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No Kings, No Panic: Why Americans Should Stay Vigilant and Keep the Faith



By Dr. José A. Flores

America is having a serious conversation about the future of our democracy. Fears and alarms are being raised everywhere.

Across the country, people are protesting under slogans like "No Kings." Others warn that our nation is moving toward authoritarian rule. Some believe the current president is setting the stage for a militarized takeover of democratic government, while others believe those fears are overblown.

The truth is that Americans should take concerns about democracy seriously. But we should also understand the strength of the system we have inherited. America was founded on solid laws, checks and balances, and a deep distrust of concentrated power.

We can be watchful without being fearful.



One of the biggest concerns today is the idea that a president could reject election results and remain in power. History shows that democracies can be weakened when leaders refuse to accept political defeat.

But the American system was specifically designed to prevent one person from controlling elections.

Presidents do not certify their own victories. Elections are run by state and local officials. Election disputes are decided in courts. Congress also plays a constitutional role. Most importantly, presidential terms end on a date fixed by the Constitution. No president can legally extend that term with a speech, executive order, or declaration.

Another concern is martial law.

For many Americans, the term brings images of soldiers on our streets and suspended freedoms. Yet our constitutional system places strong limits on government power. Civilian courts remain open. State governments continue to operate. Local governments, legislatures, and law enforcement agencies still perform their duties.

Political disagreement does not justify martial law.

Public protest does not justify martial law.

Even heated political conflict does not automatically give a president unlimited authority or military rule over our nation.

Some Americans also worry that the military could be used to keep a president in power. That concern overlooks an important fact. Members of the armed forces swear an oath to the Constitution, not to any president. The military is one of the most professional institutions in the country, and its culture is built around constitutional government and civilian control under law.

A successful coup would require the cooperation of many institutions, not just one individual sitting in the Oval Office.

The same is true for federal agencies. While agencies such as the FBI and Homeland Security possess significant authority, they operate within a system of laws, courts, oversight, inspectors general, and congressional review. They are not private enforcement arms for any political party or president.

Perhaps the most dramatic claim being made today is that America is becoming Nazi Germany. Images of masked ICE agents, aggressive immigration enforcement, and growing political division have led some people to draw comparisons to Germany in the 1930s.

History teaches important lessons, and we should never ignore them. The rise of Adolf Hitler reminds us how quickly freedom can disappear when citizens become complacent and blindly trust powerful leaders. Those lessons are worth remembering.

But history also teaches perspective.

The United States is not 1930s Germany. America has a long-established Constitution, independent courts, fifty state governments, a free press, regular elections, and countless civic institutions. These protections do not make democracy invincible, but they do make direct comparisons far more complicated than political slogans suggest.

That does not mean we should stop paying attention.

Democracy survives only when citizens stay engaged. We should question leaders, challenge abuses of power, vote, speak out, attend meetings, write letters, and peacefully protest when we believe something is wrong. The "No Kings" protests are drawing attention to important questions. Peaceful dissent is not a threat to democracy. Suppressing dissent is.

At the same time, we should resist the temptation to believe that every election is the "last election" or that every political dispute signals the end of the republic. Fear can be just as damaging as complacency. A nation that constantly expects dictatorship may eventually lose confidence in the very institutions that protect its freedom.

America's founders expected political conflict. They expected ambitious leaders and fierce disagreements. That is exactly why they divided power among Congress, the courts, the states, and the presidency. They built a system of checks and balances because they understood that no leader should ever be entrusted with unlimited power.

The good news is that those safeguards are still working.

The fact that Americans can protest, publish editorials, challenge government actions in court, organize politically, vote, and openly debate these issues is evidence that our democratic system remains alive and functioning.

America does not need kings, nor do we have one. We have a president who, like every elected official, is ultimately accountable to the law, the Constitution, and the American people.

It also does not need panic.

Democracy requires informed citizens who are willing to defend liberty with courage, common sense, and confidence in the Constitution. We are a nation of laws.

Our concerns should inspire civic engagement, constitutional literacy, and calm reflection, not fear, division, or hatred based on race, religion, nationality, or political differences.

We rise above our disagreements not by pretending they do not exist, but by remembering that we are Americans first, united by our shared commitment to democracy, freedom, and the rule of law.

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To contact The Community Voice/ La Voz Magazine please call or write our administrative office:
Attention Dr. José A. Flores, Editor-In-Chief,
1052 Grandville Ave. S.W.,
Grand Rapids, MI. 49503 or
email: drjflores1@gmail.com

Please visit us at our website:
http://www.lavozweb.com
All inquiries should be directed to
Phone: 616-581-6271

La Voz Meet the Staff

drjflores1@gmail.com
Find us on / Encuentranos en:


Reyna Hernández
Sales Representative


Dr. Edgar León
Writer


Dr. José A. Flores, Editor-In-Chief


Odille Parker
Graphic Design


Dr. DadsyTorres
Writer


Marte Smith
VP Marketing & Public Relations


Concepción Flores, Guardian Angel


'El Chayo' Cervantes
Guardian Angel


Kindra A. Peterson
Writer


Odille S. Parker
Writer


Andrés DelaCruz
Circulacion Saginaw


Tom Ozinga
Editor


Lisa Villarreal Wiseman
Writer


Anthony T. Valdez
Photographer


Jorge Martínez
Writer

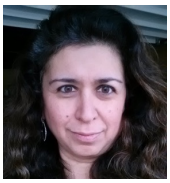

Homero Rodriguez,
Sales/ Circulation
Grand Rapids


Mike Farage
Writer


Dee Rodríguez
Circulation
Grand Rapids


Daniel Flores,
Reporter/
Sales Rep
Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids Premiere of American Pachuco Draws Strong Community Support



By Lisa Wiseman

The screening of *American Pachuco: The Legend of Luis Valdez* at Wealthy Theatre on September 23 was a resounding success.

Presented by SECOM Resource Center as part of Hispanic Heritage Month, the special event took place ahead of the film's national debut on PBS. The Sundance Award-winning documentary chronicles the life and career of renowned director Luis Valdez, highlighting his pioneering role in bringing Chicano stories from the fields to the silver screen through groundbreaking productions such as Zoot Suit and La Bamba.



Following the screening, attendees participated in a panel discussion featuring Dr. José Flores, José Orozco, and Amai de La Fuente. The panelists shared their perspectives on the film's themes and discussed the enduring influence of Valdez's work on Latino culture, representation, and storytelling.

The event also showcased local artists, entrepreneurs, and community organizations. Guests explored exhibits from local vendors and ArtPrize artist Arturo Morales Romero in the theater lobby, while DJ Juan Alfaro of Alpha1 Music provided entertainment throughout the evening.

Further highlighting the richness of Chicano culture, members of local car clubs, including Sueños, GirlzNTheHood, and Outta Control, displayed their vehicles outside Wealthy Theatre. Lowrider bicycles were also exhibited in the lobby, reflecting a vibrant tradition of creativity, cultural expression, and community pride.

SECOM Director Pablo Garcia praised the event's success and the community's enthusiastic response. “I think this was one of our strongest events yet, and I look forward to continuing to grow it,” Garcia said. “I believe we have the opportunity to make it even bigger each year. Putting everything together in a short amount of time was challenging, but the energy in the room made it all worthwhile. The community truly embraced the event.”

*La proyección de *American Pachuco: The Legend of Luis Valdez* en el Wealthy Theatre, el 23 de Septiembre, fue un éxito rotundo.*

*Presentado por el SECOM Resource Center como parte del Mes de la Herencia Hispana, este evento especial tuvo lugar antes del estreno nacional de la película en PBS. El documental, galardonado en el Festival de Sundance, narra la vida y trayectoria del reconocido director Luis Valdez, destacando su papel pionero al llevar las historias chicanas —desde los campos agrícolas hasta la gran pantalla— a través de producciones innovadoras como *Zoot Suit* y *La Bamba*.*

Tras la proyección, los asistentes participaron en un panel de discusión en el que intervinieron el Dr. José Flores, José Orozco y Amai de La Fuente. Los panelistas compartieron sus perspectivas sobre los temas abordados en el filme y analizaron la influencia duradera de la obra de Valdez en la cultura, la representación y la narrativa latina.



El evento también sirvió de escaparate para artistas, emprendedores y organizaciones comunitarias locales. En el vestíbulo del teatro, los invitados pudieron recorrer exposiciones de vendedores locales y del artista de ArtPrize, Arturo Morales Romero, mientras que el DJ Juan Alfaro, de Alpha1 Music, amenizó la velada.

*Para resaltar aún más la riqueza de la cultura chicana, miembros de clubes automovilísticos locales —como Sueños, GirlzNTheHood y Outta Control— exhibieron sus vehículos en el exterior del Wealthy Theatre. Asimismo, en el vestíbulo se expusieron bicicletas estilo *lowrider*, reflejando una vibrante tradición de creatividad, expresión cultural y orgullo comunitario.*



Pablo García, director de SECOM, celebró el éxito del evento y la respuesta entusiasta de la comunidad. «Creo que ha sido uno de nuestros eventos más sólidos hasta la fecha, y espero seguir impulsándolo», comentó García. «Considero que tenemos la oportunidad de hacerlo crecer aún más cada año. Organizar todo en tan poco tiempo fue un reto, pero la energía que se vivió en el lugar hizo que valiera la pena. La comunidad realmente acogió el evento con gran entusiasmo».



Community News

Obituaries

Remembering Ramon R. Garcia
Ramon R. Garcia, age 76, went home to heaven peacefully on October 15, 2026, with his two loving daughters by his side.

Born on December 25, 1949, He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam era. Worked for the Michigan Employment Security Commission, for 30 years before retiring.

Above all, he was a beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and brother. He is survived by his daughters, Sherry Shepard and her husband, Scott, and Sandy Hewitt and her husband, Lucas; his five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and his siblings, Reynaldo Garcia, Rosa Cox, Roberto Garcia, Ricardo Garcia and his wife, Dawn, and Kelly Kincaid and her husband, Brian.



Ramon R. Garcia, de 76 años, falleció pacíficamente el 15 de octubre de 2026, rodeado de sus hijas. Nacido el 25 de diciembre de 1949, sirvió en el Cuerpo de Marines de los Estados Unidos durante la época de Vietnam y trabajó durante 30 años en la Comisión de Seguridad en el Empleo de Michigan (Michigan Employment Security Commission). Se le recuerda como un padre, abuelo, bisabuelo y hermano cariñoso; le sobreviven sus hijas Sherry y Sandy, cinco nietos, seis bisnietos y varios hermanos.



Reyes Castro
January 06, 1945 - October 04, 2026
Mr. Reyes Castro, 81, a U.S. Army Veteran and Medic from Comstock Park, passed away on October 4, 2026, after a brief struggle with ALS. He is survived by his wife Barbara, children Chris, Amalia, Veronica, and Serina, along with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by several family members. A passionate outdoorsman, Reyes enjoyed hunting, fishing, and bowling. He operated Los Cuernos European Mounts and was a member of Holy Trinity Church. He will be deeply missed.

El Sr. Reyes Castro, de 81 años, veterano del Ejército de los EE. UU. y paramédico, residente de Comstock Park, falleció el 4 de Octubre de 2026 tras una breve lucha contra la ELA. Le sobreviven su esposa Barbara; sus hijos Chris, Amalia, Veronica y Serina; así como sus nietos y bisnietos. Varios familiares fallecieron antes que él. Gran amante de la vida al aire libre, Reyes disfrutaba de la caza, la pesca y los bolos. Dirigía el negocio «Los Cuernos European Mounts» y era miembro de la iglesia Holy Trinity. Se le extrañará profundamente.

Celebrating el Día de Muertos in Michigan



Major Día de los Muertos celebrations across Michigan include the Detroit Riverfront Celebration at Valade Park and the 12th Annual Día de Los Muertos Celebration in Kalamazoo.
Entre las principales celebraciones del Día de los Muertos en Michigan se incluyen la celebración en el Detroit Riverfront, en Valade Park, y la 12.ª edición anual de la celebración del Día de los Muertos en Kalamazoo, que se llevó a cabo el pasado 30de Octubre

Detroit Riverfront Día de los Muertos Celebration
- Date & Time: Sunday, November 1, 2026 | 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Venue: Robert C. Valade Park, Detroit, MI
- Description: A family-friendly event featuring live music by Luna and Mariachi Mexico de Detroit, a dance performance by Ballet Folklórico Moyocoyani Izel, children's storytelling, food trucks, shop vendors, and arts & crafts. Visitors can also view and participate in a community ofrenda.
- Cost: Free admission.

Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) Ofrendas Exhibition
- Date & Time: September 26 – November 1, 2026 (Tuesdays–Sundays)
- Venue: Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI (in partnership with the Mexican Consulate of Detroit)
- Description: Features creative community-made ofrenda altars displayed in honor of the holiday.
- Cost: Included with general museum admission (free for residents of Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties).



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Sin Reyes, Sin Pánico: Por Qué los Estadounidenses Deben Permanecer Vigilantes y Mantener la Fe

Por Dr. José A Flores ..... Versión en español del artículo de la página 03

Estados Unidos está teniendo una conversación seria sobre el futuro de nuestra democracia. Los temores y las alarmas se escuchan en todas partes.

En todo el país, las personas participan en protestas bajo consignas como “No Kings” (“Sin Reyes”). Otros advierten que nuestra nación se dirige hacia un gobierno autoritario. Algunos creen que el presidente actual está preparando el terreno para una toma militarizada del gobierno democrático, mientras que otros consideran que esos temores son exagerados.

La verdad es que los estadounidenses debemos tomar en serio las preocupaciones sobre la democracia. Pero también debemos comprender la fortaleza del sistema que hemos heredado. Estados Unidos fue fundado sobre leyes sólidas, controles y equilibrios entre los poderes del gobierno, y una profunda desconfianza hacia la concentración del poder.

Podemos mantenernos vigilantes sin vivir atemorizados.

Una de las mayores preocupaciones hoy es la idea de que un presidente podría rechazar los resultados electorales y permanecer en el poder. La historia demuestra que las democracias pueden debilitarse cuando los líderes se niegan a aceptar una derrota política.

Sin embargo, el sistema estadounidense fue diseñado específicamente para evitar que una sola persona controle las elecciones.

Los presidentes no certifican sus propias victorias. Las elecciones son administradas por funcionarios estatales y locales. Las disputas electorales son resueltas por los tribunales. El Congreso también desempeña un papel constitucional. Más importante aún, los mandatos presidenciales terminan en una fecha fijada por la Constitución. Ningún presidente puede extender legalmente ese período mediante un discurso, una orden ejecutiva o una simple declaración.

Otra preocupación es la ley marcial.

Para muchos estadounidenses, ese término evoca imágenes de soldados patrullando nuestras calles y libertades suspendidas. Sin embargo, nuestro sistema constitucional impone límites firmes al poder del gobierno. Los tribunales civiles continúan abiertos. Los gobiernos estatales siguen funcionando. Los gobiernos locales, las legislaturas y las agencias de seguridad pública continúan desempeñando sus responsabilidades.

El desacuerdo político no justifica la ley marcial.

La protesta pública no justifica la ley marcial.

Incluso los conflictos políticos intensos no otorgan automáticamente a un presidente autoridad ilimitada ni control militar sobre nuestra nación.

Algunos estadounidenses también temen que las fuerzas armadas puedan ser utilizadas para mantener a un presidente en el poder. Esa preocupación pasa por alto un hecho importante. Los miembros de las Fuerzas Armadas juran lealtad a la Constitución, no a ningún presidente. El ejército es una de las instituciones más profesionales del país y su cultura está basada en el gobierno constitucional y el control civil bajo el imperio de la ley.

Un golpe de Estado exitoso requeriría la cooperación de muchas instituciones, no simplemente la voluntad de una persona sentada en la Oficina Oval.

Lo mismo ocurre con las agencias federales. Aunque organismos como el FBI y el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional poseen una autoridad considerable, operan dentro de un sistema de leyes, tribunales, supervisión, inspectores generales y revisión del Congreso. No son brazos privados de aplicación de la ley para ningún partido político ni para ningún presidente.

Quizás la afirmación más dramática que se escucha hoy es que Estados Unidos se está convirtiendo en la Alemania nazi. Las imágenes de agentes de ICE con el rostro cubierto, políticas de inmigración agresivas y una creciente división política han llevado a algunas personas a hacer comparaciones con la Alemania de la década de 1930.

La historia nos enseña lecciones importantes y nunca debemos ignorarlas. El ascenso de Adolf Hitler nos recuerda cuán rápidamente puede desaparecer la libertad cuando los ciudadanos se vuelven complacientes y confían ciegamente en líderes poderosos. Vale la pena recordar esas lecciones.

Pero la historia también nos enseña perspectiva.

Estados Unidos no es la Alemania de los años treinta. Nuestro país cuenta con una Constitución de larga trayectoria, tribunales independientes, cincuenta gobiernos estatales, una prensa libre, elecciones periódicas e innumerables instituciones cívicas. Estas protecciones no hacen que la democracia sea invencible, pero sí convierten las comparaciones directas en algo mucho más complejo de lo que sugieren los eslóganes políticos.

Eso no significa que debamos dejar de prestar atención.

La democracia sobrevive únicamente cuando los ciudadanos permanecen comprometidos. Debemos cuestionar a nuestros líderes, denunciar los abusos de poder, votar, expresar nuestras opiniones, asistir a reuniones, escribir cartas y protestar pacíficamente cuando creemos que algo está mal. Las protestas de “No Kings” están llamando la atención sobre preguntas importantes. La disidencia pacífica no es una amenaza para la democracia. Reprimir la disidencia sí lo es.

Al mismo tiempo, debemos resistir la tentación de creer que cada elección es la “última elección” o que cada disputa política marca el fin de la república. El miedo puede ser tan dañino como la complacencia. Una nación que constantemente espera una dictadura podría terminar perdiendo la confianza en las mismas instituciones que protegen su libertad.

Los fundadores de Estados Unidos esperaban conflictos políticos. Esperaban líderes ambiciosos y desacuerdos intensos. Precisamente por eso dividieron el poder entre el Congreso, los tribunales, los estados y la presidencia. Construyeron un sistema de controles y equilibrios porque entendían que ningún líder debería recibir jamás un poder ilimitado.

La buena noticia es que esas salvaguardas siguen funcionando.
El hecho de que los estadounidenses puedan protestar, publicar editoriales, impugnar acciones gubernamentales ante los tribunales, organizarse políticamente, votar y debatir estos asuntos abiertamente demuestra que nuestro sistema democrático continúa vivo y funcionando.

Estados Unidos no necesita reyes, ni los tiene. Tenemos un presidente que, como cualquier funcionario electo, es responsable ante la ley, la Constitución y el pueblo estadounidense.

Tampoco necesitamos pánico.

La democracia requiere ciudadanos informados, dispuestos a defender la libertad con valentía, sentido común y confianza en la Constitución. Somos una nación de leyes.

Nuestras preocupaciones deben inspirar participación cívica, educación constitucional y reflexión serena, no miedo, división ni odio basado en la raza, la religión, la nacionalidad o las diferencias políticas.

1. An Educated Nation Is a Represented Nation: The Hispanic Future Is the Future of the United States



By Edgar León

The United States is changing its face, and schools, universities, and Congress have still not finished adjusting. Hispanics make up a growing share of the children being born, the students filling classrooms, the workers sustaining the economy, and the voters deciding elections. This shift is structural, and the question is whether institutions are preparing for it or treating it as a threat.

The good news is that young Hispanics are responding when the door is opened to them. A Census data analysis published by EdSource points out that among Latinos aged 25 to 29, high school graduation rose from 58.2% in 1996 to 88.5% in 2021, and that Latinos grew from making up 11.4% of the college population in 2006 to 20.1% in 2021. The January 2026 fact sheet from the Postsecondary National Policy Institute, based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics, indicates that Hispanic students received 16.8% of the nearly two million bachelor's degrees awarded in 2023–24, and that 21.5% of Latinos aged 25 or older now hold a bachelor's degree or higher. These are real advances.

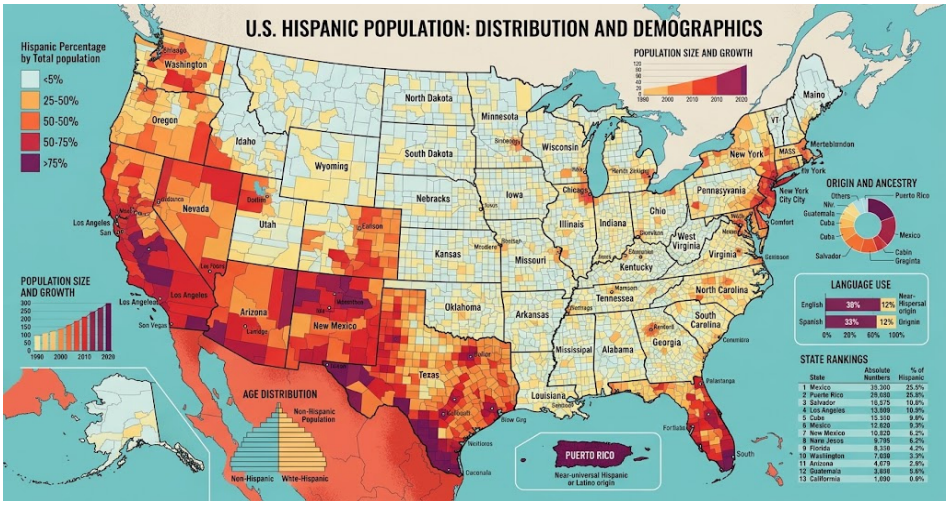
However, these advances have not closed the gap. The Pew Research Center warned in its study on Latino enrollment that although many Latinos attend college, the majority still pursue pathways less likely to end in a bachelor's degree, such as community colleges, part-time study, or delayed enrollment. The problem is not the students' ambition; it lies in the barriers of cost, guidance, language, and representation that institutions can dismantle. Doing so requires quality early childhood education, bilingual programs that treat Spanish as an asset, bilingual teachers who reflect their communities, middle school counseling, and financial support that doesn't force a choice between studying and working. It also demands investing in institutions already doing the work: according to the same PNPI report, 54.8% of Hispanic undergraduate students were enrolled in Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

Yet education alone is not enough. Those who make decisions about school funding, student aid, immigration, and healthcare determine whether those investments get made. That is why representation in Congress matters so much. According to LegiStorm, Hispanic lawmakers occupy approximately 11% of the 119th Congress, with 51 representatives and six senators. The same source notes that while this figure is slightly below the peak of the 118th Congress, the 114th Congress—just over a decade ago—had only 34 Hispanic representatives and four senators. The Associated Press further notes that forty years ago, in the 99th Congress, there were only 14 Hispanic members, all of whom were men. The Pew Research Center analysis of the 119th Congress confirms that 139 senators and representatives identify as Black, Hispanic, Asian American, or Native American—making it the most diverse composition in history.

Even so, 11% remains lower than what the demographic weight of Hispanics in the population suggests. Representation is not a mere symbol. When a lawmaker knows firsthand what it is like to be an English learner, the child of immigrants, or the first in the family to attend university, public policy reflects that reality. That is why it matters for this growth to reach the state level as well: LegiStorm reports that more than 440 state legislators are Hispanic—about 6% of the total—and that there are 63% more Hispanic women in state legislatures than in 2020. This pipeline of leaders must be cultivated starting in school, through civics education, debate, community service, and mentorship that prepare young people to run for office, not just to vote.

The message to the educational community is clear. Every young Hispanic who graduates, masters two languages, and arrives prepared at a university or a leadership role boosts the productivity and civic strength of the entire nation. Every young person left behind due to a lack of guidance, resources, or understanding teachers represents a loss for everyone. Investing in Hispanic education is not charity; it is the smartest way to secure the nation's prosperity. And when those young people reach the lawmaking tables, democracy will be more complete.

1.1



1.2

1.3 Description of the Illustration

This infographic map illustrates the geographic concentration and demographic breakdown of the Hispanic and Latino population across the United States and Puerto Rico. The color-coded thematic map shows that the highest population density (highlighted in deep red and purple shades indicating upwards of 50% to over 75% total population share) is strongly concentrated throughout the Southwest, California, Texas, Florida, and major metropolitan corridors along the East Coast. Puerto Rico is highlighted as an inset in deep purple, reflecting its near-universal Hispanic majority status. Accompanying charts and sidebars break down key demographic facets, including population growth trends since 1990, state rankings, age distribution pyramids comparing Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations, national origin breakdowns (such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Salvadoran), and language usage percentages across English and Spanish.

Conclusion

1.4In conclusion, demographic data clearly demonstrates that the social and economic future of the United States depends directly on the well-being of its youngest population, in which Hispanics represent the largest and fastest-growing segment. Given that this generation constitutes the primary generational bridge to replace the retiring senior workforce and sustain the nation's competitiveness, urgently addressing the development of Hispanic human capital—through priority investments in quality early childhood education, healthcare, mentorship, and strengthening English-Spanish bilingualism—is not a matter of social concession, but an imperative strategic necessity. Ignoring this demographic dividend would compromise the country's capacity for innovation and economic stability, whereas empowering it ensures a highly skilled, bicultural workforce prepared to lead national progress in the 21st-century global economy.

....Artículo en español continúa en la siguiente página

Una nación que se educa es una nación que se representa: el futuro hispano es el futuro de Estados Unidos

Estados Unidos está cambiando de rostro, y las escuelas, las universidades y el Congreso todavía no han terminado de ajustarse. Los hispanos son una parte creciente de los niños que nacen, de los estudiantes que llenan las aulas, de los trabajadores que sostienen la economía y de los votantes que deciden elecciones. Ese cambio es estructural, y la pregunta es si las instituciones se preparan para él o lo tratan como una amenaza.

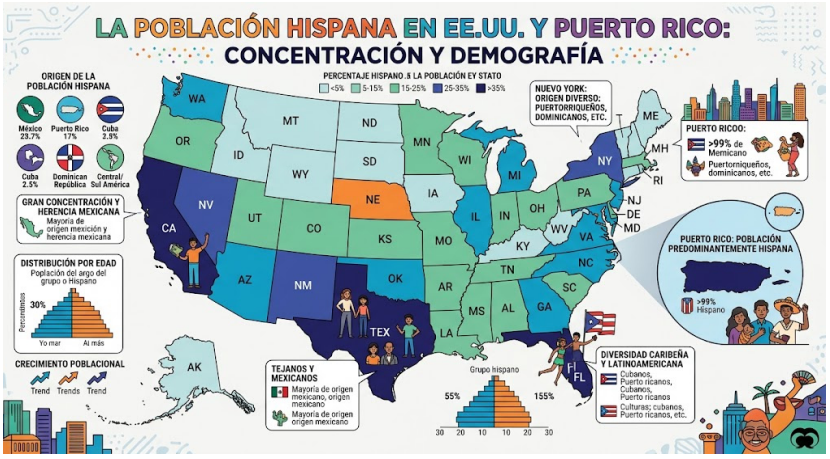
La buena noticia es que los jóvenes hispanos están respondiendo cuando se les abre la puerta. Un análisis de datos del Censo publicado por EdSource señala que entre los latinos de 25 a 29 años, la graduación de escuela superior pasó de 58.2% en 1996 a 88.5% en 2021, y que los latinos pasaron de ser 11.4% de la población universitaria en 2006 a 20.1% en 2021. La hoja informativa de enero de 2026 del Postsecondary National Policy Institute, basada en datos del Centro Nacional de Estadísticas de Educación, indica que los estudiantes hispanos recibieron 16.8% de los casi dos millones de bachilleratos otorgados en 2023-24, y que 21.5% de los latinos de 25 años o más ya tiene un bachillerato o más. Son avances reales. edsourcepnpi

Pero los avances no han cerrado la brecha. El Pew Research Center advirtió en su estudio sobre la matrícula latina que, aunque muchos latinos asisten a la universidad, la mayoría sigue rutas con menos probabilidades de terminar en un bachillerato, como colegios comunitarios, estudio a tiempo parcial o ingreso tardío. El problema no es la ambición de los estudiantes. Son las barreras de costo, de orientación, de idioma y de representación que las instituciones sí pueden derribar. Eso exige educación temprana de calidad, programas bilingües que traten el español como un activo, maestros bilingües que reflejen a sus comunidades, consejería desde la escuela intermedia y apoyo financiero que no obligue a escoger entre estudiar y trabajar. También exige invertir en las instituciones que ya hacen el trabajo: según el mismo informe del PNPI, 54.8% de los estudiantes subgraduados hispanos estaban matriculados en instituciones que sirven a hispanos. pewresearchpnpi

Sin embargo, la educación por sí sola no basta. Quienes toman las decisiones sobre financiamiento escolar, ayuda estudiantil, inmigración y salud determinan si esas inversiones se hacen. Por eso la representación en el Congreso importa tanto. Según LegiStorm, los legisladores hispanos ocupan aproximadamente 11% del 119.º Congreso, con 51 representantes y seis senadores. La misma fuente señala que, aunque la cifra está algo por debajo del máximo del 118.º Congreso, el 114.º Congreso, hace poco más de una década, tenía apenas 34 representantes y cuatro senadores hispanos. La Associated Press recuerda además que hace cuarenta años, en el 99.º Congreso, solo había 14 miembros hispanos y todos eran hombres. El análisis del Pew Research Center sobre el 119.º Congreso confirma que 139 senadores y representantes se identifican como negros, hispanos, asiático-americanos o nativo-americanos, la composición más diversa de la historia. hispanic heritage month arrives amid political gains +3

Aun así, 11% sigue siendo menos de lo que sugiere el peso de los hispanos en la población. La representación no es un símbolo. Cuando un legislador conoce de primera mano lo que es ser estudiante de inglés, hijo de inmigrantes o el primero de la familia en la universidad, las políticas públicas reflejan esa realidad. Por eso importa que el crecimiento alcance también los niveles estatales: LegiStorm informa que más de 440 legisladores estatales son hispanos, alrededor de 6% del total, y que hay 63% más mujeres hispanas en las legislaturas estatales que en 2020. Esa cantera de líderes hay que cultivarla desde la escuela, con educación cívica, debate, servicio comunitario y mentoría que preparen a los jóvenes para postularse, no solo para votar. legistorm

El mensaje a la comunidad educativa es claro. Cada joven hispano que se gradúa, domina dos idiomas y llega preparado a una universidad o a un puesto de liderazgo eleva la productividad y la fortaleza cívica de todo el país. Cada joven que se queda atrás por falta de orientación, de recursos o de maestros que lo entiendan es una pérdida para todos. Invertir en la educación hispana no es caridad. Es la forma más inteligente de asegurar la prosperidad de la nación. Y cuando esos jóvenes lleguen a las mesas donde se legisla, la democracia estará más completa.



La ilustración infográfica ofrece una visión clara y detallada de la distribución geográfica y las dinámicas demográficas de la población hispana a lo largo de Estados Unidos y Puerto Rico. En el mapa principal, la concentración se diferencia mediante una escala de color donde destacan con la mayor densidad (más del 35% de su población) estados del suroeste como California, Texas y Nuevo México, seguidos por una fuerte presencia (entre el 25% y el 35%) en Florida, Nevada y Arizona, así como importantes núcleos urbanos en estados como Nueva York e Illinois. Un elemento central de la ilustración es el recuadro ampliado dedicado a Puerto Rico, el cual enfatiza que más del 99% de los habitantes del archipiélago son hispanos, destacando su papel como territorio estadounidense de habla hispana y su estrecha vinculación cultural y migratoria con la comunidad boricua asentada en estados del noreste y sureste del continente. Asimismo, las gráficas y diagramas laterales desglosan la diversidad de orígenes —donde predomina la herencia mexicana en el suroeste, junto a comunidades caribeñas de origen puertorriqueño, cubano y dominicano en Florida y el Noreste, además de poblaciones centro y sudamericanas— e ilustran una estructura demográfica sensiblemente más joven en comparación con el resto de la nación, lo que reafirma el papel determinante de la niñez y juventud hispana como el motor del relevo generacional y productivo de la sociedad estadounidense.

En conclusión, los datos demográficos demuestran con claridad que el futuro social y económico de Estados Unidos depende directamente del bienestar de su población más joven, donde los hispanos representan la porción de mayor y más rápido crecimiento. Dado que esta generación constituye el principal relevo generacional para suplir el retiro de la fuerza laboral senior y sostener la competitividad de la nación, responder con urgencia al desarrollo del recurso humano hispano —mediante inversiones prioritarias en educación infantil de calidad, salud, mentoría y el fortalecimiento de su bilingüismo en inglés y español— no es un asunto de concesión social, sino una exigencia estratégica ineludible; ignorar este dividendo demográfico comprometería la capacidad de innovación y la estabilidad económica del país, mientras que potenciarlo garantiza una fuerza laboral altamente capacitada, bicultural y preparada para liderar el progreso de la nación en la economía global del siglo XXI.

The fifties: the age of reinvention/ Los cincuenta: la edad de la reinvención



By Dadsy J. Torres Rivera Ph. D

I must confess something: fifty came to me faster than I imagined. One day I was making plans and the next I found myself blowing out the candles on the famous "fifth floor". If I discovered anything when I reached this age it is that I was not losing anything; I was gaining perspective, freedom and confidence.

What I've found is that reaching this wonderful age doesn't feel like the end of something. It feels more like a well-deserved pause in the middle of the road to look around and ask yourself, "Where do I want to go next?"

When I was younger, I thought that life had a list of tasks that had to be completed. Studying, working, starting a family, fulfilling responsibilities, achieving goals. And while you are busy doing all that, you hardly have time to stop and think about yourself.



But the fifties have something funny. They make you look at life with different eyes.

Suddenly, things that once seemed urgent are no longer so urgent. You learn that everything is not worth arguing about, that time with the people you love is more valuable than many of the worries that kept you up at night, and that peace has a value you didn't understand when you were younger.

I have also noticed that this stage brings changes. Some are big and some are small. Children grow, friendships evolve, new responsibilities appear and some doors close while others open. At first these changes can be uncomfortable, but over time one discovers that changing does not mean losing but transforming.

I have met men and women who at this age have started new projects, have returned to study, have dared to travel, have discovered hidden talents or have simply decided to live more calmly and less guilty. That makes me think that perhaps youth is not a matter of years, but of attitude.

The most beautiful thing about reaching fifty has been understanding that I don't have to be the same person I was twenty or thirty years ago. Life has changed me, experiences have changed me and my dreams have also changed. And that's okay.

Today I feel freer to say what I think, more grateful for what I have and more aware that there are still chapters to be written. Because life never ceases to surprise us as long as we keep our hearts open to new possibilities.

If this new decade has taught me anything, it's that every age has its own beauty. Fifty isn't a sign that time is running out; it's an invitation to live wiser, more authentic, and less rushed.

Reaching fifty has made me understand that life is not about clinging to who we were, but about having the courage to continue to become who we are called to be.

Tengo que confesar algo: los cincuenta me llegaron más rápido de lo que imaginaba. Un día estaba haciendo planes para el futuro y al otro me encontré soplando las velas en el famoso "quinto piso". Si algo descubrí al llegar a esta edad es que no estaba perdiendo nada; estaba ganando perspectiva, libertad y confianza.

Lo que he descubierto es que llegar a esta maravillosa edad no se siente como el final de algo. Se siente más como una merecida pausa en medio del camino para mirar alrededor y preguntarse: "¿Hacia dónde quiero seguir?"

Cuando era más joven, pensaba que la vida tenía una lista de tareas que había que completar. Estudiar, trabajar, formar una familia, cumplir responsabilidades, alcanzar metas. Y mientras uno está ocupado haciendo todo eso, casi no tiene tiempo para detenerse a pensar en sí mismo.

Pero los cincuenta tienen algo curioso. Te hacen mirar la vida con otros ojos.

De repente, cosas que antes parecían urgentes ya no lo son tanto. Aprendes que no vale la pena discutir por todo, que el tiempo con las personas que amas es más valioso que muchas de las preocupaciones que te quitaban el sueño y que la paz tiene un valor que no entendías cuando eras más joven.

También he notado que esta etapa trae cambios. Algunos son grandes y otros pequeños. Los hijos crecen, las amistades evolucionan, aparecen nuevas responsabilidades y algunas puertas se cierran mientras otras se abren. Al principio esos cambios pueden incomodar, pero con el tiempo uno descubre que cambiar no significa perder, sino transformarse.

He conocido hombres y mujeres que a esta edad han comenzado proyectos nuevos, han regresado a estudiar, se han atrevido a viajar, han descubierto talentos escondidos o simplemente han decidido vivir con más calma y menos culpa. Eso me hace pensar que quizás la juventud no es una cuestión de años, sino de actitud.

Lo más bonito de llegar a los cincuenta ha sido entender que no tengo que ser la misma persona que era hace veinte o treinta años. La vida me ha cambiado, las experiencias me han cambiado y mis sueños también han cambiado. Y eso está bien.

Hoy me siento más libre para decir lo que pienso, más agradecida por lo que tengo y más consciente de que todavía quedan capítulos por escribir. Porque la vida no deja de sorprendernos mientras mantengamos el corazón abierto a nuevas posibilidades.

Si algo me ha enseñado esta nueva década es que cada edad tiene su belleza. Los cincuenta no son una señal de que el tiempo se acaba; son una invitación a vivir con más sabiduría, más autenticidad y menos prisa.

Llegar a los cincuenta me ha hecho comprender que la vida no se trata de aferrarse a quien fuimos, sino de tener la valentía de seguir convirtiéndonos en quienes estamos llamados a ser.

Happy 50th birthday Dadsy ! Wishing you a year of good health, laughs, and happiness
Best wishes from The Community Voice / La Voz

¡Feliz cumpleaños Dadsy! Te deseamos un año lleno de buena salud, risas y felicidad.
Nuestros mejores deseos, de parte de The Community Voice / La Voz.





No Director to Yell "Cut"

By Jorge Martinez
Independent
Journalist
U.S. Veteran

After the 1960 movie Psycho was reviewed by critics, it was said to have been made by someone with a disturbed mind. The film was so well directed, used so many angles, that it appeared as if the victim were being brutally murdered while taking a shower.

As I studied Trump's and Hegseth's statements about their desire to make the execution public, I wondered what darkness these pseudo-macho men were feeding. As suspicion crept into my imagination, I remembered Hegseth's concern about the testosterone levels of servicemen. These events cannot be coordinated with camera angles or creative tricks to fool the audience.

A rational person would settle on several conclusions, one being that Hegseth is completely unqualified for his role. Another is that he has an as-yet-unexplained preoccupation with men's reproductive ability. This fits perfectly with Republicans' overzealous preoccupation with women's sexual practices and right to choose. It may explain why so many young Republicans identify as nontraditional males but declare themselves to be solid patriots.

Every serious student of history and human behavior must ask the same question: Is this yet another distraction from the real issues now plaguing America as we go into the midterm elections? Or is it meant as a subtle yet sinister warning to millions of discontented Americans who never trusted or believed that any part of Trump's promise was real? The brown population of this country has witnessed what happened to millions of others under a fascist regime in which deliberate force was applied to dissenters.

Although it is true that many Americans approve of the death penalty, and perhaps a third would pay to watch an execution, most would not. Countries that conduct public, government-approved killings do so to intimidate, force submission, and threaten violence. A first-year graduate student of psychology might identify Hegseth as having serious issues with insecurity and Trump as having multiple levels of mental-health concerns.

Trump's failure to force Iran into submission and credibly claim victory opened another layer of his fantasy bravado. However, it has also awakened the concerns of active-duty soldiers and sailors he has placed in harm's way. While average Americans of all ethnicities face serious economic hardship, ordinary men and women in the military—and their families—wonder whether Trump, Hegseth, Stephen Miller, and the entire GOP give a damn about their safety and well-being.

Tyrannical governments use public violence as a deterrent to silence protesters, not maintain peace. Public executions intimidate average people but do little to deter professional criminals. As some Americans fill out and mail their ballots while others wait to enter the voting booth, all Americans must ask the same questions—perhaps asked on other occasions.

Are we responsible for making Trump's fantasy of being the richest, greatest, and most masculine man in history our responsibility? Are the men now in power in Washington there to serve their constituents, or to preserve their careers as they feed at the trough of American government salaries?

As we vote, we must keep in mind that there is no Alfred Hitchcock to yell "Cut!" when the scene ends. Life in Trump's America is not part of a movie and has never been part of the American Dream.

Tras el estreno de la película *Psicosis* (1960), la crítica destacó su carácter perturbador y su eficaz dirección. El autor reflexiona sobre las declaraciones de figuras públicas como



Trump y Hegseth en torno a las ejecuciones públicas, cuestionando sus motivaciones y las cuestiones subyacentes relacionadas con la masculinidad y las dinámicas de poder. El texto critica la idoneidad de Hegseth para su cargo y expresa su preocupación por cómo estas cuestiones desvían la atención de problemas nacionales de gran relevancia a medida que se acercan las elecciones. Asimismo, contrapone el apoyo popular a la pena de muerte con las implicaciones históricas de las ejecuciones públicas como instrumentos de intimidación. El autor subraya los desafíos que atraviesa actualmente Estados Unidos y se pregunta si quienes ostentan el poder anteponen sus propias carreras al bienestar de la ciudadanía, advirtiendo contra la tendencia a percibir la vida política como una representación guionizada. La realidad en el Estados Unidos de Trump dista mucho del «sueño americano».





Elliott's Amusements Carnival at Fennville Festival 2026



New Age Kustoms Car Club members helping out with a Car Show in Fennville Goose Festival 2026



Fennville Festival downtown!



Fennville Goose & Dee time out for photo!

Fennville Goose Festival · 9-11, 2026

Mayor Carlos Lopez was celebrating Fennville Goose Festival with the community and people from different cities visited the city! 3-day annual event which started in 1985 to bring people to Fennville, MI.

Live Music & DJ music mixes, Elliot's Carnival rides, restaurants, food trucks, drinks to quench your thirst, tamales & breakfast tacos, Goose market, balloons, facepainting & sidewalk chalk for kids and even a Car

El alcalde Carlos López estuvo celebrando el «Fennville Goose Festival» junto a la comunidad, ¡y personas de diversas ciudades visitaron la localidad! Se trata de un evento anual de tres días que comenzó en 1985 con el objetivo de atraer visitantes a Fennville, Michigan.

El festival contó con música en vivo y sesiones de DJ, atracciones de feria de «Elliot's Carnival», restaurantes, camiones de comida, bebidas para refrescarse, tamales y tacos para el desayuno, un mercado temático, globos, pintacaritas y tizas para dibujar en la acera para los niños, ¡ Incluso una exhibición de automóviles! Show Event!



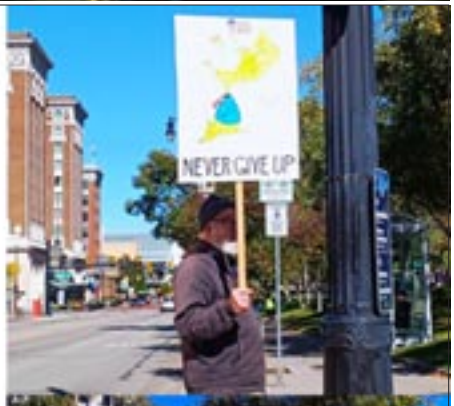
Mayor of Fennville, Carlos Lopez with Homero Rodriguez



New Age Kustoms Car Club Car Show

No Kings Protest! October 17, 2026





The No Kings movement stood ready to mobilize in response to attacks on our elections. By signing the No Kings pledge, you committed to being part of the solution and to joining mass nonviolent action in rapid response to election disruption and subversion if needed.

El movimiento «No Kings» estaba preparado para movilizarse ante cualquier ataque a nuestros procesos electorales. Al suscribir el compromiso de «No Kings», te comprometiste a formar parte de la solución y a participar en acciones colectivas no violentas como respuesta inmediata —en caso de ser necesario— ante cualquier intento de perturbar o subvertir las elecciones.









From Venezuela's historic triumph to baseball's biggest stage



Jackson Chourio, William Contreras and Antonio Senzatela carry their country's championship momentum into the World Series with Milwaukee.

By Odille Parker

For Jackson Chourio, William Contreras and Antonio Senzatela, the road to the World Series has already included a historic championship, one that meant far more than a trophy.

In March, the three Venezuelans helped their country capture its first World Baseball Classic title, defeating the United States 3-2 in Miami. Eugenio Suárez delivered the decisive ninth-inning double, completing a victory that brought Venezuelan fans together in celebration from Miami to Caracas. Venezuela became only the second Latin American nation to win the tournament, joining the Dominican Republic, which claimed the title in 2013.

Now, the three are chasing another milestone with the Milwaukee Brewers, who swept the Los Angeles Dodgers in the National League Championship Series to reach their first World Series since 1982.

The moment carries particular significance for a country whose baseball tradition has produced generations of major league stars. For Venezuelans at home and abroad, baseball offers a shared source of pride, bringing families and communities together around the players who represent their country, with winter leagues and international competition offering players opportunities to develop their craft while representing their country.

Chourio, Milwaukee's 22-year-old outfielder, has become a postseason force. He holds Brewers franchise records for postseason home runs, with five, and runs batted in, with 17. His experience playing in Venezuela's professional winter league has also helped prepare him for October's pressure.

"The teams [Venezuela in the Classic and the Brewers] are very similar in terms of how we can play defense," Chourio said, pointing to the pitching, fundamentals and chemistry that have fueled both teams.

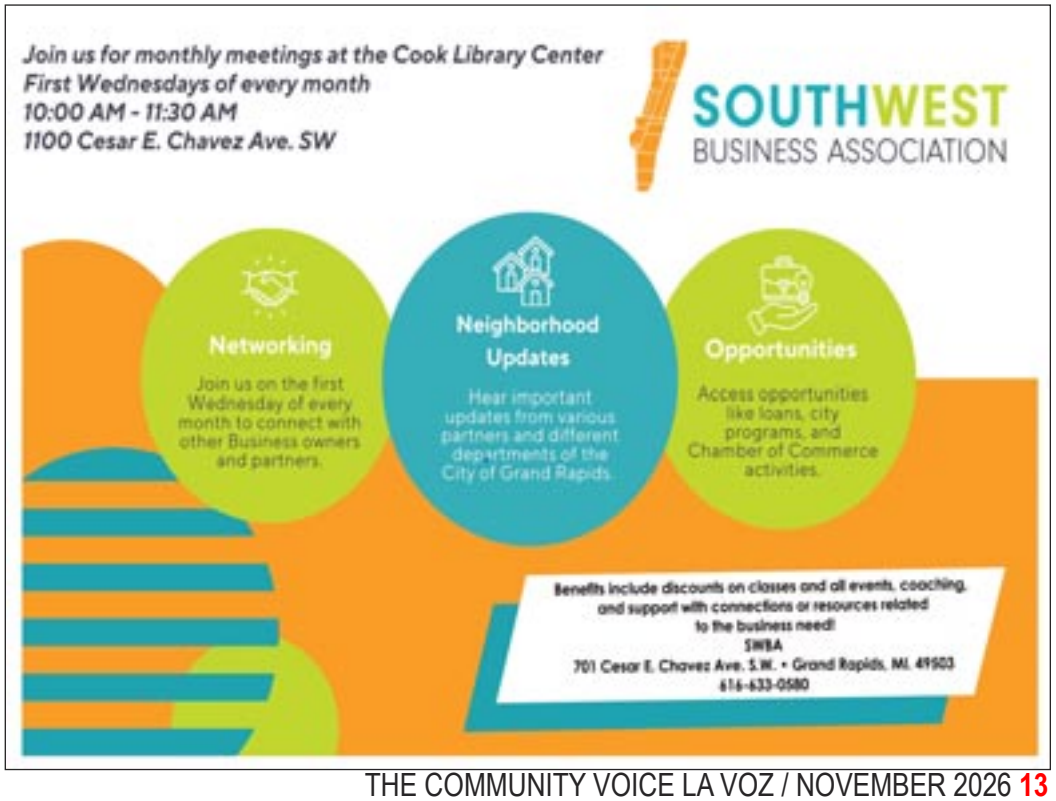
Contreras, Milwaukee's established catcher and an important presence behind the plate, brings leadership and offensive production. Senzatela, a veteran right-handed pitcher acquired by the Brewers in August, adds another Venezuelan voice to the club's pitching staff. Together, they represent different stages of a baseball career united by the same national pride.

The Brewers' Venezuelan contingent has spoken about how the World Baseball Classic strengthened its confidence heading into the postseason. The connection is not lost on Néstor Corredor, Milwaukee's Venezuelan field coordinator, who emphasized how competing in high-pressure environments helped prepare the players for October.

As of the writing of this feature, the three remain active in the World Series, with the outcome still to be determined. Whatever the final score, their season has already linked two defining moments in Venezuelan baseball history: a first-ever world championship for their country and a chance to bring a World Series title to Milwaukee.



Jackson Chourio, William Contreras y Antonio Senzatela, piezas clave de los Milwaukee Brewers, llegan a la Serie Mundial con un gran impulso tras haber contribuido a que Venezuela conquistara su primer título en el Clásico Mundial de Béisbol. Su victoria frente a Estados Unidos en marzo unió a la afición venezolana y sirvió para celebrar la rica tradición beisbolística del país. Ahora, mientras los Brewers avanzan a su primera Serie Mundial desde 1982, este trío venezolano encarna el orgullo nacional y la experiencia: Chourio ha establecido récords de la franquicia en la postemporada, mientras que Contreras aporta su liderazgo. El éxito obtenido en el Clásico también ha fortalecido su confianza ante situaciones de alta presión, conectando así dos momentos históricos para el béisbol venezolano. Actualmente, siguen en plena competencia en la Serie Mundial, en busca de alcanzar una mayor gloria.



November Events / Eventos en Noviembre



Día de los Muertos at City Built Brewing
November 1, 2026
Grand Rapids, Mi
Día de los Muertos will be celebrated at City Built Brewing on November 1 from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM. This free, family- and pet-friendly event will feature live music from bands like Los de Arriba and Death Is a Business, cultural activities such as face-painting contests, and sugar skull mask coloring. Attendees can bring photographs for a community ofrenda to honor loved ones. Food vendors include Los Mariscos de Pancho and Sabor Boricua. Everyone is welcome to participate in this meaningful tradition.
El Día de los Muertos se celebrará en City Built Brewing el 1 de Noviembre, de 12:00 p. m. a 7:00 p. m. Este evento gratuito, apto para familias y mascotas, contará con música en vivo de grupos como Los de Arriba y Death Is a Business, además de actividades culturales, tales como concursos de maquillaje facial y coloreado de máscaras de calaveritas de azúcar. Los asistentes podrán traer fotografías para una ofrenda comunitaria en honor a sus seres queridos.

MANÁ - Vivir Sin Aire Tour
November 1, 2026
Detroit, Mi
MANÁ's Vivir Sin Aire Tour delivers a powerful and emotional concert in Detroit, featuring major hits like Oye Mi Amor, Rayando el Sol, and Vivir Sin Aire. The show is marked by bold production, continuous crowd engagement, and electric atmosphere as thousands join in singing. This concert offers Detroit fans a rare opportunity to witness one of Latin rock's most iconic bands in peak live form.
La gira «Vivir Sin Aire» de MANÁ ofrece un concierto potente y emotivo en Detroit, que incluye grandes éxitos como «Oye Mi Amor», «Rayando el Sol» y «Vivir Sin Aire». El espectáculo destaca por una producción audaz, una constante interacción con el público y una atmósfera electrizante, con miles de asistentes cantando al unísono. Este concierto brinda a los seguidores de Detroit una oportunidad excepcional de ver a una de las bandas más emblemáticas del rock latino en su mejor momento sobre el escenario.

LEGO Robotics
November 7, 2026
Grand Rapids, Mi
Kids can build and code their own robots using LEGO's Spike Prime sets. Laptops will be provided, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own devices and use LEGO's free app to code. This is a self-guided, drop-in event. Space is limited and first come, first served. For ages 8 and up.
Los niños pueden construir y programar sus propios robots utilizando los sets LEGO Spike Prime. Se proporcionarán computadoras portátiles, aunque se recomienda a los participantes que traigan sus propios dispositivos y utilicen la aplicación gratuita de LEGO para realizar la programación. Es una actividad de libre acceso y autoguiada. El cupo es limitado y se atenderá por orden de llegada. Para mayores de 8 años.

AFRO-CUBAN Flow: Rhythm, Release & Expression
November 10, 2026
Grand Rapids, Mi
A workshop combining Afro-Cuban rhythm with contemporary choreography invites dancers to explore movement through both traditional and modern expression. Participants engage in various exercises focusing on rhythm and somatic awareness. Sessions can be attended individually or collectively for an enhanced experience and are designed for adventurous movers, creating a playful atmosphere that leaves attendees feeling energized and empowered, celebrating dance and community.
Un taller que combina ritmos afrocubanos con coreografía contemporánea invita a los bailarines a explorar el movimiento a través de formas de expresión tanto tradicionales como modernas. Los participantes realizan diversos ejercicios centrados en el ritmo y la conciencia somática.

Bilingual Family Time
November 11, 2026
Grand Rapids, Mi
Bilingual Family Time at the West Side Branch offers a fun storytime combining English and Spanish, alongside movement and music activities. Scheduled for Wednesdays on September 16, October 14, and November 11, 2026, from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, the event is designed for families with children ages 0-5, featuring a 30-minute storytime followed by a hands-on activity and playtime.
El programa «Tiempo en familia bilingüe» (Bilingual Family Time) en la sucursal West Side ofrece una divertida sesión de cuentacuentos que combina inglés y español, junto con actividades de movimiento y música.

Candlelight: Tributo a Juan Luis Guerra
November 13, 2026
Detroit, Mi
Candlelight concerts bring the magic of a live, multi-sensory musical experience to awe-inspiring locations like never seen before in Detroit $30.00
Detroit events powered by visitdetroit.com
Los conciertos «Candlelight» llevan la magia de una experiencia musical multisensorial en vivo a lugares impresionantes, como nunca antes se había visto en Detroit. $30.00 .Eventos en Detroit, impulsados por visitdetroit.com

Hudsonville Tree Lighting & Holiday Parade
November 19, 2026
Hudsonville, Mi
Join us on Thursday, November 19, 2026 for a night of festive fun in downtown Hudsonville. 4:30-6:00pm (tree is lit at 6:00pm)
Gemmen's Ace Hardware Parking Lot (3488 Kelly St)
Hudsonville Family Dentistry sets the festive tone for the evening by offering complimentary hot cocoa and hosting entertaining kid's activities.
Food trucks: Pronto Pups, Big Red's BBQ, Travelin Tom's Coffee
Acompáñanos a una velada festiva en el centro de Hudsonville. De 4:30 p. m. a 6:00 p. m. (Estacionamiento de Gemmen's Ace Hardware (3488 Kelly St) Hudsonville Family Dentistry dará inicio al ambiente festivo de la noche ofreciendo chocolate caliente de cortesía y organizando actividades divertidas para los niños. Camiones de comida (food trucks): Pronto Pups, Big Red's BBQ, Travelin Tom's Coffee

Grand Rapids International Wine, Beer & Food Festival
November 20-21, 2026
Grand Rapids, Mi
DeVos Place
Now in its 19th year, this Festival has established itself as Michigan's annual tasting event, measured by more than 1,200 wines, beers, ciders and spirits from around the world, along with creations from the area's finest restaurants. From the connoisseur who lives and breathes for the finer things in life to the novice looking for an introduction to the world of food and spirits, this Festival will deliver a grand experience that is sure to please every palate.
En su 19.ª edición, este festival se ha consolidado como el evento de degustación anual por excelencia en Michigan, con una oferta que incluye más de 1200 vinos, cervezas, sidras y bebidas espirituosas de todo el mundo, además de creaciones de los mejores restaurantes de la región. Tanto para el experto que vive y respira en busca de los placeres más refinados, como para el principiante que desea iniciarse en el mundo de la gastronomía y las bebidas, este festival promete una experiencia excepcional capaz de satisfacer todos los paladares.

Holiday Art Fair
November 21-22, 2026
Ypsilanti, Mi
Riverside Arts Center
Entry Fee: $1 suggested donation.
Kick off the winter holiday season with us! This fair focuses on handmade art, vintage goods, and self-care products. Get a head start on your holiday shopping, stock up on upcoming birthday gifts, or treat yourself.
Riverside Arts Center
Entrada: donativo sugerido de $1.
¡Da inicio a la temporada de fiestas de fin de año con nosotros! Esta feria se centra en el arte hecho a mano, artículos vintage y productos de cuidado personal. Adelanta tus compras navideñas, prepárate con regalos para próximos cumpleaños o date un capricho.


1948 Chevrolet Stylemaster


1968 Chrysler Newport Convertible


1952 Studebaker Champion named Susie!


The HEAT on this Ford Coupe 3 window Hot Rod!


1957 Chevrolet Bel Air


1951 Ford Custom with a 302-V8 owner Jeff Lombard


1958 Chevy Apache 10


1958 Chevrolet Bel Air


1960's Cadillac Fleetwood


1964 Chevrolet Impala Convertible


1990's Chevy El Camino

28th Street Metro Cruise

August 21 & 22, 2026

On Friday night through Saturday, 28th Street Metro Cruise was happening!
From Wyoming, Grand Rapids, & Kentwood 28th Street filled with cars, trucks, & motorcycles.
We were at Rogers Plaza Town Center where they had cars parked for people to look at. Across the street from Rogers Plaza, the Marquee Collector Car Row featuring 340 cars & trucks coming thru the runway on red carpet featuring the most exciting and beautiful vehicles.

There was also competition for Miss Metro Cruise Pin-up Girl 2026. Laura Saldivar (Girlznthehood Car Club) & Lindy Lamore competed for Miss Metro Cruise Pin-Up Girl.

People brought real classic cars, hot rods, antiques, low-riders, muscle & custom cars & trucks, and motorcycles rolling down 28th Street. Food trucks, restaurants, and drinks to serve everyone.

Huge crowds of spectators, young & old admiring the details of vehicles.
Reunion for people who come out to enjoy this event and catch up with others.

Great turnout!
Bravo! Metro Cruise Committee Organizers, Volunteers and Law Enforcement!

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1966 Chevrolet Corvette with 28th Street Metro Cruise Pin-Up contestant Lindy Lamore


28th Street Metro Cruise Pin-Up girl is Laura Salvier from GirlzintheHood C.C.


1990's Cadillac Fleetwood (1)Archie!


1973 Volkwagen called Archie!


1998 Chevrolet Corvette convertible

La Voz



Zhamira

Zhamira Zambrano, a Venezuelan artist of Arab descent, has gained over 6 million followers on social media without a debut album. Her hit "Estrellita" has garnered 21 million+ streams, and "Extrañándote," featuring husband Jay Wheeler, peaked at No. 3 on Billboard's Latin Pop Airplay Chart. With numerous "Best New Artist" nominations across various Latin award shows in 2024 and a background as a classically trained singer, she rose to fame following her finalist placement on the talent competition La Banda in 2016. Zhamira's relationship with Jay Wheeler has led to successful collaborations, and they married in December 2023, marking a new chapter in their careers. She is currently working on her next music project, solidifying her status as a prominent Latina figure in the industry.

Zhamira Zambrano, una artista venezolana de ascendencia árabe, ha conseguido más de 6 millones de seguidores en redes sociales sin haber lanzado aún un álbum debut. Su éxito «Estrellita» ha superado los 21 millones de reproducciones, mientras que «Extrañándote» —tema en el que colabora con su esposo, Jay Wheeler— alcanzó el puesto número 3 en la lista Latin Pop Airplay de Billboard. Con numerosas nominaciones en la categoría de «Mejor nuevo artista» en diversas ceremonias de premios latinos durante 2024, y respaldada por una formación como cantante clásica, saltó a la fama tras llegar a la final del concurso de talentos *La Banda* en 2016. Su relación con Jay Wheeler ha dado lugar a exitosas colaboraciones; la pareja contrajo matrimonio en diciembre de 2023, marcando así una nueva etapa en sus respectivas carreras. Actualmente, Zhamira trabaja en su próximo proyecto musical, consolidándose como una figura latina destacada en la industria.

Dui Ventura, ATLANTA RAP ARTIST • STORYTELLER • CREATIVE

DUI is an Atlanta, Georgia rap artist whose creative work extends far beyond the microphone. A songwriter,
director, producer and performer, DUI brings a visual, cinematic approach to his music and storytelling. His
sound is hip, catchy and built to connect with listeners while keeping his identity rooted in authenticity.

DUI has been featured in multiple music videos and movies, building experience on both sides of the camera.
His newest single, “No Los Veo”, showcases his catchy, contemporary rap style and his ability to create music
with personality and replay value.

Outside of music and film, DUI trains Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and serves as a mentor, bringing discipline, leadership
and community into his creative life. Whether he is writing a record, directing a visual, producing a project or
stepping onto a set, DUI approaches every project as a storyteller.

THE SOUND
Catchy Atlanta-inspired hip-hop with a confident, modern edge. DUI’s music is designed to move—from the hook
to the visual, every element is built around energy, personality and memorable storytelling.

“NO LOS VEO” — CURRENT SINGLE
A catchy, hip track that introduces DUI’s current sound and visual identity.



DUI es un artista de rap radicado en Atlanta que destaca como compositor, director, productor e intérprete, aportando un enfoque cinematográfico tanto a su música como a su narrativa. Su sencillo más reciente, «No Los Veo», encarna su estilo de rap contemporáneo y pegadizo, diseñado para conectar con una amplia audiencia. Más allá de la música y el cine, DUI practica jiu-jitsu brasileño y ejerce como mentor, integrando la disciplina y el liderazgo en su faceta artística. Su sonido se caracteriza por un hip-hop enérgico y contagioso, influenciado por la escena de Atlanta, con un énfasis especial en narrativas memorables y elementos visuales.

Nanabah Grace Makes Her Victoria’s Secret Runway Debut in L.A.



Nanabah Grace made her debut at the Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show on October 18, marking a significant milestone for her career as a Diné model and actress. This event, held in Los Angeles, was the brand’s first West Coast runway in two years. Grace joined a cast of both newcomers and renowned models like Adriana Lima and Gigi Hadid. With prior experience modeling for brands like Ralph Lauren and Maybelline, and acting in Netflix's series American Primeval, Grace exemplifies growing Indigenous representation in the fashion industry. The show also featured the return of the Fantasy Bra and crowned a winner from the Angels Among Us casting competition, making it a notable event for Grace in her new hometown.

Nanabah Grace debutó en el desfile de moda de Victoria’s Secret el 18 de octubre, lo que supone un hito importante en su carrera como modelo. Este evento fue el primero que la marca organizó en la Costa Oeste en dos años y contó con la participación de modelos consagradas, como Adriana Lima y Gigi Hadid, junto a nuevas figuras como Natalia Bryant. La trayectoria de Grace incluye colaboraciones con marcas de renombre y trabajos como actriz, lo que pone de relieve su creciente influencia en el mundo de la moda. Ella da continuidad al legado de representación nativa, siguiendo los pasos de modelos como Celilo Miles y Quannah Chasinghorse. La presencia de Grace subraya tanto sus logros personales como su relevancia cultural dentro de la industria de la moda



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Naomi S Rogers, 26 yr. old Grand Rapids native. Graduate from Grand River Preparatory in 2019. Worked in a horse stable that allowed a young aged woman as myself to grow with appreciation for the love of horses with career potential of furthering my education working towards a Bachelors & Masters Degree in Psychology to become a Certified Horse Therapist. Am inspired by many actresses such as Zoe Saldaña, Halle Berry and many others who encourage me to work towards personal Dreams. Love Sports, Nature, Riding Horses, Painting and being Crafty in all areas of Creativity. Truly Enjoy my time with Family and buidling lasting memories.
ig: naoovo_

Naomi

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2026 NOVEMBER MODEL SEARCH



What to Know About the New WHO Recommendations for Childhood Obesity

Lo que hay que saber sobre las nuevas recomendaciones de la WHO para la obesidad infantil

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released guidelines for childhood obesity. These new guidelines prioritize lifestyle changes rather than surgery or medications such as GLP-1s.

Obesity has surpassed being underweight in children age 5 to 19, according to the United Nations Children's Fund. Childhood obesity has grown from 2% in 1990 to 8% in 2024. About 170 million children live with obesity worldwide. In the United States, about 20%, of children have obesity, according to data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That's up from 5% in the mid-1960s.

Here is a look at the WHO recommendations and how obesity can affect a child's life.

What does the WHO recommend?
The WHO provides evidence-based recommendations for diet, physical activity, sleep hygiene and counseling for children age 9 and younger.

For children age 10 to 19, the WHO recommends starting with lifestyle changes and considering weight-loss drugs if other interventions do not work. Bariatric surgery should be considered for mature teens with severe obesity only if other treatments don't work for six months.

While the evidence of specific diets such Keto and Mediterranean on weight loss is limited, the WHO strongly advises a family habit of eating plenty of fruits, vegetables and legumes and reducing ultra-processed, high-sodium and high-sugar foods. This is important to protect against malnutrition and chronic disease.

Getting the appropriate amount of physical activity by age is another of the WHO's strong recommendations. Playing at the park or recreation areas may be affordable ways children can get exercise. Sleep is another factor. Lack of sleep can correlate to weight gain. Children should get enough sleep by age for their physical and mental health.

Counseling can help children manage low self-esteem, emotional dysregulation, anxiety and depression, all of which may contribute to unhealthy eating behaviors.

Causes and treatments for childhood obesity
Obesity is a chronic disease that can increase the risk of other chronic conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and liver disease. Children with obesity are more likely to experience bullying and discrimination, and obesity also increases the risk of anxiety and depression.

Childhood obesity is complex; factors that contribute to childhood obesity include:
- A diet high in ultra-processed foods, including sweetened beverages
- Large portion sizes
- Dining out instead of home-cooked meals
- Lack of physical activity
- Increased screen time
- Limited sleep or lack of quality sleep
- Genetics
- Family behaviors and environmental factors

Managing and preventing obesity are key to the overall physical and mental health of children. As weight and weight loss can be difficult, focusing on a healthy lifestyle can help children and adolescents with their well-being without only focusing on the number on a scale.

Healthy lifestyle practices and habits for children include:
- Eating a nutritious diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean protein and healthy fats, along with limiting sugar and ultra-processed foods.
- Drinking water instead of sugary or sweetened beverages.
- Getting at least 60 minutes of physical activity a day.
- Getting enough sleep for their age and practicing good sleep hygiene.
- Limiting screen time by age as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- A healthy home environment that puts less emphasis on appearance and more on overall well-being.

Parents who are concerned about their child's health, including diet and activity levels, can talk to their child's primary care provider or pediatrician for guidance. Mental health professionals can provide behavioral health support for both children and their caregivers.

La Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) ha publicado directrices centradas en cambios en el estilo de vida para combatir la obesidad infantil, haciendo hincapié en la alimentación, la actividad física y la higiene del sueño, en lugar de recurrir a la cirugía o a los medicamentos. Las tasas de obesidad infantil han aumentado considerablemente, afectando a aproximadamente 170 millones de niños en todo el mundo. Para los menores de 10 años, la OMS recomienda prácticas de alimentación y actividad física respaldadas por evidencia científica. En el caso de los jóvenes de entre 10 y 19 años, se priorizan los cambios en el estilo de vida, considerando el uso de medicamentos solo si dichas medidas no dan resultado. Entre las recomendaciones clave se incluyen una dieta rica en frutas y verduras, la práctica regular de actividad física, un sueño adecuado y la participación de la familia en la adopción de hábitos saludables. La obesidad contribuye a diversos problemas de salud y puede derivar en dificultades emocionales, lo que subraya la importancia de contar con un entorno familiar que brinde apoyo, así como la necesidad de recibir orientación profesional para los padres que se sientan preocupados.

Cultural Heritage Festival 2026



The Cultural Heritage Festival will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, 272 Pearl St NW, Grand Rapids, MI. This event celebrates regional diversity through music, art, food, and visual presentations from West Michigan organizations. Notable exhibitions include "Newcomers: The People of This Place," focusing on settler groups, and "Anishinaabek: The Original People of This Place," highlighting Native American culture. For admission details and vendor registration ($25), visit the Grand Rapids Public Museum portal.

El Festival de Patrimonio Cultural se llevará a cabo el sábado 7 de Noviembre de 2026, de 10:00 a. m. a 4:00 p. m., en el Grand Rapids Public Museum, ubicado en 272 Pearl St NW, Grand Rapids, MI. Este evento celebra la diversidad regional a través de música, arte, gastronomía y presentaciones visuales a cargo de organizaciones del oeste de Michigan. Entre las exposiciones destacadas se encuentran «Newcomers: The People of This Place» («Recién llegados: la gente de este lugar»), centrada en los grupos de colonos, y «Anishinaabek: The Original People of This Place» («Anishinaabek: los habitantes originarios de este lugar»), que pone de relieve la cultura de los pueblos nativos americanos. Para obtener información sobre la entrada y el registro de vendedores (25 $), visite el portal del Grand Rapids Public Museum.

Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month is celebrated every November in the U.S. to honor the histories and contributions of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Indigenous peoples. The movement began in the early 1900s, led by figures like Dr. Arthur C. Parker. New York recognized American Indian Day in 1916, with further recognition evolving into Native American Awareness Week in 1976 and American Indian Week in 1986. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush declared November National American Indian Heritage Month. This observance today celebrates Native communities' diversity and resilience, encouraging education on Indigenous history and acknowledgment of their ongoing contributions and presence in the U.S.

El Mes de la Herencia de los Nativos Americanos se celebra cada Noviembre en los Estados Unidos para honrar las historias y contribuciones de los indígenas americanos, los nativos de Alaska y otros pueblos indígenas. El movimiento comenzó a principios del siglo XX, encabezado por figuras como el Dr. Arthur C. Parker. En 1916, el estado de Nueva York reconoció el «Día del Indio Americano»; posteriormente, este reconocimiento evolucionó hasta convertirse en la «Semana de Concientización sobre los Nativos Americanos» en 1976 y la «Semana del Indio Americano» en 1986. En 1990, el presidente George H. W. Bush declaró noviembre como el «Mes Nacional de la Herencia de los Indios Americanos». En la actualidad, esta conmemoración celebra la diversidad y la resiliencia de las comunidades nativas, fomentando la educación sobre la historia indígena y el reconocimiento de sus contribuciones y su presencia continua en los Estados Unidos.



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With grace in her spirit, determination in her heart, and faith leading every step, she strives to inspire other young women to pursue their dreams without compromising their values. As her influence continues to grow, Faith is not simply building a modeling career—she is building a legacy of faith, beauty, strength, and excellence, reminding the world that a woman can be fashionable, fearless, and unapologetically devoted to Christ.

Her ability to embody both class and confidence sets her apart as a rising standout in the modeling industry, proving that true beauty shines brightest when it is rooted in purpose.



Do you model? Do you aspire? Do you being published?

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