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Homeboy Asked El Pachuco, 'Do I Still Have A Chance To Go To College?'

See page 4 for complete story.

Pandillero' Pregunta A El Pachuco, ¿Todavía Tengo Oportunidad De Ir A La Universidad?'

Vea la historia completa en la página 4.



Advertisement for Fiesta Hispana 2013, featuring 'FREE ADMISSION' and 'Regresa a Barney Allis Plaza'.

By Joe Arce & Debra DeCoster

Fiesta Hispana is returning this year to the Barney Allis Plaza where it has been held for the past 28 years.

This year the opportunity was there to move back to Barney Allis Plaza and the city embraced us and welcomed us back.

The difficult economic times forced the board last year to make a hard

Traduce Gemma Tornero

Fiesta Hispana regresa este año a la Barney Allis Plaza, donde se ha llevado a cabo durante los últimos 28 años.

Este año la oportunidad estaba allí para volver a Barney Allis Plaza, y el gobierno de la ciudad nos abrazó y nos dio la bienvenida.

LA FIESTA HISPANA ... / PÁGINA 2

Advertisement for Blanco Y NEGRO 2013 Annual Awards Gala, featuring a photo of a man and a photo of a DJ.

By Joe Arce & Debra DeCoster

This Friday, September 13, the annual Blanco y Negro award Gala will be held at the Westin Crown Center Century Ballroom in KCMO.

The gala is the premier formal awards banquet in the Latino community and serves as the formal kickoff to Hispanic Heritage Month.

Award-winning actor and director Tony Plana will host the annual awards gala.

GCI BESTOWS ... / PAGE 2

Traduce Gemma Tornero

Este viernes 13 de septiembre, la Gala Anual de Premiación 'Blanco y Negro', se llevará a cabo en el Westin Crown Center Century Ballroom en KCMO.

La gala de premiación, es el banquete formal más importante en la comunidad latina, y sirve como el puntapié formal que da inicio al Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

El galardonado actor y director Tony Plana, será el anfitrión de la gala anual de premios.

GCI OTORGA ... / PÁGINA 2

Mayor James & Mayor Holland Announce Bi-State Mental Health Dialogue

Mayor Sly James, of Kansas City, Missouri, and Mayor Mark Holland, of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, will hold a community dialogue on mental health on Saturday, September 21st.

Mental health is an issue that impacts us all, regardless of city, county, or state lines," said Kansas City, Missouri Mayor Sly James.

SEE PAGE 3

Former Braceros Travel To Washington To Demand Justice Ex-Braceros Viajan A Washington Para Exigir Justicia

By Debra DeCoster

Under the Bracero program, men came from Mexico to the United States to work the crop fields while American men went off to war in 1942.

Ten percent of the braceros' wages were withheld in a savings fund, but the United States transferred the fund to

THESE WORKERS ... / PAGE B1

Traduce Gemma Tornero

Bajo el programa 'Bracero', los hombres vinieron de México a los Estados Unidos para trabajar en los campos de cultivo, mientras que los hombres estadounidenses se fueron a la guerra en 1942.

ESTOS TRABAJADORES ... / PÁGINA B1



Rosa Martha Zarate, spoke at the Central Library in Kansas City, Missouri. The library currently has a Bracero Exhibit, 'Bitter Sweet Harvest' showing the plight of the braceros.

Facebook promotion banner: 'If You Want To Continue The Conversation On A Story You Read, Facebook Us Now!' and 'Si desea continuar la conversación en una historia que ha leído, Contactenos en Facebook!'.

Fiesta Hispana Has Long History In KC

CONT./PAGE 1

decision to change the location to Riverfront Park just north of downtown.

"The economy was tough and the Port Authority asked us to come there with the event. I liked it there and I liked the setting, but by popular demand, people wanted to see it return to Barney Allis," he explained.

The fiesta has a long history in the city. Under the leadership of the late co-founders Jose Gonzalez, Becky Jaramillo and Ninfa Garza and their spouses, Fiesta Hispana began in 1980 as a small street festival growing into a grand tradition when it moved to Kansas City's Barney Allis Plaza in 1983.

The free fiesta averages about 30,000 visitors each year. It is one of the largest Hispanic events in greater Kansas City Missouri metropolitan area. It runs Saturday, September 14 from 12 p.m. until 11 p.m. and on Sunday, September 15 from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The two-day event will be filled with a variety of bands and folkloric dancers. The Tejano Sound Band and Joe B and the Baron Band will play from 8 to 11 p.m. on Saturday evening.

Sunday evening concerts will include Tropical Azul and El Unico "Fito Olivares." A car show will be one of the highlights appealing to young and old. A boxing event has been added to this year's Fiesta. Marachi bands will stroll through the park serenading fiesta visitors.

"We are bringing the fiesta back home. Downtown is a beautiful setting. We will have lots of traditional Hispanic food

but we will also have food for the kids like hot dogs and funnel cakes," said Tinoco.

When local vendors discovered that the Fiesta was returning to Barney Allis, they told Tinoco and the board that they were coming back too because they loved the setting of downtown.

"We have a great working board. The fiesta doesn't belong to us, it belongs to the city. It is our duty to preserve it and keep it going for the next generation," stated Tinoco.

The event kicks off Hispanic Heritage month, which runs from September 15 through October 15. In 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage week. The observance was expanded in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan to cover a month long celebration.

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18. Columbus Day, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

President Barack Obama recognized the contributions

Hispanics have made to the United States with a proclamation.

"Our nation's story would not be possible without generations of Hispanics who have shaped and strengthened the fabric of our Union. They have enriched every aspect of our national identity with traditions that stretch across centuries and reflect the many ancestries that comprise the Hispanic community. This month, we celebrate this rich heritage and reflect on the invaluable contributions Hispanics have made to America. Hispanics have helped shape our communities and expand our country, from laboratories and industry to board rooms and classrooms. They have led movements that pushed our country closer to realizing the democratic ideals of America's founding documents, and they have served courageously as members of our Armed Forces to defend those ideals at home and abroad. Hispanics also serve as leaders throughout the public sector, working at the highest levels of our government and serving on our highest courts. As we celebrate these hard-fought achievements, we must also remember there is more work to be done to widen the circle of opportunity for the Hispanic community and keep the American dream within reach for all who seek it. During National Hispanic Heritage Month, as we celebrate the successes of the Hispanic community, let us reaffirm our commitment to extending that promise to all Americans."

La Fiesta Hispana Tiene Una Larga Historia En KC

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Los difíciles tiempos en la economía obligaron a la Junta el año pasado a tomar una decisión difícil de cambiar la ubicación al Riverfront Park, justo al norte de la ciudad.

"La economía estaba difícil, y la Autoridad Portuaria nos pidió que fuéramos allí con el evento. Me gustó la ubicación y me gustó el ambiente, pero a petición del público querían verlo regresar a Barney Allis", explicó.

La fiesta tiene una larga historia en la ciudad. Bajo el liderazgo del fallecido co-fundador José González, Becky Jaramillo, Ninfa Garza y sus cónyuges, Fiesta Hispana empezó en 1980 como un pequeño festival de la calle, creciendo cada vez más en una gran tradición cuando se trasladó a Barney Allis Plaza en Kansas City en 1983.

Los fiesta gratuita tiene un promedio de 30,000 visitantes cada año. Es uno de los mayores eventos hispanos en el área metropolitana de Kansas City, Missouri. Se lleva a cabo desde el Sábado, 14 de septiembre de 12 pm a 11 pm, y el Domingo, 15 de septiembre de 12 pm a 10 pm.

El evento de dos días presentará una variedad de bandas y bailarines folklóricos. El Tejano Sound Band, Joe B y la Banda Barón, tocarán de 8 pm a 11 pm el sábado por la noche.

Los conciertos de la tarde del domingo incluirán a Tropical Azul y El Unico "Fito Olivares". Un espectáculo de coches será uno de los atractivos para jóvenes y mayores. Un evento de boxeo ha sido añadido a la Fiesta de este año. Bandas de Mariachi se pasearán por el parque dando serenata a los visitantes de la fiesta.

"Estamos trayendo la fiesta de regreso a casa. El centro de la ciudad, es un lugar hermoso. Vamos a tener un montón de comida tradicional hispana, pero también vamos a tener comida para los niños, como hot dogs y buñuelos", dijo Tinoco.

Cuando los comerciantes locales descubrieron que la Fiesta regresaba a Barney Allis, le dijeron a Tinoco y al concejo que estaban regresando también porque les encantó el ambiente de la ciudad.

"Tenemos un concejo grandioso trabajando. La fiesta

no nos pertenece, pertenece a la ciudad. Es nuestro deber conservarla y mantenerla en marcha para la próxima generación", dijo Tinoco.

El evento comienza el Mes de la Herencia Hispana, que va del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre. En 1968, el Congreso autorizó al Presidente Lyndon B. Johnson a proclamar la Semana Nacional de la Herencia Hispana. La conmemoración fue ampliada en 1988 por el Presidente Ronald Reagan, para cubrir un mes de celebración.

Cada año, los estadounidenses observan el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana, con la celebración de las historias, las culturas y las contribuciones de los ciudadanos estadounidenses cuyos antepasados vinieron de España, México, el Caribe y América Central y del Sur.

El día 15 de septiembre es importante porque es el aniversario de la independencia de Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua y El Salvador. Además, México y Chile celebran su independencia el 16 de septiembre y 18 de septiembre. El Día de la Raza, que es el 12 de octubre cae dentro de este período de 30 días.

El presidente Barack Obama reconoció las contribuciones que los hispanos han hecho a los Estados Unidos con una proclamación.

"La historia de nuestra nación no sería posible sin las generaciones de hispanos que han conformado y fortalecido el tejido de nuestra Unión. Ellos han enriquecido todos los aspectos de nuestra identidad nacional con tradiciones que se extienden a través de los siglos y reflejan las muchas ascendencias que componen la comunidad hispana. Este mes, celebramos esta rica herencia y reflexionamos sobre las valiosas contribuciones de los hispanos a los Estados Unidos. Los hispanos han ayudado a dar forma a nuestras comunidades, y ampliar nuestro país, desde los laboratorios y la industria, hasta las salas de juntas y salones de clase. Han dirigido movimientos que han llevado a nuestro país a la realización de los ideales democráticos de los documentos fundadores de Estados Unidos, y han servido valientemente como miembros de nuestras Fuerzas Armadas

para defender esos ideales en casa y en el extranjero.

Los hispanos también sirven como líderes en el sector público, trabajando en los niveles más altos de nuestro gobierno, y sirviendo en nuestros más altos tribunales.

Al celebrar estos logros tan difíciles, también debemos recordar que hay más trabajo por hacer, para ampliar el círculo de oportunidades para la comunidad hispana y mantener el sueño americano al alcance de todos los que lo buscan. Durante el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana, al celebrar los éxitos de la comunidad hispana, reafirmemos nuestro compromiso de extender esa promesa a todos los estadounidenses".

GCI Bestows Awards And Scholarships

CONT./PAGE 1

This year's award recipients are Guadalupe Centers, Inc. President Beto Lopez. He will be honored with the Thomas E. Purcell Award. Medina said the center had hired him during his college years and he continued to work at the center. He now currently volunteers his time to the agency as president.

Medina added, "He is an individual that is a part of the system. He was here when he was young. Today, I see how he has grown personally and professionally and he is a role model for our community."

The Dorothy Gallagher Award goes to Paul Delgado, Senior Center administrator. He has given of his time to work with the senior citizens at the center. "He has volunteered for many hours here and I think

he has found a mission and a purpose to his life through his work here. When you talk to the seniors about Paul, their eyes light up because he is someone that cares about them," said Medina.

The Business of the Year Award goes to Penn Valley Community College. Accepting the award for the college is President Joe Seabrooks, Jr. "We recognize the college for their dedication to promote education to early childhood through college aged students. They have been a great partnership for us and for our students at Alta Vista. They have also set up an early childhood education program that involves bi-lingual teachers for our early childhood students," said Medina.

The I. Pat Rios Award goes to Christopher Leitch, educator and museum

professional. The Guadalupe Centers, Inc. wanted to recognize him for his work in telling the stories of the Hispanic community. "A lot of our history (in Kansas City) was not being told. We need to tell our future generations our stories and that we have a history also with the United States," said Medina.

The 2013-14 Tony Aguirre Scholarship recipients are Alias Martinez, Alyssa Morales, Mercedes Eredia and Vincent Stephenson; Bishop Miega High School; Gabriela Tinoco, Bishop Ward High School; Emilio Gonzalez, St. Pius X High School; Jorge Holguin and Gabriela Moreno, Rockhurst University; and Laura Dominguez, Donnelly College.

For more information about the banquet, call 816-421-1015 ext. 110.

GCI Otorga Premios y Becas

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el trabajo que hacemos", dijo Cris Medina, Director General de Guadalupe Centers, Inc. (GCI por sus siglas en inglés).

Los premiados de este año son el Presidente de Guadalupe Centers, Inc., Beto López. Él será honrado con el Premio 'Thomas E. Purcell'. Medina dijo que el centro le había contratado durante sus años de la universidad, y continuó trabajando en el centro. Él actualmente ofrece su tiempo a la agencia como presidente.

Medina añadió, "Él es un individuo que es una parte del sistema. Él estuvo aquí cuando era joven. Hoy en día, veo cómo ha crecido personal y profesionalmente y es un modelo a seguir para nuestra comunidad".

El Premio 'Dorothy Gallagher' es para Paul Delgado, Administrador del Centro del Adulto Mayor.

Él ha dado de su tiempo para trabajar con la tercera

edad en el centro. "Él ha sido voluntario durante muchas horas y creo que ha encontrado una misión y un propósito a su vida a través de su trabajo aquí. Cuando hablas con las personas mayores sobre Paul, sus ojos se iluminan porque él es alguien que se preocupa por ellos", dijo Medina.

El Premio al Negocio del Año es para Penn Valley Community College. Aceptando el premio a nombre del Colegio está el Presidente Joe Seabrooks, Jr. "Reconocemos al colegio por su dedicación en promover la educación desde la infancia temprana hasta los estudiantes en edad universitaria. Han sido una gran alianza para nosotros y para nuestros estudiantes en Alta Vista. También han creado un programa de educación en infancia temprana, que involucra a maestros bilingües para los estudiantes de infancia temprana", dijo Medina.

El Premio 'I. Pat Ríos', va para Christopher Leitch, educador y profesional

de museos. Guadalupe Centers, Inc., quería reconocerlo por su trabajo en contar las historias de la comunidad hispana. "No se está contando una gran parte de nuestra historia (en Kansas City). Tenemos que decirle a nuestras futuras generaciones nuestras historias y que tenemos una historia también con los Estados Unidos", dijo Medina.

Los beneficiarios de las Becas Tony Aguirre 2013-14 son Alias Martínez, Alyssa Morales, Mercedes Eredia y Vincent Stephenson, de la Preparatoria Bishop Miega; Gabriela Tinoco, Preparatoria Bishop Ward, Emilio González, Preparatoria St. Pius X, Jorge Holguín y Gabriela Moreno, de Universidad Rockhurst, y Laura Domínguez, del Colegio Donnelly.

Para obtener más información sobre el banquete, llame al 816-421-1015 ext. 110.

Guadalupe Centers, Inc.

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Blanco Y NEGRO

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Inaugurating Hispanic Heritage Month

Friday, September 13, 2013

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Cocktails 5:30 p.m. (cash bar)
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Dance 9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Tickets \$65 per person
Formal Attire: Black and/or White (optional)

To purchase or reserve your tickets contact
Patricia Munoz at 816-421-1015 x110 or online at
www.BlancoYNegro2013.BrownPaperTickets.com
www.guadalupecenters.org Follow us @GCI1919












Time To Celebrate Multicultural Roots

By **Alfonso Zarate**

We are coming upon National Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 to October 15. Why these dates, because the majority of countries in Latin America will be celebrating their independence.

We celebrate the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors or they came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Hispanic Heritage Week was first observed in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson. After all, contrary to popular belief, it was President Johnson and not President Kennedy who signed the Civil Rights Act. Hispanic Heritage Week was later expanded to National Hispanic Heritage Month by President Reagan to cover September 15 and ending on October 15.

These dates are significant, because September 15 is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

Why is this important? The pride we have in celebrating these dates define who we are culturally. Those of us who are immigrants and now US

citizens cannot continue to feel anything but a strong affinity, whether it be culturally or otherwise, to our native countries. This is not to say that we don't hold a similar feeling towards the US, but we are the beginning of the bicultural cycle that permeates our culturally rich heritage. I can say that I am proud of where I came from and very comfortable in my skin today. I hold dual citizenship; speak both my native and adoptive tongues, have acculturated and am able to VOTE here and there.

Where else in the world are there two neighboring nations whose cultures are so intertwined, that the fabric seems the same? Where else in the world are there two neighboring nations that have celebrated 200 years of independence, the US in 1976 and Mexico in 2013? We can look around our environment and see the influence our culture has had. Spanglish is part of our lexicon. Streets, states and some cities have Spanish names, mainstream restaurants, songs and movies and so on.

Ah, to my point. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, acculturation is defined as "the cultural modification of an individual, group, or people by adapting to or borrowing traits from another culture; also: a merging of cultures as a result of prolonged contact." I get all riled up when so called Americans get upset that immigrants don't "assimilate" into our country. Looking

back at both nations' histories, it appears more like we have been acculturating and not assimilating. So, you see both US and immigrant cultures should acculturate vs. assimilate into society. It really is a two-way process of change. The primary reason immigrants get so much grief is that there have to be adjustments and adaptations from both sides and the dominant majority, "Americans" don't feel they should have to adjust and adapt. Oh by the way, by "Americans" I mean those who have been here more than one generation.

This leads me to another point. We live in a global society and business is transacted accordingly. We have an advantage in being able to interact with other business cultures. We have cultural competence. Cultural competence refers to an ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures. We should innately possess a keen awareness of not only our, but different cultural worldviews. We should have the ability to understand, communicate with and effectively interact with people across cultures.

In essence, during National Hispanic Heritage Month let us embrace and celebrate our biculturalism; after all, we've already celebrated July 4th. Let's reflect on all the contributions we've made to the Americas and enjoy the independence we have with our Latino hermanos y hermanas. Finally, God bless all of the Americas!

Es Hora De Celebrar Las Raíces Multiculturales

Traduce **Gemma Tornado**

Estamos llegando al Mes Nacional de la Hispanidad, del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre. ¿Por qué estas fechas?, por que la mayoría de los países de América Latina estarán celebrando su independencia.

Celebramos las historias, las culturas y las contribuciones de los ciudadanos estadounidenses, cuyos antepasados o ellos vinieron de España, México, el Caribe y América Central y del Sur. La Semana de la Herencia Hispana se celebró por primera vez en 1968, durante la presidencia de Lyndon Johnson. Después de todo, contrariamente a la creencia popular, fue el Presidente Johnson, y no el Presidente Kennedy, quien firmó el Acta de Derechos Civiles. La Semana de la Herencia Hispana se amplió posteriormente al Mes de la Herencia Hispana por el Presidente Reagan, para cubrir desde el 15 de septiembre y finalizar el 15 de octubre.

Estas fechas son importantes, ya que el 15 de septiembre es el aniversario de la independencia de Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua. Además, México y Chile celebran su independencia el 16 de septiembre y el 18 de septiembre, respectivamente. El Día de Cristóbal Colón o Día de la Raza, que es el 12 de octubre, cae dentro de este período de 30 días.

¿Por qué es importante esto? El orgullo que tenemos en la celebración de estas fechas, define quiénes somos culturalmente. Aquellos de nosotros que somos inmigrantes y ahora ciudadanos estadounidenses no podemos

evitar el sentir una fuerte afinidad, ya sea cultural o de otra manera, hacia nuestros países de origen. Esto no quiere decir que no mantenemos una sensación similar con los Estados Unidos, pero somos el principio del ciclo bicultural que impregna nuestro rico patrimonio cultural. Puedo decir que estoy orgulloso de dónde vengo y muy cómodo en mi piel hoy. Tengo doble nacionalidad; hablo ambas lenguas, la materna y mi lengua adoptiva, me he adaptado a la cultura y soy capaz de VOTAR aquí y allá.

¿Dónde en el mundo hay dos naciones vecinas cuyas culturas están tan entrelazadas, que la tela parece la misma? ¿Dónde en el mundo hay dos naciones vecinas que han celebrado los 200 años de la independencia, los Estados Unidos en 1976 y México en 2013? Podemos mirar alrededor de nuestro entorno y ver la influencia que nuestra cultura ha tenido. El 'Spanglish' es parte de nuestro léxico. Las calles, estados y algunas ciudades tienen nombres hispanos, restaurantes tradicionales, canciones, películas, etc.

Ah, y a mi punto, según el diccionario Merriam-Webster, la aculturación se define como "la modificación cultural de un individuo, grupo o personas, al adaptarse o tomar prestadas características de otra cultura, también: una fusión de culturas como consecuencia de un contacto prolongado". Me irrita cuando los llamados Americanos se molestan de que los inmigrantes no se "adaptan" en nuestro país. Mirando hacia atrás en el historial de ambas naciones, parece más bien que nos hemos estado aculturando y no adaptando.

Así, vemos que ambas culturas la estadounidense y la inmigrante deben aculturarse vs. adaptarse en la sociedad. Realmente es un proceso de cambio de dos vías. La razón principal por la que los inmigrantes pasan por tanta pena es que tiene que haber ajustes y adaptaciones a las dos partes y a la mayoría dominante, "los americanos" que no sienten que tengan que ajustarse y adaptarse. Ah, por cierto, por los "americanos" me refiero a los que han estado aquí por más de una generación.

Esto me lleva a otro punto. Vivimos en una sociedad global y los negocios se gestionan en consecuencia. Tenemos la ventaja de ser capaces de interactuar con otras culturas empresariales. Tenemos la competencia cultural. La 'competencia cultural' se refiere a la habilidad para interactuar eficazmente con personas de diferentes culturas. Debemos poseer innatamente una aguda conciencia no sólo de nuestra cultura, sino de las diferentes cosmovisiones culturales. Debemos tener la capacidad de comprender, comunicar e interactuar eficazmente con personas de todas las culturas.

En esencia, durante el Mes de la Herencia Hispana, abracemos y celebremos nuestro biculturalismo, después de todo, ya hemos celebrado el 4 de julio. Vamos a reflexionar sobre todas las contribuciones que hemos hecho para América y disfrutar de la independencia que tenemos con nuestros hermanos y hermanas latinas. Finalmente, ¡Dios bendiga a todas las Américas!

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"Mental health issues affect all of our families and communities, but as a society we struggle to have open and honest conversations about it," said Kansas City, Kansas Mayor Mark Holland. "I am excited for the dialogue that the Kansas City region will create to raise awareness of mental health, and to help find community-based solutions to mental health needs."

Three hundred residents will engage in this dialogue, forty percent of which will be individuals who are currently involved in the mental health system, including consumers, family members and service providers. The other 60 percent will be composed of interested citizens. Residents from the six-county metro area, including Jackson, Clay, Platte and Ray in Missouri, and Johnson and Wyandotte in Kansas, are eligible to attend. In particular, the organizers are asking young people ages 14-24 to attend and make their voices heard. Participants will discuss effective ways to recognize, prevent and treat mental and behavioral health problems, especially in young people. The public is encouraged to register for the dialogue online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CreatingCommunitySolutionsKC>.

Registration is currently open and will remain open until 5pm on Friday, September 20th.

WHO: Mayor Sly James, of Kansas City, Missouri and Mayor Mark Holland, of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas

WHAT: Day-long community dialogue on mental health

WHEN: Saturday, September 21st, 2013 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

WHERE: Imperial Ballroom in the Muehlebach Tower of the KC Marriott Downtown, 1213 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri.

Source *WyColKCK and KCMO*

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Dear Pachuco,

I'm a homeboy from a local gang and want to know if you think I still have a chance to go to college. I really didn't like school because I didn't feel like the teachers cared about me. And I was too embarrassed to ask for help because I thought that I was going to be laughed at. While learning English, I began losing my Spanish. Now I don't speak either one right. I always found school to be hard but I know from some of the things you have been writing about that school is important. What can I do? Homeboy

By
LUIS CORDOBA & KATHY JULIO

Dear Homeboy,

When I read your email, I couldn't help but reflect about my life growing up in an English-only school environment in Los Angeles. I attended a Catholic grade school run by the Immaculate Conception nuns. Eran cabronas (they were hard-ass) when it came to discipline. I can show you the marks if you

like. But then I would have to moon you.

Back in those days, schools did not have classes for English language learners nor did they offer any type of bilingual education. And the nuns definitely had no time to deal with me, the little mojado (wetback), who could not speak English. So my brother, I hear you and I feel your pain. While I don't know your circumstances other than the little you wrote me, let me break it down to you like this.

While I considered myself to be a smart vato (dude), others had a different opinion about me. In the first grade, I was identified as a learning disabled student. Because I was just beginning to learn how to speak English, the teachers believed that my inability to understand what was being taught in class was because I was a slow learner. Worse, each time I spoke Spanish I got my mouth washed out with soap. This was the nuns' way of getting me not to speak my native tongue. Imagine that ... soap therapy for speaking my own language.

So just like you, I felt that the teachers didn't give a damn about me. In front of everyone in the class, a teacher told me that I wasn't going to amount to anything. Another teacher singled me out, asking me to go to the blackboard and write out a sentence in English when she knew full well I could not do it. The kids in the class laughed at me because all I could do was stare at the pinche (stupid ass) blackboard. Outside of

the classroom, the kids at school made sure that I knew that I wasn't one of them. They told me that my skin was too brown, that I didn't talk right, and that I should go back to Mexico. The humiliation and the anger built up inside of me. I get it brother when you tell me that you don't feel comfortable asking for help in class. No one wants to be laughed at or ridiculed.

As time went by, I spoke better English. However, school and life in general was always a struggle. There were many times when I felt incompetent, inferior, and to be real honest with you, como una basura (like a piece of trash). Are you familiar with the children's rhyme, "Sticks and stones will break my bones but words will never hurt me?" Carnal (brother), this is all a lie! People don't realize that when you say something mean, especially to a young person, you damage him emotionally and psychologically. Hurtful words tear at the very foundation of a person's soul. And this emotional trauma can last a lifetime.

I also understand why you choose to be with your homeboys. You have un vacío (an emptiness) and you do not understand what it is or where it is coming from. This is because you and your homies have experienced some type of trauma in your lives. So you try to fill this hole with whatever you can find. As a member of a gang, you fill it with alcohol, drugs and hate. But the emptiness always comes back. Yet your homies continue with their



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). I look forward to getting to know you.

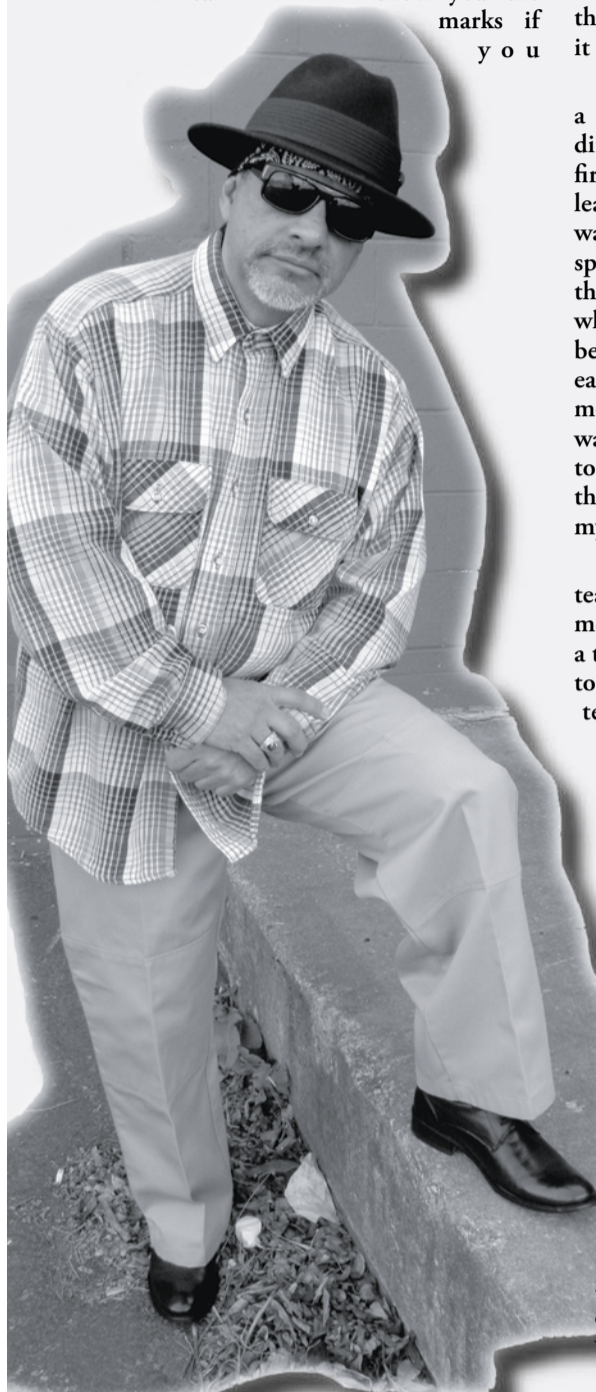
The Educated Pachuco.

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poor choices, living lives around violence and crime, disrespecting their parents, their community and most importantly, themselves.

Carnal, don't let your negative experiences from your past keep you from achieving your dream of going to college. The day that I decided that I had had enough of listening to people tell me that I wasn't going to make it was the day I got busy and began working my way back to school. I will never say that being in school was easy but I know you can do it. First, you have to believe in yourself. Second, leave your homeboys to their vices so that you can concentrate on your goals for educational success. And third, discipline your life around your educational plans. Only then will you see the fruit of your ganas (labor). It will take your blood, sweat and many tears for you to reach the top of the mountain. But once you reach it, you will be feeling high as a kite knowing that you did it with your esfuerzo (sacrifice)! Échale ganas (Do your best), carnal and education will be your salvation.

The Pachuco Educado.



Traduce
GEMMA TORNERO

Estimado Pachuco:

Soy un integrante de una pandilla local y quiero saber si crees que todavía tengo la oportunidad de ir a la universidad. Realmente no me gustó la escuela porque sentía que los maestros no se preocupaban por mí. Y yo estaba demasiado avergonzado para pedir ayuda porque pensé que se iban a reír. Mientras aprendía inglés, empecé a perder mi español. Ahora no hablo bien ninguno de los dos. Siempre me pareció que la escuela era difícil, pero sé, por algunas de las cosas que has estado escribiendo acerca de que la escuela es importante. ¿Qué puedo hacer? 'Pandillero'

Estimado Pandillero:

Cuando leí tu correo electrónico, no pude dejar de reflexionar sobre mi vida al crecer en un ambiente escolar de lengua inglesa en Los Ángeles. Asistí a una escuela primaria católica dirigida por las monjas de la Inmaculada Concepción. Eran cabronas cuando se trataba de disciplina. Puedo mostrarte las marcas, si quieres. Pero entonces tendría que mostrarte el trasero.

En aquellos días, las escuelas no tenían clases de inglés para los estudiantes, ni tampoco ofrecían ningún tipo de educación bilingüe. Y las monjas definitivamente no tenían tiempo para ocuparse de mí, el mojadito, quien no podía hablar inglés. Así que, mi hermano, te oigo y siento tu dolor. Aunque no sé de tu situación, tan solo por lo poco que me escribiste, voy a desglosarlo para ti de esta manera.

Mientras yo me consideraba un vato inteligente, otros tenían una opinión diferente acerca de mí. En primer grado, era identificado como un estudiante con discapacidad de aprendizaje. Porque yo estaba empezando a aprender a hablar inglés, los maestros creían que mi incapacidad para comprender lo que se estaba enseñando en clase era porque yo era un niño de lento aprendizaje. Peor aún, cada vez que hablaba español me lavaban mi boca con jabón. Esta fue la manera

en que las monjas lograban que yo no hablara mi lengua nativa. Imagina eso, terapia de jabón por hablar mi propio idioma.

Así que al igual que tú, sentía que a los maestros yo les importaba un comino. En frente de todos en la clase, una profesora me dijo que no iba a llegar a nada. Otra profesora me eligió, me pidió que fuera a la pizarra y escribiera una frase en inglés cuando ella sabía muy bien que no podía hacerlo. Los niños de la clase se reían de mí, porque lo único que podía hacer era mirar a la pinche pizarra. Fuera de las aulas, los niños en la escuela se aseguraron de hacerme saber que yo no era uno de ellos. Me dijeron que mi piel era demasiado marrón, que no hablaba bien, y que debía regresar a México. La humillación y la rabia se acumularon dentro de mí. Yo entiendo, hermano, cuando me dices que no te sientes cómodo pidiendo ayuda en clase. A nadie le gusta que se rían o ser ridiculizados.

A medida que pasaba el tiempo, hablé un mejor inglés. Sin embargo, la escuela y la vida en general siempre fueron una lucha. Hubo muchos momentos en que me sentía incapaz, inferior, y para ser honesto contigo, como una basura. ¿Estás familiarizado con una canción infantil, Palos y piedras romperán mis huesos pero las palabras nunca me harán daño? "¡Carnal, todo esto es una mentira! Las personas no se dan cuenta que cuando ellos dicen algo malo, sobre todo a una persona joven,

que lo dañan emocionalmente y psicológicamente. Las palabras dolorosas rasgan en la base misma del alma de una persona. Y este trauma emocional puede durar toda la vida.

También entiendo por qué tú eliges estar con tus cuates. Tienes un vacío y no entiendes lo que es o de dónde viene. Esto se debe a que tú y tus amigos han experimentado algún tipo de trauma en sus vidas. Así que intentas llenar este agujero con lo que tú encuentras. Como miembro de una pandilla, lo llenas con alcohol, drogas y odio. Pero el vacío siempre vuelve. Sin embargo, tus amigos pandilleros continúan con sus malas decisiones, viviendo sus vidas alrededor de la violencia y la delincuencia, faltándole el respeto a sus padres, su comunidad y lo más importante, a ellos mismos.

Carnal, no dejes que tus experiencias negativas del pasado te impidan alcanzar tu sueño de ir a la universidad.

El día que decidí que había tenido suficiente de escuchar a la gente decirme que no era capaz de lograr algo fue el día en que me puse a trabajar y empecé a forjar mi camino de regreso a la escuela. Nunca voy a decir que estar en la escuela es fácil pero sé que puedes hacerlo. En primer lugar, tienes que creer en ti mismo. En segundo lugar, deja a tus cuates en sus vicios para que puedas concentrarte en tus metas para el éxito educativo. Y en tercer lugar, disciplina tu vida en torno a tus planes educativos. Sólo entonces se ve el fruto de tus ganas. Serán necesarios tu sangre, sudor y lágrimas para que tú puedas llegar a la cima de la montaña. Pero una vez que llegues, ¡te sentirás tan alto como un cometa sabiendo lo que tú hiciste con tu esfuerzo! Échale ganas, Carnal, y la educación será tu salvación.

El Pachuco Educado.

Esta columna, esta dedicada, a la ayuda de la juventud y las familias. Mi misión como "El Pachuco Educado", es ayudar a la gente de todas las edades a vencer prejuicios y estereotipos. Mi deseo es animar a la juventud y a las familias a examinar la vida desde un nuevo punto de vista, con la esperanza de motivar a todos los pueblos hacia el cambio de vida positiva. Si usted tiene una pregunta o preocupación con la que lucha, por favor póngase en contacto conmigo en Facebook en www.facebook.com/educatedpachuco. Espero llegar a conocerle.

"El Pachuco Educado".

El consejo ofrecido por el Pachuco Educado tiene propósitos informativos únicamente. Si usted tiene una preocupación específica que requiere la ayuda profesional, por favor consulte con un especialista calificado y entrenado apropiadamente. Cuando usted presente propuestas y/o cualquier otra información, a Hispanic News y a El Pachuco Educado usted estará otorgando permiso para usar, reproducir, o modificar sus presentaciones en todas las publicaciones electrónicas e impresas aquí y/o en otros lugares. La información de identificación nunca será incluida o distribuida. Debido al gran número de propuestas, lamentamos que no podamos responder personalmente a cada una. La información presentada no representa la opinión de Hispanic News o de cualquiera de sus empleados.



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FYI World Revival Church host Latino Independence Day Celebration

World Revival Church, Fiesta Hispana – Celebración de Independencia Kansas City 2013, offers a fun family-centered event for Latin American families in the greater Kansas City area. The Independence Day celebration is this Sunday, Sept. 15, 1-4 p.m. on the campus of World Revival Church at 9900 View High Drive, Kansas City, Mo. The public is invited to the outdoor event.

The free event offers a water slide and bounce house for kids, face painting and Payaso Zapatón, a local clown entertainer. A mechanical bull will add to the fun.

The afternoon will feature live music from several Latino bands, including the Pepe Lopez Band, D7 Band and Mariachi Cielo. Local restaurants will also be at the event with food trucks offering Mexican menus and a grill with hamburgers and hotdogs.

“As a multi-cultural church, we wanted to offer a bridge into the Hispanic

community,” shares Steve Gray, senior pastor and founder of World Revival Church. “This event is a great way to celebrate the rich Hispanic culture represented in greater Kansas City.”

Celebración de Independencia Kansas City 2013 kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month, which also begins September 15. The date marks the anniversary of independence for five Hispanic countries – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Additionally, September 16 marks Mexico’s Independence Day, with September 18 the anniversary of Chile’s independence.

World Revival Church is located at 9900 View High Drive in Kansas City, Missouri, 64134. For more information call 816.763.0708. For Spanish, please call Arturo Aguilera at 913.514.2347.

For more information about the church or for directions visit <http://www.worldrevivalchurch.com>.



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MY BEST WISHES to you during Hispanic Heritage Month, I join you in celebrating the achievements and contributions that Hispanics/Latinos make every day to shape our American family.

Latinos are the largest ethnic group in the United States. In our community, Latinos include families who have been here for over a century, and those who have come to America more recently, looking for freedom, peace and more prosperous future.

The Latinos community may be diverse, but it is united by strong values: faith, family, patriotism and the belief that if you work hard and play by the rules, you can build a better future for your children.

On this day, as we are celebrating Hispanic Heritage month, I would like to take a moment to thank Latinos/Hispanic who have fought so bravely for our nation. My thoughts and prayers are with them as they perform their duties and with their families waiting for their safe return.

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“Estos Trabajadores Se Merecen Nuestra Gratitud”

CONT./PÁGINA 1

El 10% de los salarios de los braceros fueron retenidos en un fondo de ahorro, pero Estados Unidos transfirió el fondo a México donde desapareció. Los ex braceros y sus familias están demandando al gobierno de México para la devolución del dinero.

Este mes, dejaron su hogar en México para conducir a través de los Estados Unidos hasta Washington, DC., para apelar por su caso ante el Congreso de los Estados Unidos y las Naciones Unidas.

“Vamos con el Presidente Barack Obama para pedir la documentación de todos los trabajadores que estuvieron aquí, y por los documentos relacionados con el dinero puesto en un fondo de ahorro. Necesitamos saber cuánto dinero fue transferido a México”, dijo Rosa Martha Zárate, Coordinadora de la Caravana en Estados Unidos y la representante de la Alianza de Ex Braceros del Norte.

Una pequeña delegación llegó a Kansas City, Kansas la semana pasada y se reunió con miembros de la comunidad en la Iglesia Presbiteriana Grandview Park, en la calle 16 y Bulevar Wilson., para explicar a los ciudadanos sobre los abusos y las dificultades que los hombres sufrieron mientras trabajaban en los campos.

La Dra. Teresa Torres, profesora de Sociología en la Universidad de Missouri- Kansas City (UMKC) por sus siglas en inglés), viajó con los braceros, mientras estaban en el área metropolitana de Kansas City.

“Estos trabajadores se merecen nuestra gratitud y agradecimiento por trabajar en nuestros campos y fábricas en un momento de lucha, en el que nuestra nación mandó a nuestros hijos a la guerra. En su lugar, les entregaron sólo una parte de su salario. Hoy hacemos un llamado a otros para ayudar con apoyo, y que les sea aportada una justa compensación a estos valientes compañeros que regresan a nuestro país para solicitar su pago”, dijo.

El grupo viajó a través de la línea estatal hasta la Biblioteca Central en la calle 10 en Kansas City, Missouri. Ellos llevaron a cabo una conferencia de prensa frente a la exposición, Bittersweet Harvest (Cosecha Amarga), una exhibición, que estará en la biblioteca hasta octubre, destacando la historia de los braceros.

Cuando los hombres vinieron a los Estados Unidos, se sometieron a un examen físico. Se desnudaron y fueron fumigados con pesticidas para deshacerse de cualquier enfermedad que pudieran tener.

“En la reforma de inmigración por la que estamos luchando, y que está tratando de legalizar los programas de trabajadores temporales. Eso no es más que la contratación de esclavos. Es la trata de personas que pasan hambre. Hace 15 años el movimiento ‘Bracero’ comenzó como una pequeña bola de nieve para abrir al mundo una historia oculta. Estas personas no son piezas de museo, son personas vivas que están dando la cara a la esclavitud moderna”, dijo Zárate.

En 1962, Julián Acevedo, a la temprana edad de 19 años llegó a Bly, California, para trabajar en una granja de melón. Él utilizó un azadón de mango corto, lo que provocaba que los trabajadores se agacharan mientras trabajaban alrededor de las plantas. Cuando los melones estaban listos ellos recogían los melones maduros y los ponían en sacos.

“Fue horrible trabajar en el calor. Fue un trabajo muy agotador”, dijo Acevedo.

Mientras reflexiona sobre su único año como bracero, dijo que ganaba un dólar por hora por su trabajo.

“En las condiciones que vivíamos sufrí bastante. Yo hice mi propósito de volver a México. Fui a una escuela para maestros. Me convertí en un maestro y lo hice durante 46 años, hasta que me retiré hace cinco años. Vengo aquí para apoyar éste momento porque soy un bracero, al igual que mi hermano y padre”, dijo.

Los ex trabajadores y sus familias contaron sus historias en Kansas City para crear conciencia sobre la situación de los braceros. Zárate dijo que muchos de los ex trabajadores viven hoy en la pobreza extrema. Ella dijo que estos hombres han sido víctimas de fraude.

“Estos programas de trabajadores huéspedes violan todos los derechos



Maria Serrano (above) holds a picture of her late husband, Ezequiel Serrano. Before he passed away in 2010, he asked her to join the movement to get justice for the workers. “I promised my husband that I would continue to seek justice. I am 83 years old and I will keep fighting until I no longer can. Then my children will continue the fight,” she said.

Julian Acevedo (right) was 19-years old when he worked on a melon farm in the United States. “My father and my brother both were braceros. I am a former bracero. I left and returned to Mexico to get my education and I became a teacher. I retired from teaching and have joined the movement to see that justice is served,” he said.

Maria Serrano (arriba) tiene una foto de su difunto esposo, Ezequiel Serrano. Antes de morir en 2010, le pidió que se uniera al movimiento para conseguir justicia para los trabajadores. “Le prometí a mi esposo que iba a seguir buscando justicia. Tengo 83 años y voy a seguir luchando hasta que ya no pueda más. Entonces mis hijos continuarán la lucha”, dijo.

Julián Acevedo (a la derecha) tenía 19 años cuando trabajaba en una granja de melones en los Estados Unidos. “Mi padre y mi hermano, ambos eran braceros. Yo soy un ex-bracero. Me fui y regresé a México por mi educación y me convertí en un maestro. Me retiré de la enseñanza y se me he unido al movimiento para ver que se haga justicia”, dijo.

humanos, los derechos laborales y los derechos constitucionales. Ellos van a legalizar el programa de trabajadores huéspedes en la reforma migratoria y tenemos que ser conscientes de que serían esclavos humanos. Tenemos que asegurarnos de que estos programas no violen los derechos de las personas”, dijo.

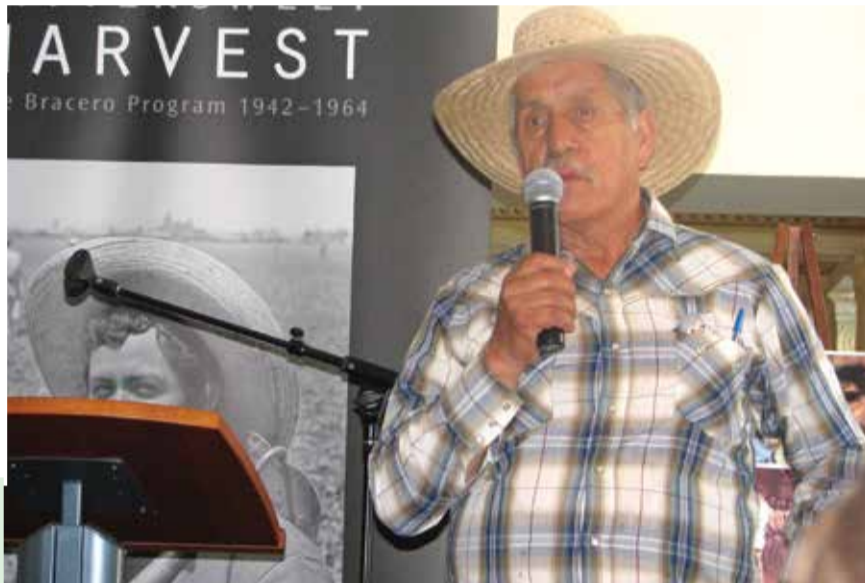
En 1957, Aureliano Ramírez Caldera fue bracero en California. Trabajó en los campos, con hileras de cultivos que tenían una milla de largo. “El capataz no nos permitía ponernos de rodillas. Teníamos que inclinarnos mientras trabajábamos. Estoy viajando con el movimiento, porque creo que tenemos que exigir que deberían habernos pagado adecuadamente”, dijo.

María Serrano es la viuda del bracero Ezequiel Serrano, quien viajó a los Estados Unidos en 1943 para trabajar en el ferrocarril. Él murió en el 2010 de cáncer. Ella se emocionó al hablar de su marido y de que su cáncer podría atribuirse a los pesticidas con los que fue rociado.

“Tengo 83 años, pero todavía tengo la fuerza para ir hasta el Presidente Obama para que nos pueden dar toda la documentación de las personas que vinieron a trabajar. No estamos aquí mendigando. Estamos aquí exigiendo que el 10% del dinero procedente de todos los trabajadores sea devuelto a nosotros. Estoy segura de que lograremos este objetivo”, dijo Serrano.

Zárate señaló que se han tomado medidas y están en el proceso de demandar a México por el dinero. Ellos exigen que los ex braceros y sus familias reciban el 10% del dinero que les fue tomado, y tienen la esperanza de que los Estados Unidos les dará la documentación que necesitan.

A medida que su viaje continúa a Washington, DC, una acción que ella espera logren es “reclamar su lugar en la historia con el respeto y la dignidad propia que merecen”, dijo.



CONT./PAGE 1

Mexico where it disappeared. Former Braceros and their families are suing the government in Mexico for the return of the money.

This month, they left their home in Mexico to drive across the United States to Washington, D.C. to appeal their case before the U.S. Congress and the United Nations.

“We are going to President Barack Obama to ask for the documentation of all the workers that were here and for the documents regarding the money put in a savings fund. We need to know how much money was transferred to Mexico,” said Rosa Martha Zárate, United States coordinator of the caravan and representative of the Alliance of Ex-Braceros of the North.

A small delegation arrived in Kansas City, Kansas last week and met with community members at the Grandview Park Presbyterian Church at 16th and Wilson Boulevard to enlighten citizens about the abuse and hardship the men endured while they worked in the fields.

Dr. Theresa Torres, Sociology professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), traveled with the braceros while they were in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

“These workers deserve our gratitude and thanks for working in our fields and factories at a time of strife as our nation sent our sons to

“These Workers Deserve Our Gratitude”

they would pick the ripe melons and put them in sacks.

“It was horrible work in the heat. It was very tiring work,” said Acevedo.

As he reflects back on his one year as a bracero, he said he earned a dollar an hour for his work.

“The conditions we lived in I suffered quite a bit. I made it my purpose to go back to Mexico. I went to a school for teachers. I became a teacher and did that for 46 years until I retired five years ago. I come here to support the moment because I am a bracero, as was my brother and father,” he said.

Former workers and their families told their stories in Kansas City to raise awareness about the plight of the braceros. Zárate said that many of the former workers are living today in extreme poverty. She said these men have been victims of fraud.

“These guest workers programs violate all human rights, labor rights and constitutional rights. They are going to legalize the guest workers program in the immigration reform and we need to be aware that they would be human slaves. We need to make sure that these programs don’t violate people rights,” she said.

In 1957, Aureliano Ramírez Caldera was a bracero in California. He worked in fields with rows of crops that were a mile long. “The foreman did not allow us to go down on our knees. We had to bow down as we worked. I am traveling along with the moment because I think we need to demand that we should have been paid adequately,” he said.

Maria Serrano is the widow of Bracero Ezequiel Serrano, who traveled to the US in 1943 to work on the railroad. He passed away in 2010 of cancer. She became emotional as she talked about her husband and that his cancer could be attributed to the pesticides he was sprayed with.

“I am 83 years old but I still have the strength to go to President Obama so that they can give us all the documentation of the people who came to work. We are not here begging. We are here demanding that the ten percent taken from all the workers be returned to us. I am certain we will achieve this goal,” said Serrano.

Zárate stated that steps have been taken and they are in the process of suing Mexico for the money. They are demanding that the former braceros and their families receive the ten percent of the money that was taken and they are hopeful that the US will give them the documentation that they need.

As their journey continues to Washington, D.C., one action she hopes they achieve is to “claim their place in history with the proper respect and dignity they deserve,” she said.

It's Our Anniversary!
Es Nuestro Aniversario!

By Debra DeCoster

For 17 years Kansas City Hispanic News has brought to its readers the issues that are playing out in their communities. Whether it is violence, education, health care, economic growth, local government or features of men and women who are playing a vital role in their communities, Hispanic News has been there keeping the reader abreast of topics that impact the quality of their lives.

Reflecting on 17 years of accomplishment, Joe Arce, publisher, said, “It has been a labor of love.”

The bi-lingual newspaper has grown over the years, and he attributes that to his readership. The newsroom

COVERING ... / PAGE B5

Traduce Gemma Tornero

Durante 17 años Kansas City Hispanic News, ha traído a sus lectores los temas que se están produciendo en sus comunidades. Ya se trate de la violencia, la educación, la salud, el crecimiento económico, el gobierno local o las características de hombres y mujeres que están jugando un papel vital en sus comunidades, Hispanic News ha estado ahí manteniendo informado al lector de temas que impactan la calidad de sus vidas.

Reflexionando sobre los 17 años de logros, Joe Arce, editor, dijo: “Ha sido un trabajo de amor”.

El periódico bilingüe ha crecido con los años, y él lo atribuye a sus lectores. La sala de prensa recibe llamadas

CUBRIENDO ... / PÁGINA B5

\$20 Millones Es Un Impulso Para El Proyecto De Tranvía

Por Joe Arce & José Faus

Fue un gran día para los defensores del tranvía, el pasado viernes en Unión Station. La ocasión fue la presentación formal de 'TIGER' (Generación de Recuperación Económica de Inversión en Transporte), \$20 millones, de parte del Secretario de Transporte de los Estados Unidos, Anthony Foxx.

Se consideraron más de 500 proyectos, y sólo 53 proyectos recibieron financiamiento. La propuesta de Kansas City recibió el premio más grande de este año. El anuncio fue hecho originalmente, el 30 de agosto, pero el acto público fue una oportunidad para puntualizar que esto es una gran noticia para llevar a casa.

El Alcalde Sly James tocó el punto en su discurso. "Ha sido una semana larga y no puedo pensar en una mejor manera de terminarla. Este es un anuncio de renovación de un proyecto transformador. Estas cosas no ocurren todos los días. Esto ha sido un gran impulso a ese proceso. Usted sabe que tiene desarrollando algo grande, cuando un miembro del gabinete del presidente viene a hacerte una visita".

James agregó que el proyecto cambiaría el rostro de la ciudad. "A menos que seas muy viejo, yo no creo que nadie en esta sala haya vivido en esta ciudad cuando el nuevo tren se colocó como sistema de transporte. Estamos a punto de ver algo que ninguno de nosotros ha visto alguna vez realizarse. Hemos leído sobre ello - vimos películas. Hemos visto fotos, pero no había sucedido en nuestra vida".

James señaló que el tranvía sería una gran ventaja para las empresas del centro. Annette Jones, propietaria de Zafar Salón Spa & Boutique en el Distrito Power & Light habló de los beneficios del tranvía.

"Soy una empresa única en el Distrito Power & Light porque soy el único negocio de minoría [allí]. Este proyecto será gratis para los usuarios y es un gran impulso para el centro y toda nuestra ciudad. El estacionamiento es un problema real, y creo que quitará una gran presión a las empresas de la zona del centro. Apoyo totalmente esta iniciativa y repito, vamos a seguir adelante con ella".

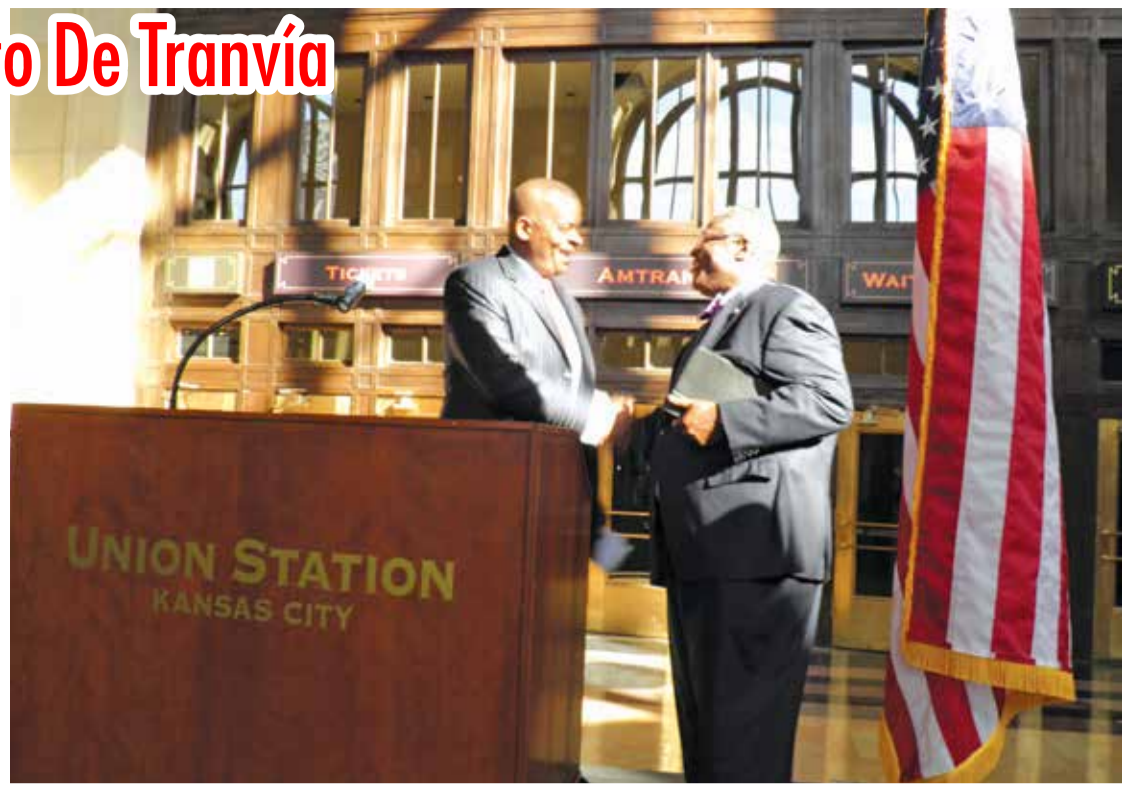
El Congresista Emanuel Cleaver dijo que el premio refleja un "acercamiento" a través de las líneas políticas. "Estamos en una buena racha y estamos haciendo grandes cosas en esta comunidad. Nuestro equipo

legislativo en Washington, no podrá tener la misma teología política, pero cuando se trata de trabajar por el bien de esta comunidad estamos juntos".

En su discurso, Foxx dijo que el premio es una señal de que la ciudad tiene muchas ventajas que trabajan a su favor. "Lo que está ocurriendo en Kansas City está sucediendo en todo el país. Usted tiene un rápido crecimiento, una ciudad dinámica, llena de oportunidades. Usted tiene una visión de la forma de integrar el transporte en el desarrollo económico, el uso del suelo, la reducción de las emisiones de carbono, la protección del medio ambiente y la mejoría de la calidad de vida".

James añadió que el premio y la construcción del proyecto de \$102 millones, es sólo un comienzo. "Esto va a ser un esfuerzo de colaboración para esta ciudad. Necesitamos ir hacia el este y el oeste, y necesitamos ir hacia el sur, y necesitamos ir hacia el norte a través del río. Si lo hacemos, uniremos a esta ciudad de una manera que no se ha unido antes. Una vez que nos unamos juntos, vamos a hacer las cosas más grandes y mejores, y esta ciudad será la mejor".

Pronto los residentes comenzarán a ver la prueba tangible del proyecto programado para completarse



KC Mayor Sly James couldn't wait to shake hands with Anthony Foxx as he made his way to the stage. Foxx said the 20 million dollar grant the city received, was the largest award this year to a city under the TIGER program. El Alcalde de KC, Sly James, no podía esperar para darle la mano a Anthony Foxx mientras se abría camino hacia el escenario. Foxx dijo que los 20 millones de dólares que recibió la ciudad, fue el premio más grande de este año, para una ciudad bajo el programa TIGER.

en el 2015. Este fin de semana pasado, se observaron equipos del gobierno de la ciudad, en las calles del centro repintando las divisiones de los carriles con el fin de comenzar a evaluar el flujo de tráfico previsto para cuando el tranvía se ponga en línea. La línea de tres kilómetros se extenderá desde el River Market a Crown Center.

Los últimos obstáculos son políticos. Algunos contratistas locales están presionando al Ayuntamiento para volver a presentar el proyecto a una nueva licitación. El contrato fue adjudicado a dos empresas de la ciudad - Herzog Contracting Corp de St. Joseph y Stacy y Witbeck de California.

La semana pasada, el Concejo de Transporte del Ayuntamiento y el Comité de Infraestructura, votaron a favor de aprobar el contrato. El contrato pasa ahora al pleno del ayuntamiento para su votación.

Traduce Gemma Tornado

\$20 Million Is A Boost For Streetcar Project



Congressman Emanuel Cleaver told the crowd at the news conference, "We are on a roll and we are doing great things in this community." Anthony Foxx (Right) said the award signals that the city has many advantages working in its favor.

Congresista Emanuel Cleaver dijo a la multitud en la conferencia de prensa: "Estamos en una buena racha y lo estamos haciendo grandes cosas en esta comunidad". Anthony Foxx (derecha) dichas señales de la adjudicación, que la ciudad tiene muchas ventajas que trabajan en su favor.

By Joe Arce & José Faus

It was quite a day for streetcar advocates last Friday at Union Station. The occasion was the formal presentation of a \$20 million TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) from US Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx.

Over 500 projects were considered and only 53 projects received funding. Kansas City's proposal received the largest award this year. The announcement was originally made on August 30 but the public event was an opportunity to drive home the point that this is big news.

Mayor Sly James made the point in his remarks. "It has been along week and I can't think of a better way to end it. This is a transformative announcement of a transformative project. These things don't happen every day. ... This has been a tremendous boost to that process. ... You know you have something big going on when a member of the president's cabinet drops by to pay you a visit."

James added that the project would change the face of the city. "Unless you are really old, I don't think anybody in this room has ever lived in this city when new rail was laid for a transportation system. ... We are about to see something that none of us have ever seen done.

We have read about it - we saw movies. We have seen pictures but it has not happened in our lifetime."

James noted that the streetcar would be a huge asset for downtown businesses. Annette Jones, owner of Zafar Salon Spa & Boutique in the Power & Light District spoke to the benefits of the streetcar.

"I am a unique business in the Power & Light district because I am the only minority business [there.] ... This project will be free for riders and is a great boost for our downtown and our entire city. ... Parking is a real issue ... and I think this will relieve great pressure to the businesses in the downtown area. ... I wholeheartedly support this effort and say again, let's get on with it."

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver said the award reflected a "coming together" across political lines. "We are on a roll and we are doing great things in this community. Our legislative team in Washington, we might not have the same political theology but when it comes to working for the betterment of this community we are together."

In his remarks Foxx said the award signals that the city has many advantages working in its favor. "What is happening in Kansas City is happening all over the country. You have a fast-growing, dynamic city full of opportunity. You have a vision for how to integrate transportation with economic

development, land use, reducing carbon emissions, protecting the environment and improving quality of life."

James added that the award and the construction of the \$102 million project is just a start. "This is going to be a collaborative effort for this city. We need to go east and west and we need to go south and we need to go north across the river. If we do that we will unite this city in a way that it has not been united before. Once we become united together, we will do bigger and better things and this city will be the better for it."

Soon residents will begin to see tangible proof of the project slated for completion by 2015. This past weekend, city crews were observed in downtown streets restriping the roads in order to begin evaluating the anticipated flow of traffic as the streetcar comes online. The two-mile line will run from the River Market to Crown Center.

The last obstacles are political. Some local contractors have been pushing the City Council to resubmit the project for new bids. The contract was awarded to two out of town companies - Herzog Contracting Corp from St. Joseph and Stacy & Witbeck from California.

This past week, the City Council's Transportation and Infrastructure committee voted to approve the contract. The contract now goes to the full council for a vote.

With Faith On His Side

By Joe Arce & José Faus

Jim Fitzpatrick, chair of the Committee to Stop a Bad Cure, opposes the proposed half-cent sales tax for medical research slated for the Jackson County November 5 ballot. His campaign may have the feel of a quixotic effort when you consider he has a budget of \$1,595 to take on the supporters of a measure that seeks to raise \$800 million dollars over 20 years.

As we reported back in our August 15, 2013 issue, the tax would create an Institute for Translational Medicine operated under a collaborative partnership between Children's Mercy, Saint Luke's Health System, the University of Missouri-Kansas City Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing and Health Studies and the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute.

Fitzpatrick's modest means are offset by what he feels is a stronger capital reserve - the mood of the voters.

"There are a lot of people that share my views," stated Fitzpatrick, a former Kansas City Star editor. "I would not be standing here today if I did not think the vast majority of taxpayers and voters in Jackson County weren't with me on this. I would not be doing this if I did not feel that."

As we reported previously, asking voters to pony up additional tax revenues may seem a doomed proposition considering that voters recently approved a sales tax this past April. Pat O'Neill, a supporter of the measure, doesn't think that will happen.

"We have invested in our infrastructure, our sports teams, our sports stadiums but we haven't invested in a long term health care future. We need to be looking forward for our children, and I think people understand that health care is the place to invest," said O'Neill.

Fitzpatrick's opposition has a different bent than most anti tax-efforts. He has a counterproposal that he believes is fairer to the voters. His proposal starts with a call for the Jackson County Legislature and the Civic Council to take the necessary steps to pull Jackson County Question 1 off the November ballot. It can be done easily with a court order until Tuesday, Sept. 24. The next step deals with the \$75 million dollar challenge grant from the Hall Family Foundation.

He calls on the Hall family to redirect its pledge taking the onus off the taxpayers and challenging corporations and wealthy individuals, other foundations and the general public to raise pledges of \$425 million dollars.

Under his proposal, supporters would raise \$500 million combined revenue, which they could take to the Civic Council and the legislature to propose a ballot of a 1/8 sales tax for 15 years. The tax would generate about \$10 million in annual revenue as opposed to the planned \$40 million a year under the current proposal. The total for the plan would be \$650 million dollars.

"I propose that the program be reduced from an overall goal of \$800 million to \$650 million dollars," he explained. "I think that is very adequate for medical research. I think this is an appropriate plan and proportional to what the taxpayers should be asked to put out and I would support that."

He is dubious of the whole project. "I think that is way out of line for what a public government or taxpayer should be asked to provide for what I see as a luxury rather and a necessity. Medical research is not a luxury but additional research is a luxury."

He also questions the role of the county legislature in putting forward the tax in the first place. "This is way off the county's main mission, which it to assess taxes, collect taxes and distribute them to the various taxing entities."

Fitzpatrick noted that even that limited capacity has been a problem for the county, pointing out the county's problems following the assessment notices earlier this year. The county had to readjust those assessments following public pressure in response to wildly divergent assessments.

Fitzpatrick also noted that the Civic Council founded the Kansas City Life Sciences Institute a few years back with the idea of generating a lot of money for translational medical research.

"That has not happened for what ever reason. There was no private drive. Maybe they were trying to raise money quietly and it didn't happen. The default is always let us go to the taxpayers. I don't like



Jim Fitzpatrick opposition has a different bent than most anti tax-efforts. He has a counterproposal that he believes is fairer to the voters.

that. I think there is an inherent amount of resistance to this tax. ... Why would the county be involved in this and should this be a part of the county's mission?" he asked.

At a press conference held at Children's Mercy Hospital last month proponents indicated that the proceeds of the sales tax will be allocated as follows; Children's Mercy will receive 50 percent, UMKC and Saint Luke's will each receive 20 percent for translational research and the remaining 10 percent will be used for research related economic development initiatives designated by the Institute's board.

The Institute is expected to foster hundreds of new jobs and more than \$30 million in economic output in its first year of operation, with nine world-class investigators and 237 jobs on-site by the tenth year.

Supporters of the tax stated that the development of new medications, treatments and cures, especially in the fields of pediatric and geriatric medicine, would induce more than \$600 million in direct and indirect economic benefits for Jackson County in the first decade of operations.

"The direct impact of this research of care will be on our community. We are focusing on illnesses that affect children, seniors and our minority population. We are racing against time to find treatments for diseases," said Leo Morton, UMKC chancellor.

Fitzpatrick insists that, "I am not an anti-tax crusader. I have voted for just about every tax proposal the Star has recommended. ... I don't like to be against things."

He concedes that he was opposed to the tax from the beginning. "Then I thought I should put out something - an alternative that is positive, where the Civic Council gets what it wants and the taxpayers would be relieved significantly of that burden."

"PUBLIC NOTICE"

Formal bids will be taken for Oak Point Redevelopment at 39th & Elmwood Ave, Kansas City, MO. The project consists of new wood frame construction of 15 duplexes (30 units). This project has MBE/WBE/KCMO Section 3 goals and will be taxable. Davis Bacon Prevailing Wage requirements apply. Plans will be available Friday September 6th 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 **SEPTEMBER 20, 2013 AT 2:00 PM.** BIDS CAN BE EMAILED TO BIDS@STRAUBCONSTRUCTION.COM OR FAXED TO 913-451-9617.

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SPORTS
DEPORTES

All Questions Answered – Maybe

By José Faus

At last, the questions that filled the minds of Chiefs fans and brought endless fodder to radio sports talk shows were settled once and for all following a season-opening win by the team over the hapless Jacksonville Jaguars.

We now know that quarterback Alex Smith is a game manager extraordinaire. We know that the offense will stumble when running back Jamaal Charles is on the sidelines. We know that head coach Andy Reid and his staff are a very capable bunch. We also know that this year's Chiefs are unlike the recent crews that have taken to the field.

We can salivate over a strong defensive unit that will have a lot to say about the win and losses for this team. We have a beast in Dontari Poe. We know what a bull rush looks like when carried out by a three-man front.

The secondary will be aggressive and adequate. Linebacker Justin Houston is going to be a Pro-Bowler for years. We can also be thankful to former head coach Todd Haley for finding the inner footballer in linebacker Derrick Johnson. We know after one game we got the better defensive tackle after a solid performance by Eric Fisher.

We also know that the deep ball is going to be a surprise when it comes and even bigger surprise when it is caught. We know for certain that this year's team will not have as many turnovers as last year's version and we can be certain they will get their share of loose balls.

We know that special teams will not be the downfall of the team, discounting the one breakdown that led to the Jaguars measly two points. This year's special team's unit will help the team attain decent field position.

Sadly, those are not all the questions that trouble fans. After years of roaming in the sports wilderness of losses and futility, a sudden reversal of fortune is just that – sudden and still a prayer.

Although the team scored 28 points, there was an uncomfortable lull in the second half, the type of lull that a good team can exploit. See the Houston Texans' comeback against the San Diego Chargers.

A team like the Chiefs will have to have a killer instinct and challenge stronger ones. It cannot relinquish an advantage. It will have to develop a character, a mode of working – rough and methodical because spectacular seems to be a grade above.

That is not to say that the team will not succeed. This is as good as any formula for winning football. It is just that when you look around the league you see these offenses that can score seemingly at will. And though you sit on top of the division after one game you have to accept that there was a nice offensive turn over in Raider land and you cannot count on a team to keep on getting in its own way like the Chargers forever.

Then of course there is always the perennial question. Will we continue to doubt our team? Of course, because we know the real promise of this team will be revealed when they play the

next team, in this case, the Dallas Cowboys. Now there is a test.

And then there will be the real test of can they keep up with the modern face of football when they line up against the Philadelphia Eagles if they keep playing pinball football. And then, there is the Denver Broncos. And then. But for one shiny Sunday afternoon all is right in football world

Over on the Royal's side of the complex you have to keep marveling at what the boys in blue are doing this year. It is September and we are talking Royals. They will not go away.

Tuesday night was a fitting reminder of how far the team has come. Following a crushing opener against the Cleveland Indians on Monday night, the team rebounded with a 6-3 win. And the marvelous thing about it all was Luke Hochevar. Yes, the very same scourge of years past is having a solid turn as a reliever.

Hochevar came on in the seventh inning in relief of Kelvin Herrera inheriting two runners and one out. He proceeded to strike out the next two batters and then struck out the side in the eighth, setting up Greg Holland to close out the ninth. The team trails Tampa Bay by three runs for the final wildcard spot. Of course there are three teams in between but hey this is September and we are here – no man's land. Wow, what a year.

And if you look over across the state line towards the Kansas side there is a rumble over there as Sporting KC sits in first place. Even though a lot of questions hang in the air this has been a great sports year in Kansas City.

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Covering Hard News in Local Communities for 17 Years

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receives telephone calls from the community asking the KCHN news staff to cover their festivals and town hall meetings. Sometimes the calls are to let the newspaper know about someone who is a positive mentor for their neighborhood or local youth.

"It is important for our community to have a voice. We try to do that through our paper. We hear that the publication is the voice of the community. There is a certain truth to that, but I don't want it to be my voice, I want it to be truly the voice of the readers," he stated.

Kathy Quinn, reporter for Fox4 News, looks forward to reading the weekly newspaper. She finds the newspaper to be informative, inclusive and vital for the community.

"We as Hispanics, Latinos, Mexican Americans are all part of our diverse communities, and the newspaper represents the entire community. They report not only on the issues that are very important to the Hispanic community, but it is also topics that others in the community find informative and may be concerned about as well. The paper cares about the community and they tell the stories of the people in our city

that we would never hear about otherwise," she said.

Sandra Olivas, reporter at KCTV 5, has kept up with the bi-lingual newspaper for years reading the latest news about her community.

"His newspaper does such a great job covering politics, human interest stories, sports and important issues that impact the lives of Hispanics in Kansas and Missouri. The Spanish speaking community is able to stay on top of what is happening in their area," she said.

Covering the hot topics on both sides of the state line in Kansas and Missouri has the readership reaching for the latest issue. Sometimes a topic passionately divides the community, leading some to feel that any reporting on the topic reveals a bias.

"We don't take sides when it comes to stories and when you are covering neighborhood news, that is a tough one to cover. There are always people who have opinions, pro and con, and sometimes the folks that are leading a meeting or leading a certain agenda feel as though we are taking a side one way or another. People want to shoot the messenger from time to time and I understand that. It comes with the job. I

have been in the business for 40 years, but at the same time, I believe people appreciate the fact that we are covering the news," said Arce.

Besides covering the news, the Arce family is very involved in the community that they serve. Joe Arce is a co-founder of the Hispanic Media Association of Greater Kansas City. The Hispanic Media Association has raised over \$200,000 since its existence. One of their missions was to offer scholarships to area students pursuing a career in journalism.

"It is so important that we have a Hispanic voice in our newsrooms," said Arce.

Olivas reflects on the encouragement she received from Arce as she considered a career in broadcast journalism.

"Joe has been a mentor of mine since I was in college and he continues to be an inspiration to me and so many others in the journalism field. His dedication and quality work is an invaluable asset to Kansas City," said Olivas

Another scholarship program was founded over 10 years ago by Arce and the University of Central Missouri State called the Cesar E. Chavez Scholarship. Over the last decade, area students have received over

\$200,000. The scholarship continues to grow.

Hispanic News has worked closely with the Cristo Rey High School internship program. The newsroom has had several interns over the last five or six years to learn about putting a newspaper together for the community.

"The students shadow me or one of our reporters to get a feel of covering events in the community. It shows them what type of work it takes to put together a newspaper and how you need to be aware of issues in the community," said Arce.

Former Cristo Rey intern, José Muniz, enjoyed the newsroom environment while he worked at the paper. He learned how to conduct an interview, how the story comes together and how to take pictures for the stories the paper covered.

"I really love what Hispanic News has done for me. Joe Arce took an interest in me and worked with me. He helped me understand how to be a professional and work with your teachers, and people in the community and to take an interest in the community," said Muñiz.

Education has always been an important topic in the

newspaper. The paper has covered government cuts to education, Google fiber coming into the classrooms, and positive activities students on the Kansas and Missouri side are involved in at their schools.

One story that has been close to the publisher's heart is the opening of a new Alta Vista Charter High School in Kansas City's Westside. The former Douglass Elementary School was renovated into a state of the art school for the students.

"I was excited to see all the smiling faces of the students as they started their first day of school. They have the latest technology there, new desks and new chairs. I grew up in the community and we didn't have those things. This school is a multi-million dollar project and it was tailor made for these students. That is awesome," he said.

Hispanic News' staff works hard to have a good balance of topics in the paper each week. Ninety percent of the paper is local news and that is the dividing factor from Hispanic News and other mainstream newspapers in the city.

"We do a little bit entertainment and sports but the majority of what we do, and I take pride in this, is that we

cover local news that people are talking about," said Arce.

Quinn agrees that the paper, manned by a limited staff, covers a wide variety of topics that are of interest to all readers across the city.

"Everything in his paper is relevant. It seems like you have a big newspaper staff, but you don't. He has an eye for what is important. They care not only about the Hispanic community, but about the entire community in the metropolitan area," said Quinn.

As Hispanic News begins their 17th year, Joe and Ramona Arce believe, "We couldn't do the newspaper without a great staff, great editors, great reporters and great graphic designers. We have been together with most of our staff for at least ten years. They are like family, and with any family, we have had our debates between staff and publisher over the content of the paper. We really appreciate the years our staff has been with us and we could not do this without our dedicated staff."

We look forward to bringing the news for decades to come. *Thank you to all our readers and advertisers for supporting your hometown KC Hispanic News publication.*

Cubriendo Noticias En Las Comunidades Locales Durante 17 Años

CONT./PÁGINA B1

telefónicas de la comunidad pidiendo al personal de noticias KCHN, cubrir sus festivales y reuniones en el ayuntamiento. A veces las llamadas son para que el periódico sepa de alguien que es un mentor positivo para el barrio o la juventud local.

"Es importante que nuestra comunidad tenga una voz. Tratamos de hacerlo a través de nuestro periódico. Nos enteramos de que la publicación es la voz de la comunidad. Hay una cierta verdad en eso, pero yo no quiero que sea mi voz, yo quiero que sea verdaderamente la voz de los lectores", afirmó.

Kathy Quinn, reportera de Noticias Fox4, espera con interés la lectura del periódico semanal. Ella encuentra que el periódico es informativo, integrador y vital para la comunidad.

"Nosotros, como hispanos, latinos, méxico-americanos, son todos parte de nuestras diversas comunidades, y el periódico representa a toda la comunidad. Ellos informan no sólo en los temas que son muy importantes para la comunidad hispana, sino también temas que otros en la comunidad encuentran informativos y pueden estar preocupados también. El periódico se preocupa por la comunidad y por contar las historias de la gente de nuestra ciudad que de otra manera nunca nos enteraríamos", dijo.

Sandra Olivas, reportera en KCTV 5, ha seguido leyendo por años las últimas noticias acerca de su comunidad con el periódico bilingüe.

"Su periódico hace un gran trabajo ya que cubren política, historias de interés humano, deportes y temas importantes que afectan a las vidas de los hispanos en Kansas y Missouri. La comunidad de habla hispana, es capaz de mantenerse al tanto de lo que sucede en su área", dijo.

El cubrir los temas candentes en ambos lados de la línea del estado de Kansas y Missouri, tiene a un número de lectores en busca del último número. A veces un tema divide apasionadamente a la comunidad, llevando a algunos

a pensar que cualquier informe sobre el tema revela un sesgo.

"Nosotros no tomamos partido cuando se trata de las historias, y cuando usted está cubriendo noticias de barrio, es algo difícil de cubrir. Siempre hay personas que tienen opiniones, a favor y en contra, y a veces la gente que está dirigiendo una reunión o llevando una determinada agenda, sienten como si estuviéramos tomando parte de una manera u otra. La gente quiere disparar al mensajero de vez en cuando y yo entiendo eso. Viene con el trabajo. He estado en el negocio durante 40 años, pero, al mismo tiempo, creo que la gente aprecia el hecho de que estamos cubriendo las noticias", dijo Arce.

Además de cubrir las noticias, la familia Arce está muy involucrada en la comunidad a la que sirven. Joe Arce es co-fundador de la Asociación de Medios Hispanos del Área Metropolitana de Kansas City. La Asociación de Medios Hispanos ha recaudado más de \$200,000 dólares desde su existencia. Una de sus misiones es ofrecer becas a estudiantes del área que cursan una carrera en periodismo.

"Es muy importante que tengamos una voz hispana en nuestras salas de redacción", dijo Arce. Olivas refleja el impulso que recibió de Arce mientras consideraba una carrera en periodismo televisivo.

"Joe ha sido un mentor para mí desde que estaba en la universidad y él sigue siendo una inspiración para mí y para muchos otros en el campo del periodismo. Su dedicación y trabajo de calidad es un recurso invaluable para Kansas City", dijo Olivas.

Otro programa de becas fue fundado hace 10 años por Arce y la Universidad Central del Estado de Missouri llamado Becas César E. Chávez. Durante la última década, los estudiantes de la zona han recibido más de \$200,000. La beca sigue creciendo.

Hispanic News ha trabajado estrechamente con el programa

de pasantías de la Escuela Preparatoria Cristo Rey. La sala de prensa ha tenido varios pasantes durante los últimos cinco o seis años, para que aprendan acerca de cómo se arma un periódico para la comunidad.

"Los alumnos son mi sombra o la de uno de nuestros reporteros para que se den una idea de la cobertura de eventos en la comunidad. Se les muestra qué tipo de trabajo es necesario para armar un periódico y lo que se necesita para estar al tanto de los problemas de la comunidad", dijo Arce.

El pasante de Cristo Rey, José Muñiz, disfrutó del ambiente de la redacción mientras trabajaba en el periódico. Aprendió cómo llevar a cabo una entrevista, cómo se va armando la historia y cómo tomar fotografías de las historias de la portada del periódico.

"Me encanta lo que Hispanic News ha hecho por mí. Joe Arce se interesó por mí y trabajó conmigo. Él me ayudó a entender cómo ser un profesional y trabajar con tus maestros y la gente en la comunidad, y el interesarme en la comunidad", dijo Muñiz.

La educación siempre ha sido un tema importante en el periódico. En el periódico se han cubierto los recortes de presupuesto del gobierno a la educación, la fibra Google entrando en las aulas, y las actividades positivas en que los estudiantes en el lado de Kansas y Missouri están involucrados en sus escuelas.

Una historia que ha estado cerca del corazón del editor es la apertura de una nueva Preparatoria Alta Vista Charter en el Westside de Kansas City. La antigua Escuela Primaria Douglass fue renovada en una escuela de vanguardia para los estudiantes.

"Yo estaba emocionado de ver todas las caras sonrientes de los estudiantes, mientras comenzaban su primer día de escuela. Ellos tienen la última tecnología que existe, nuevas mesas y sillas. Crecí en la comunidad y no tuvimos

esas cosas. Esta escuela es un proyecto de varios millones de dólares y fue hecho a la medida de estos estudiantes. Eso es impresionante", dijo.

El personal de Hispanic News trabaja duro para tener un buen equilibrio de temas en el periódico cada semana. El 90% del trabajo es de noticias locales lo que es el factor de división entre Hispanic News y otros diarios de amplia circulación en la ciudad.

"Tenemos un poco de entretenimiento y deportes, pero la mayoría de lo que hacemos, y me enorgullezco de ello, es que cubrimos las noticias locales de las cuales la gente está hablando", dijo Arce.

Quinn está de acuerdo en que el periódico, atendido por un personal limitado, abarca una amplia variedad en temas que son de interés para todos los lectores de la ciudad.

"Todo en su periódico es relevante. Parece como si tuviera un equipo grande en periodismo, pero no es así. Él tiene un buen ojo para lo que es importante. Ellos se preocupan no sólo de la comunidad hispana, sino de toda la comunidad en el área metropolitana", dijo Quinn.

Ya que Hispanic News comienza su 17º año, Joe y Ramona Arce creen que "no podríamos hacer el periódico sin un gran equipo, grandes editores, grandes periodistas y grandes diseñadores gráficos. Hemos estado juntos con la mayor parte de nuestro personal durante al menos diez años. Ellos son como de la familia, y con cualquier familia, hemos tenido nuestros debates entre el personal y el editor sobre el contenido del periódico. Realmente apreciamos los años, que nuestro personal ha estado con nosotros y no podríamos hacerlo sin nuestro dedicado personal".

Tenemos muchas ganas de llevar las noticias en las próximas décadas. *¡Gracias a todos nuestros lectores y anunciantes, por apoyar a su publicación hispana KC News!*



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