Él ha sido franco en el proyecto de Fibra Google, al querer garantías de que las áreas remotas y de bajos ingresos tendrían servicio y ha expresado su preocupación, de que la mínima tarifa de conexión impediría a algunas personas de recibir la Fibra Google.

Barnes es el dueño de Nefertiti Ballroom y un desarrollador de bienes inmuebles. Él tiene una Licenciatura en Ciencias, un grado de Administración de Empresas de la Universidad de Arkansas. Él ha servido como presidente de Obras Públicas y Comité Permanente de Seguridad desde el 2001. Él también sirvió como anterior presidente del Comité Central Democrático del Condado de Wyandotte y del Consejo Consultivo del Club de Boys and Girls de Kansas City, Kansas.

Witt, una residente de toda la vida del Condado de Wyandotte, compitió en el 2011 para el puesto de Comisionada General del Distrito 1, contra el titular Mark Holland y Mike Gilstrap. Terminando en el tercer lugar para el puesto de comisionada, ella siguió haciendo campaña a favor del puesto como trabajo en la candidatura del 2011.

En su campaña ella promete unir la ciudad entera, “de modo que podamos crecer juntos maravillosamente como la ciudad única que somos. La gente de éste condado necesita un asiento en la mesa de negociaciones. Necesitamos ser servidos, más que servirlos. Nuestro liderazgo está absolutamente en el poder y no lo estamos. Es tiempo de unificar y liberar Dotte”, declaró ella.

Su visión para la ciudad es crear un ambiente sano para los niños de la ciudad, seguir apoyando el crecimiento de pequeños negocios y abordar la infraestructura de los vecindarios. Witt declara, que su plataforma es muy simple.

“La arrogancia debe parar. Necesitamos el regreso de un liderazgo en la gente de éste condado; nuestras voces deben ser oídas y respetadas. No más de los mismos viejos nombres y juegos. Puertas abiertas, comunicación abierta, respeto y plena divulgación. No más ilusión. Tenemos que reclamar la propiedad del ayuntamiento, que pertenece a la gente que paga para ello y trabaja para mantenerlo trabajando”, enfatiza ella.

Cordell Meeks III, anunció su candidatura en los escalones de la plaza del juzgado, nombrada en honor a su abuelo, Cordell Meeks, Sr., el primer juez de distrito afroamericano en Kansas. Su padre, Cordell Meeks, Hijo, fue elegido juez de tribunal de distrito. Meeks es el Presidente de la Consultora Multicultural Meeks, un negocio de formación corporativa y ha trabajado como representante de la Comisión de Relaciones Humanas del Gobierno Unificado, designado por el alcalde Joe Reardon en el 2005. Él es un residente de KCK de toda la vida.

“Competiré para la alcaldía de la ciudad que amo. Creo que con su ayuda puedo llevar a ésta comunidad al siguiente nivel de desarrollo económico y educación. Gracias al fuerte liderazgo y atrevidos pasos de Carol Marinovich y el mando estable de Joe Reardon, Kansas City, Kansas ha prosperado y ha crecido. Ahora que Google y Cerner han mostrado al mundo que el Condado de Wyandotte es el lugar para estar, debemos continuar con esa energía de crear más empleos y más oportunidades en todas las partes de nuestro condado”, explicó él.

La plataforma de Meeks, es el promover el desarrollo económico que beneficia a todo el Condado de Wyandotte. Él trabajará para producir presupuestos equilibrados que mantengan los impuestos de propiedad bajos mientras se trabaja en las necesidades de todos los ciudadanos. La educación y el apoyo al distrito escolar, para insistir en la excelencia en el aula, serán una prioridad para él.

“Seguiremos trabajando para bajar los impuestos a la propiedad, reducciones de impuestos para los negocios que empiezan. Queremos atraer no sólo a

negocios grandes, sino también a pequeños negocios. Queremos trabajar con los residentes en sus impuestos a la propiedad, con líderes de la comunidad, ejecutivos corporativos y líderes a lo largo y ancho de la ciudad”, comentó Meeks.

“Lo que se destacará en mi estilo de liderazgo, es mi capacidad de escuchar bien. Puedo no tener las soluciones enseguida, quiero que cada uno sepa en éste condado, que quiero ir de puerta en puerta y escuchar cuáles son sus problemas antes de que yo salga con cuáles creo que son mis prioridades”.

Como un integrante del Consejo Consultivo del Orden Publico, él siente que es importante apoyar los servicios de urgencias de la ciudad y buscar maneras de ser capaz de mantener al personal de bomberos y policía.

La seguridad pública es muy importante, queremos que los ciudadanos se sientan seguros en sus casas y en sus negocios, y en la comunidad en general. He servido durante siete años en el Consejo Consultivo de la Policía y he trabajado con los tres últimos Jefes de la Policía en KCK y ha habido mucho éxito y estoy orgulloso del trabajo que ellos hacen. Ésto se demuestra en el hecho de que tenemos un nivel más bajo en los delitos en la ciudad en 30 años”.



In mid-January President Obama has signed the World War I Centennial Commission Act, introduced by Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II. This establishes a World War I Centennial Commission which will spearhead the planning and execution of the war commemorations throughout the country and in Kansas City in 2014.

“This is an extremely important and exciting day for Kansas City and all of Missouri’s Fifth District,” said Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II. “After years of working on this legislation, we can now finally say, it is done. And soon the eyes of the nation, and indeed the world, will be on Kansas City, Missouri as we prepare for the centennial commemoration of World War I.”

The Congressman spoke on the House Floor about the importance of this issue in December of 2012.

“We look forward to working closely with the Centennial Commission to inspire citizens throughout the nation to learn more about this important time in history and discover ways in which they can honor the past,” stated Dr. Mary Cohen, Board of Trustees Chair, National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial.”

## President Obama Signs World War I Legislation

This legislation reflects the original bill Congressman Cleaver first introduced in 2008 to honor the memory of our veterans and to ensure that the upcoming centennial will be appropriately remembered.

“I believe this bill is a symbol of bipartisanship and cooperation, and I have been pleased to work with both sides of the aisle to see it enacted,” said Cleaver. “Millions served in World War I, many of them making the ultimate sacrifice, and now it is our job to serve their memory. Kansas City is home to the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial and I am thrilled this Commission will benefit from their contributions to our country.”

Congressman Cleaver introduced this legislation with Congressman Ted Poe (R-TX) and Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC). Companion legislation was introduced in the Senate by Missouri Senators Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt. The 12-member centennial commission will meet initially and regularly at the Liberty Memorial.

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YOUR LATINO CONNECTION SINCE 1996 | TÚ CONEXIÓN LATINA DESDE 1996



By JOHN SILVA

When the Chiefs hired Andy Reid to be their head coach it was the most logical hire possible. With one conference championship, 4 straight NFC title game appearances, 14 years of head coaching experience and mustached magnificence, Reid brings an impressive resume to Kansas City.

One of his first orders of business was to help Clark Hunt identify the organization's next general manager. Unlike the previous model where the GM had power over all football related decisions and could lord them over the head coach, the new model has Reid and the GM both reporting to Clark Hunt. Shared power with each having certain responsibilities puts more emphasis on the GM being able to identify players who will give KC the roster with the best chance to win. Ironically, this model more closely follows model the previous administration pointed to as the ones they wanted to follow in New England and Pittsburgh.

John Dorsey helped Green Bay GM Ted Thompson build one of the deepest and most talented rosters in the NFL. Now he gets the chance to be a general manager and have final say over decisions in the draft room and free agency. Dorsey and Reid know each other from the mid 1990's when both worked for the Packers.

We've seen in two of the past four years when the head coach assumed the duties of a coordinator that the results were not positive. Reid has said he will call plays on game day so everyone is aware of that fact going in. He did so in Philly when they won in playoff games annually. In fact, when he gave up that control they experienced less success.

That doesn't mean Reid won't have someone overseeing his offense. Reid's former quarterbacks coach with the Eagles is now the offensive coordinator. Doug Pederson might be a familiar name from his playing days. A long time backup to Brett Favre in Green Bay, Chiefs fans hope Pederson can have the same type of success

## Reid New Coaching Staff Impresses

running an offense that Gary Kubiak and Jason Garrett have in the past.

Pederson echoed Reid in saying they want to evaluate the current quarterbacks on the roster before deciding who should be leading the offense on the field. With the number one overall pick in the NFL draft to ponder expect Pederson to offer his insight whether or not Geno Smith or any other QB coming out of college would be a franchise quarterback or if the team should go with Johnny Football's blindside cover. Expect Matt Cassel to be let go during the offseason but not until the club has closed in on another veteran to pair with a pick from some round in April.

On the other side of the ball Bob Sutton will be the defensive coordinator. Last season Sutton ran the defense for Rex Ryan and the Jets. Does that mean Sutton's defense will be a higher pressure defense than Romeo Crennel's more chameleon approach? He believes that it is imperative to make the quarterback uncomfortable as often as possible but that doesn't mean blitzing all of the time. Sutton will continue running a 3-4 defense and to aid in building a bridge between defensive players and the new staff linebackers coach Gary Gibbs and defensive

backs Coach Emmitt Thomas will stay with the team.

Dave Toub will handle the third phase of the game. One of the most successful special teams coaches in the league, Toub oversaw the Bears kicking and return games since 2004 and had a kicker, punter and two returners go to the Pro Bowl under his watch. Chicago was tops in the NFL in special teams in 2007. Prior to his time with the Bears, Toub was special teams head for Reid in Philly when Brian Westbrook was a special teams ace punt returner. Of all the hirings this is perhaps one with the most potential for instant impact with Dexter McCluster, Devon Wiley, and Javier Arenas all with a fraction of the return potential realized since they've entered the league as kickoff and punt returners. Perhaps Toub will also help Reid realize the folly it would be to let punter Dustin Colquitt get away in free agency.

Reid has brought in some folks he had connections with in Philadelphia and Green Bay, reached to others and held on to familiar faces that he thinks can help bring talent and balance to his staff. Only time will tell if he is on track but right now Andy Reid is making all the right moves.



## Enrollment applications for the 2013-2014 school year will be available on Feb. 11, 2013

The Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) will begin accepting enrollment applications for the 2013-2014 school year beginning on Monday, Feb. 11.

Applications will be accepted for all Signature schools, comprehensive neighborhood schools, and early learning/Head Start beginning on that date. Beginning on Feb. 11, the application may be downloaded at [www.kcpspublicschools.org/enroll](http://www.kcpspublicschools.org/enroll) or obtained in hard copy form from any school or the Board of Education building, 1211 McGee St., Kansas City, MO 64106.



## Blood Donations Are Needed Every Day

Like the emergency room of a hospital, the American Red Cross must be prepared to respond to patient emergencies with blood products 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. Through the dedication of blood donors, the Red Cross can be prepared day in and day out, no matter when or where blood is needed.

Readily available blood helps save the lives of people like David Zien, who was on his way home on his motorcycle when the SUV in front of him lost control during a lane change and flipped onto its side, sending Zien nearly 350 feet. He was transported by helicopter to a hospital, where he received 32 pints of blood. Today, Zien says he attributes much of his survival to the generosity of blood donors.

All blood types are currently needed. For more information and to make an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

### Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

- Jackson County**  
Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Luke's East, 100 NE St. Luke's Blvd. in Lee's Summit, Mo.  
Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Swinney Rec Center, 5100 Rockhill Road in Kansas City, Mo.
- Johnson County**  
Feb. 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 920 Alta Lane in Olathe, Kan.  
Feb. 6 from 2-6 p.m. at Indian Creek Branch, 12990 S. Black Bob Road in Olathe, Kan.  
Feb. 7 from 3-7 p.m. at Oak Park Village Club House, 9670 Halsey Road in Lenexa, Kan.  
Feb. 8 from 7-11 a.m. at Trane Commercial Systems, 8014 Flint St. in Lenexa, Kan.  
Feb. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Valley View Bank, 7500 W. 95th St. in Overland Park, Kan.
- Leavenworth County**  
Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Armed Forces Insurance Building 325, 655 Biddle Ave. in Fort Leavenworth, Kan.  
Feb. 15 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Corrections Corp. of America, 100 Highway Terrace in Leavenworth, Kan.
- Wyandotte County**  
Feb. 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Living Water United Methodist Church, 3001 N. 115th St. in Kansas City, Kan.

### How to donate blood

Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment or for more information. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

### About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or join our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>

### Guadalupe Centers Inc. Pre-School Director Position Opening

**BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:** Plaza de Niños (PDN) is a program of the Guadalupe Centers, Inc. (GCI). PDN is a year-round bilingual, bicultural early childhood education center. Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), PDN provides its students with a safe and healthy environment, teachers who trained, access to excellent teaching materials, and a curriculum that is culturally sensitive, appropriately challenging and developmentally sound. PDN is also a local participant in the National Head Start Program serving qualified children ages 2-5 years. PDN is housed in the Francis Family Child Care Center on the Metropolitan Community College Penn Valley Campus.

**SUMMARY OF POSITION:** The Director is responsible for the day-to-day operations of PDN. In addition the position is responsible for ensuring compliance with all Head Start, federal, state, & city regulations, performance standards, budgets, and work plans pertaining to PDN programs. The Director provides strong leadership, oversight implementation, program vision, and staff management and development. The Director has extensive involvement with education and community partners, including the Family Conservancy, the Francis Family Learning Center, and Penn Valley Community College.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** Bachelor's degree in Education, Human Services, Business or Public Administration, or closely related field required. Minimum of three years relevant work experience in advanced administrative functions including administering comprehensive, community based early childhood and/or family development programs. Familiarity with managing grant-funded programs and knowledge of principles and practices of early childhood education.

For licensing purposes the Director must have: One hundred twenty (120) college semester hours. Twenty-four (24) of the one hundred twenty (120) hours must be in child-related courses. Six (6) of the twenty-four (24) college semester hours may include courses in business or management; or four (4) years' experience and twenty-four (24) college semester hours in child-related courses. Six (6) of the twenty-four (24) college semester hours may include courses in business or management.

**PREFERRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** Bilingual fluency in written and oral English/Spanish preferred. Prior relevant work experience with low income and diverse populations in a community or other relevant setting. Prior management experience in Head Start programs.

**REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AND PRINCIPAL CONTACTS:** Reports to the Associate Director of Education & Youth. Principal contacts include other agency staff, child care providers, children and their parents. Work involves extensive public contact and includes acting as a liaison with health professionals, community organizations, government agencies, business and schools.

**SALARY AND BENEFITS:** We offer competitive salary and benefit package commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**TO APPLY:** Please email [pmunoz@quadalupecenters.org](mailto:pmunoz@quadalupecenters.org) including the position you are applying for. Please include the following:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Three references (note: we will notify you before we contact them)

EOE

### Guadalupe Centers Inc. Human Resources Director Position

Guadalupe Centers Inc. has an opening for a Human Resources Director under the general supervision of the Chief Operations Officer, and will manage the overall Human Resources services, policies and programs for GCI and GES. Direct access to CEO as required for sensitive issues. Work closely with the COO to develop and implement an agency wide strategic human resources plan for the organization to assure efficiency, consistency and fairness. Maintain and enhance the organization's human resources effort by planning, development and implementation of employee relations and human resources policies, programs and practices. Major areas of responsibility include, but are limited to: policy development and documentation, recruiting and staffing, orientation/onboarding, benefits and compensation administration, employee relations, employee performance management, training and compliance with related laws and regulation.

### Education/Experience and Duties:

- Bachelor's Degree in Business, Human Resources or related field, PHR/SPHR preferred
- Have 8 -10 year's broad based experience in human resources, at least 3 at management level with strategic focus
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred
- Decision making skills based on law and regulation
- Ability to build organization and staff capacity and the processes to ensure an effective operation
- Knowledge of human resources best practices
- Attentive to detail, good organizational skills and ability to prioritize multiple tasks
- Demonstrated ability to effectively work with management personnel
- Strong working knowledge of State and Federal law and regulation related to employment
- Access to highly confidential personnel and financial date

**Salary and Benefits:** We offer competitive salary and benefit package commensurate with experience and qualifications

**To Apply:** Please email: [pmunoz@guadalupecenters.org](mailto:pmunoz@guadalupecenters.org) including the position you are applying for. Please include the following:

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Three references (note we will notify you before we contact them)

EOE

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The University of Central Missouri is currently seeking a qualified individual to serve as the Executive Director of Facilities Planning and Operations to develop, organize, and direct all phases of its facilities operations, including facilities operation and maintenance, custodial services, grounds, campus utilities, capital projects and financial management, along with energy management and sustainability programs. The position reports to the Vice President of Finance & Chief Operations Officer.

Minimum qualifications for the position are as follows: bachelor's degree in architecture, engineering, construction management or related field. Ten years of increasingly responsible facilities management experience including extensive facilities operations; staff leadership; operating and capital budgeting; master planning and capital projects management required. Previous higher education facilities management preferred.

To apply: please submit UCM online application for employment. Cover letter, resume, and complete contact information for three current professional references should be attached to the online application. Priority will be given to application materials received by 02/18/13. Salary commensurate with experience. For additional qualifications/application procedures please visit the web at [jobs.ucmo.edu](http://jobs.ucmo.edu) or call 660-543-4255. AA/EEO/ADA

Advertisement for RFP for Hickman Mills  
C-1 School District:

The Hickman Mills C-1 School District is accepting sealed bids for the following Hickman Mills C-1 Schools Request for Proposal for Internet Access RFP#011113-001 until 1:00 PM, CST. All bids are due at the stated time on Monday, February 11, 2013 at the Administration Center, 9000 Old Santa Fe Road, Kansas City, MO 64138. Bids will be publicly opened at this time. A copy of the Request for Proposal may be obtained by calling 816-316-7049 or by accessing the Hickman Mills C-1 School District website [www.hickmanmills.org](http://www.hickmanmills.org).



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NOTICE OF  
REQUEST FOR  
PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of Kansas City, Kansas hereby provides notice that it will receive proposals from licensed Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firms or consulting firms for services which include the production of design documents and construction inspection, for various physical improvements to be funded under a federal grant.

Written proposals will be received in person, or through the mail, until 5:00 p.m., CDT, on February 6, 2013 at the Kansas City Kansas Housing Authority office located at 1124 North 9th Street, Kansas City, Kansas. In selecting the A/E firm to perform these services consideration will be given to those criteria listed in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, and to negotiate with top-rated firms. All qualified firms, including minority-owned businesses, Section 3 businesses and women business enterprises, are invited to submit proposals.

The RFT, which contains the instruction for submitting proposals and scope of services required is available on our website: [www.kckha.org/Procurement/CurrentProcurementOpportunities/RFPs](http://www.kckha.org/Procurement/CurrentProcurementOpportunities/RFPs).

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on January 29, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administrative Offices at 1124 North 9th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

Questions regarding the RFP should be directed to Mr. Anthony J. Shomin, Modernization Coordinator at (913)-279-3436.

CID Accepting Proposals MBE/WBE

RFP for Sidewalk and Curb Repair in the River Market District area. The River Market CID is accepting proposals from qualified MBE/WBE professionals. The RFP is available online at <http://www.downtownkc.org/clean-safe-green/community-improvement/rfps-rfqs/> or by emailing Mark Rowlands at [mark@downtownkc.org](mailto:mark@downtownkc.org).



CLIENT MANAGER

Kansas State University's Division of Communications and Marketing seeks a full-time client manager. Bachelor's in advertising, marketing, business administration, communications or a related field required. Review begins Feb. 4, 2013. Visit [www.k-state.edu/vpcm/jobs](http://www.k-state.edu/vpcm/jobs) for description and to apply. Kansas State University is an EOE/Affirmative Action employer and a background check is required.

INVITATION TO BID

07000168- KCPD

East Patrol Campus Demolition -Pkg D-03  
Housing and Urban  
Development (HUD) Section 3

The General Services Department of Kansas City, Missouri is soliciting for Project 07000168 – Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) East Patrol Campus Demolition-Pkg D-03. Bidding Documents will be available online to all interested parties at the Kansas City, Missouri Plan Room, <http://www.kcmoplanroom.org>. All addenda will be posted at this location. Any document or plan may be viewed or downloaded from this location.

INVITATION TO BID

07000168- KCPD

East Patrol Campus Demolition -Pkg D-04  
Housing and Urban  
Development (HUD) Section 3

The General Services Department of Kansas City, Missouri is soliciting for Project 07000168 – Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) East Patrol Campus Demolition-Pkg D-04. Bidding Documents will be available online to all interested parties at the Kansas City, Missouri Plan Room, <http://www.kcmoplanroom.org>. All addenda will be posted at this location. Any document or plan may be viewed or downloaded from this location.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) document for the provision of the following services in the Missouri counties of Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2014 (July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014):

- Senior Center Services
- Site Transportation - Persons
- Site Transportation - Meals
- Special Transportation - Reserved
- Special Transportation - Lift/Ramp
- Coordinated Non-Urban Transportation
- Catering
- Homemaker/Personal Care
- Legal Services
- Mental Health Services
- Nutrition/Health Consultant
- Mental Health Services
- National Family Caregiver Support Programs
- Evidence-Based Health Promotion Programs
- Evidence-Based Medication Management

RFP's will be released on Friday, February 1, 2013. There will be several conferences focusing on the various services being requested. All conference dates, times and locations can be obtained by contacting Ms. Tonya Boston at (816) 701-8290, or by email at [tboston@marc.org](mailto:tboston@marc.org). Questions relating to proposal procedures, requirements and evaluation will be answered at these conferences. Sealed proposals will be accepted at the MARC office no later than Monday, 12:00 noon, March 4, 2013.

MARC hereby notifies all interested parties that it affirmatively ensures that all respondents to this notice are afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and that no respondent will be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, nationality, origin, disability, or sex in consideration of an award.

*Educated Pachuco, I want to get your thoughts about the shooting that took place near Northeast High School this past December. El chisme (the gossip) has it that it was gang related. Is that true? How can we stop all this? Concerned Student*

By  
LUIS CORDOBA & KATHY JULIO

**Dear Concerned Student,** I got a call about the shooting from the security director for the Kansas City Public Schools. Part of my job as the executive director of Student Intervention Programs is to coordinate the student intervention team's response plan to help the students and families who were affected by the shooting.

As I received bits and pieces of information from official sources as well as from the street, it became clear to me that this situation was not coincidental. It was about one set of gangbangers lying in wait to confront and shoot another set of rival gangbangers. I find it hard to believe, as the official news sources reported, that the victims were innocent teenagers "simply walking down the street."

Por favor! (Please!) When you're gangbanging, there is nothing simple about walking through enemy gang territory. Without giving this situation any more notoriety than it deserves, I do feel that it is important to talk about what happened

that day and why it happened. When we answer the "why" we will be able to see how we can help kids lead healthier and happier lives and stop the senseless violence.

First, what happened? A little bit after school let out, one group of three teenage boys leave Budd Park. Another group of five teenagers, three boys and two girls, approach them. The group of five teens confronts the group of three teens saying, "What's your problem?" All of the boys in the confrontational group are dressed in black hoodies. One of them happens to be carrying a sawed-off shotgun and, just his luck, finds that he has to use it and suddenly starts shooting. Sounds like a scene from a cheap B-rated movie. Knowing gang behavior, this conflict had been brewing for a while. It came to a head when the two rival groups came together and began talking smack to each other. La mirada (the stare down) and the smack are what ignited the fire.

Now why did this happen? Why were these black-hoodied cholos (Mexican-American gangbangers) running around with a shotgun listos para el pedo (ready to raise a stink)? What's more, they had a sawed-off shotgun, a powerful and concealable short-range weapon meant to bring down a considerable amount of carnage in a small area.

As a police officer in my early twenties, I understood the power of the gun. Having that Smith and

Wesson .38 caliber revolver at my side made me feel invincible. It made me feel protected. I wasn't el tonto (the stupid kid) anymore. Whenever I had my gun on me, me creí el chingón (I thought I was the badass). Back then I was immature. That is because my sense of powerlessness as a child

still lived in me as an adult. I should have been focused on my duty to protect and to serve, not on feeding my ego. Children, even more so, have a great need to feel safe and protected. That is because deep down they know that they cannot take care of themselves. So they look to their parents and caring adults to protect them and love them. Children want their parents to help them with their choices. They want to be told not to hang out in the streets, not to wear those clothes and look like gang members, not to use drugs and drink alcohol. But when kids feel abandoned because they don't have their mother or their father, when they live with parents who scream at each other and at them, when there is no supervision or caring discipline, these kids will rebel against their family and society and look for the love and protection they crave wherever they can find it. They search for that person who will be their leader and watch over them and tell them, "I will protect you at all costs." And the neighborhood gang is ready to give this child a membership application. If the application is approved, you get your ass beat by 15 of your newest family members. How cool is that? And if you are a girl, you get to pull a train (be gang raped) to show your allegiance to your new family. All to see if you have enough balls to join their gang and defend it all costs.



So once you are in the gang, one of your main duties is to get what you have been searching for: Power as a way to feel safe and protected. And the stronger your gang, the more power you have. So the cholos walk around their hood demanding respect as a way to bring power to their gang family. They chant to each other, "No one is going to disrespect us" while they dishonor their fathers and their mothers, while they disrespect women, and while they disrespect themselves by releasing their sense of powerlessness through violence. Bottom line: Violence is out-of-control anger used to instill fear and therefore assert power over a situation where the perpetrator feels powerless. In the case of this shooting, the power was the sawed-off shotgun.

So here is what I would say to all of this mess. You want real power? Go get an education. Education and the knowledge that comes with it will bring you a good paying job, true respect, and a real future. Education is the power that brings success. Where is your power when prison is your home? Where is your power when you are six feet under and pushing up daisies?

*The Educated Pachuco*

This column is dedicated to helping youth and families. My mission as the Educated Pachuco is to help people of all ages overcome prejudices and stereotypes. My desire is to encourage youth and families to examine life from a new perspective with the hope of motivating all peoples toward positive life change. If you have a question or concern that you are struggling with, please contact me on Facebook at ([www.facebook.com/educatedpachuco](http://www.facebook.com/educatedpachuco)). I look forward to getting to know you.

The Educated Pachuco.

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*Pachuco Educado: Quiero saber su opinión sobre los disparos que ocurrieron cerca de la escuela preparatoria del noereste el pasado diciembre. El chisme es que estuvo relacionada con una pandilla. ¿Es verdad? ¿Cómo podemos detener todo esto?*

*Estudiante Preocupado.*

Traduce  
GEMMA TORNERO

**Querido Estudiante Preocupado,** Recibí una llamada del director de seguridad de las Escuelas Públicas de Kansas City acerca de los disparos. Parte de mi trabajo como el director ejecutivo de los Programas de Intervención Estudiantiles es coordinar el plan de respuesta del equipo de intervención estudiantil para ayudar a los estudiantes y a las familias que fueron afectadas por los disparos.

Cuando recibí trozos de información de fuentes oficiales, así como de la calle, me quedó claro que esta situación no fue casual. Era sobre un grupo de pandilleros que está al acecho en espera de confrontar a otro grupo de pandilleros rivales. Me cuesta creer lo que las fuentes de noticias oficiales relataron que las víctimas eran adolescentes inocentes "que simplemente andan caminando por la calle". ¡Por favor! Cuando usted está en el pandillerismo, no hay nada simple respecto al caminar por el territorio de la pandilla enemiga. Sin dar a esta situación más mala fama de lo que merece, realmente siento que es importante hablar de lo que pasó ese día y por qué pasó. Cuando contestamos "el por qué", seremos capaces de ver cómo podemos ayudar a niños a llevar una vida más sana y feliz y detener esta violencia insensata.

¿En primer lugar, qué pasó? Un poquito después de que la escuela se terminó, un grupo de tres jóvenes se van del Parque Budd. Otro grupo de cinco adolescentes, tres muchachos y dos muchachas, se acercan a ellos. El grupo de cinco adolescentes se enfrenta al grupo de tres, diciendo "¿Cuál es su problema?" Todos los muchachos en el grupo agresor están vestidos

con sudaderas negras con capuchas. Uno de ellos resulta que lleva una escopeta recortada y, con su suerte, encuentra que él tiene que usarla y de repente comienza a disparar. Suena a una escena de una película de bajo presupuesto. Al conocer el comportamiento de pandillas, este conflicto se había estado preparando desde hace un tiempo. Esto se agravó cuando los dos grupos rivales se encontraron y comenzaron a hablar de golpe el uno contra el otro. La mirada y los reclamos son lo que encendieron el fuego.

¿Ahora por qué pasó esto? ¿Por qué estaban estos cholos mexicano-americanos por ahí con una escopeta listos para el pedo? Lo que va más allá, ellos tenían una escopeta recortada, un arma potente y de corto alcance que es usada para crear una considerable carnicería en una pequeña área.

Como policía, a los principios de mis años veinte, entendí el poder del arma. Al tener un revólver Smith y Wesson calibre .38 a mi lado, hacía que me sintiera invencible. Me sentía protegido. Yo no era más el 'tonto'. Siempre que yo tenía el arma conmigo, me creía el 'chingón'. En ese tiempo era inmaduro. Eso era porque mi sentido de impotencia siendo un niño todavía, vivía en mí como adulto. Debería de haberme concentrado en mi deber que era el de proteger y servir, no en la alimentación de mi ego.

Los niños aún más tienen una gran necesidad de sentirse seguros y protegidos. Es porque en el fondo ellos saben que no pueden cuidar de ellos mismos. Entonces ellos buscan a sus padres y adultos cariñosos para protegerlos y amarlos. Los niños quieren que sus padres les ayuden con sus decisiones. Ellos quieren que les digan que no anden en las calles, que no usen esa ropa porque parecen integrantes de pandillas, no drogarse y beber alcohol. Pero cuando los niños se sienten abandonados porque no tienen a su madre o a su padre, cuando ellos viven con padres que se gritan el uno al otro y también a ellos, cuando no hay ninguna supervisión o disciplina humanitaria, estos niños se rebelarán contra su familia y la sociedad, y buscarán el amor y protección que ellos ansían dondequiera que ellos puedan encontrarlo. Ellos buscan a aquella persona que será su líder y los vigilará y les dirá, "Te protegeré

a toda costa". Y la pandilla vecina está lista para dar a este niño una solicitud de ingreso. Si la solicitud es aprobada, tú consigues ser pateado por 15 integrantes de tu nueva familia. ¿Qué genial es esto? Y si tú eres una muchacha, te pones a tirar un tren (ser violada por la pandilla) para mostrar tu lealtad a tu nueva familia. Todo para ver si tú tienes suficientes agallas para afiliarse a su pandilla y defenderla a toda costa.

Entonces una vez que tú estás en la pandilla, uno de tus principales deberes es conseguir lo que tú has estado buscando: el poder como una manera de sentirte seguro y protegido. Y entre más fuerte tu pandilla, más poder tienes. Entonces los cholos andan por su vecindario demandando respeto como una manera de traer el poder a su familia pandillera. Ellos se gritan el uno al otro, "Nadie nos va a faltar el respeto", mientras ellos deshonran a sus padres y sus madres, mientras ellos le faltan el respeto a mujeres, y mientras ellos se faltan el respeto dejando salir su sentimiento de impotencia a través de la violencia. El punto fundamental: la violencia es cólera fuera de control, usada para infundir el miedo y por lo tanto hacer valer el poder sobre una situación donde el autor se siente impotente. En el caso de estos disparos, el poder era la escopeta de corto alcance.

Por lo tanto aquí está lo que yo diría de todo este lío. ¿Tú quieres el verdadero poder? Ve y consigue una 'educación'. La educación y el conocimiento que viene con eso, te traerán un trabajo bien pagado, respeto verdadero, y un futuro real. La educación es el poder que trae el éxito. ¿Dónde está tu poder cuando la prisión es tu casa? ¿Dónde está tu poder cuando estás tres metros bajo tierra y debajo de unas margaritas?

*Pachuco Educado*



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**Kansas City Hispanic News**

Large Party On The Mall

Gran Fiesta En La Alameda

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among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

The president touched on many themes that surfaced during the campaign and will be a part of his second term agenda.

Regarding the economy the President said, “For we, the people, understand that our country cannot succeed when a shrinking few do very well and a growing many barely make it. We believe that America’s prosperity must rest upon the broad shoulders of a rising middle class.”

Obama addressed the issue of health care, and social security.

“We, the people, still believe that every citizen deserves a basic measure of security and dignity. We must make the hard choices to reduce the cost of health care and the size of our deficit. But we reject the belief that America must choose between caring for the generation that built this country and investing in the generation that will build its future.”

The commitments we make to each other through Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security, these things do not sap our initiative, they strengthen us. They do not make us a nation of takers; they free us to take the risks that make this country great.”

Obama again expressed the need to combat climate change. “We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that the failure to do so would betray our children and future generations. Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires and crippling drought and more powerful storms.”

The president also made a plea for equality. “It is now our generation’s task to carry on what those pioneers began. For our journey is not complete until our wives, our mothers and daughters, can earn a living equal to their efforts. Our journey is

not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law, for if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well.”

The president also referenced two important issues form the last election. “Our journey is not complete until no citizen is forced to wait for hours to exercise the right to vote. Our journey is not complete until we find a better way to welcome the striving, hopeful immigrants who still see America as a land of opportunity -- until bright young students and engineers are enlisted in our workforce rather than expelled from our country

The inaugura-tion ceremony was carried live by most media organizations and reached a wide audience. The speeches and performances lent the event a celebratory air and Latinos across the country could bask in the festivities. Latinos turned out for Obama in significant numbers in this election and that was reflected on the stage.

Supreme court Justice Sonia Sotomayor of Puerto Rican descent ancestry stood on the podium as the first Latino Supreme Court Justice in the history of the country. Poet Richard Blanco, born to Cuban exiles, delivered the inaugural poem. He was the first Latino and openly gay person to do so.



President Barack Obama was joined by his wife Michelle and his two daughters as he took the oath of office this past Monday. The president also made a plea for equality. “It is now our generation’s task to carry on what those pioneers began.” El presidente Barack Obama estuvo acompañado por su esposa Michelle y sus dos hijas cuando tomó posesión de su cargo el pasado lunes. El presidente también hizo una súplica a la igualdad. “Es ahora, la tarea de nuestra generación, el de continuar lo que aquellos pioneros comenzaron”.

On Sunday evening, an inaugural celebration, Latino Inaugural 2013: In performance at the Kennedy Center, was hosted by actress Eva Longoria and featured performers Jose Feliciano, Chita Rivera, Rita Moreno and Prince Royce. The celebration was attended by Vice President Joe Biden and his wife.

Following the President’s speech, popular performer Beyonce gave a rousing rendition of the Stars Spangled Banner. When the presidential party retreated from the Capital steps and headed into the confines of the Congressional building, the crowds began to dissolve with some lingering and others headed for other celebrations with the fresh memory of having participated in a historic moment.

CONT./PÁGINA I

sean dotados por su Creador con ciertos derechos intransferibles; entre éstos, son la vida, la libertad, y la búsqueda de la felicidad”.

El presidente mencionó muchos temas que emergieron durante la campaña, y serán una parte de la agenda en su segundo término.

En cuanto a la economía, el presidente dijo: “Ya que nosotros; la gente, entendemos que nuestro país no puede tener éxito cuando unos pocos están muy bien y muchos apenas consiguen estar bien. Creemos que la prosperidad de América, debe descansar sobre los amplios hombros de una clase media creciente”.

Obama mencionó la cuestión de asistencia médica y seguridad social.

“Nosotros; la gente, todavía creemos que cada ciudadano, merece una justa medida de seguridad y dignidad. Debemos tomar las decisio-nes difíciles para reducir el costo de asistencia médica y el tamaño de nuestro

déficit. Pero rechazamos la creencia de que América, debe elegir entre cuidar de la generación que construyó éste país e invertir en la generación que construirá su futuro”.

“Los compromisos que hacemos el uno al otro a través de Medicare, Medicaid y la Seguridad Social; estas cosas no debilitan nuestra iniciativa, éstas nos fortalecen. Éstas no nos hacen una nación de interesados; éstas nos liberan para tomar los riesgos que hacen a éste país grande”.

Obama otra vez expresó la necesidad de combatir el cambio climático. “Responderemos a la amenaza de cambio climático, sabiendo, que el fracaso de no efectuarlo así, traicionaría a nuestros niños y a generaciones futuras. Algunos todavía pueden negar el juicio aplastante de la ciencia, pero ninguno puede evitar el impacto devastador de incendios, mutilante sequía y tormentas más potentes”.

El presidente también hizo una súplica a la igualdad. “Es ahora, la tarea de nuestra generación, el de continuar lo que aquellos pioneros comenzaron. Ya que nuestro viaje no está completo, hasta que nuestras esposas, nuestras madres e hijas, puedan ganarse una vida de acuerdo a sus esfuerzos. Nuestro viaje no está completo hasta que nuestros hermanos y hermanas ‘gay’, sean tratados como cualquier otro ante la ley, ya que si realmente somos creados iguales, entonces seguramente el amor al que nos comprometemos el uno al otro debe ser igual también”.

El presidente también se refirió a la dos temas importantes que formaron la última elección.

“Nuestro viaje no está completo hasta que ningún ciudadano sea obligado, a esperar durante horas para ejercer el derecho de votar. Nuestro viaje no está completo hasta que encontremos una mejor manera de dar la bienvenida a los esfuerzos y esperanzas de los inmigrantes, que todavía ven a América, como una tierra de oportunidad - hasta que los brillantes jóvenes estudiantes y los ingenieros, sean enlistados en nuestro personal, en vez de ser expulsados de nuestro país.

La ceremonia de inauguración fue transmitida en vivo por la mayor parte de los medios de comunicación, y alcanzó un amplio auditorio. Los discursos y las actuaciones prestaron al acontecimiento, un aire de celebración, y los latinos a lo largo y ancho del país, pudieron disfrutar de las festividades. Los latinos apoyaron a Obama en números significativos en ésta elección y ésto se reflejo en el escenario.

La Ministra de la Suprema Corte Sonia Sotomayor; de ascendencia puertorriqueña, estuvo de pie en el podio, como la primer ministro latina de la Suprema Corte en la historia del país. El poeta Richard Blanco; nacido de exiliados cubanos, entregó el poema inaugural. Él era el primer latino y persona abiertamente ‘gay’ en hacerlo.

El domingo por la noche, una celebración preliminar llamada, ‘Inaugural Latino 2013’; con actuaciones en el Centro Kennedy, fue presentado por la actriz Eva Longoria, y los artistas que se presentaron fueron: José Feliciano, Chita Rivera, Rita Moreno y Prince Royce. A la celebración asistieron el Vicepresidente Joe Biden y su esposa.

Después del discurso presidencial, la popular artista Beyonce dio una conmovedora interpretación de la Bandera de Estrellas Centelleantes. Cuando la fiesta presidencial se retiró de los escalones del Capitolio y se dirigió a los límites del edificio del Congreso, las multitudes comenzaron a disolverse con algunos persistentes y otros se dirigieron hacia otras celebraciones con la memoria fresca de haber participado en un momento histórico.

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## Cruz Gallegos Has The Support Of His Community



By  
JOE ARCE

This past weekend on January 19, family and friends gathered to celebrate the last performance of seventeen-year old Cruz Gallegos, a singer with the popular Topeka band Picante.

Gallegos decided to retire from the band in order to pursue a higher calling. He will be entering seminary this fall in his path to becoming a priest.

"I feel so joyful and everyone is here to support me... and everyone is here for me. Look how much love is around us. ... Look how much good there is in this world and support for one another - that is great," he told Hispanic News.

The farewell party was set to start at 7 p.m. at the Marlo Cuevas Balandran Activity Center. Classmates, families and friends started arriving at 5:30 p.m. and by 7 p.m. a full house of 500 plus waited for the show to begin.

Gallegos was amazed by the huge turnout. "I thought there would be about 200 people and look our whole community has come out. It is just amazing. ... It makes me think there is a lot of love in our community and support for what I'm doing and it makes me think I'm doing the right thing."

Saturday was his swan song and an emotional Gallegos sang a mixture of his favorite songs to an enthusiastic mix of fans and family who crowded the stage. He has been a big part of the band Picante for the last nine years.

The emotion was overwhelming. "It hasn't hit me yet and I don't think it will hit me for a little while," he said. "It will hit me when I see them perform without me ... then it will hit me. ...It is going to be tough."

But he is certain of one thing. "Now I know I have a lot of people behind me. I feel a lot more comfortable with what I am doing and God is telling me, 'Son, I'm going to take care of you.' The church is truly my family."

Area bands from both the Kansas City Missouri and Topeka donated their time to Cruz Gallegos farewell party. Gallegos and his guest enjoyed their music and entertainment.

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