



Katherine Amato lives for the joy of science.

See page 7 for complete story.

Katherine Amato vive para la alegría de la ciencia.

Vea la historia completa en la página 7.

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KANSAS CITY Hispanic News

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YOUR LATINO CONNECTION SINCE 1996 | TÚ CONEXIÓN LATINA DESDE 1996

6 DE JUNIO DEL 2013

FONDO HISPANO DE BECAS EN EL AREA METROPOLITANA DE KANSAS CITY

La Fundacion “Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund” por su nombre en Ingles continúa su historia de 29 años en la concesión de becas a estudiantes hispanos en el área metropolitana de Kansas City. Este año el fondo otorgó \$ 325.000 a 226 estudiantes.

La premiacion de los “2013 Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund” se llevará a cabo el 6 de junio. El evento es presentado por UMKC y se llevará a cabo en el Centro de Artes, James C. Olson de UMKC de 5:30 a 8:00 pm

El evento reunira a más de 400 líderes de la comunidad, estudiantes, defensores de negocios latinos y representantes de colegios y universidades para una noche inspiradora. Este evento también celebrara a los líderes de la comunidad, los defensores de empresas y representantes de colegios/universidades, que han jugado un papel en la promoción de oportunidades educativas para nuestros aspirantes estudiantes hispanos.

“Estoy agradecida por ser, una vez más, uno de los favorecidos de la beca hispana”, dijo Isamara Cortes Cruz, beneficiaria del 2013 HSF (Hispanic Scholarship Fund, por su sigla en ingles). “Esta beca demuestra el gran apoyo de las organizaciones por la educación. Su creencia y la confianza en mí de llegar a la educación superior no sólo me impacta, sino que afecta a los residentes de los alrededores también. Las oportunidades para demostrar mis habilidades y cumplir mis sueños son los mayores logros a los que siempre llegare. Después de recibir mi título, me comprometo a regresar a Kansas City para devolverlo a la comunidad, quien me animó a terminar mi Carrera.

HSF HA OTORGADO ... / PÁGINA 4

GREATER KANSAS CITY HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund continues its 29-year history of awarding scholarships to Hispanic students in the Kansas City Metropolitan area. This year the fund awarded \$325,000 to 226 students.

The 2013 Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund Awards will take place on June 6. The event is presented by UMKC and will be held at UMKC's James C. Olson Performing Arts Center from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The event serves to bring together more than 400 community leaders, students, Latino business supporters and college and university representatives for an inspiring evening. The ceremony also celebrates those community leaders, business supporters and college/university representatives who have played a role in furthering educational opportunity to our aspiring Hispanic students.

“I am thankful for being, once again, a recipient of the Hispanic Scholarship,” said 2013 HSF recipient Isamara Cortes Cruz. “This scholarship proves how great organizations support education. Their belief and trust in me of reaching a higher education will not only impact me, but the surrounding residents as well. The opportunities to show my skills and fulfill my dreams are the biggest accomplishments I will ever reach. Upon receiving my degree, I commit to returning to Kansas City to give back to the community that encouraged me to finish my career.”

HSF HAS AWARDED ... / PAGE 4

KCK Police Recruiting Underway La Policía de KCK, Con Reclutamiento En Marcha



KCK Police are recruiting both men and women to join their law enforcement department. Twenty-one-year old Joseph Brewington has been waiting to turn twenty-one so that he could apply. “I really want to become a police officer.”

La Policía de KCK está reclutando a hombres y mujeres a unirse a su departamento. Joseph Brewington con Veintiún años de edad, estuvo esperando cumplir los veintiún años para poder aplicar. “Yo realmente deseo convertirme en un oficial de policía.”

By
JOE ARCE & JOSE FAUS

The Kansas City Kansas Police Department is accepting applications for police officers. The department held an open house at the Police training academy on the campus of Kansas City Kansas Community College (7340 State Avenue) in mid-May.

The open house offered an opportunity for interested individuals to pick up, fill out or turn in an application. Human resources members were on hand to field questions and spread the word about the department.

Jonathan Miller came out to hear the pitch. “I have been thinking about it all year. I tried to apply last year but it was a little too late. When I heard from my church that they (police department) were taking applications again... I wanted to fill one out.”

Miller told Hispanic News that he is ready to make a career choice. “I see this as a career. I want to serve my country and my community to make it safer, help people in the streets and keep crime to a minimum.”

Twenty-one-year old Joseph Brewington has been waiting to turn twenty-one so that he could apply.

PAY IS IN ... / PAGE 3

Traduce
GEMMA TORNERO

El Departamento de Policía de Kansas City Kansas, está aceptando solicitudes para agentes de policía. El departamento celebró una jornada a puertas abiertas en la academia de formación de la policía, en el campus del Kansas City Kansas Community College (7340 State Avenue) a mediados de mayo.

La jornada de puertas abiertas ofrece una oportunidad para que las personas interesadas puedan recoger, rellenar y entregar una solicitud. Estuvieron presentes personal de recursos humanos, para contestar preguntas y correr la voz sobre el departamento.

Jonathan Miller se acerco a escuchar el llamado. “He estado pensando en ello durante todo el año. Traté de aplicar el año pasado, pero fue un poco tarde. Cuando me enteré por parte de mi iglesia que ellos (la policía) estaban tomando solicitudes de nuevo, yo quise llenar una”.

Miller dijo a Hispanic News que está listo para hacer una elección de carrera. “Veo ésto como una carrera. Quiero servir a mi país y a mi comunidad para que sean más seguros, ayudar a la gente en las calles y mantener la delincuencia a un mínimo”.

EL PAGO ESTA ... / PÁGINA 3

Fast-Pitch Game Harkens to Another Time El Juego De Softbol Rápido, Se Escucha En Otro Tiempo

By
JOE ARCE & JOSE FAUS

An honor was bestowed to 5 area former Fast-Pitch softball players: They were inducted in the Mexican American Baseball Hall of Fame at Mulkey Square Field on KC Westside. The honored inductees are: Candido Chavez Jr., Gilbert “Gilly” Tinoco, Daniel “Stuff” Serna, Crescentio Ramos, Jesse Gonzales. Over the years these players have come from both Kansas and Missouri to play the game of Fast-Pitch softball baseball.

It is a unique game in many ways and one that has been slowly fading from the minds of young Latinos. Fast-pitch softball is the game and it has a

“THE STORIES ... / PAGE 6

Traduce
GEMMA TORNERO

Se otorgaron honores a 5 ex jugadores de softbol rápido de la zona: Fueron incluidos en el Salón de la Fama México-Americano en el Campo Mulkey, en el Westside de KC. Los homenajeados de honor son: Cándido Chávez Jr., Gilbert “Gilly” Tinoco, Daniel “Stuff” Serna, Crescentio Ramos y Jesse González. A través de los años, estos jugadores han venido de Kansas y Missouri para jugar el juego de béisbol softbol rápido.

Es un juego único en muchos aspectos, y uno de los que ha estado poco a poco desapareciendo de la mente de los jóvenes latinos. El juego es Softball Rápido y tiene una larga historia en la

“LAS HISTORIAS ... / PÁGINA 6

For the five former fast pitch softball players, being surrounded with other Hall of Fame inductees on Memorial Day weekend was an honor for them all.

Para los cinco ex-jugadores de softbol de lanzamiento rápido, el estar rodeados de otros homenajeados del Salón de la Fama en la celebración del Día Conmemorativo del fin de semana pasado, fue un honor para todos.



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CONT/PAGE 1

“I really want to become a police officer. ... I started thinking about it seriously when I was in high school. That was when I really started thinking about what I wanted to do with my life. ... The only thing that kept me from going for it was my age.”

Brewington is open to moving to pursue his dream, but he would prefer to stay in the area where he was raised to be near his family and his fiancée.

“My fiancée ... was not very happy about it but she understands that I have a passion for it” he said. “She started to come around to it and accepts, and now she supports me a hundred percent on whatever I want to do. If she did not support me I would probably not be here because I have to have her behind me,” he added.

KCK Officer John Whaley has been on the force for 18 years and was on hand during the open house to speak with applicants. He told Hispanic News he always wanted to serve the community where he was born and raised. He originally wanted to be a fireman like his father until one of his best friends was hired into the department.

“All he talked about was how much he couldn’t wait to get to work every day,” recalled Whaley. “I said, ‘I need to try that’ and once I did I saw what he meant.”

It is that enthusiasm for community and work that Whaley hopes to infuse candidates with.

“You tell them what a great city this is to live in and what a great Unified Government to work for. We tell them what a great police department we have here and how much they would enjoy coming to work everyday and living in this city and everything it has to offer to them,” he explained.

He sees the county’s growth as an incentive for people wanting to apply. “Our image has improved with the [Kansas] Speedway and the Legends being here and our improvements to downtown KCK and just the positive growth we are having throughout the city. We have also seen crime go down due to positive policing.”

Whaley added that the city’s pay is very competitive to area and other cities across the country. “You have to be up there with the rest of them in order to stay with the flow.”

Starting pay for a KCK police officer is \$40,417 a year going to \$62,746 after five years and \$72,729 after 19 years. Vacation pay ranges from three weeks the first year up to six weeks with 11 holidays and 15 sick days.

There is no college requirement only a high school diploma or a GED equivalent. The department offers generous reimbursement for those seeking college credits. College work provides an additional \$50 dollars monthly for those with 12 college credits up to \$155 a month for those with a Master’s degree.

Michelle Eskina, employment administrator with the Unified Government talked of another incentive.

“We of course welcome everyone to apply, however if you are bilingual and Spanish there is additional incentive pay for being bilingual. It helps the citizen feel more at ease when someone is able to understand them and communicate exactly what they are trying to communicate. It is a benefit for the community and the department,” she said.

From experience, Whaley knows that people are likely to keep themselves from applying without thinking through the possibility or talking to a recruiter. He has had instances where, “someone feels that they are too nice a person to be able to do the work. I ask them ‘has there been time in your life where you have had to not be nice in order to control a situation?’ and they say, ‘yeah I have. Maybe I can do that.’”

The deadline for applications is July 17, 4 p.m. For more information, contact a recruiter by calling 913-573-JOIN (5646). Those interested can pick up applications at City Hall, Human Resources, room 646 at 7th and Ann, or they can visit police headquarters at 700 Minnesota. They can also visit the training academy and get an application or request one to be mailed by calling 913-573-JOIN (5646) or visiting the web at www.kckpd.org

El Pago Está En Línea Con El Promedio Nacional

CONT/PÁGINA 1

Con veintiún años de edad, Joseph Brewington, ha estado esperando a cumplir sus veintiún años para que pudiera aplicar.

“Tengo muchas ganas de convertirme en un oficial de policía. Empecé a pensarlo en serio cuando estaba en la escuela preparatoria. Entonces fue cuando realmente empecé a pensar en lo que quería hacer con mi vida. La única cosa que me detenía en hacerlo era mi edad”.

Brewington está abierto a cambiar de residencia para perseguir su sueño, pero él prefiere permanecer en el área dónde fue criado para estar cerca de su familia y su novia.

“Mi novia no estaba muy contenta al respecto, pero ella entiende que tengo una pasión por la policía”, dijo. “Ella comenzó a entrar en razón al respecto y lo acepta, ahora ella me apoya al cien por ciento en lo que sea que quiero hacer. Si ella no me hubiera apoyado, probablemente no estaría aquí porque tengo que tenerla detrás de mí”, agregó.

El oficial de la policía de KCK John Whaley ha estado en la fuerza durante 18 años, y estaba a la mano durante la jornada a puertas abiertas para hablar con los solicitantes. Él le dijo a Hispanic News que siempre quiso servir a la comunidad en la que nació y se crió. En un principio quería ser bombero como su padre, hasta que uno de sus mejores amigos fue contratado en el departamento.

“Lo único de lo que hablaba era de lo mucho que esperaba para ir a trabajar todos los días”, recordó Whaley. “Le dije: ‘Tengo que probar eso’ y una vez que lo vi lo quería decir”.

Es el entusiasmo por la comunidad y el trabajo lo que Whaley espera infundir con los candidatos.

“Usted les dice que gran ciudad es esta para vivir, y que es un Gobierno Unificado grandioso para trabajar. Les decimos acerca del gran departamento de policía que tenemos aquí y lo mucho que disfrutarían venir a trabajar todos los días, y vivir en esta ciudad, y todo lo que tiene que ofrecerles a ellos”, explicó.

Él ve el crecimiento de la comarca como un incentivo para la gente que desea aplicar. “Nuestra imagen ha mejorado con el Kansas Speedway y Legends estando aquí y nuestras mejoras en el centro de KCK y simplemente el crecimiento positivo que estamos teniendo en la ciudad. También hemos visto bajar la delincuencia debido a la positiva labor policial”.

Whaley añadió que la remuneración por parte de la ciudad es muy competitiva en la zona y otras ciudades de todo el país. “Hay que estar ahí arriba con el resto de ellos con el fin de ir con la corriente”.

El sueldo inicial de un agente de policía de KCK es de \$ 40.417 dólares al año, llegando

hasta \$62.746 dólares después de cinco años y \$ 72.729 dólares después de 19 años. Los rangos de las vacaciones pagadas son de tres semanas, el primer año hasta seis semanas con 11 días festivos y 15 días de enfermedad.

No hay ningún requisito universitario, sólo un diploma de escuela preparatoria o su equivalente GED. El departamento ofrece un generoso reembolso para aquellos que buscan créditos universitarios. Con estudios universitarios se ofrecen un adicional de \$ 50 dólares mensuales para las personas con 12 créditos universitarios, hasta \$ 155 dólares por mes para los que tienen una maestría.

Michelle Eskina, administradora de empleo con el Gobierno Unificado habló de otro incentivo.

“Nosotros, por supuesto, damos la bienvenida a todos a aplicar, sin embargo, si usted es bilingüe y latino, hay un pago de incentivos adicionales por ser bilingüe. Ayuda a que el ciudadano se sienta más a gusto cuando alguien es capaz de entender y comunicar exactamente lo que están tratando de comunicar. Es un beneficio para la comunidad y el departamento”, dijo.

Por experiencia, Whaley sabe que la gente se detiene de aplicar sin pensar en la posibilidad o hablar con un reclutador. Ha tenido casos en los que, “alguien se siente que son demasiado buenos como persona para ser capaz de hacer el trabajo. Les pregunto que si “ha habido un momento en su vida en la que ha tenido que dejar de ser amable, con el fin de controlar la situación?” Y dicen ‘sí lo he tenido que hacer’. Tal vez yo puedo hacer eso”.

La fecha límite para entregar las solicitudes es el 17 de julio a las 4:00 p.m. Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con un reclutador llamando al 913-573-JOIN (5646). Los interesados pueden recoger las solicitudes en el Ayuntamiento, en Recursos Humanos, sala 646 en la calle 7 y Ann, o pueden visitar la sede de la policía en el número 700 de Minnesota. También pueden visitar la academia de entrenamiento y obtener solicitud o si desea que le sea enviada por correo una petición, llame al 913-573-JOIN (5646) o visite la red en www.kckpd.org

How The Ex-Presidents Club Is Making the World Better

By JAMES K. GLASSMAN

As former President George W. Bush, joined by President Obama and three living former presidents, recently dedicated his library in Dallas, it’s important to remember that presidential libraries are relatively new. In 1941, while he was still in office, Franklin D. Roosevelt established the first such archive in Hyde Park, N.Y., to preserve personal papers and mementos from his time in office. His successor, Harry Truman, signed the Presidential Libraries Act into law, authorizing the National Archives to help set up and operate these treasure troves of American politics and policy. There are now 13 presidential libraries. From the beginning, these institutions have been grand storehouses of history. But in recent years, they’ve also become home bases for former presidents’ efforts to make the world better.

That’s the context for the George W. Bush Presidential Center. It will be an archive and a museum, certainly, but it will also be a hub for the former president and wife Laura to pursue their long-standing passions, such as fighting disease in Africa and inspiring dissidents in Iran, Burma and Cuba.

A big reason the libraries have evolved in recent years into hubs of social action is that so many presidents today leave office with productive decades still ahead of them. With the exception of Ronald Reagan, who left the White House two weeks short of age 78, modern U.S. presidents have been reentering civilian life at around the average age of Fortune 500 CEOs.

That leaves these dynamic men facing a unique challenge: What to do after leaving the most powerful job on the planet?

Liberated from the bonds of office, the paths chosen by former presidents have tended to mirror the public service causes that drove them to run for office in the first place.

Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford were all active in public life following their presidencies, writing books, speaking out on politics and establishing presidential libraries. But the man who really invented the modern post-presidency was Jimmy Carter, who left office at age 56 and quickly established the Carter Center, in Atlanta, which has focused on curbing neglected tropical diseases and observing elections in tough environments. Thanks in large



A big reason the libraries have evolved in recent years into hubs of social action is that so many presidents today leave office with productive decades still ahead of them. With the exception of Ronald Reagan, who left the White House two weeks short of age 78, modern U.S. presidents have been reentering civilian life at around the average age of Fortune 500 CEOs.

part to the center’s efforts, cases of Guinea worm disease have dropped from 3.5 million in 1986 to fewer than 542 worldwide today.

One of the surprises of George H.W. Bush’s rich post-presidential life was his joining forces with Bill Clinton, the Democrat who defeated him in 1992. Bush, who left office at 68, and Clinton, who left at age 54, have teamed up to raise funds for emergency aid in the wake of major global disasters, including the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Clinton’s foundation has focused primarily on reducing economic inequality and improving global health, with a focus on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. The Clinton Global Initiative, meanwhile, convenes leaders to make hundreds of specific commitments to improve lives. George W. Bush left the White House four years ago, a vigorous 62. Since then, away from cameras and partisanship, he too has pursued causes that have motivated him since before he ran for governor of Texas.

Those causes have formed the agenda for the George W. Bush Institute, which was launched in November 2009 and now quietly manages 13 programs linked by a common

thread of promoting freedom by removing constraints on realizing human potential. As Bush has said, “One aspect of freedom is for people to be free from disease.” For that reason, his institute has focused on disease, particularly on cervical cancer, which needlessly kills hundreds of thousands of women in Africa. The Bush Institute is working with partners that include the State Department and private foundations and businesses to diagnose and treat the disease in early stages in such countries as Zambia and Botswana. Another Bush Institute program has brought dozens of talented Egyptian women to the U.S. to provide them with the tools to free them to build strong civil society institutions at home. Other programs seek to improve the quality of America’s school principals and to intervene in middle school to prevent dropouts later. Obama will be 55 when he leaves office. Many of the presidential hopefuls for the 2016 election are in their 40s and 50s, and would likewise leave office with many fruitful years ahead. As new members join this elite club, we will be able to look forward to some fascinating post-presidential careers. James K. Glassman is the founding executive director of the George W. Bush Institute.

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HSF Ha Otorgado Más De 3.000 Becas Por Un Total De Más De \$ 2 Millones

La entrega de premios está abierto al público. El valor para boleto individual es de \$25 y se puede adquirir poniéndose en contacto con Jackie Baker (baker@gkccf.org) o 816-627-3414. El asesor de Asuntos Hispanos del Comité Nacional Demócrata y ex-director, Lider Iniciador para la Excelencia Educativa de los Hispanoamericanos de la Casa Blanca, Juan Sepulveda, dara el discurso inaugural. Juan creció en un barrio de clase obrera mexicana-estadounidense en Topeka, Kansas.

La fundación “Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund”, desde su creación en 1984, ha otorgado más de 3.000 becas por un total de más de \$ 2 millones a través del dinero recaudado de los sectores público y privado, así como becas de contrapartida de los colegios y universidades de la zona. La fundación “Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund” es supervisada por el Fondo de Desarrollo Hispano.

El Fondo de Desarrollo Hispano, es un asociado de la Fundación de la Comunidad de Kansas City, que ofrece apoyo filantrópico a los programas que fomentan la expresión de la cultura hispana y mejoran la calidad de vida de las familias hispanas en el área metropolitana de Kansas City. Para obtener más información, visite www.hispanicdevelopmentfund.org.

La Fundación de la Comunidad de Kansas City se ha situado entre las diez mejores fundaciones comunitarias en los Estados Unidos desde 1999, entregando productos y servicios innovadores que hacen donaciones de caridad fácil, eficaz y divertida para todas las edades. La Fundación de la Comunidad anima a los donantes para apoyar a las causas que les interesen. Para obtener más información, visite www.gkccf.org.

HSF Has Awarded More Than 3,000 Scholarships Totaling More Than \$2 Million

The awards ceremony is open to the public. Individual tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by contacting Jackie Baker at baker@gkccf.org or 816-627-3414. The keynote address will be given by Juan Sepulveda, senior advisor for Hispanic Affairs, Democratic National Committee and former director, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. Juan grew up in a working class Mexican-American neighborhood in Topeka, Kansas.

The Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund, since its inception in 1984, has awarded more than 3,000 scholarships totaling more than \$2 million through money raised from the public and private sector, as well as matching scholarships from area colleges and universities. The Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Fund is overseen by the Hispanic Development Fund.

The Hispanic Development Fund, an affiliate of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, provides philanthropic support to programs that foster expression of Hispanic culture and improve the quality of life of Hispanic families in the Greater Kansas City area. To learn more, visit www.hispanicdevelopmentfund.org.

The Greater Kansas City Community Foundation has ranked among the top ten largest community foundations in America since 1999, delivering innovative products and services that make charitable giving easy, meaningful and fun for all ages. The Community Foundation encourages donors to support the causes they care about. For more information, visit www.gkccf.org.

Congratulations | Felicitaciones 2013 Greater Kansas City Hispanic Scholarship Recipients | Beneficiarios de Becas

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Gabriella	Acosta	Sandra	Garcia	Marisa	Ortiz
Areli	Aguilar	Vanessa	Garcia	Nicole	Ortiz
Victor	Aguilar	Erika	Garcia-Reyes	Sergio	Ortiz
Jessica	Alajo-Sanchez	Pio	Gasca	Taylor	Ortiz
Asher	Allman	Karen	Gaytan	Viviana	Ortiz
Anahy	Alvarado	Ketzya	Gaytan	Karla	Oseguera
Juan	Alvarado	Alexander	Giraldo	Carlos	Pacheco III
Camila	Alvarez	Natalie	Gonzales	Elena	Palmerin-Marquez
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Kellin	Garcia	Juan	Olivas Torres		

Scholarship Honors Coach Troy Hodges' Life

By DEBRA DECOSTER

Some people walk into your life and leave an imprint on your soul. Troy Hodges was one of those people who made a difference in each student's and athlete's life over the 30 years that he coached at Harmon High School in Kansas City, Kansas. He was a dedicated teacher and coach who not only wanted his students to succeed in the classroom, on the football field or the wrestling mat but also to succeed in life.

He applied his lessons to real life experiences and gave them the skills they needed as they faced obstacles. He instilled in them discipline and inspired them to work hard, set goals, and face their problems and look for a positive outcome.

“Coach Hodges taught us to stay positive and face adversity head on and not avoid it. He knew it would make you a better person and it was usually a more positive outcome,” said Agustin Ramirez, former athlete and assistant coach with Hodges.

Ramirez admired the positive outlook that Hodges maintained during any game. “He would tell us that we may have a difficult time ahead of us, and it may not be a positive outcome, but we needed to keep a mental positive attitude during the game and in life. He had a knack for seeing the talent in each player and what position to put them in so they would be successful.”

It was because of the coaching and mentoring that he received during his high school years that Ramirez decided he wanted to be just like coach Hodges. After college, he followed in Hodges' footsteps, first by becoming an assistant coach in 1993 at Harmon with Hodges and then coaching his own children's sports teams. Today he is still a coach working with soccer players of all ages.

During his years with Hodges, Ramirez became close friends with him and saw him battle leukemia for seven and a half years. He was amazed at the strength of his former coach and watched him face the disease as he always told his players to do, “face your adversities head on and look for the positive.”

“He was tough mentally and physically. He never complained about his situation, he faced his situation like he taught us. He lead by example and he challenged it. He knew no matter what the outcome, he would be a better man for it. That is a lot of the things that we saw when he was coaching,” said Ramirez.

Two years after his death, former students, teachers



“Coach Hodges taught us to stay positive and face adversity head on and not avoid it. He knew it would make you a better person and it was usually a more positive outcome,” said Agustin Ramirez, former athlete and assistant coach with Hodges.

and coaches have organized a fundraiser to help raise money for the Troy Hodges Memorial Scholarship. Two of his former players, Neil Harris, class of '79 and Jeff Smith, class of '80, approached Cathy Hodges, about setting up the fund in memory of her husband.

“Troy was always about the kids. The scholarship is very meaningful to me because it honors my husband,” she said.

“I want to thank both of them for starting the scholarship and being involved in this with the Hodges family. The scholarship is a great way to remember Coach Hodges and also give children the opportunity to a higher education. He would like this,” added Ramirez.

The Troy Hodges Memorial Scholarship raised \$7,500 through donations the first year. This year the scholarship raised \$8,000, which was given to five Harmon High School students and two students from Sumner High School.

“About 80 percent of the money goes to Harmon students and the other 20 percent is given to students in District 500. We are under the umbrella of the Kansas City Kansas School Foundation for Excellence and we make the scholarship presentations at the school board meeting. We hope to grow the scholarship fund so that we can help more students each year,” said Cathy Hodges.

Scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of their academic achievement, involvement in school activities, community service, references and two written essays,

The Scholarship committee is hosting a Golf Tournament on Wednesday, June 19 at the Sunflower Hills Golf Course, 122nd and Riverview in Bonner Springs, Kansas.

After the tournament, a dinner will be held at the George Meyn Center located in Wyandotte County Park. Dinner only

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Formal bids will be taken for Willow Bend Villas at 51st & Blue Ridge Blvd, Raytown, MO. The project consists of (10) four plex, 1 story senior villas with a 2,380 sf community building. This project has MBE/WBE/Section 3 goals and prevailing wage requirements. Plans will be available to review at Straub Construction Company's office located at 7775 Meadow View Dr, Shawnee, KS between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday thru Friday or you may access our online plan room at <http://straub.constructionvaults.com>. CD's will be available upon request. Straub Construction Company, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Employment verification confirming that subcontractor's employees are legal residents will be required. Please contact Straub Construction at 913-451-8828 should you have any questions pertaining to the bid documents. BIDS/ESTIMATES ARE DUE INTO STRAUB CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. OFFICE BY JUNE 11, 2013 AT 2:00 PM. BIDS CAN BE EMAILED TO BIDS@STRAUBCONSTRUCTION.COM OR FAXED TO 913-451-9617.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING THE ELEVENTH AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTHTOWN
CORRIDOR/31ST & BALTIMORE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN AND
THE TERMINATION OF THE DESIGNATION OF REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT
I OF THE SOUTHTOWN CORRIDOR/31ST & BALTIMORE TAX INCREMENT
FINANCING PLAN

Pursuant to RSMo 99.825, and in accordance with RSMo 99.830, notice is hereby given by way of certified mail to inform you about a public hearing that will be held by the Tax Increment Financing Commission of Kansas City, Missouri (the "Commission"), commencing at 9:45 a.m., June 12, 2013, at the Commission Offices, located on the Fourth Floor of 1100 Walnut, Kansas City, Missouri, regarding (1) the Eleventh Amendment (the "Amendment") to the Southtown Corridor/31st & Baltimore Tax Increment Financing Plan (the "TIF Plan"), (2) the termination of the designation of Redevelopment Project Area I of the TIF Plan, (3) the declaration of all Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Economic Activity Taxes on deposit within the Special Allocation Fund established in connection with Redevelopment Project Area I (the "Special Allocation Fund") as surplus, and (4) the dissolution of the Special Allocation Fund.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider recommending to the Council (1) the approval of the Amendment, (2) the termination of the designation of Redevelopment Project Area I, (3) the declaration of all Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Economic Activity Taxes on deposit in the Special Allocation Fund as surplus, and (4) the dissolution of the Special Allocation Fund.

The Redevelopment Area is described by the TIF Plan as an area generally bounded by 59th Street on the north, 75th Street on the south, Holmes Road on the west and Chestnut on the east (the "South Prospect/Troost Area") and generally bounded by Memorial Drive on the north, Wyandotte Street and Baltimore Street on the west, Main Street on the east and 31st Street on the south (the "31st & Baltimore Area") in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri (the "Redevelopment Area").

The Amendment, as proposed, may be reviewed by any interested party on or after June 5, 2013 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Commission Offices.

According to Section 99.830.2(3) all interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard at the public hearing.

According to Section 99.830.3, each taxing district located wholly are partially within the Redevelopment Area may submit comments or objections to the Commission concerning the subject matter of the public hearing prior to the date of the public hearing.

Heather Brown, Executive Director
Tax Increment Financing Commission
of Kansas City, Missouri

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"Las Historias Se Hacen Más Largas"

CONT./PÁGINA 1

comunidad mexico-americana de Kansas City.

Cris Medina es el Gerente General y Presidente de Angels, un equipo de béisbol rápido de un hombre que ha estado en existencia desde 1970. “Somos el segundo equipo mexicano de béisbol más antiguo en continuo funcionamiento en Kansas City aparte de los State Line Locos.

Según Medina, el juego era grande en el Medio Oeste, viniendo a la fama después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial y alcanzando su apogeo en los años 60's. Medina recordó que cuando era niño, no había muchas opciones de béisbol, la única atracción eran las ligas de softbol rápido.

Medina admite que el juego ha perdido popularidad debido al rechazo por parte de las generaciones más jóvenes.

“Muchos de ellos no están involucrados y no empiezan a hacer deporte, y es triste porque esto es realmente un deporte familiar”, explicó Medina al ver a la gente que se reúne para el torneo anual Angels en el Día de los Caídos de este año. “Usted ve a las familias aquí y a los niños afuera en un gran ambiente. Con el cambio en nuestra sociedad, esto ya no es una gran cosa. Muchos de los niños pequeños no tienen el interés por el juego”.

Durante muchos años, los equipos de softbol rápido de todo el Medio Oeste se han reunido en Liberty Memorial, en el torneo del Día de los Caídos. Esta es también una oportunidad para el reconocimiento de algunos de los mejores jugadores en su ingreso al Pasillo de la Fama México-Americano de Kansas City.

Cándido Chávez Jr., fue uno de los cinco que ingresaron este año. Tenía la esperanza de que



algún día llegaría el momento, pero aún así estaba sorprendido por la noticia.

“Sé que esto es cada año, así que intenta uno no esperar al torneo de los Angels, ya que no se sabe si va a recibir una llamada o no. Tratas de no ponerlo en una lista de prioridades, de modo que si sucede que es tú turno, es tú turno. Sin embargo, es un honor”, dijo con una gran sonrisa y un montón de orgullo.

Chávez tiene largas raíces en el béisbol. “Crecí jugando a la pelota aquí desde que era un niño. Después que dejé de jugar me quedé con Guadalupe Center, porque arbitré a muchos de los niños aquí, y luego entrené a niños ya que era algo que quería hacer, pues he nacido y vivido aquí toda mi vida”.

Se sintió atraído primero en el juego porque sus amigos estaban jugando. “Cuando éramos más jóvenes uno nunca tuvo que preocuparse por un montón de cosas que pasan ahora. No había disparos desde coches en movimiento y cosas por el estilo. El asunto de las drogas no estaba por ahí. Hoy en día se trata de sentarse a ver las “Noticias de Última Hora” y las ves y dices, -‘hombre, ¿qué pasó ahora?’ Eso es parte de la sociedad actual, supongo”.

El juego sigue siendo algo mágico para Jesse González mientras llevaba a Hispanic News por la línea del recuerdo de uno de sus momentos emotivos durante sus días como jugador, mientras lo recordaba como si

fuera ayer. Mientras él estaba en el campo, recibió la noticia que su madre había fallecido. Él sabía que no había nada que pudiera hacer por lo que él se quedó con sus compañeros de equipo y jugó.

El equipo estaba perdiendo pero González sintió la presencia de su madre cuando se enteró de que tres palomas blancas volaban sobre el campo.

“Cuando me enteré de eso dije, ‘chicos, ¿ya saben cómo ganamos este juego? Mi madre estaba con nosotros. Ganamos 11 a 10. Todos ellos lo creyeron. Nos lo pasamos muy bien, al mismo tiempo que estaba triste, pero yo estaba feliz. Yo sé que ella estaba con nosotros. Esa es la manera en que yo lo creo”.

Gilbert “Gilly” Tinoco se emocionó al escuchar que había sido incluido. Tenía veinte años cuando comenzó a jugar el juego.

“Me retiré hace unos ocho años, así que fue algo entre veinte a veinticinco años que jugué. Era muy emocionante el salir y divertirse con los amigos y salir de la ciudad cada segundo fin de semana o cada fin de semana y divertirse “.

A Tinoco le encantaría ver a más jóvenes latinos jugando,



y le molesta que no lo hagan. “Es una piedra en el zapato. Me gustaría que mis hijos practiquen el deporte. Los mantendría alejados de las pandillas, pero eso realmente depende de ellos. Uno tiene que ver lo que quieren hacer”.

Jesse González estaba eufórico por su ingreso. “Empecé a jugar



este juego cuando tenía 15 años de edad, en 1970. Jugué con otros diez equipos y, finalmente, me retire en 2009. Yo diría que es probablemente el mejor día de mi vida para hacer esto. Esto significa mucho para mí. Jugué por 37 años este juego”.

Uno de los mejores recuerdos de Gonzales se llevó a cabo en el campo en el 2004, durante un torneo en Newton, Kansas.

“Estaba jugando con los Banditos. Estábamos en la parte baja de la séptima entrada y estamos perdiendo once a nada. Una esposa del jugador rival le preguntó a González, ‘¿crees en los milagros?’ Y entonces ella dijo: ‘ustedes van a necesitar uno’. En tres entradas ganamos el partido 11 a 10. Fue el mejor partido de mi vida. Fue el juego más grande de mi carrera”.

Daniel “Stuff” Cerna se enteró de su ingreso después de una llamada de su primo. “Me quedé muy sorprendido.

Jugué alrededor de unos treinta o cuarenta años. Lo dejé cuando tenía unos 50 años de edad debido a que un batazo de línea me rompió el pie. Es un acto de Dios el que este aquí. Este es un muy buen día, y estoy contento”.

Crescentio Ramos tuvo una carrera legendaria jugando con



los Argentine Eagles. “Ganamos el torneo nacional en 1988 y desde ese momento en adelante, fuimos a seis regionales y ocho nacionales, y nos clasificaron en el top ten por unos doce años. Es una gran sensación el ir a diferentes estados y jugar con diferentes equipos y nacionalidades”.

Él esta triste de no ver a más jóvenes jugar. Ramos culpa a la falta de interés de los padres, que a menudo no están ahí para los niños. Como resultado, muchos empiezan a buscar alianzas fuera de la familia, tentados por el señuelo de las pandillas y el dinero fácil. Cuando se mudó aquí desde Indiana, él era susceptible a las calles. Por suerte, sus amigos vieron sus habilidades y lo desviaron a los deportes.

“Tiene que ver con nuestra educación. Hay un montón de chicos por ahí con armas de fuego. Usted no puede ir a ninguna parte. El mejor lugar para estar es en la cancha, de esa manera usted no está en algún lugar con gente mala. Por supuesto que hay personas malas en todas partes, en los deportes también, pero al menos sus amigos están ahí con usted”.

El juego le dio dirección a Ramos. “Yo tenía un montón de amigos que fueron a la cárcel y ahora la forma en que les retribuyo, es a través del arbitraje. He arbitrado por veinte años y he tenido la suerte de ver cinco campeonatos mundiales dónde se llega a ver lo mejor de lo mejor. Así es como retribuyo”.



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"The Stories Get Longer"



CONT./PAGE 1

long history in Kansas City's Mexican-American community.

Cris Medina is the General Manger and president of the Angels, a man's fast pitch baseball team that has been in existence since 1970. “We are the second oldest continuously operating Mexican baseball team in Kansas City ... outside of the State Line Locos.

According to Medina, the game was big in the Midwest coming to prominence following World War II and reaching its heyday in the 60's. Medina recalled that when he was young boy there were not many baseball options, the only draw were the fast-pitch leagues.

Medina admits that the game has seen a loss of popularity due to the rejection by younger generations.

“A lot of them are not involved and don't take up the sport and it is sad because this is really a family sport”, explained Medina as he watched people gather for this year's annual Memorial day Angel's tournament. “You see families here and kids outside in a great atmosphere. With the change in our society this is not a big deal anymore. A lot of the young kids don't have the interest for the game.”

For many years fast-pitch teams from across the Midwest have gathered at Liberty Memorial on Memorial Day of the tournament. This is also an opportunity for recognizing some of the best players for induction into the Kansas City Mexican-American Hall of Fame.

Candido Chavez Jr., was one of the five inducted this year. He had hoped that someday the time would come but was still surprised by the news.

“I know this comes every year so you try to not to look forward to the Angels' tournament because you don't know if you are going to get a call or not. You try not to put it on a priority list so that if it happens that it's your turn, it is your turn. It is an honor though,” he said with a big smile and a lot of pride.

Chavez has long baseball roots. “I grew up playing ball here since I was a kid. After I quit playing I stayed with Guadalupe Center still because I umpired a lot of the kids here ... and then I coached kids because it was something I wanted to do

... because I lived here all my life - born and raised.”

He was first drawn to the game because his friends were playing. “When we were younger you never had to worry about a lot of the stuff that is going on now. There were no drive-bys and stuff like that. The drug thing was really not out there. ... Nowadays it is about sitting around and watching “Breaking News” and you see it and you say, ‘man, what happened now?’ ... That is part of society now I guess.”

The game is still a magical thing for Jesse Gonzales as he took Hispanic News down memory lane of one of his emotional moment during his playing days as he remembered it as if it was yesterday. He received news while on the field that his mother had passed away. He knew there was nothing he could do so he stayed with his teammates and played.

The team was losing but Gonzales felt his mother's presence when he heard that three white doves flew over the field.

“When I found that out I said, ‘guys, you know how we won this game? My mom was with us. We won 11 to 10. They all believed it. We had fun at the same time I was sad but I was happy. ... I know she was with us. ... That is the way I believe.”

Gilbert “Gilly” Tinoco was thrilled to hear he had been inducted. He was twenty years old when he first started playing the game.

“I retired about eight years ago, so it was something like twenty to twenty five years I played. It was exciting to go out and have fun with friends and go out of town every other weekend or every weekend and have fun.”

Tinoco would love to see more Latino youth playing the game and it aggravates him that they don't. “It is a thorn in the side. I would like to get my kids into sports. It will keep them out of gangs but it is really up to them. You got to see what they want to do.”

Jesse Gonzales was elated by his induction. “I started playing this game when I was 15 years old back in 1970. I played with about ten other teams and finally retired in 2009. I say it is probably the greatest day of my life to make this. This is a big deal to me. ... I played 37 years of this game.”

One of Gonzales finest memories took place on the field in 2004 at a tournament in Newton, Kansas.

“I was playing with the Banditos. ... It is the bottom of the seven and we are losing

Eleven to nothing. One of the opponent's player's wife asked Gonzales, ‘do you believe in miracles?’ And then she said, ‘you are going to need one.’ ... In three innings we won the game 11 to 10. ... It was the greatest game of my life. ... It was the greatest game of my career.”

Daniel “Stuff” Cerna heard about his induction after a call from his cousin. “I was shocked. I played about thirty to forty years. I quit when I was 50 some years old because a line drive broke my foot. ... It is an act of God that I am here. This is a real good day and I am happy.”

Crescentio Ramos had a storied career playing with the Argentine Eagles. “We won the national in 1988 and from that time forward, we went to six regionals and eight nationals and were ranked in the top ten for about twelve years. It is a great feeling going to different states and playing different teams and nationalities.”

He is sad to not see more youths playing. Ramos blames the loss of interest on parents that often are not there for the kids. As a result many start looking for alliances outside of the family, tempted by the lure of gangs and easy money. When he first moved here from Indiana, he was susceptible to the streets. Luckily, friends saw his skills and they steered him to sports.

“It has to do with our upbringing. There are a lot of kids out there with guns. You can't go anywhere. The best place to be is out on the field that way you are not out somewhere with bad people. Of course you have bad people everywhere, in sports too but at least your friends are out there with you.”

The game gave Ramos direction. “I had a lot of friends that did go to prison and now the way I pay it back is by umpiring. I have umpired for twenty years and I have been lucky to see five World championships where you get to see the best of the best. That is how I give back.”

Explorer Talks of Howler Monkeys and Forests

Exploradora Habla De Monos Aulladores Y Bosques



National Geographic Explorer Katherine Amato spoke with students at W.A. White Elementary School in KCK last month about her work studying the Black Howler Monkeys in Mexico's rainforest. "I want the students to know that we have scientists who are marine biologists, botanists, researchers or they can be an observer like I am in the field and help protect wild animals and our natural resources."

La exploradora de National Geographic, Katherine Amato, habló con los estudiantes de la Escuela Primaria W.A. White en KCK, el mes pasado acerca de su trabajo: el estudio de los monos aulladores negros en la selva tropical de México. "Quiero que los estudiantes sepan que tenemos científicos que son biólogos marinos, botánicos, investigadores o que pueden ser observadores de campo, como yo, y ayudar a proteger a los animales silvestres y los recursos naturales."

By
DEBRA DECOSTER

National Geographic Explorer Katherine Amato spends her days in suffocating heat or heavy rains studying the Howler monkeys in southeastern Mexico's rainforest. Human activity is threatening the tropical rainforest ecosystems.

"The rainforest is shrinking in Mexico. There are sections of the rainforest that are completely gone due to people going in and clear cutting the forest," said Amato.

Last month, Amato was in Kansas City, Kansas speaking to students at W.A. White, Grant and T.A. Edison elementary schools and KCK School District staff about her scientific work. The National Geographic Society is sponsoring Amato's work and her travels to elementary schools.

The purpose of her trip was to encourage students to consider science as a career but to also see that scientist are working in fields they may not have imagined are related to a scientist's job.

"I had one student ask me 'if you have to be a genius to be a scientist?' I told them, 'no, you don't but you have to study hard and do your best,'" she said.

Growing up in Chicago, Amato wanted to work outside and study science and as a child admired Jane Goodall's work with chimpanzees. Before finding her niche working in the rainforests of Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica and Guatemala, she worked with plants but didn't like it. She loved being a marine biologist and diving into the ocean, but discovered living on a boat made her seasick.

"I tried many different fields before discovering that I loved working with the primates. Also, I loved working in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Costa Rica and wanted to return. I want the children to see that normal people are scientists and you don't have

to be locked in a lab all day," she said.

It was a message that Principal Alexis Etier was thrilled to hear. "I am glad that she told them that she went into the different areas of science before working in the rain forest. Sometimes children have their minds made up to be one thing and that is fine, but sometimes, it is good for them to explore other jobs," said Etier.

Amato told students that they must work hard in school, learn the importance of reading, writing and speaking because those are skills that she uses daily in her job.

"I had wonderful teachers that encouraged me to explore different things in science. My first time seeing a rain forest was in Costa Rica and I loved it," she said.

Knowing that she wanted to go back and work in Costa Rica, Belize and Mexico, she decided to learn Spanish. She spent a year living with a family in Mexico. She told students that learning another language has helped her to communicate with the people who live around the rainforest. She also can communicate with the park rangers who have been instrumental in helping her to locate the Howler monkeys that she studies.

There are only six species of Howler monkeys in the world, all of which live throughout Central and South America. She studies the Black Howler, whose range is limited to southern Mexico, northern Guatemala and Belize.

"When I first started studying the monkeys, one of the ways that we could locate where they were in the forest was by their howl. They howl early in the morning as the sun comes up. I would have to be in the rainforest before sunrise. So standing in the dark forest and hearing a Howler monkey for the first time is an eerie sound," she said.

Howler monkeys spend their days high in the trees

foraging for food or sleeping. She uses her binoculars to watch the monkeys in their natural habitat and studies the types of leaves and fruits that they eat.

"Watching the monkeys, I can see the quantity of food they consume each day. After eating, they take very long naps so that their bodies can digest the food that they have eaten. They also eat fruits and flowers. The types of fruits that they eat are not the same type of fruit that we see in our grocery stores, so I have to study the seeds of the fruit to determine what the monkeys are eating," she explained.

Based on their foraging behavior, she is able to describe the impacts of forest degradation on the monkey population and the consequences for the tropical forest dynamics. Her research could allow for the development of improved conservation strategies.

She hopes to teach people through her observations why it is important to conserve the forests and wildlife. "My husband is from Central Mexico and had never been to the rainforest until we met. Not a lot of people realize how beautiful the rainforest is and it is important to show people the importance of our ecology in Mexico," said Amato.

As students listened to her tales they were amazed at the other species of animals that she has come across as she walks through the forest. She showed them pictures of different species of snakes that live there. She demonstrated sizes of tarantulas and moths with her hands, and showed them her leg protectors that keep snakes from sinking their fangs into her leg.

Amato told students that the science field is wide open and they can work in a laboratory, they can work with plants, they can dive in the ocean to study the coral reef, they can be researchers or they can be an observer like her.

Traduce
GEMMA TORNERO

La Exploradora de National Geographic, Katherine Amato, pasa sus días en el sofocante calor o fuerte lluvia estudiando a los monos aulladores en la selva del sudeste de México. La actividad humana está amenazando los ecosistemas de los bosques tropicales.

"La selva se está reduciendo en México. Hay secciones de la selva que han desaparecido completamente, debido a las personas que entran y cortan claramente el bosque", dijo Amato.

El mes pasado, Amato estuvo en Kansas City, Kansas, hablando ante los estudiantes de las Escuelas Primarias W.A. White, Grant y T. A. Edison, y el personal del Distrito Escolar de KCK acerca de su trabajo científico. La Sociedad National Geographic, patrocina el trabajo de Amato y sus viajes a las escuelas primarias.

El propósito de su viaje era animar a los estudiantes a considerar la ciencia como una carrera, pero también ver que los científicos están trabajando en campos que no pueden imaginar, están relacionados con el trabajo de un científico.

"Había un estudiante que me preguntó -'si se tiene que ser un genio para ser un científico?'" Yo les dije, 'no, no lo tienes que ser, pero hay que estudiar mucho y dar lo mejor de ti'", ella dijo.

Mientras crecía en Chicago, Amato quería trabajar fuera y estudiar ciencia, y siendo niña admiraba el trabajo de Jane Goodall con los chimpancés. Antes de encontrar su campo de trabajo en las selvas de México, Belice, Guatemala y Costa Rica, trabajó con plantas, pero no le gustó. Le encantaba ser una bióloga marina y bucear en el océano, pero descubrió que vivir en un barco la hacia marearse.

"Traté en muchos campos diferentes; antes de descubrir que me encantaba trabajar con los primates. Además, me encantó trabajar en México, Belice, Guatemala y Costa Rica, y quería volver. Quiero que los niños vean que la gente normal son científicos,

y que no tienes que estar encerrado en un laboratorio todo el día", dijo.

Éste era un mensaje que el Director Etier Alexis estaba encantado de oír. "Me alegró que les contó que ella estuvo en diferentes áreas de la ciencia antes de trabajar en la selva tropical. A veces los niños tienen sus mentes formadas en ser una cosa y eso está muy bien, pero a veces, es bueno que ellos exploren otros trabajos", dijo Etier.

Amato dijo a los estudiantes que tenían que trabajar duro en la escuela, aprender la importancia de la lectura, escritura y conversación, porque esas son habilidades que usan a diario en su trabajo.

"Tuve maestros maravillosos que me animaron a explorar cosas diferentes en la ciencia. La primera vez que veía un bosque tropical fue en Costa Rica y me encantó", dijo.

Sabiendo que ella quería volver y trabajar en Costa Rica, Belice y México, decidió aprender español. Ella pasó un año viviendo con una familia en México. Ella dijo a los estudiantes que el aprendizaje de otro idioma le ha ayudado a comunicarse con la gente que vive alrededor de la selva. También se puede comunicar con los guarda-bosques que han sido fundamentales para ayudar a localizar a los monos aulladores que ella estudia.

Sólo hay seis especies de monos aulladores en el mundo, todos los cuales viven en toda América Central y del Sur. Ella estudia el Aullador Negro, cuyo alcance se limita al sur de México, el norte de Guatemala y Belice.

"Cuando empecé a estudiar a los monos, una de las maneras en que podríamos ubicar el lugar dónde se encontraban en el bosque, era por su aullido. Ellos aúllan temprano en la mañana cuando sale el sol. Yo tenía que estar en la selva antes de la salida del sol. Así que de pie en la oscuridad del bosque y escuchar un mono aullador, por primera vez es un sonido escalofriante", dijo.

Los monos aulladores pasan sus días en los altos árboles en busca de alimento o para dormir. Ella usa sus binoculares para observar

a los monos en su hábitat natural y estudia los tipos de hojas y frutos que comen.

"Al ver a los monos, puedo ver la cantidad de alimentos que consumen cada día. Después de comer, toman siestas muy largas para que sus cuerpos puedan digerir los alimentos que han comido. También se alimentan de frutos y flores. Los tipos de frutas que comen no son el mismo tipo de fruta que vemos en nuestras tiendas de comestibles, sé que tengo que estudiar las semillas de la fruta para determinar lo que los monos están comiendo", explicó.

En base a su búsqueda de alimentación, ella es capaz de describir los impactos de la degradación forestal en la población de monos y las consecuencias para la dinámica de los bosques tropicales. Su investigación podría permitir el desarrollo de mejores estrategias de conservación.

Ella espera enseñar a la gente a través de sus observaciones el por qué es importante conservar los bosques y la vida silvestre. "Mi esposo es del centro de México, y nunca había estado en la selva hasta que nos conocimos. No mucha gente se da cuenta de lo hermosa que es la selva y es importante mostrar a la gente la importancia de nuestra ecología en México", dijo Amato.

Cuando los estudiantes escucharon sus historias se quedaron maravillados con las otras especies de animales que ha encontrado mientras camina por el bosque. Ella les mostró fotografías de diferentes especies de serpientes que viven allí. Ella mostró los tamaños de las tarántulas y las palomitas (mariposa nocturna) con sus manos, y les mostro sus protectores para las piernas que evitan que las serpientes hundan sus colmillos en su pierna.

Amato dijo a los estudiantes, que el campo de la ciencia es muy abierto y pueden trabajar en un laboratorio, pueden trabajar con las plantas, pueden sumergirse en el océano para estudiar los arrecifes de coral, pueden ser investigadores o pueden ser un observador como ella.

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