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March 2022 • Vol 24 • Michigan's Largest Bilingual Magazine • www.lavozweb.com



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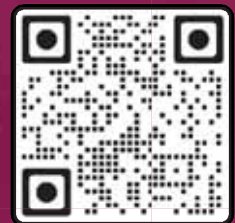
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Guest Editorial
Por Dr. Edgar
León

Quién puede negar que la isla de Puerto Rico esta llena de personas distraídas. De esos que no desean ninguna noticia desagradable porque les despierta aun mas la distracción. Distraídos que crean un castillo infalible de fantasía que solo los desquiciados pueden creer y ver ilusiones donde no existen. La noticia de que un distraído esta a cargo de la isla atrae aun más a una cantidad de distraídos que secundan las distracciones interminables. Ellos son los que repiten las distracciones y crean capas imaginarias con un mar de idioteces donde todos nadan y se zambullen a la distracción.

Podemos afirmar sin equivocarnos que los distraídos de Puerto Rico temen a los escritores y a los educadores porque los trae a la realidad bochornosa. Cada palabra de cordura presentada por los escritores es un cuchillo que se sumerge en su cerebro sacando la verdad que desean esconder en su distracción. Los distraídos buscan adeptos seguidores fieles para sostener el castillo de cristal ficticio construido con distracciones.

La distracción es tan marcada que las instituciones educativas mienten y engañan a sus estudiantes otorgando grados sin asistir a clases, ofreciendo clases de baja calidad en línea y presencial. También creando programas educativos y currículos que no ayudan a sus estudiantes a una capacitación efectiva para el futuro.

¿Pero quién esta más distraído? ¿Los gobernantes creadores y dueños de la distracción o sus seguidores? Todo es relativo al grado tal que el caleidoscopio gira y envuelve el torbellino que día a día sigue creciendo sin control. La distracción que se promueve en la isla trae la fantasía ignorante donde se cuele en todas las agencias como un virus sin remedio ni cura.

¿Cómo remediamos la propagación del estado de distracción esperanzadora en las personas? Se remedia escribiendo la realidad que existe en la isla, mencionando las decisiones irracionales y los muertos de espíritu que sin compasión acribillan la dignidad de los pobres. La escritura es el martillo que rompe la estructura de la mentira loca y la propaganda demagógica formulada y

divulgada a propósito para distraer a los habitantes de la isla de distraídos.

La única cura para este virus de distracción es la escritura. Hay que escribir y publicar cada una de las distracciones para que la infección mental que existe hoy en día quede curada y vaya transformando a la población contaminada. Hay que leer mucho para reaccionar y aprender a usar el idioma castellano con la meta de romper la mentira creada por los distraídos. Los distraídos no desean que los cuerdos aprendan el idioma castellano ni que sepan hablar ni escribir. Los distraídos desean que los habitantes de la isla sean seguidores fieles ignorantes y dependientes sin cuestionar las decisiones tomadas en contra de todos. Desean que la gente se la pasen mirando el teléfono celular jugando y presentando sus selfis a otros distraídos que no se dan cuenta lo contaminado y distraído que están. La dictadura represiva y loca que gasta el dinero para educar a su población en sus cómplices seguidores insertados estratégicamente como un virus en cada agencia de gobierno.

Sabemos que los que controlan y están a cargo del gobierno actual asignan a una agencia de justicia desquiciada y corrupta para velar a otra agencia igual. La isla de distraídos es un sitio donde la ley se dobla como un fideo hervido y donde la justicia es discriminatoria a favor del criminal. Donde él que tenga dinero e influencias puede escribir su propia página de la ley. El resultado es el toallaso y el retraso en la corte para que se les olvide a los cuerdos y se expire el termino para acusar y procesar al culpable. Ya no es secreto el proceso usado por décadas donde se esconde la poca vergüenza.

En la radio, televisión y prensa se pasa el día completo exponiendo los problemas de la isla pero muy poco tiempo es dedicado a la solución de problemas, de acción directa a favor de los que todavía están cuerdos, y a favor de los que tienen familias completamente cuerdas y trabajadoras. La distracción en combinación con la ignorancia es una combinación peligrosa de la cual sigue acumulando fuerzas como una bomba lista para explotar.

La isla de los distraídos es mirada desde el extranjero. Por décadas ha quedado en burla de todos por la falta de control, por lo ingobernable, por la falta de capacidad y el manejo de fondos gubernamentales fuera de control. La isla de distraídos es gobernada a base de apagar los fuegos que surgen todos los días. Quedaremos bajo un domo de ignorancia y distracción voluntaria hasta que decidamos hacer un cambio positivo y real en la isla.

SEA LO QUE SEA EL FUTURO

Para los alumnos de Grand Valley, el futuro significa oportunidad e innovación. El futuro es global, nos conecta y nos une. Es local, le da forma a los espacios en los que trabajamos y en los que vivimos. Es un compromiso con el progreso. El futuro es donde las mentes son libres de imaginar lo que podría ser. En GVSU, el futuro es ahora. Y sea lo que sea el futuro para ti, te ayudaremos a llegar allí.

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March 2022, Volume 24 - No. 03
Reaching over 40,000 readers
Circulation 17,000 copies
Printed at Printwell
To contact The Community Voice/
La Voz Magazine
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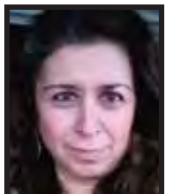
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GFS Employee Highlight

Pedro Castro is a third-generation Mexican American and Grand Rapids native. He grew up in the Grandville Avenue neighborhood playing Southwest Little League baseball and going to school at St. Andrew's elementary on Sheldon Street. From an early age, his family instilled discipline, the value of education and the importance of planning. 'Growing up my parents always stressed being prepared and that there was no such thing as being too prepared or over planning,' said Pedro.

Those skills have served Pedro well and today he uses them in his role as a Senior Inventory Specialist at Gordon Food Service. In his role, Pedro works directly with large multi-unit customers and coordinates with multiple teams across the company to ensure products are in stock at the right time and in the right place. 'In each role that I've had at GFS, there has always been a need for in-depth planning. I've been able to use what I learned at a young age and apply it to my everyday professional life.'

Now in his eighth year with Gordon Food Service, Pedro appreciates the culture and the opportunity to learn, 'I am very happy in my current role. I don't see myself leaving this position for a while, I have so much to learn. I love that they're investing in my future by covering my tuition too.' Through the Gordon Food Service tuition reimbursement program Pedro is continuing his education at Davenport University where he's studying Business Management and looking forward to graduating with a bachelor's degree.

Growing up in the Grandville Avenue neighborhood, Pedro was exposed to people from a wide variety of backgrounds. 'I remember playing baseball with kids from all over and how our different skills made our teams better,' he said. Remembering those early experiences, Pedro volunteered to be on his departments' Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Team. 'I think that diversity in workplaces can make companies and teams stronger. Working with team members from different backgrounds and experiences provides our team fresh perspectives and insights on day-to-day tasks and large-scale projects.' As a Mexican American, equity and inclusion are important to Pedro and he's glad to see Gordon Food Service making strides towards a more diverse workforce and inclusive workplace. 'I'm honored that I have the opportunity to be part of a team that's helping shape the culture of the future at GFS.'

Pedro Castro es un mexicanoamericano de tercera generación y nativo de Grand Rapids. Creció en el de Grandville Avenue jugando béisbol de la Liga Pequeña del Suroeste y asistiendo a la escuela primaria St. Andrew en Sheldon Street. Desde temprana edad, su familia le inculcó la disciplina, el valor de la educación y la importancia de la planificación. "Cuando era niño, mis padres siempre enfatizaron estar preparados y que no existía tal cosa como estar demasiado preparado o planear en exceso", dijo Pedro.

Esas habilidades le han servido bien a Pedro y hoy las usa en su rol como Especialista Principal de Inventario en Gordon Food Service. En su función, Pedro trabaja directamente con grandes clientes de múltiples unidades y se coordina con múltiples equipos en toda la empresa para garantizar que los productos estén en stock en el momento y lugar correctos. "En cada función que he tenido en GFS, siempre ha habido una necesidad de planificación profunda. He podido usar lo que aprendí a una edad temprana y aplicarlo a mi vida profesional diaria".

Ahora en su octavo año con Gordon Food Service, Pedro aprecia la cultura y la oportunidad de aprender: "Estoy muy feliz en mi puesto actual. No me veo dejando este puesto por un tiempo, tengo mucho que aprender. Me encanta que estén invirtiendo en mi futuro cubriendo mi matrícula también". A través del programa de reembolso de matrícula de Gordon Food Service,

Pedro continúa su educación en la Universidad de Davenport, donde estudia Administración de Empresas y espera graduarse con una licenciatura.

Al crecer en el vecindario de la Avenida Grandville, Pedro estuvo expuesto a personas de una amplia variedad de orígenes. "Recuerdo jugar béisbol con niños de todas partes y cómo nuestras diferentes habilidades hicieron que nuestros equipos fueran mejores", dijo. Recordando esas primeras experiencias, Pedro se ofreció como voluntario para formar parte del Equipo de Acción de Diversidad, Equidad e Inclusión de su departamento. "Creo que la diversidad en los lugares de trabajo puede fortalecer a las empresas y los equipos. Trabajar con miembros del equipo de diferentes orígenes y experiencias brinda a nuestro equipo nuevas perspectivas y conocimientos sobre las tareas diarias y los proyectos a gran escala". Como mexicanoamericano, la equidad y la inclusión son importantes para Pedro y está contento de ver a Gordon Food Service avanzando hacia una fuerza laboral más diversa y un lugar de trabajo inclusivo. "Me siento honrado de tener la oportunidad de ser parte de un equipo que está ayudando a dar forma a la cultura del futuro en GFS".



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Community News

César Chávez and Dolores Huerta Celebration

2022 MSU César Chávez & Dolores Huerta Commemorative Celebration

Theme: *Tu Lucha es Mi Lucha (Your struggle is my struggle)* April 4 through April 8, 2022



Each year, the Michigan State University, Greater Lansing, and East Lansing communities gather at MSU to honor the legacy of two of the most prominent U.S. labor leaders and civil rights activists, César E. Chávez and Dolores Huerta.

This event series is grown from the strength of the Latinx and farmworker communities and the allies who stand in solidarity to raise awareness of the contributions, hardships, issues, and obstacles both ongoing and newly surfacing.

Cada año, las comunidades de Michigan State University, Greater Lansing y East Lansing se reúnen en MSU para honrar el legado de dos de los líderes laborales y activistas de derechos civiles más destacados de EE. UU., César E. Chávez y Dolores Huerta.

Esta serie de eventos surge de la fortaleza de las comunidades latinas y de trabajadores agrícolas y los aliados que se solidarizan para crear conciencia sobre las contribuciones, las dificultades, los problemas y los obstáculos, tanto en curso como nuevos.

In honor of the leadership and advocacy of César Chávez & Dolores Huerta.

Get involved

- Planning is underway. If you would like to get involved please contact Audrey Bentley: bentley@msu.edu or Lupe Dominguez: doming38@msu.edu.
- **SUBMIT your event** to be included in the list of opportunities and promoted as part of the collective of programs and events that are part of the celebration.
- Submit entries for the Art Contest (information coming soon). Contact Elias Lopez at lopezel1@msu.edu with questions.

Visit / **Visita:**

<https://inclusion.msu.edu/awards/chavez-huerta-celebration/index.html>

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OBITUARY

Carmen Iris Morales

June 8, 1945 ~ January 28, 2022



Carmen Iris (Lebron) Morales, born June 8, 1945, in Maunabo, Puerto Rico, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2022, with family surrounding her, after a 4 year battle with cancer. Her fight was strong and valiant, attributed to her strong personality throughout her life. She and her husband, Eufemio (Femio) moved to Chicago, IL from Puerto Rico, and began their family, later moving to Grand Rapids, MI to raise their family. She loved to dance, listen to music, and cook; but above all, she loved all the generations of family gathered at the house, especially Sunday dinners. Carmen was one of 14 siblings, and is preceded in her death by her parents Eugenio Lebron and Valentina Diaz; her husband, Eufemio Morales; daughter, Evelyn Morales; sister, Juanita Lebron; brothers, Juan Lebron, Luis Lebron, Candido Lebron, Ramon Lebron. She is survived by her children, Carlos (Marvonne) Morales; Carmen (Sue) Morales; Jose (Illiana) Morales; Noemi (Mike) Morales; 9 grandchildren; 8 great grandchildren. Her surviving siblings are: Agustin Lebron (Rosa); Silverio Lebron; Hilario Lebron (Emilia); Andres Lebron (Milagros); Milagros Lebron; Margaritas Lebron (Josue); Ana (Lebron) Mendez; and Luz Lebron. She had numerous nephews and nieces, whom she adored. A Mass of Catholic Faith was at St Joseph the Worker Catholic. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion.

NALAC announces Penny Rodriguez as Communications Coordinator



The National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC) announces the hiring of Penny Rodriguez as

the organization's new Communications Coordinator. The position will execute the coordination and implementation of strategic communications for NALAC's professional development, grant-making programs and advocacy work nationwide.

A Texas native, Penny obtained her Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Relations and Mass Communication from Texas State University. Prior to working at NALAC, she served as the Marketing and Communications contact for the City of Austin, Cultural Arts Division lending key support to marketing, strategic messaging, and community engagement for multiple Cultural Arts programs. She hopes to continue the work of amplifying opportunities and resources for education, advocacy and preservation of creative

communities and cultural arts.

La Asociación Nacional de Artes y Culturas Latinas (NALAC) anuncia la contratación de Penny Rodríguez como la nueva Coordinadora de Comunicaciones de la organización. El puesto ejecutará la coordinación e implementación de comunicaciones estratégicas para el desarrollo profesional de NALAC, los programas de concesión de subvenciones y el trabajo de promoción en todo el país.

Nativa de Texas, Penny obtuvo su Licenciatura en Ciencias en Relaciones Públicas y Comunicación Masiva de la Universidad Estatal de Texas. Antes de trabajar en NALAC, se desempeñó como contacto de Mercadeo y Comunicaciones para la División de Artes Culturales de la Ciudad de Austin, brindando apoyo clave para el mercadeo, mensajes estratégicos y participación comunitaria para múltiples programas de Artes Culturales.

Sha'Carri Richardson vs. Kamila Valieva: Olympic and Drug Disparities Among Races



Young and talented Olympian, Sha'Carri Richardson, grew to fame in 2019 during her college career at Louisiana State University when she amazingly completed the 100-meter dash with a record time of 10.75 seconds – ranking her in the top ten of the fastest women in history. She captured the hearts and eyes of many people around the world again in the June 2021 Olympics when she completed her famous event of the 100-meter dash in a mere 10.86 seconds, but most importantly, she gained the majority of her support from the black community, as she was going to need it this very month. Still in June of 2021, she tested positive for THC, which is a well-known chemical that is present in marijuana. When Sha'Carri was reprimanded for the prohibition, she explained that the use of the drug was for coping with the sudden loss of her biological mother at the time. Though many members of the black community supported her explanation, there were also a lot of members who recognize the disproportionate racism and jealousy that is inflicted upon us on a daily basis; they wish for young women like Sha'Carri to know that the enemy is always watching and ready for any mistake to try to break you. The black community must work harder than other communities to gain and retain our success, which means that we have to stay on top of the rules, and unfortunately, due to Sha'Carri's violation of the Olympics' rules, she was placed on a 30-day suspension in July. Fortunately, the black community didn't turn their backs on Sha'Carri and she has proudly made it known that she is black first. Her high standards of her race bothered racist people, but the conscious black community won't waver.

By Kindra A. Peterson



Moving forward to December of 2021, Russian figure skater, Kamila Valieva, also tested positive for drugs in her system during the Olympics. One drug was trimetazidine, which according to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), is prohibited, especially since it's a performance enhancer. Furthermore, Valieva also tested positive for two other drugs, carnitine and hypoxen, though they apparently were allowed and said to treat her heart condition, yet hypoxen is not an approved prescription drug in Russia. Though Valieva had multiple drugs present in her system during the Olympics, let's look at the difference that she and Richardson experienced from the officials. While Richardson was set to compete in the Tokyo Olympics of 2021, she was afforded no empathy or sympathy for her mother's passing. Yet, Valieva, was met with soft and sweet terms of understanding and well wishes for her recovery post her multiple collapses. Though officials won't admit their racism, as both young women were in similar situations on an international level, they deem both incidences as very different. Richardson and the black community know that her race played the biggest role in a swift punishment with no terms of endearment, while Valieva's race as a protected person has allowed her to compete in the Olympic Winter Games in Beijing of 2022 – courtesy of the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The court felt that disciplining Valieva would cause her too much harm, but a suspension is the correct punishment, as it holds the same Olympic standard across the board. The fact that tireless discussions of discrimination continue to surround the black community throughout history, should be more than enough reason for us to start our own sporting events to ensure that we will be treated fairly and will enjoy ourselves more when surrounded by the true love or our people.

© 2022 Written by Kindra A. Peterson

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Spring Break Destinations for Families for Spring Break Destinos de vacaciones de primavera para familias en Semana Santa

From classic beach vacations across the U.S. and Caribbean to the best [National Parks in the US](#) for kids, or international spring break destinations, choose the one that suits your family best and have the best vacation ever!

Desde las clásicas vacaciones en la playa en los EE. UU. y el Caribe hasta los mejores parques nacionales de los EE. UU. para niños o destinos internacionales para las vacaciones de primavera, ¡elija el que mejor se adapte a su familia y disfrute de las mejores vacaciones de su vida!

1. Yosemite National Park

Yosemite National Park is a perfect West Coast spring break destination in the United States to visit for families who love to spend time in the outdoors and hone in on their sense of adventure.

In the spring months, Yosemite begins to come alive.

Spring flowers, wildlife, and people start bursting to life inside the park after the winter months.

Families come from all over the world to see the tall granite walls in Yosemite Valley and hike some of the best [hiking trails in Yosemite](#).

El Parque Nacional Yosemite es un destino perfecto para las vacaciones de primavera en la costa oeste de los Estados Unidos para las familias que aman pasar tiempo al aire libre y perfeccionar su sentido de la aventura.

En los meses de primavera, Yosemite comienza a cobrar vida. Las flores de primavera, la vida silvestre y la gente comienzan a cobrar vida dentro del parque después de los meses de invierno.

Las familias vienen de todo el mundo para ver las altas paredes de granito en el valle de Yosemite y caminar por algunas de las mejores rutas de senderismo en Yosemite.

2. Yucatan, Mexico

Mexico is a charming destination perfect for a spring break vacation for families. Whether it be the beautiful beaches or ample greenery, this welcoming country has lots to offer.

If you want to keep it simple, opt for an all-inclusive resort in Cancun. Otherwise, spend a few days in Merida, a charming old town with colorful architecture and cobble-stone roads.

Make sure to save some time for Chichen Itza, the famous Mayan ruin. There are also plenty of sinkholes and parks that should not be missed when in the Yucatan region, which is perfect for an exciting Spring Break with kids!

México es un destino encantador perfecto para unas vacaciones de primavera en familia. Ya sean hermosas playas o abundante vegetación, este acogedor país tiene mucho que ofrecer.

Si quieres mantenerlo simple, opta por un resort todo incluido

en Cancún. De lo contrario, pase unos días en Mérida, un encantador casco antiguo con una arquitectura colorida y calles empedradas.

Asegúrate de reservar algo de tiempo para Chichén Itzá, la famosa ruina maya.

3. Florida Keys, USA

Florida Keys, an archipelago of islands off South coast of Florida are a perfect Spring break destination for families and one of the [best places to visit in the US](#). The sunshine state won't let you down with beautiful tropical weather throughout the year.

There are lots of things to do in [Florida Keys with kids!](#)

Los Cayos de Florida, un archipiélago de islas frente a la costa sur de Florida, son un destino perfecto para las vacaciones de primavera para familias y uno de los mejores lugares para visitar en los EE. UU. El estado del sol no te defraudará con un hermoso clima tropical durante todo el año.

¡Hay muchas cosas que hacer en los Cayos de Florida con niños!

4. Grand Canyon

With its Junior Ranger Program, white-water rafting and hikes for visitors at all skill levels, the Grand Canyon National Park is a kid-friendly getaway that the whole family will enjoy. And Spring Break is the perfect time to make this iconic road trip and avoid the notorious Arizona heat.

Con su programa Junior Ranger, rafting en aguas bravas y caminatas para visitantes de todos los niveles, el Parque Nacional del Gran Cañón es una escapada para niños que disfrutará toda la familia. Y Spring Break es el momento perfecto para hacer este icónico viaje por carretera y evitar el notorio calor de Arizona.

5. Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Worth is one of the great Spring break ideas for families.

The temperatures are usually milder and there are plenty of things to do indoors even if it is a little chilly. Plus, you can visit Dallas which is only 30 miles away. You can visit world-class museums like The Modern Art Museum, Kimbell Art Museum, and experience culture at the Fort Worth Opera and Casa Manana.

Fort Worth es una de las mejores ideas para las vacaciones de primavera para las familias.

Las temperaturas suelen ser más suaves y hay muchas cosas que hacer en el interior, incluso si hace un poco de frío. Además, puede visitar Dallas, que está a solo 30 millas de distancia. Puede visitar museos de clase mundial como el Museo de Arte Moderno, el Museo de Arte Kimbell y experimentar la cultura en la Ópera de Fort Worth y Casa Manana.

6. Akumal, Riviera Maya, Mexico

Akumal, on Mexico's Riviera Maya, is a fabulous choice for a family Spring Break.

With accommodation for all tastes, ranging from independent boutiques to all-inclusives, Akumal works both as a vacation destination in its own right and as a base to explore the area's highlights.

Akumal, en la Riviera Maya de México, es una opción fabulosa para unas vacaciones de primavera en familia.

Con alojamiento para todos los gustos, desde boutiques independientes hasta todo incluido, Akumal funciona tanto como un destino de vacaciones por derecho propio como una base para explorar los aspectos más destacados de la zona.



7. Washington DC

Washington DC is a perfect Spring Break destination for families, full of free and interesting places to visit and kid-friendly activities.

Early April timing usually coincides with DC's famous cherry blossoms and the city is full of colorful blooms.

The Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and Capitol Building are all great family photo spots, but it is a long walk between buildings so don't try to cover them all in one day.

Washington DC es un destino perfecto para las vacaciones de primavera para familias, lleno de lugares gratuitos e interesantes para visitar y actividades para niños.

El tiempo de principios de abril generalmente coincide con los famosos cerezos en flor de DC y la ciudad está llena de coloridas flores.

El Monumento a Lincoln, el Monumento a Washington y el Edificio del Capitolio son excelentes lugares para tomar fotografías familiares, pero es una caminata larga entre los edificios, así que no intente cubrirlos todos en un día.

8. Maui, Hawaii

Whether you're looking for an active or relaxing family vacation, there's no better family spring break destination than Maui. The island's palm-fringed golden beaches are renowned but there's actually much more to discover on the Valley Isle.

Little explorers will love watching the sunrise from the top of the Haleakala volcano, an experience which takes place at a comfortable time in February and March.

Ya sea que esté buscando unas vacaciones familiares activas o relajantes, no hay mejor destino familiar para las vacaciones de primavera que Maui. Las playas doradas bordeadas de palmeras de la isla son famosas, pero en realidad hay mucho más por descubrir en Valley Isle.

A los pequeños exploradores les encantará ver el amanecer desde lo alto del volcán Haleakala, una experiencia que tiene lugar en febrero y marzo en un momento agradable.

9. Mobile, Alabama

Mobile, Alabama is all too often bypassed in favor of nearby New Orleans, but in many ways, it offers many of the same things as its more famous neighbor, only in a more family-friendly package. While Mobile is now part of Alabama, it was originally the capital of French Louisiana. Thus, with its wrought-iron balconies and other

French-inspired architecture, Mobile is kind of a miniature version of New Orleans. The city even has its own Mardi Gras celebrations, which are much less raucous than the booze-fueled parties in New Orleans.

Con demasiada frecuencia, Mobile, Alabama, se pasa por alto en favor de la cercana Nueva Orleans, pero en muchos sentidos, ofrece muchas de las mismas cosas que su vecino más famoso, solo que en un paquete más familiar. La ciudad incluso tiene sus propias celebraciones de Mardi Gras, que son mucho menos estridentes que las fiestas con alcohol en Nueva Orleans.

10. Mexico City

Spring is the perfect time to visit Mexico City. Although Mexico's capital is

blessed with good weather almost year-round, spring is when the city really does put on its best show.

Expect blue skies, bright sunshine and jacaranda trees in full bloom. Mexico City is one of the biggest cities in the world so knowing how to tackle it can be overwhelming.

La primavera es el momento perfecto para visitar la Ciudad de México. Aunque la capital de México está bendecida con buen clima casi todo el año, la primavera es cuando la ciudad realmente presenta su mejor espectáculo.

Espere cielos azules, sol brillante y árboles de jacaranda en plena floración. La Ciudad de México es una de las ciudades más grandes del mundo, por lo que saber cómo abordarla puede ser abrumador.



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MDHHS issues Requests for Proposals for human trafficking programming expansion

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFPs) to enhance or expand the services offered by victim service organizations with a demonstrated history of successfully serving victims of human trafficking.

For the initial award period of May 1 through Sept. 30, 2022, the grant will support enhancement of services offered by organizations that victims of labor and sex trafficking often require to address their needs. In subsequent award periods, the grant will continue to support a wide range of services to human sex and labor trafficking survivors.

Grant applications for the Human Trafficking Program RFP must be submitted electronically through the EGrAMS program by 3 p.m., Friday, March 11.

For more information or to apply, visit the [link](#) and select "About EGrAMS" link in the left panel to access the "Competitive Application Instructions" training manual. The complete RFP can be accessed under the 'Current Grants' section under the "Bureau of Community Services" link and selecting the "HTP-2022" grant program.

El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Michigan (MDHHS) ha emitido una Solicitud de Propuestas (RFP) para mejorar o ampliar los servicios ofrecidos por organizaciones de servicios para víctimas con un historial demostrado de servicio exitoso a víctimas de la trata de personas.

Para obtener más información o para presentar una solicitud, visite el [enlace](#) y seleccione "Acerca de EGrAMS" en el panel izquierdo para acceder al manual de capacitación "Instrucciones para la solicitud competitiva". Se puede acceder a la RFP completa en la sección "Subvenciones actuales" en el [enlace](#) "Oficina de servicios comunitarios" y seleccionando el programa de subvenciones "HTP-2022".



The COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) program is a new program providing rent and utility assistance to households experiencing financial hardships due to COVID-19. The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), which is administering this program, began accepting applications on March 15, 2021. The program provides up to 12 months of past-due rental assistance, three months of prospective rent, and past-due residential utility services, including electric, gas, water, sewer, and garbage services. Applicants may also have access to a \$300 internet stipend if qualified. For more information visit www.coldwater.org/658/Utility-Bill-Assistance.

El programa de asistencia de alquiler de emergencia (CERA) de COVID es un nuevo programa que brinda asistencia de alquiler y servicios públicos a los hogares que experimentan dificultades financieras debido a COVID-19. La Autoridad de Desarrollo de Vivienda del Estado de Michigan (MSHDA), que administra este programa, comenzó a aceptar solicitudes el 15 de marzo de 2021. El programa proporciona hasta 12 meses de asistencia de alquiler vencido, tres meses de alquiler prospectivo y servicios públicos residenciales vencidos, incluidos los servicios de electricidad, gas, agua, alcantarillado y basura. Los solicitantes también pueden tener acceso a un estipendio de Internet de \$300 si califican. Para obtener más información, visite www.coldwater.org/658/Utility-Bill-Assistance

NOTICIAS BREVES

Macron y Putin acuerdan un esfuerzo de urgencia para restituir el alto el fuego en Ucrania-

Ambos mandatarios han convocado una reunión especial "en cuestión de horas" del Grupo de Contacto Trilateral, formado por Ucrania, Rusia, y la Organización para la Seguridad y la Cooperación en Europa (OSCE). Así lo han acordado en una llamada telefónica.



Al menos 152 personas mueren y 165 desaparecen por las inundaciones al sur de Brasil-

La acumulación de aguas torrenciales por las lluvias intensas de los últimos días ha provocado un deslizamiento de tierra en Petrópolis, en el estado de Río de Janeiro. Ahora, se han reforzado las tareas de búsqueda con nuevas dotaciones de bomberos provenientes de otros estados brasileños.



África producirá sus propias vacunas contra la covid-19 en seis países-

Así lo ha anunciado la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) en el marco de la cumbre entre la Unión Europea y África, en Bruselas. El presidente sudafricano ha aplaudido la iniciativa, aunque ha vuelto a pedir la suspensión de las patentes de las vacunas contra el coronavirus.

Entra en vigor la obligatoriedad de la vacunación para mayores de 50 años en Italia -

Además, los empleados, tanto en el sector público como en el privado, tendrán que mostrar su certificado covid para acceder a sus puestos de trabajo.

Canadá declara el estado de emergencia por primera vez en respuesta a las protestas de los antivacunas-

El primer ministro canadiense, Justin Trudeau, ha explicado que esta medida será "limitada en el tiempo", su uso será "responsable y proporcionado" y ha asegurado que no se recurrirá al Ejército.

Bélgica establecerá una semana laboral de cuatro días-

El Gobierno de Bélgica ha aprobado una reforma que permitirá concentrar las horas de la semana laboral de cinco a cuatro días y flexibilizar los horarios de los trabajadores.

La Policía de Florida presenta a su nuevo refuerzo, un perro robot -

La Policía de St. Petersburg ha destacado que solo se utilizará este robot en "situaciones extraordinarias" que implican una amenaza para la vida humana y/o riesgo para los equipos de primeros auxilios y fuerzas del orden.



Varios artistas pintan un mural en México pidiendo justicia para los seis periodistas asesinados -

Un grupo de artistas ha pintado un mural en el céntrico barrio de la Roma de Ciudad de México para pedir justicia por los seis periodistas asesinados en lo que va de año en el país y reclamar la libertad para informar.

Office of Global Michigan Director, Poppy Sias-Hernandez, Appointed to the USDA Equity Commission

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the newly established Equity Commission members, including Poppy Sias-Hernandez, Executive Director of the Office of Global Michigan. Sias-Hernandez will be one of the 15-member inaugural Equity Commission members focusing on historical discrimination, strengthening accountability, providing recommendations and advancing racial equity at the USDA.

"It's exciting to see Michigan's own Poppy Sias-Hernandez get appointed to the USDA Equity Commission," said Governor Whitmer, "Poppy has served the people of Michigan admirably for years, including as a member of my executive office, and I know she will be an important part of this commission's work to ensure equal opportunity for all in agriculture."

In 2020, Governor Whitmer appointed Sias-Hernandez as the first-ever Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer in the Governor's Executive Office. In addition to her role as the Chief EIO, she also serves as the Executive Director of the Office of Global Michigan.

For more than 20 years, Sias-Hernandez's work of strategic change management has been at the intersection of public health, education, workforce development, diversity, equity and inclusion. Hernandez lives on Michigan's "west coast," along the shores of Lake Michigan, with her husband of 25 years and her two sons.

The newly established Equity Commission and its Subcommittee on Agriculture will hold its first public meeting on February 28, 2022. As authorized and funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, the launch of the independent Commission delivers on President Biden's commitment to create an independent Equity Commission and provide it with the necessary resources to support its mission to address historical discrimination

at USDA.

For more information about the USDA, visit www.usda.gov.

El Departamento de Agricultura de EE. UU. (USDA) anunció los miembros de la Comisión de Equidad recientemente establecidos, entre ellos Poppy Sias-Hernandez, directora ejecutiva de la Oficina de Michigan Global. Sias-Hernandez será uno de los 15 miembros inaugurales de la Comisión de Equidad que se centrará en la discriminación histórica, fortalecerá la rendición de cuentas, proporcionará recomendaciones y promoverá la equidad racial en el USDA.

En 2020, la gobernadora Whitmer nombró a Sias-Hernandez como la primera directora de equidad e inclusión en la oficina ejecutiva del gobernador. Además de su función como directora de EIO, también se desempeña como directora ejecutiva de la Oficina de Global Michigan.

La recién establecida Comisión de Equidad y su Subcomité de Agricultura llevarán a cabo su primera reunión pública el 28 de febrero de 2022. Según lo autorizado y financiado por la Ley del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense, el lanzamiento de la Comisión independiente cumple el compromiso del presidente Biden de crear una Comisión de Equidad independiente, y proporcionarle los recursos necesarios para apoyar su misión de abordar la discriminación histórica en el USDA.

Para obtener más información sobre el USDA, visite www.usda.gov.



Brann's Steakhouse & Grille proudly salutes

Cesar E. Chavez who dedicated his life to improving treatment, pay and working conditions for farm workers using non-violent protests and boycotts to achieve advancements in equal pay and dignified treatment of our nation's farm workers. He was a WWII Veteran of the United States Navy and has received many honors to commemorate his contributions to our great nation!

Celebrate National Cesar E. Chavez Day,
March 31st.



Identifying Challenges



By Jorge Martinez
U.S. Veteran

When seeking leadership in America, its implicit it must be of approved origins, with a proper education, have family wealth and a real or imagined pedigree. Above all other qualifications, ethnicity is the presumptive requirement. Although most white Americans apply ethnic stereotypes toward others, they'll reject generalizations about their own origins. It's no surprise as historical apologist depicts them as inventors, builders and liberators. Yet, history chronicles genocide, plundering and raping across continents and into the new world. Even today as most of the world trembles, Putin, another white man is posed to invade Ukraine. It's similar to when Hitler leader of an alleged superior race threatened to plunge the world into war by invading Poland. The English and French cowered and we know how that turned out. NATO trembles as Putin threatens war, and believes he will not stop at Ukraine. Europe fears fuel shortages and cyberattacks. Putin, like Hitler feels untouchable and believes NATO will not intervene. He needs no approval from coalitions as Bush Jr did which is why he lied about weapons of mass destruction and invaded Iraq to protect oil interests. Bush started the longest war in American history. His war killed millions, wounded thousands and cost billions. Yet, like Trump, Nixon, Bush Jr. was never charged and may fade into the pages of history and if as per tradition, will go unpunished. Those who lost loved ones have never forgotten or forgiven him. History proves great white hopes like Regan, Hitler, both



Bush's and Trump were self-serving men without honor and anonymous powerful friends.

We again find ourselves relying on a white privileged old man to pick candidates for the Supreme court. Biden wants a Black woman from a prestigious college which Republicans consider blasphemous. Throughout history old white rich men prefer those who with whom they share commonality. Leadership of the FBI, CIA, and NSA has always come from privileged friends of politicians. To the privileged the Idea that government and supreme court should reflect the country is sacrilege. In their eyes integrity requires a racial commonality, Ivy league education and anonymous friends with powerful political connections. In here lies the crux as such individuals are pawns to political influences. Cowering to their anonymous friends they use power to oppress others as Trump, Bush, Nixon, Wallace and Johnson demonstrated. Brent Kavanaugh, Trumps' children and Elizabeth Holmes have confirmed we must examine alternatives. Kavanaugh, Trump, Bush and Newsom proved wealth and alleged pedigree do not propagate integrity. Even the deliberately shallow vetting of Kavanaugh and investigations of Trump exposed how privilege distorts the rich. Supporters minimized their deeds including sexual assault. Trump attempted America's first coup and has yet to be punished. As history demonstrates privileged white men cannot generally be trusted to resist greed or temptations of power. Even after a courageous woman testified the unworthy Kavanaugh was confirmed. Kavanaugh, is not the least qualified. He sits alongside those who support guns, yet restrict voting and women's rights. They stand idle as democracy withers and injustice thrives. Privilege distorted them into believing they are innately superior to those whom they serve. These elitists who have never known humiliation, hunger, served in the military, or suffered racism have infested every leadership role. These distorted percentage are today's judges, bankers, government legislators and law enforcement. They buttress the ongoing systemic racism and injustice. The Brent Kavanaghs, Trumps and Elizabeth Holmes are above the law because wealth buys influence. They are examples of similarly unworthy privileged rich who are usually appointed to leadership. Disastrously, they also reflect the casual indifference of those running the country. We must confront the attitudes of these self-appointed superiors who threaten our future. If sanctioned via voter apathy the working-class will become sacrificial second-class citizens. The privileged rich already reap the harvest of our labors and enjoy benefits of wars the working class fights. Today, our freedom via the right to vote depends upon Biden's obvious frailties and Kamala's accommodating silence. Biden calls republican extremist friends even as they oppress us. Ultimately, those Biden recognize he is losing credibility by not holding Trump and his vampires accountable? Will he cowboy up or cower as politicians have usually done, preferring to pardon the country's enemies, like Nixon and Bush Jr. to avoid embarrassment? Biden has yet to hold those who threaten democracy accountable. Trump continues to raise funds and laugh as his minion's rampage. We need leaders willing to use the power of the presidency to terminate the status quo and end Trump's rein of Putinish leadership.

Respectfully

Jorge Martinez, independent civil rights advocate
La Gente, Leadership Council
Stanislaus, County, California.

Starting a career in Modeling can be very challenging, more so if you don't have anything to show off to potential agents and advertisers. Fortunately, ANPV Studios can assist you in creating your own modeling portfolio that is pretty easy when followed by these steps. You can help significantly improve your chances of getting noticed and being in the first few gigs to kickstart your modeling career.

Step by Step Tips to Building an Impressive Portfolio

- * Determine your Modeling Type
- * Hire a Good Photographer
- * Hire Professional Hair/Make-Up Artist
- * Practice, Practice, Practice
- * Choose Your Online Accounts
- * Have Your Photo Book
- * Have Your Portfolio Printed
- * Create Portfolio
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2022 March MODEL SEARCH



Donovan Carrillo



Each month, we will feature a Latin American representing our community in professional sports.

By Odille Parker

The scenario seems unlikely – a figure skater from the subtropics of León, Guanajuato competing in the Winter Olympics in Beijing – but for Donovan Carrillo, unlikely did not mean impossible.

As a matter of fact, the 22-year-old became the first Mexican skater to qualify for and compete in the free skate segment at the Olympic Games.

“I didn’t want it to end,” he said after scoring his personal best with 79.69 points in the qualifying short program. “I wanted to keep skating and living the Olympic dream. For me to qualify also for the free skating is a dream come true.”

Carrillo placed twenty-second in the free skate closing out his first Olympic games and already focusing on the road to 2026. He was the first figure skater to represent Mexico in the Olympics since 1992, and only one of 35 athletes at the Beijing games representing Latin America.

“It is something that motivates me to do my best and to inspire more kids in Latin America and in my country to try to practice winter sports,” he said. “Many people told me during the beginning of my career that this was a crazy dream for a kid, because I always wanted to be at the Olympics, and when I talked about this dream with people, they were always laughing or telling me that it was impossible for a Mexican to qualify, and the only thing that I could do in international events was to [finish in] last place. I never wanted to think like that.”

The road to that dream hasn’t been easy for Carrillo, especially when it comes to training. He said his family struggled to pay for his lessons, and the struggle to find practice facilities was just as difficult.

Carrillo currently trains in a shopping mall ring in León amid grade-schoolers learning to skate during public hours. The ring is not Olympic size, so his first task upon arriving in Beijing was to adjust his choreography to a larger rink. It took him about a day to adjust before nailing his breakout performance to a medley of “Black Magic Woman” and “Shake It” by Santana – an ode to his Mexican culture.

When asked if he would upgrade his training scene or look at training opportunities in Europe or the United States, Carrillo said he would stay where he’s at and focus on what he had.

“It’s working. When something is working, I don’t believe in changing much,” he said.

While becoming an Olympic skater became his biggest accolade, Carrillo was also the 2019 Philadelphia International silver medalist and a four-time Mexican national champion. He competed in the final segment at six ISU Championships and earned the highest placement by any Mexican skater at 2021 World Championships in Stockholm, qualifying him for the 2022 Winter Olympics.

El escenario parece improbable: un patinador artística del subtropical de León, Guanajuato, compitiendo en los Juegos Olímpicos de Invierno en Beijing, pero para Donovan Carrillo, improbable no significaba imposible.

El joven de 22 años se convirtió en el primer patinador mexicano en calificar y competir en el segmento de patinaje libre en los Juegos Olímpicos.

Carrillo se ubicó vigésimo segundo en patinaje libre cerrando sus primeros Juegos Olímpicos y ya enfocándose en el camino hacia 2026. Fue el primer patinador artístico en representar a México en los Juegos Olímpicos desde 1992, y solo uno de los 35 atletas en los juegos de Beijing representando America latina.

Si bien convertirse en patinador olímpico se convirtió en su mayor galardón, Carrillo también fue medallista de plata internacional de Filadelfia en 2019 y cuatro veces campeón nacional mexicano. Compitió en el segmento final en seis Campeonatos ISU y obtuvo la posición más alta de cualquier patinador mexicano en el Campeonato Mundial 2021 en Estocolmo, clasificándolo para los Juegos Olímpicos de Invierno 2022.

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March Events Eventos en Marzo

The Winter Craft Show March 5, 2022 Kalamazoo

Beat the winter blues and come on out and shop The Winter Craft Show on March 5th 9am-3pm at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center (2900 Lake Street). Over 150 booths to shop and ALWAYS free admission and parking for these events. Check out the Facebook event page for show details, GIVEAWAYS and vendor pictures <https://www.facebook.com/events/562027491760159/>

Supere la tristeza invernal y venga y compre The Winter Craft Show el 5 de marzo de 9 am a 3 pm en el Centro de exposiciones del condado de Kalamazoo (2900 Lake Street). Más de 150 puestos para comprar y SIEMPRE entrada y estacionamiento gratuitos para estos eventos. Consulte la página del evento de Facebook para ver los detalles del espectáculo, los REGALOS y las imágenes de los proveedores <https://www.facebook.com>

Ultimate Sports Show Grand Rapids March 10-13, 2022 Grand Rapids

Michigan's finest tradition for the avid fisherman, hunter or outdoor loving family! Exhibitors will be at the show with the latest in outdoor gear, travel information and fishing boats. The features are famous: World Class Taxidermy, Antique Lures, Trout Pond, Hawg Trough, Woodcarvers, Fishing Simulator and Rock Wall. Nearly 100 fishing and hunting seminars will be held on 5 stages, including "Lake Ultimate," the 110,000 gallon indoor lake.

¡La mejor tradición de Michigan para el pescador ávido, el cazador o la familia amante del aire libre! Los expositores estarán en la feria con lo último en equipos para actividades al aire libre, información sobre viajes y barcos de pesca. Las características son famosas: taxidermia de clase mundial, señuelos antiguos, estanque de truchas, canal Hawg, talladores de madera, simulador de pesca y pared de roca. Se llevarán a cabo casi 100 seminarios de pesca y caza en 5 escenarios, incluido "Lake Ultimate", el lago interior de 110,000 galones.

Aladdin Rekindle Grand Rapids Ballet March 11-13, 2022 Grand Rapids

Under the direction and choreographed by Attila Mosolygo, Grand Rapids Ballet's Junior Company is rekindling the familiar tale of Aladdin, as our talented young dancers share the story of an impoverished boy, living in Agrabah, who falls in love with the beautiful Princess Jasmine. This exciting adventure features a thrilling quest, with mysterious characters along the way including a fierce dragon, a magic genie, and a powerful Sorcerer.

Bajo la dirección y coreografía de Attila Mosolygo, la Junior Company de Grand Rapids Ballet está reviviendo la historia familiar de Aladdin, mientras nuestros talentosos jóvenes bailarines comparten la historia de un niño empobrecido que vive en Agrabah y se enamora de la bella princesa Jasmine. Esta emocionante aventura presenta una búsqueda

emocionante, con personajes misteriosos en el camino que incluyen un dragón feroz, un genio mágico y un poderoso hechicero.

Red Door Gala March 15, 2022 Grand Rapids

Justin Willman wants to melt your brain while making you laugh. His live show is simultaneously mind-blowing and hilarious, and will likely keep you up at night wondering how the heck any of it was possible

Justin Willman quiere derretir tu cerebro mientras te hace reír. Es mejor conocido como la estrella y creador de la exitosa serie de Netflix Magic For Humans. Si no conoces a Justin, es un mago y comediante que domina el arte de convertir a los cínicos en creyentes (o al menos hacer que se rían). Su show en vivo es a la vez alucinante e hilarante, y probablemente te mantendrá despierto toda la noche preguntándote cómo diablos fue posible.

Gilda's LaughFest March 16-20, 2022 Grand Rapids

Gilda's LaughFest, the nation's first-ever community-wide festival of laughter, has quickly earned a reputation for being one of the nation's marquee events for both participants and artists. This major Midwest festival is based in Grand Rapids and includes events throughout West Michigan. Created by Gilda's Club Grand Rapids and launched in March 2011 to celebrate laughter for the health of it, the festival features stand-up, improv, showcases and a variety of seriously funny stuff.



ha ganado rápidamente la reputación de ser uno de los eventos más destacados del país tanto para los participantes como para los artistas. Este importante festival del Medio Oeste tiene su sede en Grand Rapids e incluye eventos en todo el oeste de Michigan. Creado por Gilda's Club Grand Rapids y lanzado en marzo de 2011 para celebrar la risa por su salud, el festival presenta stand-up, improvisación, exhibiciones y una variedad de cosas muy divertidas.

Michigan Maple Festival 2022 March 19-27, 2022 Jones

Don't miss this annual Michigan festival celebrating everything maple! Begin your visit enjoying a pancake breakfast with Pure Michigan Maple Syrup. Watch maple syrup being made in a modern style sugarhouse and enjoy a free syrup treat. Lots of family fun activities including a pancake eating contest, a coloring contest, horse drawn carriage rides (check times and dates) and a petting farm. Watch a re-enactment of how a French colonial family would have made maple syrup and maple sugar. Lots of unique maple products will be available for sale.

¡No te pierdas este festival anual de Michigan que celebra todo lo relacionado con el arce! Comience su visita disfrutando de un desayuno de panqueques con Pure Michigan Maple Syrup. Mira cómo se hace el jarabe de arce en una casa de azúcar de estilo moderno y disfruta de un jarabe gratis. Un montón de actividades divertidas para la familia que incluyen un concurso de comer

panqueques, un concurso de colorear, paseos en carruajes tirados por caballos (consultar horarios y fechas) y una granja de mascotas. Mire una recreación de cómo una familia colonial francesa habría hecho jarabe de arce y azúcar de arce. Muchos productos de arce únicos estarán disponibles para la venta.

Monster Jam March 25-27, 2022 Grand Rapids

Monster Jam Arena Championship Series Central rolls into Van Andel Arena on March 25 - 27, 2022. Don't miss the world's largest and most famous monster truck tour featuring the biggest names in monster trucks including Grave Digger®, Max-D®, Monster Mutt®, El Toro Loco®, Captain's Curse® and Blue Thunder® and more! Ticket prices are subject to change. For current ticket prices, visit Ticketmaster.com.

¡No se pierda la gira de camiones monstruo más importantes de los camiones monstruo, incluidos Grave Digger®, Max-D®, Monster Mutt®, El Toro Loco®, Captain's Curse® y Blue Thunder® y más!

Los precios de las entradas están sujetos a cambios. Para conocer los precios actuales de los boletos, visite Ticketmaster.com. Los precios pueden fluctuar en función de la oferta y la demanda.

West Michigan Women's Expo

March 18-20, 2022
Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
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Women's
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1886 Benz Motorwagen, 3 Wheeler with engine from Karl Benz - Gilmore Car Museum

1961 Dinky Cycle - Folding Motorcycle from Gilmore Museum



1968 Mercury Cyclone GT 990 from Gilmore Museum



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2018 Chevy Colorado Z71 Crew Cab with Cabin Tent on top

IF YOU MISSED IT, YOU MISSED OUT The 24th Annual Michigan International Auto Show Held February 4 - 6, 2022 Was A HIT

The Michigan International Auto Show was a great success! If you missed it, we are truly sorry as it was a huge hit for West Michigan auto fans! The annual event was held in downtown Grand Rapids at DeVos Place, We tried to be calm and enjoy the event but our excitement with the "new, shiny bright lights and smooth or elegant stylish rides had us reeling!" Everyone there seemed super excited to see The Million Dollar Motorway, Gilmore Museum Car Collection, New Car Dealers Association (Ford, Chevrolet, Subaru, Toyota, etc. etc.) Also we were all impressed with the new cars to see technology, engineering, speed, style & mobility.

The Gilmore Museum Car Collection brought some unique cars. There were true treasures, especially this Corvette Corvair that was a real beauty of a car, sweet ride! We hope you enjoy some of the pictures we shared here to highlight the event! Drop us a line to let us know you care and appreciate our work! Please continue to support us and visit our website at to leave comments on our blog! If you're having an event or working on a show ride then give us a heads up and we will highlight it in a future issue of The Community Voice/La Voz Magazine.

Somos pocos pero locos en lowriding!
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www.huntingtonplacedetroit.com/events/detail/autorama-8



1932 Chevrolet Cabriolet from Gilmore Museum



1934 Continental De Vaux the Last Grand Rapids-Built Car



Donna Tuls by 1931 Marmon Sixteen Convertible Coupe from Gilmore Museum



Corvette Corvair



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1910 REO Touring Car owner Ransom E. Olds from REO Motor Car Company, Gilmore Car Museum

LALVES

Larissa de Macedo Machado, more famous as Anitta, is a Brazilian recording artist, songwriter, actor, dancer, and entrepreneur. Born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, she began singing in a church choir at a young age. She borrowed her stage name, 'Anitta,' from the central character in a popular TV miniseries, 'Presença de Anita.' When she was 17, her YouTube video was appreciated by a producer at 'Furacão 2000' and she was offered a recording contract. After a few singles and her hit song, 'Meiga e Abusada,' she signed with 'Warner Music Group.' Her debut single for this label, 'Show das Poderosas,' became Brazil's most watched video with over 130 million views on YouTube. Her three studio albums, 'Anitta,' 'Reitmo Pefeito' and 'Bang,' were released in three successive years, two of which achieved platinum certification and made her one of Brazil's biggest stars. Anitta received the honor of performing at 'Latin Grammy Awards' (2014) and at the opening ceremony of '2016 Summer Olympics.' She has earned a number of prestigious awards, including the 'MTV Europe Music Awards.' She was named by 'Billboard' as 15th most influential artist in world in social networks.

Larissa de Macedo Machado, más famosa como Anitta, es una artista, compositora, actriz, bailarina y empresaria brasileña. Nacida y criada en Río de Janeiro, Brasil, comenzó a cantar en el coro de una iglesia a una edad temprana. Tomó prestado su nombre artístico, 'Anitta', del personaje central de una popular miniserie de televisión, 'Presença de Anita'. Cuando tenía 17 años, un productor apreció su video de YouTube en 'Furacão 2000' y le ofrecieron una grabación. contrato. Después de algunos sencillos y su exitosa canción, 'Meiga e Abusada', firmó con 'Warner Music Group'. Su sencillo debut para este sello, 'Show das Poderosas', se convirtió en el video más visto de Brasil con más de 130 millones de visitas en YouTube. Sus tres álbumes de estudio, 'Anitta', 'Reitmo Pefeito' y 'Bang', fueron lanzados en tres años consecutivos, dos de los cuales lograron la certificación de platino y la convirtieron en una de las estrellas más grandes de Brasil. Anitta recibió el honor de actuar en los "Premios Grammy Latinos" (2014) y en la ceremonia de apertura de los "Juegos Olímpicos de Verano de 2016". Ha ganado una serie de prestigiosos premios, incluidos los "MTV Europe Music Awards". Fue nombrada por "Billboard" como 15º artista más influyente del mundo en redes sociales.

Anitta



Anitta, Justin Quiles, El Fantasma & More to Perform at Premio Lo Nuestro 2022

Premio Lo Nuestro featured an additional batch of performers set to take the stage at the 34th annual awards ceremony on Feb. 24. Newly confirmed Latin acts include Brazilian star Anitta — who alongside with Justin Quiles will perform their “Envolver” remix — Chimbala, El Alfa, El Fantasma, Pepe Aguilar, Manuel Turizo, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Yuri, Ovi and IAmChino.

Additionally, Italian singer-songwriter Laura Pausini will perform her latest single, “Caja,” from Rome. Previously announced performers include CNCO, Christian Nodal, Luis Fonsi, Ángela Aguilar and Olga Tañón, among many others.

Under the theme “Vive El Momento,” at this year’s show, J Balvin, Camilo and Nodal lead the list of nominees with 10 nods each. They are followed by Bad Bunny and Karol G with nine each, and Calibre 50, Carlos Rivera, Farruko, Jhay Cortez, Maluma, Myke Towers and Rauw Alejandro with eight.

The 10 artists up for Premio Lo Nuestro artist of the year are Ángela Aguilar, Bad Bunny, Camilo, Christian Nodal, Grupo Firme, J Balvin, Karol G, Maluma, Rauw Alejandro, and Sebastián Yatra. Other notable categories include album of the year, song of the year, new female artist of the year, and new male artist of the year.

The nominees are based on “airplay on Uforia radio during the eligibility period (Oct. 1, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2021), as well as on streaming and the assessment of a television committee consisting of Music and Entertainment experts.”

The 2022 Premio Lo Nuestro was broadcast from Miami’s FTX Arena with the “Noche de Estrellas” pre-show beginning at 7 p.m. ET/PT via Univision. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, “production teams will follow strict guidelines and restrictions, in full compliance with the FTX Arena, local authorities and public health recommendations, to implement this year’s show safely,” the Spanish-language network said in a statement.

Premio Lo Nuestro presentó un lote adicional de artistas que subieron al escenario en la 34ª ceremonia anual de premiación el 24 de febrero. Los artistas latinos confirmados incluyen a la estrella brasileña Anitta, quien junto con Justin Quiles interpretará su remix “Envolver”, Chimbala, El Alfa, El Fantasma, Pepe Aguilar, Manuel Turizo, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Yuri, Ovi y IAmChino.

Además, la cantautora italiana Laura Pausini interpretará su último sencillo, “Caja”, desde Roma. Los artistas previamente anunciados incluyen a CNCO, Christian Nodal, Luis Fonsi, Ángela Aguilar y Olga Tañón, entre muchos otros.

Bajo el lema “Vive El Momento”, en la



gala de este año, J Balvin, Camilo y Nodal encabezan la lista de nominados con 10 nominaciones cada uno. Le siguen Bad Bunny y Karol G con nueve cada uno, y Calibre 50, Carlos Rivera, Farruko, Jhay Cortez, Maluma, Myke Towers y Rauw Alejandro con ocho.

Los 10 artistas nominados a Artista del Año de Premio Lo Nuestro son Ángela Aguilar, Bad Bunny, Camilo, Christian Nodal, Grupo Firme, J Balvin, Karol G, Maluma, Rauw Alejandro y Sebastián Yatra. Otras categorías notables incluyen álbum del año, canción del año, nueva artista femenina del año y nuevo artista masculino del año.

El Premio Lo Nuestro 2022 se transmitió en vivo desde el FTX Arena de Miami con el pre-show “Noche de Estrellas” a partir de las 7 p.m. Hora del Este/Pacífico a través de Univision. Debido a la actual pandemia de COVID-19, “los equipos de producción seguirán pautas y restricciones estrictas, en pleno cumplimiento de las recomendaciones del FTX Arena, las autoridades locales y la salud pública, para implementar el espectáculo de este año de manera segura”, dijo la cadena en español en un comunicado. declaración.

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SOFÍA JIRAU MAKES HISTORY AS THE FIRST PUERTO RICAN WITH DOWN SYNDROME TO BECOME A VICTORIA'S SECRET MODEL



The secret is out! Sofia Jirau is making us all proud as she becomes the first Victoria's Secret model with Down Syndrome. The Puerto Rican have been dreaming about this moment for years, and now she can open the door for more people with special needs.

"I dreamed it, I worked for it, and now it is a dream come true. I can finally share my secret...I'm the first Victoria's Secret model with Down Syndrome!" Jirau wrote on her Instagram account. "Thanks to all of you for always supporting me in my projects. Thanks to @victoriasecret for seeing me as a #NoLimits model and making me part of the Love Cloud Collection inclusion campaign. This is just the beginning, now it has been formed! Inside and out there are no limits, Alavett!"

Jirau debuted as a model in 2019 when she was 23 years old, and the following year she modeled at New York Fashion Week. In 2021 she made headlines again after launching the campaign "Sin Límites" (No Limits) to raise awareness about the Down Syndrome community.

The model joins the "Love Cloud Collection" alongside Celilo Miles, Devyn Garcia, and Paloma Elsesser.

"Love Cloud Collection is a major moment in the brand's evolution. From the cast of incredible women that bring the collection to life, to the incredible inclusive spirit on set, this campaign is an important part of the new Victoria's Secret standard we are creating", Raúl Martínez, Head Creative Director of Victoria's Secret, said in a press release.

In 2020, speaking to Remezcla, the Latina beauty said, "I'm going all over the world. There is no fear. In and out, there are no limits." She added, "I'm not scared of anything, eso se va pa' la calle." When asked about where she gets her inspiration, Sofia doesn't have to look too far. "I look at myself in the mirror and I get strength," she told the publication.

El secreto está fuera! Sofía Jirau nos está enorgulleciendo a todos al convertirse en la primera modelo de Victoria's Secret con síndrome de Down. La puertorriqueña lleva años soñando con este momento y ahora puede abrir la puerta a más personas con necesidades especiales.

Jirau debutó como modelo en 2019 cuando tenía 23 años y al año siguiente modeló en la Semana de la Moda de Nueva York. En 2021 volvió a ser noticia tras lanzar la campaña "Sin Límites" para concientizar a la comunidad con Síndrome de Down.

La modelo se suma a la "Colección Nube de Amor" junto a Celilo Miles, Devyn García y Paloma Elsesser.

"Love Cloud Collection es un momento importante en la evolución de la marca. Desde el elenco de mujeres increíbles que dan vida a la colección, hasta el increíble espíritu inclusivo en el set, esta campaña es una parte importante del nuevo estándar de Victoria's Secret que estamos creando", dijo Raúl Martínez, Director Creativo Principal de Victoria's Secret, en comunicado de prensa.

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5 Steps to Stay Healthy this Winter

As COVID-19 continues to spread and respiratory illnesses are more common in the winter, keeping yourself and your loved ones safe during this second pandemic winter by taking proper precautions is vital.

GET A FLU SHOT

In addition to COVID-19, Michigan is dealing with an uptick in cases of other respiratory illnesses like influenza (the flu). Flu activity peaks yearly between December and February, so if you haven't gotten your shot now, it's not too late to do so.

Getting the flu shot helps most people avoid becoming seriously ill from the flu and will consequently avoid a hospital stay, which is particularly important right now. Healthcare facilities and healthcare workers are once again strained due to the sharp incline of COVID-19 related hospitalizations in Michigan.

GET THE VACCINE OR BOOSTER SHOT

You can safely get a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and the flu shot at the same time, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Everyone age 5 and older is now eligible to get their free COVID-19 vaccine.

The CDC also deemed it safe to get your flu shot and COVID-19 booster shot at the same time. Most Americans completed their initial COVID vaccine series about six months ago, meaning the time is right to get their booster shot.

While COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalization, and death, over time, immunity levels against the virus can wane. Booster shots are effective in driving up antibodies and thus maintaining protection against the disease.

IF IN DOUBT, GET A COVID TEST

People from multiple households and sometimes multiple states tend to gather in relatively small, indoor spaces during holiday parties, which creates the perfect environment for transmitting COVID-19.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 either before or after a holiday gathering – or if you believe you've been exposed to the virus and are not vaccinated– you should get tested for COVID-19. And if you're sick, stay home from an event to prevent spreading your illness, no matter if it's COVID-19 or not.

MIX IN AT-HOME EXERCISE ROUTINES

Exercising outdoors is becoming difficult as the harsh Michigan winter sets in, so more active people are naturally turning to the gym. As statewide COVID-19 cases climb, we encourage you to incorporate at-home workouts into your weekly fitness regimen. The more crowded the gym, the higher the risk of COVID-19 transmission, so consider keeping your odds of contraction down by doing ab workouts or yoga at home here and there.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan offers a surplus of virtual workout discounts for members through [Blue365deals.com](https://www.blue365deals.com).

DON'T DITCH THE MASKS

The Michigan Health Department issued a face mask advisory just before Thanksgiving to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses during the holidays.

Though people may be sick of wearing masks, now is no time to discard them; The use of face masks can significantly reduce the spread of viruses, including COVID-19.

Regardless of vaccination status, Michiganders in indoor public settings are advised to wear a face mask. In general, you do not need to wear masks outdoors, and infants under the age of 2 should not wear masks.

A medida que el COVID-19 continúa propagándose y las enfermedades respiratorias son más comunes en el invierno, es vital que usted y sus seres queridos se mantengan seguros durante este segundo invierno pandémico tomando las precauciones adecuadas.

VACÚNATE CONTRA LA GRIPE

Además de COVID-19, Michigan está lidiando con un aumento en los casos de otras enfermedades respiratorias como la influenza (gripe). La actividad de la gripe alcanza su punto máximo cada año entre diciembre y febrero, por lo que si no se ha vacunado ahora, no es demasiado tarde para hacerlo.

Vacunarse contra la gripe ayuda a la mayoría de las personas a evitar enfermarse gravemente a causa de la gripe y, en consecuencia, evitará una hospitalización, lo cual es particularmente importante en este momento. Las instalaciones de atención médica y los trabajadores de la salud están nuevamente presionados debido a la fuerte inclinación de las hospitalizaciones relacionadas con COVID-19 en Michigan.

OBTENGA LA VACUNA O LA INYECCIÓN DE REFUERZO

De acuerdo con los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades, puede recibir una dosis de la vacuna COVID-19 y la vacuna contra la gripe al mismo tiempo. Todas las personas mayores de 5 años ahora son elegibles para recibir su vacuna COVID-19 gratis.

El CDC también consideró seguro recibir la vacuna contra la gripe y la vacuna de refuerzo COVID-19 al mismo tiempo. La mayoría de los estadounidenses completaron su serie inicial de vacunas COVID hace unos seis meses, lo que significa que es el momento adecuado para recibir su vacuna de refuerzo.

EN CASO DE DUDA, HÁGASE UNA PRUEBA COVID

Las personas de varios hogares y, a veces, de varios estados tienden a reunirse en espacios interiores relativamente pequeños durante las fiestas navideñas, lo que crea el ambiente perfecto para transmitir COVID-19.

MEZCLE RUTINAS DE EJERCICIO EN CASA

Hacer ejercicio al aire libre se está volviendo difícil a medida que se acerca el duro invierno de Michigan, por lo que, naturalmente, las personas más activas recurren al gimnasio.

A medida que aumentan los casos de COVID-19 en todo el estado, lo alentamos a que incorpore ejercicios en el hogar en su régimen de ejercicios semanal. Cuanto más concurrido esté el gimnasio, mayor será el riesgo de transmisión de COVID-19, así que considere reducir sus probabilidades de contracción haciendo ejercicios abdominales o yoga en casa aquí y allá.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan ofrece un excedente de descuentos de entrenamiento virtual para miembros a través de [Blue365deals.com](https://www.blue365deals.com).

NO DEJES LAS MASCARILLAS

El Departamento de Salud de Michigan emitió un aviso de uso de mascarillas justo antes del Día de Acción de Gracias para evitar la propagación de enfermedades respiratorias durante las festividades.

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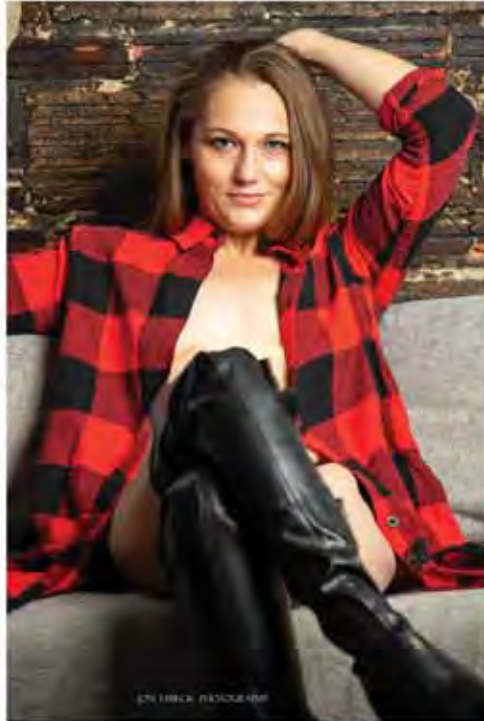
En Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, estamos a su disposición y le ofrecemos acceso a atención de la salud física y mental, donde y cuando la necesite. Incluidas visitas en línea desde la privacidad de su propio hogar. Porque sabemos que la buena salud es una salud integral.

Obtenga más información en *Here*ForItAll.com

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Congratulations to Miss. Katherine

The journey for her was once at a weight level of that looking nothing like now as she has transformed herself and her aspiring modeling into a new era and opportunity. Miss. March is going to be making and taking the Great Lake State by storm so stay tune for her the bst is yet to come this summer. Photo credits: Lexi Younge @Younge Photography, Jon Lybeck @JBLshoot, Brian Thornton of Modern Model Magazine, Jon Lybeck@JBLshoot & Photographer Robert Morse



What are your favorite:

TV show?

I don't really watch TV.

Movie of all time?

I really like musicals or Disney movies. No one in particular is a favorite.

Band or artist?

Music is very meaningful to me so it depends on my mood as to what I listen to. I enjoy a wide variety of music.

Beverage non alcoholic?

Iced coffee and water.

Favorite season in Michigan?

I prefer spring or fall.

Favorite fast food?

McDonald's chicky nuggies with honey!

Sit down restaraunt?

Anything with good pasta!

Favorite candy?

I'm a junk food junkie.

Michael Farage "Cool Mike"

For details contact Mike at:

CCCougar11@aol.com with all your concerns, comments & questions.

Eres Latina y quieres comenzar tu carrera como modelo, siempre en busca de nuevas oportunidades, nuevas caras.

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CCCougar11@aol.com

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POSITIONS- Northern Michigan University Charter School Office is accepting applications for open board positions at JKL Bahweting Anishinabe Public School Academy with term lengths of one year or two years.

Applications can be found on the JKL School website at www.jklschool.org.

The review of applications will be ongoing until all seats are filled.

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NCMS is currently seeking a full-time, highly organized Receptionist / Office Assistant for its Ann Arbor office, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5pm. This position is the first point of contact for employees, guests, tenants, and vendors. This position is also responsible for administrative and facilities duties. Applicants must be a citizen of the United States and be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless legally exempt. Send resume and salary expectations to HR@NCMS.org. NCMS offers free parking to all employees.



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