

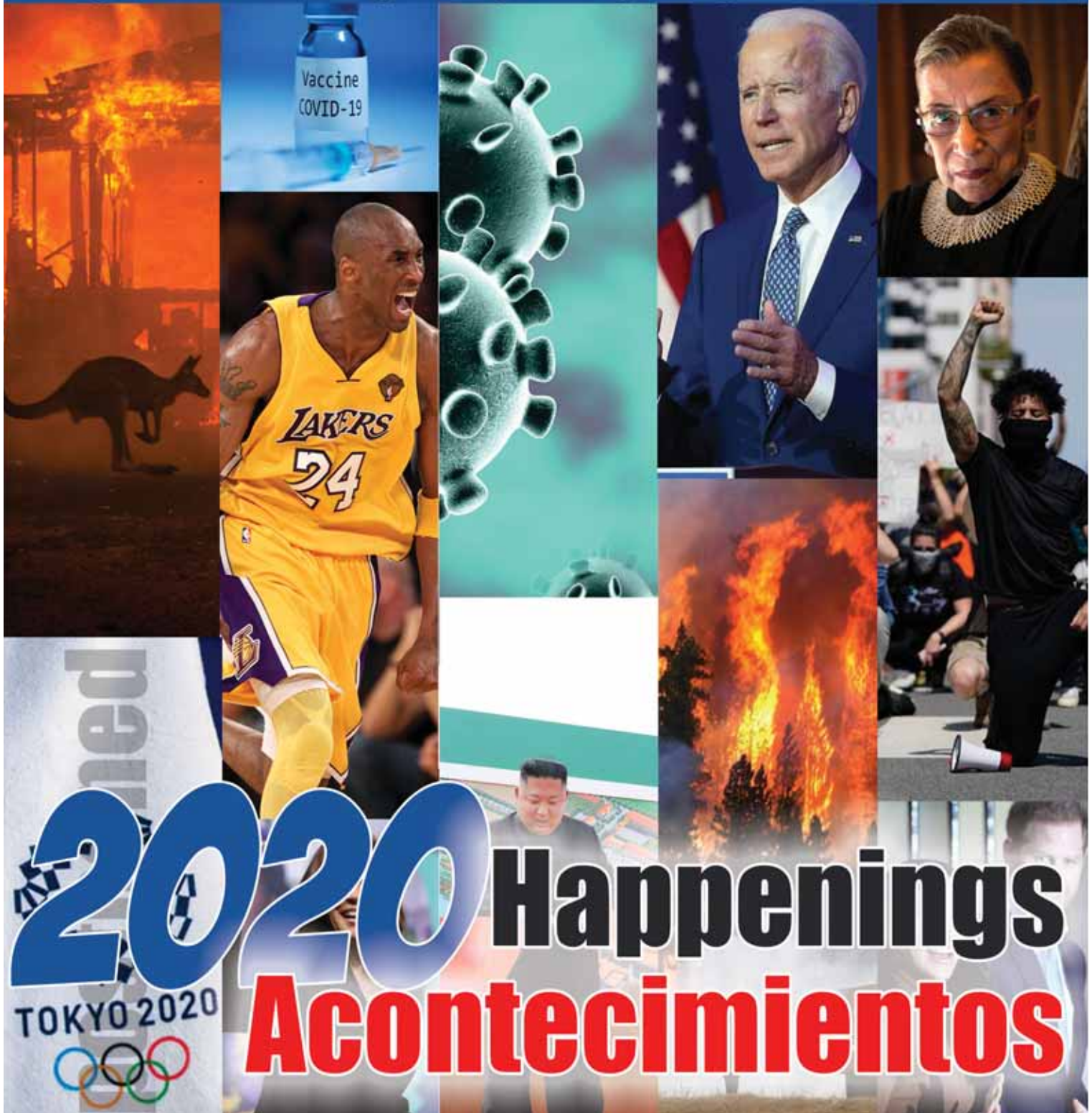
The Community Voice

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Finalmente, un puertorriqueño Como Secretario de Educación de la Nación Americana



Por: Dr. Edgar León

Esta vez nos toca hablar sobre las buenas noticias para todos los niños los hispanos y familias que residen en los Estados Unidos de Norte América. Finalmente, el presidente Joe Biden, nombra a un puertorriqueño por segunda vez al gabinete de un presidente estadounidense. La primera fue la Jueza Sonia Sotomayor al tribunal supremo de los Estados Unidos de Norte América. Esto es un evento histórico donde se propone a un candidato latino de descendencia puertorriqueña, raíces pobres, que no sabía Inglés cuando entró a la escuela, que sufrió los estragos de ser pobre, minoría, de padres de la clase trabajadora, y sin oportunidades de personas que lo tienen todo cuando nacen.

Ha sido un producto de la escuela pública en el estado de Connecticut. Tal vez por sus experiencias cuando joven es que su pasión por mejorar la escuela pública y el luchar por las oportunidades para los hispanos ha sido su vocación de vida. Por su trayectoria se nota que ha trabajado fuerte para conseguir la equidad que todos los latinos nos merecemos.

Su nombre es el Dr. Miguel Cardona. No tan solo es un candidato fuerte sino también una persona que entiende los sistemas educativos en todos los niveles debido a que ha trabajado y ha sido exitoso como maestro, director escolar, superintendente y comisionado educativo en el sistema público.

Por lo que hemos investigado, el Dr. Miguel Cardona es una persona que se deja llevar por los datos y las investigaciones científicas para tomar una decisión pero también es un negociador y colaborador de los maestros y grupos políticos minoritarios. Esto queda demostrado por los escritos de las federaciones de maestros y asociaciones que lo han endosado positivamente. También hemos notado que es un guerrero de las causas del discrimin y sigue luchando por la equidad de los latinos y minorías.

Su experiencia como administrador también ha servido de mucho durante el tiempo de la pandemia. Ha estado preocupado por el tiempo académico perdido que han experimentado los estudiantes y propone usar la tecnología como una solución al problema.

Aun cuando la presión de los políticos locales le ha tratado de forzar a tomar una decisión que meter a los estudiantes en el plantel escolar, todavía no se ha decidido si esto es pertinente en estos momentos. Siendo Secretario de Educación tampoco esperamos que trate de micro manejar los estados con nuevas políticas educativas como su ex secretaria que acaba de salir y su intento de privatizar a las escuelas que fue un fracaso.

Queda demostrado que el Dr. Miguel Cardona no le tiene miedo a la verdad cuando recientemente pudo criticar a su propio sistema educativo local indicando que la brecha educativa entre las minorías Afro Americanas y Latinas están por debajo de los blancos en su Sistema escolar. El afirma que todavía falta mucho por hacer para corregir este mal que divide el sistema.

Estela López, vice directora de la Junta de Educación del Estado de Connecticut, dijo que comenzó a llorar cuando se entero que nominaron al Dr. Miguel Cardona como secretario de Educación el martes en la mañana.

Es muy bueno que todo esto pase pero lo importante es que cuando el Dr. Cardona este en Washington DC no se le olvide de donde vino y que

todavía hay millones de niños hispanos pobres que no pueden obtener una educación de calidad con maestros de calidad y con sitios seguros para estudiar.

Debe recordar que su prioridad es sacar de la pobreza a los niños hispanos porque la palabra "Minoría es dedicada a los afro americanos y los hispanos solo recogen las migajas que sobran" El Dr. Cardona debe usar la tecnología para monitorear las escuelas de los barrios latinos usando cámaras y no usar los viajes a los estados para ir de compras en el mall o ir a comer. Los niños latinos y sus familias han pasado el pero de los momentos debido al COVID19. Muchas veces si no llegan a la escuela, nadie los reclama y lo mas fácil es darlos de baja de sus listas.



Si ya sabe que la educación bilingüe funciona porque el fue producto de ese programa, debe poner mas recursos y dinero para que tengamos mas programas de educación bilingüe en las escuelas con maestros preparados.

Debe ayuda a proveer muchas becas para las escuelas y las universidades para los millones de estudiantes sobresalientes puedan convertirse en maestros, científicos, personas de negocios y de provecho y no pueden estudiar porque sus padres no tienen el dinero y la Beca Pell no es suficiente para estudiar y mantenerse. Hay que cambiar el método educativo a uno moderno que no dependa de un salón de clase y una pizarra. Hay que cambiarlo a un currículo global donde se integre la tecnología de los productos nuevos que tengan que ver con robótica, biotecnología, solución de problemas, integrar MOOCs educativos a distancia, integrar la industria con la escuela K-12, crecimiento de alimentos con hidropónicos verticales, intercambio mundial de información educativa y colaboración. Hay que dejar de ser rehenes de las compañías de libros y sacarlos de la burocracia en los departamentos de educación del estado.

Puerto Rico ha sufrido un huracán, un temblor de tierra y una pandemia de forma corrida. Este triple golpe se ha sentido en toda la isla. Padres, maestros y estudiantes siguen sufriendo por falta de internet robusto y acceso a la educación. La burocracia se come el dinero y las oportunidades y nadie hace nada. Le toca a usted entrar de lleno a mover la rueda de la corrupción.

Le suplico al Dr. Miguel Cardona que intervenga directamente en la isla de Puerto Rico para que elimine la politiquería que existe en el departamento de educación del estado, sus agencias y su administración central. La isla recibe 3.5 billones de dólares para educación y usa mas de la mitad (55%) para administración y no para dar clases. El departamento de educación esta sobrecargado de puestos políticos que no abonan a nada y que no están directamente enseñando al estudiante. Hay muchos puestos para empujar papel y formularios que justifican puestos.

La exsecretaria de educación de Puerto Rico- Julia Kelleher fue acusada por el FBI por fraude y esta pendiente a su juicio en el 2021. Los ayudantes de ella se declararon culpables y ya están en la cárcel por hacer las trampas con el dinero de educación y cerrar la mitad de las escuelas.

El sistema educativo que existe hoy no sirve. Como ejemplo de esto, recientemente en Puerto Rico pasaron a todos los estudiantes de grado aun sin tener las calificaciones, sin haber asistido a clases ni tomar exámenes. Esto debe ser un caso urgente para que no pase por debajo del radar de un secretario puertorriqueño. Por favor ayude a los suyos para que lleguen al máximo de su capacidad como lo ha hecho usted.

...Versión en español continúa en la pag. 10



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January 2021, Volume 23 - No. 01
 Reaching over 40,000 readers
 Circulation 17,000 copies
 Printed at Printwell
 To contact The Community Voice/
 La Voz Magazine
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<http://www.lavozweb.com>
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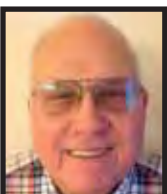
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Tommy Papi

¡Oye mi gente! You know we love to promote and empower people from our local communities in their career. January's artist is a 22 year old Afro Columbian Rapper/Songwriter from Metro Detroit.



By Primavera Flores

I had the pleasure of speaking to Joe Harris (also known as Tommy Papi) over the holiday weekend. Joe is a 22-year old, Afro - Columbian from Metro Detroit, 4 years fresh into his music journey writing poetry, rap, and r & b to alter-

native songs. From a very young age, Joe says "I had an ear for music". Highly influenced by watching his father play in a band and listening to reggae and soulful blues in his home. Something he says he misses is the soul he would hear and feel from the music of his youth. Charismatic and naturally gifted with an aptitude for poetry, Joe could listen to any song or a verse and put his own spin on it in freestyle rapping and singing. He says, music "is in my blood!". As a 90's hip hop fan, Joe recently collaborated with Michael Anthony on a Wu-Tang type song called "Cream". A song he is excited about because it brings back that "old school" hip hop vibe that he loves.

Inspired by artists like Kendrick Lamar, Slum Village and Meek Mill, Joe's aspirations are to also make music that connects with people. To give people something they can relate to with things he has been through. His first song, "Thinking about you" which dropped in August 2020, was a mixture of songwriting from the perspective of a sad and broken hearted "alter ego" as he calls it. The song captures the emotional turmoil of past relationship problems. Going through all the things he should have said but didn't or things as Joe says "I wish I would have heard when I was going through a break up." Some of his other songs are curated from his angry "ego" of an unapologetic, raw and opinionated perspective. He says, "My dream is to fill a stadium and to have a song that really helps someone get through a bad time". He says for him, "That will make everything worth it!". All of his hard work will pay off.

Like many artists, he has spent quarantine perfecting his songwriting and instrumental skills, promoting himself on social media platforms Instagram and Facebook and working on his degree as well as leading food and clothing drives for local charities in the community. Looking to make a change for his city! Currently, he is in the finishing stages of his first EP with an expected release date of mid February 2021.

Joe also left a message for his current and future fans.

"Don't give up pursuing your passions no matter how hard the work is, it's worth it!".

He says, "If you wake up thinking what if? Then that is the path you need to take!"; "Never spend your life saying, What if?"

Please join us in supporting Joe on expansion of his music career. We are excited to hear his first album!

Follow him @__tommypapi__ on Instagram. You can listen to his music on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon, and Soundcloud as 'TommyPAPI'.

Tuve el placer de hablar con Joe Harris (también conocido como Tommy Papi) durante el fin de semana festivo. Joe es un afrocolombino de 22 años de Metro Detroit, 4 años fresco en su viaje musical escribiendo poesía, rap y r & b con canciones alternativas. Desde muy joven, Joe dice "tenía oído para la música". Muy influenciado por ver a su padre tocar en una banda y escuchar reggae y blues conmovedor en su casa. Algo que dice que extraña es el alma que escucharía y sentiría de la música de su juventud. Carismático y naturalmente dotado de una aptitud para la poesía, Joe podía escuchar cualquier canción o verso y poner su propio toque en el estilo libre de rap y canto. Dice que la música "está en mi sangre". Como fanático del hip hop de los 90, Joe colaboró recientemente con Michael Anthony en una canción tipo Wu-Tang llamada "Cream". Una canción que le entusiasma porque trae de vuelta esa vibra hip hop de la "vieja escuela" que ama. Inspirado por artistas como Kendrick Lamar, Slum Village y Meek Mill, las aspiraciones de Joe son también hacer música que conecte con la gente. Darle a la gente algo con lo que puedan relacionarse con las cosas por las que ha pasado. Su primera canción, "Thinking about you", que se lanzó en agosto de 2020, fue una mezcla de composición desde la perspectiva de un "alter ego" triste y con el corazón roto, como él lo llama. La canción captura la confusión emocional de los problemas de relaciones pasadas. Pasando por todas las cosas que debería haber dicho pero no dijo o cosas como Joe dice: "Ojalá me hubiera enterado cuando estaba pasando por una ruptura". Algunas de sus otras canciones están seccionadas desde su "ego" enojado de



una perspectiva sin complejos, cruda y obstinada. Dice: "Mi sueño es llenar un estadio y tener una canción que realmente ayude a alguien cuando este pasando por un mal momento". Se dice a él mismo: "¡Eso hará que todo valga la pena!". Todo su arduo trabajo dará sus frutos.

Como muchos artistas, ha pasado la cuarentena perfeccionando sus habilidades como compositor e instrumentos, promocionándose en las plataformas de redes sociales Instagram y Facebook y trabajando en su título, así como liderando campañas de comida y ropa para organizaciones benéficas locales en la comunidad.

¡Buscando hacer un cambio para su ciudad! Actualmente, se encuentra en las etapas finales de su primer EP con una fecha de lanzamiento prevista para mediados de febrero de 2021.

Joe también dejó un mensaje para sus fanáticos actuales y futuros.

"No dejes de perseguir tus pasiones, no importa lo duro que sea el trabajo, ¡vale la pena!".

Él dice: "Si te despiertas pensando ¿y si? ¡Entonces ese es el camino que debes tomar!"; "Nunca te pases la vida diciendo, ¿y si?"

Únase a nosotros para apoyar a Joe en la expansión de su carrera musical. ¡Estamos emocionados de escuchar su primer álbum!

Síguelo en @__tommypapi__ en Instagram. Puedes escuchar su música en Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon y Soundcloud como "TommyPAPI".

Gun Lake Tribe Donates \$14,000 to Community Action of Allegan County



Last month the Gun Lake Tribe (Tribu) announced a local donation to Community Action of Allegan County in the amount of \$14,339.42 "The Tribe and its citizens are very pleased to help charitable organizations like Community Action achieve their mission of helping those less fortunate," said John Shagonaby, Governmental Affairs Officer. "Charitable work is even more important during economic crisis brought on by the global pandemic."

The donation was made pursuant to a legal agreement to direct unclaimed or forfeited funds left at the Gun Lake Casino to non-profit organizations or charities. The Tribe selects which charitable organizations receive the funds.

"Many area residents are facing new and significant hardships this holiday season due to high rates of unemployment, utility bills, possible eviction, as well as food insecurity. The burdens of the pandemic, and unemployment benefits potentially expiring later this month are major challenges facing families in Allegan County. We thank the Tribe for its support and kindness in helping us help others," said Lisa M. Evans, Executive Director, Community Action of Allegan County.

The Tribe recognizes the important work that charitable organizations do to improve the lives of people in Michigan and throughout the country.

El mes pasado, la tribu Gun Lake (Tribu) anunció una donación local a Community Action del condado de Allegan por un monto de \$ 14,339.42 "La Tribu y sus ciudadanos están muy complacidos de ayudar a organizaciones caritativas como Community Action a lograr su misión de ayudar a los menos afortunados". dijo John Shagonaby, oficial de asuntos gubernamentales. "El trabajo caritativo es aún más importante durante la crisis económica provocada por la pandemia mundial".

La Tribu reconoce el importante trabajo que realizan las organizaciones benéficas para mejorar la vida de las personas en Michigan y en todo el país.

OBITUARIES

Rebecca Espinoza

Espinoza, Rebecca Rebecca Espinoza, age 88, of Wyoming, passed away on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Rebecca was born in Laredo, Texas, to Simon and Juana Aguilar. She worked for 17 years as a parapro at Grand Rapids Public Schools. She loved crossword puzzles and coloring, coffee with Mexican sweet bread, watching CNN and westerns, but most of all, she loved her family, known as "Grandma Becky." She was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel; sisters: Julia Gonzalez, Lupe Guevara; brother: Santiago "Jim" Aguilar. She will be lovingly remembered by her children: Thomas (Diana Lozano) Espinoza, Andrew Espinoza, Phillip (Kathy) Espinoza, Raymond (Sarah) Espinoza, Vincent (Kathy) Espinoza, Mary Jane (Tori-bio Paiz) Espinoza-Paiz, Anita (David) Jackson, Estella Espinoza; 24 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; sister and brothers: Maria "Fela" Ysasi, Simon (Irma Garcia) Aguilar, Robert Aguilar; dog, Sophie. Burial was held at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens.



Antonio Rubio



Antonio (Tony) Rubio Maldonado, of Grand Rapids, dedicated his life to serving the Lord and now continues to do so in his eternal home which he entered on December 6, 2020. He was born July 5, 1958 in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. His impact and testimony that he had here on earth reached many lives and is everlasting. He is survived by Gregoria, his lovely wife of 25 years. He is the father of Leonicia (Samuel) Gomez, Florina (Bartolo) Rosales, Franco Rubio, Andrea (Rodrigo) Maldonado, Braulio (Lorena) Montero, Antonio Jr. (Savannah) Rubio, Christian Rubio, Christy (Jose) Gayosso, Jose Rubio, Danael Rubio, Maria Elena Rubio, Elias Eliseo Rubio and Aaron Madian Rubio. He loved his 17 grandchildren and great granddaughter. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery.

Bertha Soto



Soto, Bertha 4/16/1940 - 12/5/2020 Our beloved mother, Bertha Rose Esparza Soto, age 80, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, December 5, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alejandro and Herlinda Esparza; her husband, Jose Soto Sr.; son, Joe Soto Jr.; brothers, Albert and Armando Esparza. Bertha will be deeply missed by her children: Alex Soto of Seattle, WA; Manuel Soto Sr. of Austin, TX; Abel (Denise) Soto of Kentwood, MI; Sylvia (Theodore) Soto-Aguilar of Walker, MI; Dolores Soto of Walker, MI; Jesse (Heidi) Soto Sr. of Allendale, MI; and Priscilla (Darcy) Soto of Seattle, WA. She also leaves behind 20 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; brothers, Alex Esparza Sr., Jesse Esparza Sr., of Grand Prairie, TX; sisters, Margarita (John) Thurston of St. Charles, MO; Judy (Isauro) Maldonado and Rose Marie (Jerry) Sergura, both of Austin, TX; sisters-in-law, Evelyn Lopez of Dallas, TX and Guadalupe Marie Esparza of Grand Prairie, TX, all of whom she loved and touched deeply. Burial at Kent Memorial Gardens.

GOOD NEWS!



By Lisa Wiseman

There is a handsome new face on your television screen these days. Meet Rubén Juárez. He is the newest addition to the WOOD-TV news team.

Rubén was born and raised here in West Michigan. He first got his start in media when he was in high school, working as a Sports Clerk at The Grand Rapids Press. He then went on to study broadcasting at Grand Valley State University. The WOOD-TV station should be familiar to him as he first started working at WOOD as a sports intern and sports photographer before moving to Indiana to become a sports reporter.

When an opportunity arose in Texas, down in the Rio Grande Valley, he left the cold winters behind. He became a Bilingual Sports Anchor/Reporter at KRGV-TV where he reported the sports and news stories in English and Spanish (and where he could wear shorts year-round).

He spent about 4 years down in the Valley before he heard of an opening for a reporter back at his old stomping grounds, WOOD-TV. So, he came back home, and his family couldn't be happier.

Rubén does miss the weather of sunny South Texas, but he is looking forward to the new challenges here in West Michigan. With the Hispanic community growing so fast, he is anxious to delve into the rich culture and diversity of the Latino people that can be found here and be able to tell their stories.

What does Rubén like to do in his spare time? "I enjoy playing basketball and soccer,

when the weather allows, but I also like watching sports and documentaries and love a good Griffins game!"

Be sure to check out Rubén reporting your local news on WOOD-TV, channel 8, and if you see him on the street, welcome him back to West Michigan with a smile!

Hay una cara nueva en la pantalla de su televisor en estos días. Conoce a Rubén Juárez. Es la última incorporación al equipo de noticias de WOOD-TV.

Rubén nació y se crió aquí en West Michigan. Se inició en los medios de comunicación cuando estaba en la escuela secundaria, trabajando como empleado deportivo en The Grand Rapids Press. Luego pasó a estudiar radiodifusión en Grand Valley State University. La estación de WOOD-TV debería serle familiar ya que comenzó a trabajar en WOOD como pasante deportivo y fotógrafo deportivo antes de mudarse a Indiana para convertirse en reportero deportivo.

Cuando surgió una oportunidad en Texas, en el Valle del Río Grande, dejó atrás los fríos inviernos. Se convirtió en presentador / reportero deportivo bilingüe en KRGV-TV, donde informó sobre deportes y noticias en inglés y español (y donde podía usar pantalones cortos durante todo el año).

Pasó unos 4 años en el Valle antes de enterarse de una vacante para un reportero en su antiguo terreno, WOOD-TV. Entonces, regresó a casa y su familia no podría estar más feliz.

Rubén extraña el clima del soleado sur de Texas, pero espera con ansias los nuevos desafíos aquí en West Michigan. Con la



comunidad hispana creciendo tan rápido, él está ansioso por profundizar en la rica cultura y diversidad de la gente latina que se puede encontrar aquí y poder contar sus historias.

¿Qué le gusta hacer a Rubén en su tiempo libre? "Disfruto jugando baloncesto y fútbol, cuando el clima lo permite, pero también me gusta ver deportes y documentales, ¡y amo un buen juego de Griffins!"

Asegúrese de ver a Rubén reportando sus noticias locales en WOOD-TV, canal 8, y si lo ve en la calle, ¡déle la bienvenida a West Michigan con una sonrisa!

New Life COGIC (Pastor-Rev. Robert Dean) / Lady Betty Dean, Oakdale Park Church and Elder Hurt at Heartside Park, Grand Rapids on Sunday, December 13, 2020, showing the love and compassion of God through gifts of the Word, snacks, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, toiletries, a hot meal, warm drinks and much, much more . . . ! . . .



Neville Chamberlain's biggest mistake was using his own standards to judge Hitler in 1938. His error in judgment contributed to the death of millions and extended the War. His inability to anticipate Hitler's next move and stop him nearly cost the Allies the war. Americans made the same mistake with Trump's menagerie of swamp animals he imposed on the country. Trump's tyranny taught us, freedom isn't free. No one, including those who drank his Kool-Aid knows what he plans. His amorality is bottomless and perhaps not even his Niece, Mary Trump knows its depth. Consequently it will be a long time before any of us will trust Republicans or their wives. As for myself, I cannot believe everyone didn't see

Trump as just another TV celebrity. Many wanted to see what would happen if they put a businessman into the White House. We've learned businessmen operate on greed and always pay themselves first; they use the Presidency as a family business and break every rule. They don't consider cheating wrong, if they can get away with it and attract more of the same like flies to dung. The country chose a crook that nurtured and empowered the corrupted. The world needs to see Trump's real nature and I hope he doesn't vacate the White House willingly and is carried out screaming and kicking. As for myself, I must assume my Republican brother; nephews and nieces are as dishonest, distorted and corrupt as he. I must assume they cheated to get into college, their job, and on their spouses. Much will be expected of the Vice President. Kamala must ensure real change takes place within the country's police force. She must remove special privileges cops enjoy that protect them from criminal prosecution. She must insure millions are not evicted from their homes due to the pandemic. Kamala must expose Rudy Giuliani, Bill Barr and Jeffery A. Rosen that exonerated Trump. She must investi-

Trump's Menagerie



By Jorge Martinez

gate Rod Rosenstein who caged thousands of immigrant children at the border. Kamala must ensure that those who orchestrated allegations of election fraud are charged with sedition. Kamala must keep her vow to impeach Brent Kavanaugh who lied to congress and the FBI during his confirmation hearings. Kamala must ensure Trump's pardons are overturned and criminals like Roger Stone, General Flynn and his children are charged for their crimes.

Of course we must never forget how Trump weaponized every issue to his advantage, deliberately distracting us from threats to the country. Kamala must ensure occupants of Trump's swamp are identified so we can study and understand who they were and what they did. The new attorney general must debunk, rebuke and overturn any blanket pardons of those who aided Trump's criminal enterprise. There are still thousands facing charges for demonstrating against injustice. Their charges should be dropped and records expunged. Finally, reparations should be paid to those hurt by police during the demonstrations and their fines reimbursed. Reparations should be made to the families of men murdered by the police. The killers of George Floyd, Freddie Gray, Brianna Taylor and etc. should be identified and tried for murder. Foul abusive language and blatant disrespect for basic decorum should be censored and never tolerated. Senator Ted Yoho, from Florida who insulted Representative Alexandria Ocasio Cortez on the steps of the Capitol should be impeached. The country won't recover from Trumpism quickly. There should be a Medal of Dishonor for those who supported Trump and his accomplices, because as they've taught us, Freedom is not free.

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Enfermera vacunada contra el covid-19 en México: Es el mejor regalo que pude recibir en el 2020

«Un poco nerviosa pero muy feliz, la verdad es que es el mejor regalo que pude haber recibido en el 2020 y esto me da pauta para seguir con más seguridad y con más bríos para seguir al frente de esta guerra de un enemigo invisible. Vamos a seguir adelante. Pues sí, tenemos miedo, pero tenemos que seguir adelante porque alguien tiene que hacerle frente a esta lucha y yo estoy dispuesta a seguir en la línea de fuego». Esto fue lo que dijo María Irene Ramírez, enfermera especialista y la primera persona en recibir la vacuna de coronavirus en México. Por su lado, el canciller Marcelo Ebrard dijo que en enero se prevé tener el número suficiente de vacunas para los trabajadores de la salud del país. El presidente Andrés Manuel López Obrador dijo que ya se cuenta con el presupuesto de adquisición de todas las dosis que se requieran para los mexicanos y agradeció el apoyo de la Secretaría de la Marina y la Secretaría de la Defensa.



An Intimate Story of How Your Confidence Equates to The Insecure One's Constant Attacks



By Kindra A. Peterson

It always bothers me when I hear people mention that people need to stand up for themselves and not let others run all over them, while in the same breath labeling someone as difficult, arrogant or "too perfect" if they have confidence and self-worth; the conflicting expectations equate to double standards. It shouldn't be acceptable for people to expect that someone tolerate such insolence when they know that they wouldn't tolerate it themselves. This negative label is often directed towards black women. When the woman knows her worth, has a healthy self-esteem, tries to live a life that is pleasing to God and not be used as a doormat, she is labeled as a problem. There should be a clear distinction between a problematic woman and a woman who is clearly an inspiration to young girls and women. The double standard is proven to be true time and time again, because there's not much respectful conversation being exchanged between people when they're discussing a woman who allows people to bully, degrade or disrespect her. There certainly isn't pleasant conversation among men who speak of women disrespecting herself simply to please a man and having a healthy self-esteem is known to be an attractive quality according to both genders. When someone is confident, it's very attractive and inspires people to have a higher regard for themselves as well.

Being a new, prospering entrepreneur with a decade-long idea finally coming to fruition with the help of a wonderful business partner who is like a sister, has shown me the light of when a confident woman is met with the insecure man who is determined to kill her self-confidence. My friend and I have been friends for almost a decade and we both love Spanish, as she is a native to the language. We work with a business coach who has proven to be the insecure man who wants to step on and challenge my confidence at every opportunity that crosses his path. Instead of him being a positive and encouraging guide to us, he chooses to respect only one half of our duo, which causes complete disharmony. Elders and mentors have always encouraged me to have confidence in whatever I pursue and to carry that confidence in my daily life. Unfortunately, the business coach feels that if one party of an aspiring business is more confident than the other, despite the fact that the

friendship of the partnership has been respectful and loving to one another for 8 1/2 years, his personal insecurities continued to outweigh all of the other positive things that we brought to the meetings.

When this coach saw that we were willing to comply with almost every pessimistic suggestion so that we displayed trust in his guidance or lack thereof, he was able to exit each meeting with a smile on his face. However, when I discussed with my business partner alone that we're sticking with our ideas and not changing anything else for him, the next business meeting didn't end with laughter and smiles. When my partner and I excitedly shared that we had finally come up with a business name that was literally in "our faces" the entire time during all of our trials, there was no smile or any signs of being proud from this coach; we were simply met with a frown and an hour of him battling me on why the



logo confused him. Though everything was explained to him beyond 40 minutes, which was more time than he should have every received of my time in this lifetime, he was still upset that I wasn't going to change the logo nor the name for him. He began to say disrespectful things, make passive/aggressive comments, deny his contribution to the negative energy, try to make the quieter party of our duo feel above me, talk down on me, ignored my demand for respect and move on to the required portion of our meeting that one of our instructors had required of us. I walked away for a few

moments to regroup and be the bigger person, but he still wanted to enlist my partner into his nonsense and ignore her questions regarding our required assignment. He even later tried to get me in trouble with the school, which was a failed attempt. Once he saw that he had upset me, he was happy and laughing again; that proved what every elder has told me about an insecure and envious man when they meet the confident woman (though she may have daily improvement goals). The message to take away from this intimate story, is that you should never lose your confidence, lower your self-esteem, be disrespected, accept a negative label or succumb to the other side of reverse psychology when an insecure person notices that you're living right, as this unfortunate experience reminded my friend, business partner and sister that we're living our lives in accordance to God's will.

© 2020 Written by Kindra A. Peterson

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Finally, a Puerto Rican As Secretary of Education of the American Nation

Por Dr. Edgar León Continuación de la versión de el artículo en español pag. 03

Los resultados de aprovechamiento en Puerto Rico han sido pésimos y malos en las últimas décadas y aun así siguen enviando 3.5 billones de dólares (3,500,000.00) para que los malgasten en contratos y puestos que no resultan en el aprovechamiento académico de los estudiantes.

Finalmente, debe sacar el departamento de educación especial del desastre político que hay en el departamento de educación de Puerto Rico para que se le haga justicia a los niños y se les de clases a los niños de educación especial lo cual están abandonados totalmente. En estos momentos lo que existe es un sistema de referido y centro de cuidado. Sugiero que le den el departamento de educación especial de Puerto Rico a Connecticut para que lo administre y lo evalúe con miras a mejorar el Sistema y ayudar a todos los niños de Puerto Rico. Buena suerte!!

It's good news for all Hispanic children and families residing in the United States of America. Finally, President Elect, Joe Biden has nominated a Puerto Rican to his Cabinet. This is the second time a Puerto Rican has been selected for a high-ranking office in the U.S. The first was Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court of the United States of North America. This is a historic event. Dr. Miguel Cardona reflects many similar life experiences, having grown up with limited English when he entered school, suffered the disadvantages of poverty, working class parents, and without equal opportunities in many cases. He is a product of the public school system of Connecticut.

His experiences as a young man created a passion for improving public schools and creating equal opportunities for Hispanics which has become his life calling. Throughout his career he has worked hard to achieve the equity that all Latinos deserve. Dr. Miguel Cardona is a person who understands the educational system at all levels because he has been successful as a teacher, school principal, superintendent and educational commissioner in the public schools. Dr. Miguel Cardona is a person who is driven by data and scientific research in his decision making. He is also recognized as a negotiator and collaborator with teachers and minority political groups. This is demonstrated by the writings of teacher's associations that have endorsed him.

His higher-level administrative experience has also served well during the pandemic. He has had to make tough decisions while concerned about the lost academic time students have experienced and proposed using technology as a partial solution to the problem. Although pressure from local politicians has tried to force him to a full return to in-person learning on campus, he has taken a leveled approach.

As Secretary of Education, we do not expect that he will try to micromanage the states with new educational policies like his predecessor who attempted to privatize schools, a strategy that was a huge failure. Dr. Miguel Cardona is not afraid of speaking truth to power. He recently proved able to criticize his own local educational system stating that the educational gap between Afro-American and Latino minorities is below whites in his own school system. He says that there is still much to be done to correct the evil that divides the system. Estela López, VP of the Connecticut State Board of Education, said she began to cry when she learned that Dr. Miguel Cardona was nominated as Secretary of Education. It is very good that all this happened but hopes that when Dr. Cardona is in Washington DC he does not forget where he came from and

that there are still millions of poor Hispanic children who cannot obtain a quality education with quality teachers and with safe places to study. He must remember that his priority is to lift Hispanic children out of poverty because unfortunately the word "Minority applies to African Americans and Hispanics who are often left to only pick up the leftover crumbs."

Dr. Cardona should use technology to monitor schools in Latino neighborhoods using cameras and improve education monitoring systems. Latino children and their families have suffered the brunt of educational hardship effects due to COVID19. Oftentimes, they do not arrive at school or attend virtual classes, no one claims them, and the easiest thing is remove them from attendance rolls for failing to show up.

If he already knows that bilingual education works because he was the product of that program, he should put more resources and money into it so that we have more bilingual education programs in schools with well-trained teachers.

He should work to provide funding for colleges and universities enabling outstanding students to become teachers, scientists, business owners and reverse the trend of those who cannot afford to further their studies for lack of money.

Educational methods must be enhanced beyond a traditional classroom and blackboard. Develop a global curriculum where the technology of new skills such as robotics, biotechnology, problem solving, integrated distance education MOOCS, are paired with industry for K-12, including growing food with hydroponics verticals, global educational information exchange and collaboration opportunities.

Puerto Rico has suffered a hurricane, an earthquake and a pandemic. This triple blow has been felt throughout the island. Parents, teachers, and students continue to suffer from a lack of robust internet access to education. The bureaucracy wastes money and opportunities and no one does anything about it. It's up to you to jump right in and end the corruption.

I urge you, Dr. Miguel Cardona, to intervene directly in the island of Puerto Rico to eliminate the politicking that exists in the state department of education, its agencies, and its central administration. The island receives 3.5 billion dollars for education and uses more than half (55%) for administration instead of instruction. The department of education is staffed with political positions that are not directly teaching students.

Former Puerto Rico Education Secretary - Julia Kelleher was charged by the FBI for fraud and is pending trial in 2021. Her aides have pleaded guilty and are already in jail for embezzlement of education funds and half of the island schools are closed. The educational system in Puerto Rico has been rendered useless.

The achievement results in Puerto Rico have been dismal in the last decades and even so, they continue to send 3.5 billion dollars (3,500,000.00) to be wasted on contracts and positions that do not result in improved academic achievement of students.

Finally, the special education department must be separated from the department of education of Puerto Rico so that justice can be achieved for special education children whose education has been totally abandoned. What exists today is a referral system and a care center. I suggest that Puerto Rico's special education department be given to Connecticut to administer and evaluate it with a view toward improving the system and helping all the children of Puerto Rico succeed. Good luck!

National Museum of American Latino History and American Women's History Museum Established by Congress!

By Dr. José A. Flores

Historic, noteworthy, and long overdue! Our national victory over rightwing adversaries that would have thwarted the movement to establish national museums honoring U.S. Latinos and Women is worth discussion in a national dialogue on Equity and Equality in America. Our diverse nation has a long history of attempting to color the historical facts and omit, downplay, or justify the atrocities committed against people of the Americas including America's indigenous population, Blacks, Mexicans, Irish, Jews and others. We cannot avoid future transgressive and discriminatory actions against America's subgroups without reflecting on the past. We should learn from history!

We must embrace our history regardless of what it truly was. American history may include a colonial mentality of conquest of natives, subjugation and slavery/indentured servitude of natives, blacks and other immigrants, attempted genocide, massive landgrabs through manifest destiny and other unsavory movements. Unfortunately, these museums will probably not include these historical notes, rather they will focus on the many positive contributions and roles played by U.S. Latinos and Women in the development of our nation and highlight the positive attributes of diversity.

Senator Mike Lee, Republican of Utah was wrong to attempt to block the museums and his argument was rightfully overridden by a wiser elected group of responsible representatives. He advanced the position that these museums would, "further divide" an already fractured America.

We should thank Eva Longoria for her leadership and New Yorker Democrat Congressman José Serrano who began fighting for this museum over 20 years ago! Rep. Tony Cárdenas, D-Calif., a co-sponsor of the museum bill, "We have overcome tremendous obstacles and unbelievable hurdles to get to this historic moment, but as I've said before, Latinos are used to overcoming obstacles," said Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., who co-sponsored the bipartisan legislation to create the National Museum of the American Latino with Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas. Our nation has well over 60 million Latinos and we have a long and rich history of contributions to America!

Histórico, digno de mención y muy retrasado. Nuestra victoria nacional sobre los adversarios de derecha que habrían frustrado el movimiento para establecer museos nacionales en honor a los latinos y las mujeres de EE. UU., Merece ser discutida en un diálogo nacional sobre Equidad e Igualdad en Estados Unidos. Nuestra diversa nación tiene una larga historia de intentar colorear los hechos históricos y omitir, restar importancia o justificar las atrocidades cometidas contra la gente de las Américas, incluida la población indígena de Estados Unidos, negros, mexicanos, irlandeses, judíos y otros. No podemos evitar futuras acciones transgresoras y discriminatorias contra los subgrupos de Estados Unidos sin reflexionar sobre el pasado. ¡Deberíamos aprender de la historia!

Debemos abrazar nuestra historia independientemente de lo que realmente fue. La historia estadounidense puede incluir una mentalidad colonial de conquista de nativos, subyugación y esclavitud / servidumbre por contrato de nativos, negros y otros inmigrantes, intento de genocidio, apropiación masiva de tierras a través del destino manifiesto y otros movimientos desagradables. Desafortunadamente, estos museos probablemente no in-



cluirán estas notas históricas, sino que se enfocarán en las muchas contribuciones positivas y roles desempeñados por los latinos y mujeres estadounidenses en el desarrollo de nuestra nación y resaltarán los atributos positivos de la diversidad.

El senador Mike Lee, republicano de Utah, se equivocó al intentar bloquear los museos y su argumento fue anulado con razón por un grupo elegido de representantes responsables más sabio. Avanzó la posición de que estos museos "dividirían aún más" una América ya fracturada.

¡Debemos agradecer a Eva Longoria por su liderazgo y al congresista demócrata neoyorquino José Serrano que comenzó a luchar por este museo hace más de 20 años! El representante Tony Cárdenas, demócrata de California, copatrocinador del proyecto de ley del museo, "Hemos superado obstáculos tremendos y obstáculos increíbles para llegar a este momento histórico, pero como dije antes, los latinos están acostumbrados a superar obstáculos," dijo el senador Bob Menendez, DN.J., quien copatrocinó la legislación bipartidista para crear el Museo Nacional del Latino Americano con el senador John Cornyn, republicano por Texas. ¡Nuestra nación tiene más de 60 millones de latinos y tenemos una larga y rica historia de contribuciones a Estados Unidos!

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

By Odille Parker

Al Avila is the executive vice-president of operations and General Manager for the Detroit Tigers, becoming the first Cuban-born General Manager in Major League Baseball history.

Avila has been in the Big Leagues for over 20 years, making a name for himself for his talent in scouting future MLB stars. One of his first key discoveries came during his time as the director of Latin American operations for the Florida Marlins in the '90s. Under Avila's guidance, the Marlins signed the Cuban-born, 1997 World Series MVP Livan Hernandez, who led the team to their first title in franchise history.

In 1998, Avila was promoted to director of scouting for the team, and a year later, he signed 16-year-old Miguel Cabrera, who made his major league debut in 2003, and arguably became one of the best hitters in baseball. During his time in this role, Avila was responsible for all of the Marlins' scouting efforts on both national and international levels, overseeing the development of those players in the baseball academies in the Dominican Republic.

Avila was born in Havana, Cuba in 1958, growing up within the sport from an early age. His father, Ralph Avila, was the vice president of the Los Angeles Dodgers, and was heavily involved in talent development in the Dominican Republic, helping form the baseball academy system there.

During a trip to the Dominican Republic for a Grapefruit League game between the Tigers and the Minnesota Twins in 2020, Al Avila touched on the importance of the game for him, and the overall impact of international growth within the league, giving a nod to his dad for his role in the sport.

"International growth -- especially in Latin America -- is a priority for many teams across the sport, and for me, personally, it means a great deal," Avila said to The Detroit News. "My father, Ralph, having started the first Academy in the Dominican Republic -- Camps Las Palmas -- and with his efforts starting the Dominican Summer League... It's truly a country that has passionate fans and rich history with baseball."

Avila served as the interim general manager for the Marlins during the 2001 off-season and was named vice president and assistant general manager in July 2001. He stayed there until he was hired as a special assistant to the Pittsburgh Pirates general manager Dave Littlefield.

The Detroit Tigers sought out Avila in 2002, naming his assistant general manager and vice president. During his time in this role, the Tigers went on to the World Series against the San Francisco Giants in 2012.

Avila made history when he was promoted to General Manager for the Tigers in 2015. He continues to be an "inspiring leader, committed to the community, and a trailblazer for the many Latin American players and front office staff who will follow in his footsteps," according to a feature on the Tigers website.

The family's impact in the sport also continues with his son Alex, who is a catcher for the Minnesota Twins.

Al Avila es el vicepresidente ejecutivo de operaciones y gerente general de los Detroit Tigers, convirtiéndose en el primer gerente general nacido en Cuba en la historia de las Grandes Ligas.

Ávila ha estado en las Grandes Ligas durante más de 20 años, haciéndose un nombre por su talento en la búsqueda de futuras estrellas de la MLB. Uno de sus primeros descubrimientos clave se produjo durante su etapa como director de operaciones latinoamericanas de los Florida Marlins en los años 90. Bajo la dirección de Ávila, los Marlins firmaron al jugador más valioso de la Serie Mundial de 1997, nacido en Cuba, Livan Hernández, quien llevó al equipo a su primer título en la historia de la franquicia.

"El crecimiento internacional, especialmente en América Latina, es una prioridad para muchos equipos en todo el deporte, y para mí, personalmente, significa mucho", dijo Ávila a The Detroit News. "Mi padre, Ralph, habiendo comenzado la primera Academia en la República Dominicana - Camps Las Palmas - y con sus esfuerzos comenzando la Liga Dominicana de Verano... Es verdaderamente un país que tiene fanáticos apasionados y una rica historia con el béisbol".

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January Events Eventos en Enero

Holiday Displays December 10 -January 10, 2021, Grand Rapids

Explore displays for the holidays including the historic Grand Rapids moving LEGO® brick display, the Herpolsheimer's Child Passenger Train, various scavenger hunts throughout the building, along with holiday decor, three floors of core exhibits and the temporary exhibit, Under the Arctic, all for the cost of general admission. Sean Kenney's Wild Connections Made with LEGO® Bricks exhibit is also on display for the holidays for a small additional fee. Historic LEGO® Display See historic Grand Rapids like never before, built from LEGO® bricks – twice the size than in 2019! A NEW addition for the 2020 display is the City Hall building! Visitors can learn more about the history of City Hall in the "C is for City Hall" exhibit on the first floor. The LEGO® brick display was built by the West Michigan LEGO® Train Club.

Explore las exhibiciones para las fiestas, incluida la histórica exhibición de ladrillos LEGO® en movimiento de Grand Rapids, el tren infantil de pasajeros de Herpolsheimer, varias búsquedas del tesoro en todo el edificio, junto con la decoración navideña, tres pisos de exhibiciones principales y la exhibición temporal, Under the Arctic, todo para el costo de la admisión general. La exhibición Wild Connections Made with LEGO® Bricks de Sean Kenney también se exhibe durante las vacaciones por una pequeña tarifa adicional. Exhibición histórica de LEGO®

**Dog Sledding at Treetops Resort - January 3, 2021
Gaylord
Treetops Resort**
Join Iditarod pro, Liza Diet-

zen and her team of dogs from Evergreen Kennel for a thrilling dog sled adventure at Treetops Resort! The trip begins on the snow covered trails of the Jones Masterpiece Golf Course and dashes through the majestic hills of Treetops. Experience man and dog working together in nature and be a part of the team's training experience!
PRICE:\$50per person - \$25for an additional person in sled

¡Únete a la profesional de Iditarod, Liza Dietzen y su equipo de perros de Evergreen Kennel en una emocionante aventura en trineo tirado por perros en Treetops Resort! El viaje comienza en los senderos cubiertos de nieve del campo de golf Jones Masterpiece y recorre las majestuosas colinas de Treetops. ¡Experimente al hombre y al perro trabajando juntos en la naturaleza y sea parte de la experiencia de entrenamiento del equipo!
PRECIO: \$ 50 por persona - \$ 25 por persona adicional en trineo

Annual Grand Rapids 51st Bridal Show 2021 January 15 &16, 2021 Grand Rapids

The 51st Annual Grand Rapids Bridal Show regresa a DeVos . The Grand Rapids Bridal Show is West Michigan's largest and longest-running bridal show, striving to bring a variety of local businesses to help with every aspect of wedding planning. Enjoy delicious samples, talk with award-winning wedding experts, and watch the area's largest bridal fashion show presented by Bunny Tuxedos and America's Bride, all in a fun and informative environment. Follow GR Bridal Show on Facebook.
Vuelve a DeVos la 51a edición anual de Grand

Rapids Bridal Show, es el espectáculo nupcial más grande y de mayor duración de West Michigan, que se esfuerza por traer una variedad de negocios locales para ayudar con todos los aspectos de la planificación de bodas. Disfrute de deliciosas muestras, hable con expertos en bodas galardonados y vea el desfile de modas nupciales más grande del área presentado por Bunny Tuxedos y America's Bride, todo en un ambiente divertido e informativo. Siga GR Bridal Show en Facebook.

Progressive Detroit Boat Show January 16- 24, 2021 Detroit, TCF Center

The Detroit Boat Show is the Original, Biggest and Best boat show in the state of Michigan, featuring the premiere showing of hundreds of new 2021 and new non-current model boats, motors, trailers, accessories and more, ranging from 10- to potentially 55-feet in length, including: fishing boats, ski boats, pontoons, cruisers, inflatables, personal watercraft, kayaks, antique boats, race boats and much more. Special attractions to be announced on Detroit-BoatShow.net.
Hours: Saturdays: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sundays and Mondays: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tues thru Fri.: 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Admission: Adults \$13, Children 12 and under are free with an adult. Visit detroitboatshow.net for more information.
El Salón Náutico de Detroit es el Salón Náutico Original, Mayor y Mejor en el estado de Michigan, presentando el estreno de cientos de nuevos modelos de barcos, moto-



res, remolques, accesorios y más de 2021 y nuevos modelos no actuales, que van desde 10 hasta potencialmente 55 pies de eslora, que incluyen: botes de pesca, botes de esquí, pontones, crueros, inflables, motos acuáticas, kayaks, botes antiguos, botes de carreras y mucho más. Visite detroitboatshow.net para obtener más información.

Candlelight Trails: Under the Wolf Moon January 23, 2021 Big Rapids

Take an evening to enjoy the quiet, peaceful sounds and sights of winter at night along candlelit trails. Choose between a half mile and a two mile trail loop, weaving through prairies, forests, and wetlands. Wrap up the evening with a grab-and-go snack and a take home activity kit. This is a self-guided activity, but Institute staff will be present to answer questions. Space is limited to 50 participants per start time. Pre-registration by Friday, January 22 is required. Members FREE | Non-Members \$5 Snowshoe Rental: Members FREE | Non-Members \$5.

Tómese una tarde para disfrutar de los sonidos tranquilos y pacíficos y las vistas del invierno por la noche a lo largo de senderos iluminados por velas. Si las condiciones climáticas lo permiten, habrá un número limitado de raquetas de nieve disponibles. Esta es una actividad autoguiada, pero el personal del Instituto estará presente para responder preguntas. El espacio está limitado a 50 participantes por hora de inicio. Se requiere preins-

cripción antes del viernes 22 de enero. Miembros GRATIS | No miembros \$ 5 Alquiler de raquetas de nieve: miembros GRATIS | No miembros \$ 5

Sunrise Groomer Rides January 30-31, 2021 Gaylord

This may not be on your bucket list, but it should be! These impressive machines scale the side of the mountain while you groom perfect corduroy. For the ultimate Treetops Winter Experience, take a sunrise snow-cat ride. This 20 minute adventure will take you places you can only get to by skis, with breathtaking sunrise views. Your ride will either be thrilling or tranquil, depending on your adventure level. Cost:\$40 per person Sign-up: Advance sign-up required. You can book this adventure by calling reservations, or in person at the Front Desk or Skier Services.

Estas impresionantes máquinas escalan la ladera de la montaña mientras preparas la pana perfecta. Para disfrutar de la mejor experiencia invernal en las copas de los árboles, dé un paseo en un gato de nieve al amanecer. Esta aventura de 20 minutos lo llevará a lugares a los que solo puede llegar con esquís, con impresionantes vistas del amanecer. Tu viaje será emocionante o tranquilo, dependiendo de tu nivel de aventura. Costo: \$ 40 por persona Registro: Se requiere registro previo. Puede reservar esta aventura llamando a reservaciones, o en persona en la Recepción o Servicios de Esquiadores.

2nd Annual Trunk or Treat!

Memories of event held on 10/31/2020

Israel Perez, owner of The Place Barber Shop at 1922 Division Ave. SW, Grand Rapids, MI. was having his 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat Halloween celebration.

Due to the dangers of having kids going door to door in the neighborhoods during the Covid-19 virus outbreak, Israel decided to hold this event to keep the kids safe. He organized cars & trucks to line up in the parking lot evenly & had each one of the participating car owners give out candy. Parents & kids were very happy to come out dressed up in their costumes for the event.

Israel would like to give a special thanks to Ruth Fernandez, Erick Moreno & Rubi Blanco for helping out. "God has blessed us with enough to give back in these hard times and we love to give back," said Israel Perez.

Somos pocos pero locos en lowriding!
Having a car event? Contact Homer (616)893-3906
deeho123@comcast.net



Two cuties dressed up as clowns!



Professor am I



Israel Perez and daughter having fun at safe Halloween



Jhana Ybnon handing out candy



Ohhhh my goodness!



Princess in a mask



All in the family



Cindy Rico



Erick Moreno, Rubi Blanco, Jiselle & baby



Hot Dog said to Banana, I need some candy!



All cars have candy to give to the kids

Hot dog!



Amaia Salamanca nació en Madrid (España) el 28 de marzo de 1986. Inicialmente, ella no planeaba actuar, pero en su primera audición, para SMS, la cadena de televisión LaSexta le dio su primer trabajo como actriz. En SMS, trabajó con otros jóvenes actores de cine y televisión como Yon González, Aroa Gimeno, Mario Casas y María Castro. Dirigirá la cámara web de coproducción hispano-canadiense dirigida por Antoni Sole.

Además de su trabajo como actriz, Amaia trabaja como modelo para sesiones fotográficas, videoclips y espectáculos. En octubre de 2020, Salamanca se convirtió en embajadora de su nueva campaña Viva para celebrar.

Amaia Salamanca was born in Madrid (Spain) on 28 March 1986. Initially, she was not planning to go into acting, but in her first audition, for SMS, the television channel TV company LaSexta gave her first acting job. In SMS, she worked with other young film and television actors such as Yon González, Aroa Gimeno, Mario Casas and María Castro. She will lead the Spanish-Canadian co-production Webcam directed by Antoni Sole.

Besides her work as an actress, Amaia works as a model for photo shoots, video clips and shows. In October 2020, Salamanca became an ambassador for of its new campaign Live to celebrate.

Amaia Salamanca

MARCO ANTONIO SOLÍS RETURNS WITH MOVING LIVE RECORDING OF “LA NAVE DEL OLVIDO”

The Display, “Marco Antonio Solis In Los Angeles” Celebrates The Career of Legendary Mexican Singer-Songwriter & His Remarkable Connection With The City

Last month one of the world’s greatest storytellers and longest standing stars in Latin music, Marco Antonio Solís, delights his fans once again with the release of a breathtaking live version of “La Nave del Olvido.”

Originally written by Dino Ramos, “La Nave del Olvido” is an iconic classic in the Latin music landscape made famous by José José in 1970 and has continued to enchant listeners on an international level for decades. For many years, Solís and José José shared a remarkably deep connection, with Solís acknowledging that the legendary singer-songwriter was one of the most humble and greatest people that he had ever known. Bonding over their love of music, they formed a genuine friendship that left a lasting impact on “El Buki,” who, after José José’s passing last fall, performed “La Nave del Olvido” in tribute to his dear friend during his acclaimed ‘El MAS Querido’ Tour in October 2019.

Backed by his spectacular band of accomplished and supremely talented musicians, that night, Solís’ performance of “La Nave del Olvido” was truly unforgettable, adding his signature romantic spin to the song that has hypnotized his fans for 50 years. He left the entire audience in awe, moving them to tears from the unexpected surprise and captivating them with the powerful emotion with which he delivered the timeless hit. The magical energy of the once-in-a-lifetime performance is captured on this magnificent audio recording, immortalizing an extraordinary moment in music history for generations to come and allowing it to live on forever in the hearts of Solís’s fans around the globe.

El mes pasado uno de los más grandes narradores de historias del mundo y una de las estrellas más icónicas de la música latina, Marco Antonio Solís, vuelve a deleitar a sus fans con el lanzamiento de una impresionante versión en vivo de “La Nave del Olvido”.

Escrita originalmente por Dino Ramos, “La Nave del Olvido” es un clásico icónico en el panorama de la música latina que explotó después que José José lo grabara en 1970

y ha continuado cautivando a los oyentes a nivel internacional durante décadas. Por muchos años, Solís y José José compartieron una trascendental conexión, y Solís ha reconocido que el legendario cantautor era una de las personas más humildes y grandiosas que había conocido. Uniendo su amor por la música, formaron una amistad genuina que dejó un impacto eterno en “El Buki”, quien, tras el fallecimiento de José José el otoño pasado, interpretó “La Nave del Olvido” en homenaje a su querido amigo durante su aclamada gira ‘El MAS Querido’ en octubre de 2019.

Respaldo por su espectacular banda de talentosos músicos, esa noche, la interpretación de Solís de “La Nave del Olvido” fue verdaderamente inolvidable, agregando a la canción su toque romántico característico que ha hipnotizado a sus fanáticos durante más de 40 años. “El Buki” dejó al público cautivado, conmoviéndolos hasta las lágrimas por la inesperada sorpresa y con la poderosa emoción con la que entregó el éxito atemporal. La energía mágica de esta mem-



orable presentación fue capturada en esta majestuosa grabación, inmortalizando un momento extraordinario en la historia de la música para las generaciones venideras y permitiendo que viva para siempre en los corazones de los fans de Solís en todo el mundo.



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LOS DOS DE TAMAULIPAS LANZAN ÁLBUM TRIBUTO "RECORDANDO A LOS GRANDES DE LA MÚSICA NORTEÑA

Los Dos de Tamaulipas lanzan el álbum "Recordando A Los Grandes de la Música Norteña", un disco que rinde homenaje a los artistas más influyentes en la vida de los hermanos. En esta producción encontraremos temas de agrupaciones como Carlos y José, Luís y Julián, e Invasores de Nuevo León, entre otros.

La agrupación originaria de Houston ha recaudado más de 3 millones de streams al mes a través de todas las plataformas digitales.

Los Dos de Tamaulipas, formada por los gemelos Rolando y Orlando Zapata es una de las actuales promesas de música Norteña dentro de el Regional Mexicano.

The Two of Tamaulipas release the album "Remembering the Greats of Northern Music", an album that pays homage to the most influential artists in the life of the brothers. In this production we will find songs from groups such as Carlos and José, Luís and Julián, and Invasores de Nuevo León, among others.

The Houston-born group has raised more than 3 mil-



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The Dos de Tamaulipas, formed by the twins Rolando and Orlando Zapata is one of the current promises of Northern music within the Mexican Regional.

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January Models

They are back Miss. Danielle of Flint & Heather of Muskegon again stole the show in taking center stage wishing all of us a MERRY CHRISTMAS & happy start to 2021.



Introducing Felicia of Traverse City, Michigan. She is a future star on the rise who was selected as a feature model for the Christmas extravaganza.



The LaVoz Christmas Sexy Santa event again was a big draw as over 2,500+ joined us on The steps of The Michigan State Capitol and for the parade.



The TEAM in group photos taking a well earned rest after the event on 12-23-2020 in Lansing, Michigan



A new look in February. Next month the page will be doing a ONE feature model a bio and interview that really introduces you to the model and their inside and out aspirations this is going to be exciting.

She is back Laura has returned as a feature model and once again her stock is on the rise. Look for her to be at La Voz events and promotions during the 2021 season.



Michael Farage "Cool Mike"
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Cómo se fabricó la vacuna para el COVID-19

El COVID-19 definió nuestro año y aunque la pandemia no ha terminado, las nuevas vacunas aprobadas nos están dando un poco de esperanza. La Agencia de Alimentos y Medicamentos (FDA, por sus siglas en inglés) ha aprobado dos vacunas para uso en emergencias: la vacuna Moderna COVID-19 y la vacuna Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19.

By Ingrid Cruz

Tal vez has visto fotos en las redes sociales o noticias de los trabajadores de salud o miembros del congreso que han sido vacunados. Entendamos cómo funciona esta vacuna, cómo se fabricó, y por qué es tan importante para nuestra comunidad inmigrante.

Cómo funcionan las vacunas

Todos los días somos expuestos a microbios pero nuestros cuerpos hacen anticuerpos que nos protegen o ayudan a curarnos si nos enfermamos. Cuando somos expuestos a microbios (bacterias, virus, etc) la primera vez, nuestros cuerpos deben hacer nuevos anticuerpos para vencer la infección. Cuando ya nos hemos sanado, el cuerpo puede producir memoria celular que pueden prevenir infecciones en el futuro si somos expuestos a estos microbios, o hacer que nuestros cuerpos puedan vencer enfermedades a través del uso de la memoria celular.

Las vacunas mejoran tu inmunidad porque tienen una versión débil o no activa del microbio que causa alguna enfermedad. Esto le enseña a tu cuerpo como vencer a alguna infección si eres expuesto y pueda hacer que sea más fácil que mejores en caso de que te enfermes.

¿Qué es la inmunidad colectiva?

Tal vez has escuchado la frase "inmunidad colectiva" en las noticias o de otros en tu comunidad. Si alguien obtiene una vacuna tiene protección en contra de alguna enfermedad. Algunas personas no pueden ser vacunados porque tienen condiciones como el VIH o cáncer u otras condiciones que han debilitado su sistema inmune. Las vacunas también contienen ingredientes que causan alergias en ciertas personas.

La inmunidad colectiva quiere decir que la gente que no es elegible para recibir esta vacuna todavía pueden evitar la enfermedad si la mayoría de la gente a su alrededor ha sido vacunada.

¿Cómo se hizo la vacuna COVID-19?

La vacuna para el COVID-19 rompió récords como la vacuna hecho de la manera más rápida: menos de un año. Esto fue porque el gobierno estadounidense invirtió 10 mil millones en su desarrollo. Los fondos son uno de los problemas más grandes en la comunidad científica, pero la pandemia COVID-19 hizo que los gobiernos a través del mundo inviertan en la ciencia.

Para comenzar, los científicos estudian al virus en un laboratorio y conducen exámenes en animales. Después hay tres fases para que los científicos estudien la vacuna en humanos de manera segura.

- Fase 1: los laboratorios deben encontrar entre 20 a 100 personas saludables que no han sido infectados con la enfermedad por la cual la vacuna es necesaria. Esto les ayuda a determinar la dosis que se necesita para asegurar que la gente pueda ser inmune.
- Fase 2: si no hay problemas de seguridad, los científicos pueden buscar a más gente, incluyendo gente que es un poco más débil. Vacunan a personas usando dosis diferentes, buscan efectos secundarios u otros problemas de seguridad.
- Fase 3: ahora los científicos buscan a miles de voluntarios, siguen vigilando si hay síntomas secundarios, problemas de seguridad, y los comparan con un grupo de control que no han sido vacunados.

El FDA tiene reglas especiales permitiendo que estos estudios se conduzcan más rápidamente cuando hay emergencias de salud pública. Esto permite que el gobierno estadounidense trabaje con colaboradores internacionales, universidades, organizaciones sin fines de lucro, y otros grupos para asegurarse que la vacuna se produzca rápidamente y que se comparta la información. Por ahora las vacunas producidas son 90% y 94,5% eficaces.

El CDC ha recomendado que los trabajadores del sector de salud y las

personas que viven en residencias de cuidado prolongado sean los primeros en ser vacunados. Los que no pueden obtener la vacuna por ahora deben de seguir usando máscaras, lavándose las manos, y practicando la sana distancia.

How the COVID-19 vaccine was made

COVID-19 defined our year, and although the pandemic isn't over yet, the new vaccines approved for emergency use are offering some hope. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved of two vaccines for emergency use: Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, and the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

You may have already seen pictures on social media and other news outlets of the healthcare workers and members of Congress who have received their first inoculation. Let's understand how this vaccine works, how it got made, and why it's so important to our immigrant community.

How vaccines work

We are exposed to germs every day but our bodies produce necessary antibodies to protect and heal us if we get sick. When we are exposed to a germ (bacteria, virus, etc) for the first time our body has to create antibodies that can fight it. After we have gotten better, the body can also produce memory cells that can prevent a future infection if we are exposed to these germs later on, or ward it off more easily because of the memory cells currently in our bodies.

Vaccines boost your immunity because they contain a weak or inactive version of the germ that causes the disease you need protection from. This teaches your body how to fight an infection if you are exposed to it and can make it easier for you to get better even if you do become sick.

What is herd immunity?

You may have heard the phrase "herd immunity" on the news or from others in your community. If someone gets a vaccine, they are more protected from an illness. Some people can't get a vaccine because they have conditions such as HIV, cancer, or other health issues that have weakened their immune system. Vaccines also contain other ingredients that may trigger allergies in some people.

Herd immunity means that people who are not eligible for a vaccine can still improve their chances of not getting sick as long as most people around them are inoculated.

How was the COVID-19 vaccine made?

The COVID-19 vaccine broke records as the fastest vaccine ever made: less than one year. This was because the U.S. government decided to invest \$10 billion to the development of this vaccine. Funding is one of the biggest problems scientists face, but the COVID-19 pandemic forced governments around the world to invest heavily in science.

To start, scientists study the virus in a lab and conduct tests on animals. Next, there are three phases to make sure that scientists can safely study their new vaccine in people.

- Phase 1: labs have to find 20 to 100 people who have not been infected with the disease the vaccine is for and who are healthy. This helps them find out what dosage they might need to ensure people become immune.
- Phase 2: if there are no safety concerns, scientists can look for more people, including people who might be a bit weaker. They vaccinate people using different doses, monitor for side effects, or other safety issues.
- Phase 3: now scientists find thousands of volunteers and they keep studying side effects, safety issues, and comparing them to a control group that hasn't gotten the vaccine.

The FDA has special rules allowing these studies to be conducted faster in the event of public health emergency. This allows the U.S. government to work with international partners, universities, non-profits, and other groups to make sure a vaccine is produced quickly and that information is shared. As of now, the vaccines approved are 90% and 94.5% effective. The CDC has recommended that healthcare workers and people who live in long-term care residencies should be the first to get these vaccines. Those who are not eligible to obtain the vaccine should keep wearing masks, washing their hands, and practicing social distancing.





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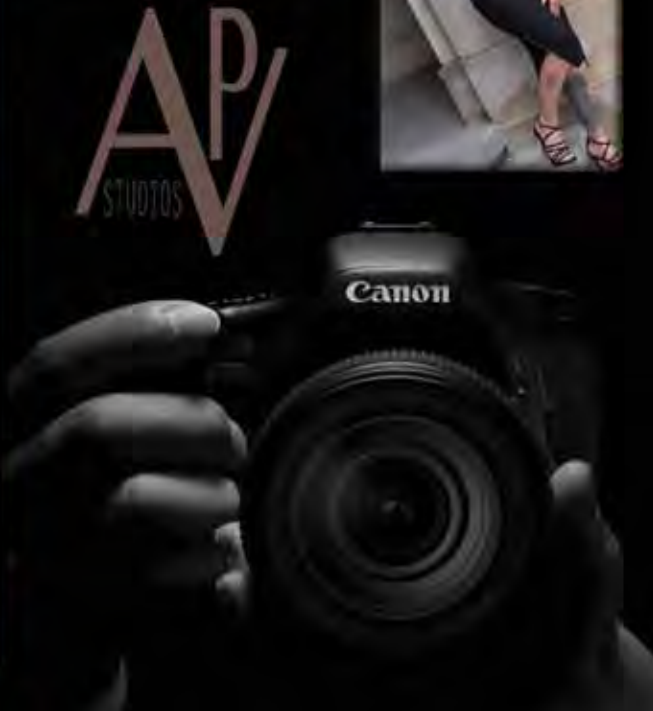
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Andrea Martinez

My name is *Andrea Martinez* graduated from Owens Community College with a Bachelors Degree in *Business Management*. Currently in a full time position as an *Inventory Control Analyst*. Business owner of *Elegant Ventures* as a Travel Agent as well as a *CBD Consultant* for My Daily Choice. I LOVE spoiling and spending lots of my leisure time with my 7 Grand Babies & traveling to *Unimaginable Destinations* around the World.

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