

The Community Voice

FREE-GRATIS

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SHOULD AMERICANS EXPRESS THEIR LOSS OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST OF OUR GOVERNMENT?



Americans in massive numbers took to the streets across America, opposed to the Trump administration and the actions of D.O.G.E., the Department of Government Efficiency & Elon Musk. "Trust" is front and center in most of our minds. Should we trust our government? Will the actions we currently object to add to the growing distrust of government?

As journalists grapple with a mood of repressive censorship targeting news agencies and reporters/commentators who are not in agreement with the official positions of our current administration, most of us are shocked and just watching the assault on our First Amendment freedoms. What should we do? I personally reflect back on my experiences writing in high school, as I was opposed to the war we waged in Vietnam. I wrote guest articles in high school and later in college publications as the war continued. Was I scared of being woken up in the middle of the night and hauled off to a detention center? Maybe a little, but I was determined to speak up! We have to decide what is right and wrong about our nation's actions, and we must review what we are told by leaders. We must be able to distinguish between truth and "propaganda!" Luckily, I do not have a single tattoo!

Trust in the U.S. government has been on a steady decline for decades. According to PEW Research Center, as of 2024, only 22% of Americans expressed trust in the federal government to do what is right "most of the time" or "just about always". This is a modest increase from 16% in 2023, but still among the lowest levels recorded in seven decades.

The Trump administration's decision to grant the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) access to sensitive records has sparked significant controversy. Americans have expressed dissatisfaction, particularly due to concerns about privacy violations and the potential misuse of personal data. Lawsuits have been filed against DOGE, alleging violations of the Privacy Act of 1974. Federal judges have even issued restraining orders to limit DOGE's access to certain data.

While the administration claims DOGE's actions aim to reduce government inefficiency, critics argue that the lack of transparency and oversight has eroded public trust. This dissatisfaction appears to align with broader concerns about government transparency and accountability.

Immigrants seeking asylum in the United States were illegally issued Social Security numbers, according to press reports recently, but isn't it true that these Social Security numbers are not for benefits from Social Security but rather to enable identification and temporary employment while they are awaiting a decision on their application process? Immigrants seeking asylum in the U.S. can be issued Social Security numbers (SSNs), but these are primarily for identification and temporary employment purposes. They are not automatically eligible for Social Security benefits unless they meet specific legal and work requirements. This process helps asylum seekers support themselves while awaiting decisions on their applications. It appears that confusion arose from false government narratives and misinformation by certain media outlets about the distinction between having an SSN and qualifying for benefits.



We can't trust some news groups, but what about the IRS? Weren't the applications for ITINs promoted for immigrants without proper identification to seek out a means for filing taxes, opening bank accounts, engaging in buying homes, and the like, with a guarantee that this act would not result in sharing their data with the Immigration enforcement arms of the U.S. government?

The Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) program was introduced by the IRS in 1996 to allow individuals without a Social Security number, including undocumented immigrants, to comply with tax laws. The IRS explicitly assured applic-

cants that their information would remain confidential and would not be shared with immigration enforcement agencies. This assurance was crucial in encouraging compliance and fostering trust among immigrant communities.

Again, we must watch out for the "Misinformation campaign" being waged by news groups that support attacks on immigrants, Latinos, blacks, and women in our nation. Remember that DOGE claimed to have uncovered significant fraud among immigrant asylum seekers, but the exact number of individuals removed from the Social Security rolls remains unclear. Some reports suggest that millions of noncitizens were flagged for potential misuse of Social Security numbers. However, these claims have been met with skepticism, as audits and experts have found little evidence to support widespread fraud. Read carefully and question news sources! Be aware of what is called the "narrative" that folks and the government want you to believe, "lies, deceit, and false narratives" that serve only to divide us more!

Muchísimas personas salieron a las calles de Estados Unidos en oposición a la administración Trump y a las acciones del Departamento de Gobernanza Pública (DOGE), el Departamento de Eficiencia Gubernamental (DDE) y Elon Musk. La confianza es una preocupación central para la mayoría. ¿Deberíamos confiar en nuestro gobierno? ¿Acaso las acciones a las que nos oponemos actualmente contribuirán a la creciente desconfianza en el gobierno?

Mientras los periodistas lidián con un clima de censura represiva contra las agencias de noticias y los reporteros/comentaristas que no están de acuerdo con las posturas oficiales de nuestra administración actual, la mayoría estamos conmocionados y simplemente presenciamos el ataque a nuestras libertades amparadas por la Primera Enmienda. ¿Qué deberíamos hacer? Personalmente, recuerdo mis experiencias escribiendo en la secundaria, ya que me opuse a la guerra que libraron en Vietnam. Escribí artículos como invitado en la secundaria y luego en publicaciones universitarias a medida que la guerra continuaba. ¿Tenía miedo de que me detuvieran en mitad de la noche y me llevaran a un centro de detención? Quizás un poco, ¡pero estaba decidido a alzar la voz! Tenemos que decidir qué está bien y qué está mal en las acciones de nuestra nación y debemos revisar lo que nos dicen los líderes. ¡Debemos ser capaces de distinguir entre la verdad y la "propaganda"! ¡Por suerte, no tengo ni un solo tatuaje!

La confianza en el gobierno de Estados Unidos ha ido disminuyendo constantemente durante décadas. Según el Centro de Investigación PEW, en 2024, solo el 22% de los estadounidenses expresó su confianza en que el gobierno federal haría lo correcto "la mayor parte del tiempo" o "casi siempre". Este es un aumento modesto respecto al 16% de 2023, pero sigue estando entre los niveles más bajos registrados en siete décadas.

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Kilmar Ábrego García, a Salvadoran man with protected status, was wrongly deported to El Salvador by the Trump administration, despite a Supreme Court order to help him return to his family in Maryland. The administration accused him of being a gang member, though no criminal charges were ever filed. He was sent to a brutal mega-prison in El Salvador without a hearing. Federal judges expressed outrage, calling the administration's actions unconstitutional. Ábrego García's employer, a union leader, described him as a hardworking apprentice chasing the American Dream, not a violent criminal. Trump said, He was eyeing Salvadoran prisons, 'the homegrown are next' US citizens! It could be you or your family! Deported for crimes committed or an administrative error.

In March, over 230 Venezuelan men were deported to the same mega-prison, again without a day in court to defend against charges. Trump invoked the 1798 Alien Enemies Act, a law meant for wartime, to sidestep due process. The Supreme Court did not block the use of the law, but it firmly reaffirmed the constitutional right to due process, including the right to habeas corpus. Still, deportations continued, often based on little more than tattoos or national origin.

Many deportees had no gang affiliation. Families say their loved ones were falsely accused of belonging to the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua, simply because of their appearance or body art. These injustices reached beyond Latin Americans. Palestinian and South Korean students, legal residents, many on a path to citizenship, have been targeted, too. Their crime? Participating in peaceful pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses.

Mahmoud Khalil, a Columbia University graduate and green card holder, was arrested in front of his pregnant wife and has been in a detention center in Louisiana since March.

Mohsen Mahdawi, another Palestinian green card holder, was detained in Vermont after attending a citizenship interview. He was protesting peacefully for human rights.

Yunseo Chung, a 21-year-old student from South Korea, was arrested for protesting and is now in hiding. Though she has lived in the U.S. since she was seven, officials are trying to strip her of her residency.

Andry José Hernández Romero, a gay Venezuelan asylum seeker, was deported after being labeled a gang member for having tattoos despite seeking refuge from violence.

Jerce Reyes Barrios, a former professional soccer player, was accused of gang membership for a tattoo of a crown and soccer ball, a tribute to Real Madrid, his favorite team. He fled Venezuela after being tortured for protesting the government.

These are just a few names, A few stories, but they represent a much deeper problem.

We are living in a nightmare! The United States, long seen as a beacon of freedom, has weaponized immigration law to target the vulnerable. Innocent people are being separated from their families, stripped of their rights, and thrown into dangerous conditions abroad. Meanwhile, the real threats from human traffickers, predators, and white supremacist groups like the KKK continue to grow stronger, even gaining influence in politics.

What kind of future are we building for our children? Will they be deported for a tattoo that reflects their identity? Will they face signs that say 'Whites Only' on store windows? Will they have to fight corrupt politicians just to be seen as human?

As a mother, I ask myself these questions every day. And I pray for strength, for justice, and change. The reality is that minorities in America are expected to stand taller, work harder, and endure more, while the system keeps letting us down. The laws are designed to protect a



Freedom Is Under Fire

powerful few, while the sitting president breaks them openly, facing no consequences, just complete impunity.

We must not give up. We hope that our courts, particularly the Supreme Court, will correct the injustices being committed.

We must organize. We must speak out. We must protect one another. We must force Congress to take action to correct this course of action. Because the journey toward equality is long, and we are far from it right now. Call or write to your Congress Representative, or attend a Town Hall Meeting or Demonstration in your community.

My heart breaks for the families being torn apart, for those who are unjustly deported, and for the children who don't understand what's happening to them. This is a nightmare we are all witnessing.



Deje atrás el dolor de cuello y espalda.

¿Le duele el cuello y la espalda? Trinity Health tiene los últimos métodos y tecnologías para ayudarle. Nuestro equipo busca muchas opciones para crear el plan de tratamiento justo para usted. Desde terapia ocupacional y manejo del dolor hasta cirugías de columna avanzadas, despidese de la vida con dolor. Comuníquese con el programa de columna de Trinity Health hoy y vuelva a disfrutar sus actividades diarias.

TrinityHealthMI.org/Spine

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Community News



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"Hands Off" Event (Rosa Parks Circle)

Thousands of people gathered at Rosa Parks Circle downtown Grand Rapids, on April 5th, joining a wave of protests held across the country as part of the national "Hands Off!" movement.



Immigration Raids Affecting Americans of all backgrounds

Redadas de inmigración que afectan a estadounidenses de todos los orígenes



Latino communities across the United States, including Puerto Rico, are facing growing challenges. Despite contributing significantly to fundamental industries—agriculture, construction, hospitality, and food

Por: Edgar León services—many Latinos now feel heightened vulnerability and anxiety about their future.

Reports indicate increased immigration raids targeting workplaces with high concentrations of Latino employees, such as farms, construction sites, hotels, and restaurants. These operations create a pervasive atmosphere of fear, affecting not only undocumented workers but also legal residents and U.S. citizens. Deportation incidents have escalated in various states, leaving families devastated by separations and creating long-lasting emotional trauma.

While Puerto Rico faces unique issues, ICE actions have intensified despite Puerto Ricans' status as U.S. citizens. Interrogations targeting Latino workers and residents—sometimes based solely on appearance or accent—have sown confusion and fear, impacting personal freedoms and local economies. Similar stories unfold across the mainland U.S. In Detroit, Michigan, the deportation of long-time residents like Jorge García exemplifies the disruption of families and communities. In Georgia, cases like Rodney Taylor highlight the struggles of immigrants detained despite long-standing ties to the country. California's Central Valley, whom are heavily reliant on immigrant labor, suffers tremendously economically as deportations create labor shortages and financial instability for affected families. Florida's anti-immigrant laws are already affecting farmers and impacting harvests in the "Sunshine State."

The psychological toll on Latino communities has been immense. Fear of deportation leads many to avoid public spaces, healthcare, and educational opportunities, further marginalizing these groups. Cases of family separation, like the following, cause deep emotional distress for both parents and children. • **Detroit, Michigan:** The deportation of long-time residents like Jorge García, who lived in the U.S. for 30 years, has left families and neighborhoods devastated. García's removal not only broke his family apart but also disrupted the local community where he worked and contributed. • **Georgia:** Cases like Rodney Taylor, a Liberian immigrant detained despite living in the U.S. since childhood, highlight the struggles of individuals who have built lives in the country. His detention has caused emotional and logistical challenges for his family and community. • **California's Central Valley:** This region, heavily reliant on immigrant labor for agriculture, has faced labor shortages and economic disruptions due to deportations. Families of deported workers often experience financial instability and emotional distress.

Economically, deportations disrupt industries reliant on immigrant labor, including agriculture and construction, while also stalling small businesses serving immigrant neighborhoods. Mexican and Latino stores, nightclubs, and gathering places are particularly affected as they have become ICE targets for rounding up the undocumented. Many immigrants are being detained, arrested, and deported while visiting consulates and federal immigration court appointments.

Social mistrust worsens as raids discourage immigrants from engaging with public services or law enforcement, further isolating communities. Americans are divided on the immigration roundups, and our nation faces constitutional issues as a result.

Las comunidades latinas en Estados Unidos, incluyendo Puerto Rico, enfrentan desafíos crecientes. A pesar de contribuir significativamente a industrias fundamentales como la agricultura, la construcción, la hostelería y los servicios de alimentación, muchos latinos ahora sienten una mayor vulnerabilidad y ansiedad por su futuro.



Los informes indican un aumento de las redadas de inmigración dirigidas a lugares de trabajo con alta concentración de empleados latinos, como granjas, obras de construcción, hoteles y restaurantes. Estas operaciones crean una atmósfera generalizada de miedo, que afecta no solo a los trabajadores indocumentados, sino también a los residentes legales y ciudadanos estadounidenses. Los incidentes de deportación se han intensificado en varios estados, dejando a familias devastadas por las separaciones y creando un trauma emocional duradero.

Si bien Puerto Rico enfrenta problemas únicos debido a la intensificación de las acciones de ICE, a pesar de la ciudadanía estadounidense de los puertorriqueños, los interrogatorios dirigidos a trabajadores y residentes latinos, a veces basados únicamente en la apariencia o el acento, han sembrado confusión y el miedo ha aumentado, impactando las libertades personales y las economías locales. Historias similares se desarrollan en todo Estados Unidos continental. En Detroit, Michigan, la deportación de residentes de larga data como Jorge García ejemplifica la disrupción de familias y comunidades. En Georgia, casos como el de Rodney Taylor ponen de relieve las dificultades de los inmigrantes detenidos a pesar de sus antiguos vínculos con el país. El Valle Central de California, que depende en gran medida de la mano de obra inmigrante, sufre económicamente a medida que las deportaciones generan escasez de mano de obra e inestabilidad financiera para las familias afectadas. Las leyes antinmigrantes de Florida ya están afectando a los agricultores y afectando las cosechas en el "Estado del Sol".

El impacto psicológico en las comunidades latinas ha sido inmenso. El miedo a la deportación lleva a muchos a evitar los espacios públicos, la atención médica y las oportunidades educativas, marginando aún más a estos grupos. Casos de separación familiar, como el siguiente, causan una profunda angustia emocional tanto a padres como a hijos. • **Detroit, Michigan:** La deportación de residentes de larga data como Jorge García, quien vivió en Estados Unidos durante 30 años, ha dejado a familias y vecindarios devastados. La deportación de García no solo desintegró a su familia, sino que también perturbó la comunidad local donde trabajaba y contribuía. • **Georgia:** Casos como el de Rodney Taylor, un inmigrante liberiano detenido a pesar de vivir en Estados Unidos desde su infancia, ponen de relieve las dificultades de quienes han forjado sus vidas en el país. Su detención ha generado desafíos emocionales y logísticos para su familia y su comunidad. • **Valle Central de California:** Esta región, que depende en gran medida de la mano de obra inmigrante para la agricultura, ha enfrentado escasez de mano de obra y perturbaciones económicas debido a las deportaciones. Las familias de los trabajadores deportados a menudo experimentan inestabilidad financiera y angustia emocional.

En términos económicos, las deportaciones perturban las industrias que dependen de la mano de obra inmigrante, como la agricultura y la construcción, a la vez que paralizan los pequeños negocios que atienden a los barrios de inmigrantes. Las tiendas, clubes nocturnos y lugares de reunión mexicanos y latinos se ven particularmente afectados, ya que se han convertido en objetivos de ICE para las redadas de indocumentados. Muchos inmigrantes son detenidos, arrestados y deportados mientras visitan consulados y citas en tribunales federales de inmigración.

La desconfianza social se agrava a medida que las redadas disuaden a los inmigrantes de interactuar con los servicios públicos o las fuerzas del orden, lo que aisla aún más a las comunidades. Los estadounidenses están divididos respecto de las redadas de inmigración y, como resultado, nuestra nación enfrenta problemas constitucionales.

Michigan Lottery: Supporting Public Education and Local Businesses Since 1972

Every time you play the lottery, it's a win for Michigan. Every Lottery purchase benefits K-12 education, gives a lift to local businesses, and supports companies that employ Michigan residents.

About 97 cents of every dollar spent on Lottery tickets is returned to the state in the form of contributions to the state School Aid Fund, prizes to players, and commissions to vendors and retailers. For every \$1 spent on Lottery tickets, 26 cents goes to the state's School Aid Fund, 62 cents goes to prizes for players, and 9 cents goes to retailer and vendor commissions. Over the last six years, retailers throughout the state, many of which are small independently owned businesses, have collected more than \$2 billion in commissions.

Since it began in 1972, the Lottery has contributed nearly \$30 billion to support public education in Michigan. For the most recent year, the Lottery's contribution to the School Aid Fund topped \$1 billion for the sixth consecutive year. Michigan's K-12 public school system serves about 1.4 million students. Funding provided by the Lottery is equal to more than \$890 for each student who attends a K-12 public school, or more than \$3.4 million each day for schools throughout the state.

In addition to helping provide funding for public education in Michigan, the Lottery also has established the Excellence in Education program to recognize outstanding educators.

Every week during the school year, the Michigan Lottery selects one outstanding educator to receive the Excellence in Education award. Each weekly award winner receives a cash prize, receives a plaque, and is featured in their own news segment featured on news stations throughout the state.

Excellence in EducationSM



At the end of the school year, the Michigan Lottery selects one weekly winner to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and a \$10,000 cash prize.

All public-school employees may be nominated for the Excellence in Education awards. To learn more about the Excellence in Education program, please visit <https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellence-in-education>.

Cada vez que juegas a la lotería, Michigan gana. Cada compra de la Lotería beneficia la educación primaria y secundaria, impulsa a los negocios locales y apoya a las empresas que emplean a residentes de Michigan.

Además de contribuir a la financiación de la educación pública en Michigan, la Lotería también ha establecido el programa de Excelencia en la Educación para reconocer a educadores destacados.

Cada semana del año escolar, la Lotería de Michigan selecciona a un educador destacado para recibir el premio a la Excelencia en la Educación. Cada ganador semanal recibe un premio en efectivo, una placa y aparece en su propio segmento de noticias, que se emite en estaciones de noticias de todo el estado.

Al final del año escolar, la Lotería de Michigan selecciona a un ganador semanal para recibir el premio al Educador del Año y un premio en efectivo de \$10,000. Todos los empleados de escuelas públicas pueden ser nominados para los premios a la Excelencia en la Educación. Para obtener más información sobre el programa, visite <https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellence-in-education>.

¿DEBERÍAN LOS ESTADOUNIDENSES EXPRESAR SU PÉRDIDA DE CONFIANZA EN NUESTRO GOBIERNO?

Por Dr. José A. Flores

Continuación de la versión de el artículo en español pag. 03

La decisión de la administración Trump de otorgar al Departamento de Eficiencia Gubernamental (DOGE) acceso a registros sensibles ha generado una gran controversia. Los estadounidenses han expresado su descontento, en particular debido a la preocupación por las violaciones de la privacidad y el posible uso indebido de datos personales. Se han presentado demandas contra DOGE, alegando violaciones de la Ley de Privacidad de 1974. Jueces federales incluso han emitido órdenes de restricción para limitar el acceso de DOGE a ciertos datos.

Si bien el gobierno afirma que las acciones de DOGE buscan reducir la inefficiencia gubernamental, los críticos argumentan que la falta de transparencia y supervisión ha erosionado la confianza pública. Esta insatisfacción parece coincidir con preocupaciones más amplias sobre la rendición de cuentas del gobierno.

Según informes de prensa recientes, a los inmigrantes que buscan asilo en Estados Unidos se les emitieron ilegalmente números de Seguro Social, pero ¿no es cierto que estos números no son para obtener beneficios de la seguridad social, sino para permitir la identificación y el empleo temporal mientras esperan la decisión sobre su solicitud? A los inmigrantes que buscan asilo en Estados Unidos se les pueden emitir números de Seguro Social (SSN), pero estos son principalmente para fines de identificación y empleo temporal. No son automáticamente elegibles para los beneficios del Seguro Social a menos que cumplan con requisitos legales y laborales específicos. Este proceso ayuda a los solicitantes de asilo a mantenerse mientras esperan la decisión sobre sus solicitudes. Parece que la confusión surgió debido a las falsas narrativas gubernamentales y la desinformación de ciertos medios de comunicación sobre la distinción entre tener un número de Seguro Social y calificar para beneficios.

No podemos confiar en algunos medios de comunicación, pero ¿qué pasa con el IRS? ¿Acaso las solicitudes de ITIN no se promovieron para que los inmigrantes sin la identificación adecuada buscaran una manera de declarar impuestos, abrir cuentas bancarias, comprar viviendas y realizar trámites similares, con la garantía de que esta acción no resultaría en compartir sus datos con las agencias de inmigración del gobierno estadounidense? El programa del Número de Identificación Personal del Contribuyente (ITIN) fue introducido por el IRS en 1996 para permitir que las personas sin número de Seguro Social, incluidos los inmigrantes indocumentados, cumplieran con las leyes tributarias. El IRS aseguró explícitamente a los solicitantes que su información permanecería confidencial y no se compartiría con las agencias de inmigración. Esta garantía fue crucial para fomentar el cumplimiento y fomentar la confianza entre las comunidades inmigrantes.

Nuevamente, debemos estar atentos a la "campaña de desinformación" que libran los medios de comunicación que apoyan los ataques contra inmigrantes, latinos, afroamericanos y mujeres en nuestro país. Recuerde que DOGE afirmó haber descubierto un fraude significativo entre los solicitantes de asilo inmigrantes, pero el número exacto de personas eliminadas de las listas del Seguro Social sigue siendo incierto. Algunos informes sugieren que millones de extranjeros fueron señalados por posible uso indebido de sus números de Seguro Social. Sin embargo, estas afirmaciones han sido recibidas con escepticismo, ya que las auditorías y los expertos han encontrado poca evidencia que respalde un fraude generalizado. ¡Lea atentamente y cuestione las fuentes de noticias! Tenga cuidado con lo que se llama la "narrativa" que la gente y el gobierno quieren hacerle creer: "mentiras, engaños y narrativas falsas" que solo sirven para dividirnos aún más.

VIVA LA LOTERIA

¡HASTA
\$500,000!

Presentamos la nueva Lotería de \$500,000 de la Lotería de Michigan. Es el emocionante juego instantáneo de \$5 lleno de símbolos coloridos como chiles, atardeceres y guitarras, además de 3 oportunidades de bonificación para ganar.

Raspe y combine los símbolos en el tablero de juego para tener la oportunidad de ganar parte de más de \$28.5 millones en premios totales, incluidos veinte premios de \$5,000 y premios mayores de ¡\$500,000!

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Odds of winning: \$5: 1 in 9,805,310; 1 in 12,515; 1 in 34; \$20: 1 in 34; \$50: 1 in 100; \$100: 1 in 674; \$200: 1 in 1,650; \$500: 1 in 9,391; \$5,000: 1 in 415,000; \$50,000: 1 in 2,900,000.
Overall odds of winning: 1 in 3.29. Knowing your limits is always the best bet. Call 1-800-GAMBLER for confidential help.

MICHIGAN
LOTTERY.



Reviewed
By La Reyna

97.3 FM The Heat Urban Mix Top 4 Female Artists



#1 Tiffany Evans recently released a new song, "Would You?" The song showcases her sensual vulnerability and explores the ups and downs in relationships. WJWC 97.3 FM The Heat has an exclusive interview you can watch online at www.theheat973.com

#2 Shenseea recently released a new song, "Hit & Run," which reflects the electrifying energy of dancehall concerts. This song talks about a casual relationship where Shenseea emphasizes not getting too emotionally attached and just having fun. This song has gained an international buzz!



#4 Becky G's newest hit is Como Diablos. The song dives into themes of heartbreak and the struggle to move on from a past relationship. The lyrics reflect on the pain of a breakup and the difficulty of forgetting someone, even with the help of alcohol.



#3 Jessie Reyes recently released a new song, Cudn't B Me. This song delves into themes of self-worth and the realization that one deserves better than settling for less in a relationship. The lyrics reflect on the idea that people often settle for partners who don't truly appreciate them, and Jessie Reyez emphasizes that she won't be one of those people.



2025 Is the year of Healing. The message is loud and clear, though today's hits. Remember that you deserve better than settling for less in a relationship. You are strong, resilient, and capable of overcoming any challenge. Embrace your journey and remember that every step forward is a testament to your strength.

97.3 FM • URBAN MIX



www.theheat973.com



¡Amigos, listen to 97.3FM Heat Radio!
¡Escuchen esta estación de Radio!

Radio D.J.'s are joining daily to empower our community through a real respect for diversity! We must tear down the walls that separate our community and advance racial and social equality. Friendship and respect are a good place to start the dialogue.

Music is universal! Robert LaDew R.I.P. brother!
Your legacy in Grand Rapids is alive and well!!

Dr. José A. Flores President, C.E.P.
616.581.6271
Asisted by Marte Smith
Dr. Edgar Leon

97.3 FM URBAN MIX • THE HEAT

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QUENTIN L. MESSER JR. -CEO and President

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

By Odille Parker

Jasmine Camacho-Quinn is a track and field star who has made a name for herself and Puerto Rico within the sport.

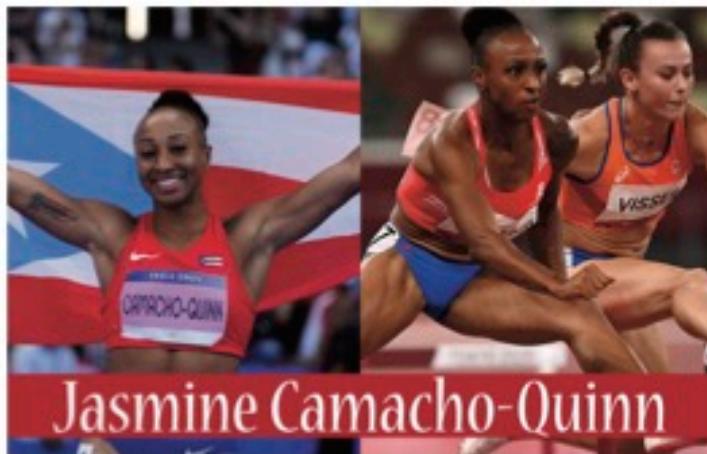
Camacho-Quinn is a Stateside Puerto Rican who specializes in the 100-meter hurdles. Born to a father who is African-American and a mother who is Puerto Rican, she became the first Puerto Rican of Afro-Latino descent to win a gold medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The win also made her the second person representing Puerto Rico to win a gold medal. The race set a personal and Olympic record of 12.26 seconds, tying for the tenth fastest time in history.

Camacho-Quinn was born and raised in South Carolina, but has a close tie to her Puerto Rican roots and identifies as such.

"I believe replacing 'Ni De Aquí Ni De Allá' with 'being 100% American and 100% Hispanic allows those born in the States to feel accepted and not have to deal with feeling confused," Camacho-Quinn told HOLA! USA in 2021. "Growing up embracing both cultures, there were times when I felt like I did not know myself and struggled with identifying myself. But I'm proud to be both."

She attended the University of Kentucky, where she was a two-time individual NCAA Division I Champion. She won gold in the 100m hurdles



Jasmine Camacho-Quinn

In 2016, and while she came in second in 2017, she set a personal best of 12.58 seconds. She came back to claim the title in 2018, finishing first in the championships.

Camacho-Quinn opened the 2023 season by winning the Doha Diamond League with a time of 12.48 seconds. Later that year, she won silver at the World Championships in Hungary with a time of 12.44 seconds.

She qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics, where she won bronze

with a time of 12.36 seconds. That same year, she won the first edition of the female-only Athlos track meet, which was held in New York City and created in an effort to showcase women's track and field more often than every four years at the Summer Olympics.

In September 2024, Camacho-Quinn announced she had signed up for the inaugural season of the Grand Slam Track – a professional track and field league founded by American former Olympic champion sprinter Michael Johnson.

Jasmine Camacho-Quinn es una estrella del atletismo que se ha labrado un nombre y ha dado a conocer a Puerto Rico en este deporte.

Camacho-Quinn es una puertorriqueña residente en Estados Unidos, especializada en los 100 metros con vallas. De padre afroamericano y madre puertorriqueña, se convirtió en la primera puertorriqueña de ascendencia afrolatina en ganar una medalla de oro en los Juegos Olímpicos de Tokio 2020.

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En cualquier lugar.**

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May Events / Eventos en Mayo

Tulip Festival

May 2 - May 11, 2025

Holland, MI.

Tulip Time has many shows and events happening during the festival, there is something for everyone! There will be millions of tulips in bloom along with visitors, locals, volunteers, participants and sponsors all coming together to celebrate.

Durante el festival, Tulip Time ofrece numerosos espectáculos y eventos, ¡hay opciones para todos los gustos! Millones de tulipanes florecerán junto con visitantes, residentes locales, voluntarios, participantes y patrocinadores que se unirán para celebrar.

Stoopfest

May 9-10, 2025

Lansing, MI.

Lansing's own DIY music festival is back this spring! Join us for a StoopFest pre-show on the evening of Friday, May 9. Saturday, May 10. StoopFest kicks off its traditional daylong showcase of creative potential and community all over the Eastside. Come on out and enjoy the festival.

¡El festival de música DIY de Lansing regresa esta primavera! Acompáñenos a un preestreno del StoopFest la noche del viernes 9 de mayo. El sábado 10 de mayo, el StoopFest inaugura su tradicional jornada de exhibición de potencial creativo y comunidad en todo el Eastside. ¡Venga y disfrute del festival!

Amway River Bank Run 2025

May 10, 2025

Grand Rapids, MI.

Attend the 48th Amway River Bank Run presented by Fifth Third Bank with Corewell Health the Official Health Partner!

More than 10,000 people are expected to compete in the event which features the largest 25K road race in the country and offers the only 25K Wheelchair racing division in the world along with a 25K Handcycle division.

¡Asista a la 48.^a edición de la Amway River Bank Run, presentada por Fifth Third Bank, con Corewell Health, socio oficial de salud!

Se espera que más de 10,000 personas compitan en este evento, que incluye la carrera de 25k en carretera más grande del

país y ofrece la única división de 25 k en silla de ruedas del mundo, además de una división de 25 k en bicicleta de mano.

Mother's Day Celebration

May 11, 2025

Detroit, MI

Mother's Day Celebration 2025 will feature Marvin Winans, Marvin Sapp, Jekalyn Carr, Donald Lawrence, Latrice Pace and host comedian Small Fire at the Detroit's Fox Theatre on Sunday, May 11 at 6 p.m.

La celebración del Día de la Madre 2025 contará con la participación de Marvin Winans, Marvin Sapp, Jekalyn Carr, Donald Lawrence, Latrice Pace y el comediante anfitrión Small Fire en el Teatro Fox de Detroit el Domingo 11 de mayo a las 6 p. m.

Spanish Inspired Dinner & Sangria Tasting

May 16, 2025

Grand Rapids, MI.

We are excited to share a fun-filled night with amazing meals and delicious drinks that are crafted with your taste buds in mind to have the best pairing options! This Spanish-infused dinner menu pairs with 5 handcrafted sangrias. Must be 21+, additional drink option is available at our Garden Grille for additional charge.

Nos entusiasma compartir una noche llena de diversión con comidas increíbles y deliciosas bebidas, elaboradas pensando en tu paladar para que disfrutes de las mejores combinaciones. Este menú de cena con toques españoles se acompaña de 5 sangrías artesanales. Debes ser mayor de 21 años.

Grand Haven Kite Festival

May 17-18, 2025

Grand Haven, MI

This festival is fun and FREE to attend! There is a charge to park inside the Grand Haven State Park (out-of-state residents and those who have opted not to add a recreational pass to their license plate tabs will need to pay to park; those with a recreational plate tab will get in free).

¡Este festival es divertido y GRATIS! El estacionamiento dentro del Parque Estatal Grand Haven tiene un costo (los residentes de otros estados y quienes no hayan añadido un pase recrea-



tivo a sus placas de matrícula deberán pagar para estacionar; quienes tengan una placa recreativa entrarán gratis).

East Lansing Art Festival

May 17-18, 2025

East Lansing, MI.

Art Festival (ELAF) is a two-day outdoor celebration of culture and the arts and is mid-Michigan's first major art show of the summer season! The East Lansing Art Festival is produced by the Art Festival Board of Directors. The ELAF is a non-profit event sponsored by dedicated community-minded businesses and individuals!

The East Lansing Art Festival is held the weekend preceding Memorial Day weekend annually:

10am-6pm on Saturday and 10am-5pm on Sunday.

El Festival de Arte de East Lansing (ELAF) es una celebración cultural y artística al aire libre de dos días, y representa la primera gran exposición artística de la temporada de verano en el centro de Michigan. El Festival de Arte de East Lansing es organizado por la Junta Directiva del Festival de Arte. El ELAF es un evento sin fines de lucro patrocinado por empresas y personas comprometidas con la comunidad.

Native American Festival

May 24, 2025

Saint Ignace, MI

Celebrating a heritage that is rich in diversity and creativity, St. Ignace's Annual Native American Festival promises to be a thrill for the senses on May 24th, 2025.

It is a day to recognize and celebrate the rich culture and contributions of the Anishinaabe people from the area. At its idyllic location close to the shores of Lake Huron, the festival shines with amazing energy, pride and excitement in the drummers, dancers, workshop presenters, visitors and supporters who attend the festival each year.

Celebrando un patrimonio rico en diversidad y creatividad, el Festival Anual de Nativos Americanos de San Ignacio promete ser un deleite para los sentidos

el 24 de mayo de 2025. Es un día para reconocer y celebrar la rica cultura y las contribuciones del pueblo anishinaabe de la zona.

En su idílica ubicación cerca de las orillas del lago Hurón, el festival brilla con una energía, orgullo y entusiasmo. Increíble entre los percusionistas, bailarines, presentadores de talleres, visitantes y simpatizantes que asisten cada año.

Memorial Day Parade

May 26, 2025

Holland, MI

The Downtown Holland Memorial Day Parade will be held at 9:30 am on Monday, May 26. The parade begins at the corner of 8th Street and Central Avenue and travels east to Columbia Avenue, south to 16th Street and east on 16th Street until it reaches Pilgrim Home Cemetery.

El Desfile se llevará a cabo a las 9:30 a. m. del lunes 26 de mayo. El desfile comienza en la esquina de la Calle 8 y la Avenida Central y continúa hacia el este hasta la Avenida Columbia, hacia el sur hasta la Calle 16 y hacia el este por la Calle 16 hasta llegar al Cementerio Pilgrim Home.

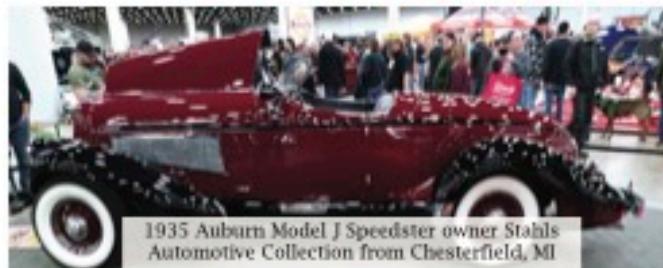
Eslabón Armado

May 31, 2025

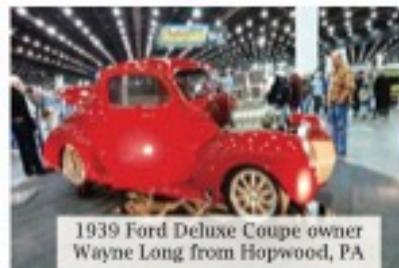
Grand Rapids, MI

Eslabón Armado, the first Mexican music group to reach No. 1 on Billboard's Global 200, has defied cultural barriers to exceed all expectations in the most unconventional way possible. Born and raised in California, Eslabón Armado consists of brothers Pedro Tovar Jr. (vocalist) and Brian Tovar (bass), along with Damián Pacheco (re-quinto) and Ulises González (acoustic guitar). With their recent worldwide hit "Ella Baila Sola," they have taken Regional Mexican music to an unprecedented level of global dominance.

Eslabón Armado, el primer grupo musical mexicano en alcanzar el número 1 en la lista Global 200 de Billboard, ha desafiado las barreras culturales para superar todas las expectativas de la manera más original.



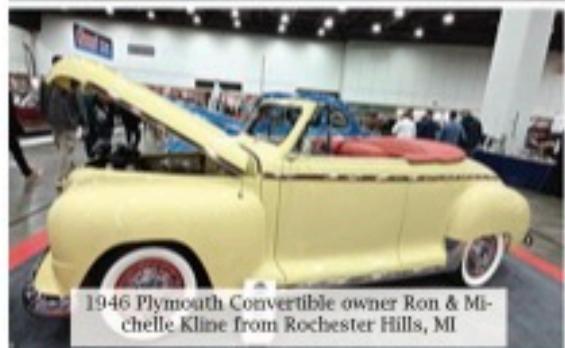
1935 Auburn Model J Speedster owner Stahls
Automotive Collection from Chesterfield, MI



1939 Ford Deluxe Coupe owner
Wayne Long from Hopwood, PA



1939 Lincoln Zephyr owner
Sal Vicari from York, SC



1946 Plymouth Convertible owner Ron & Michelle Kline from Rochester Hills, MI



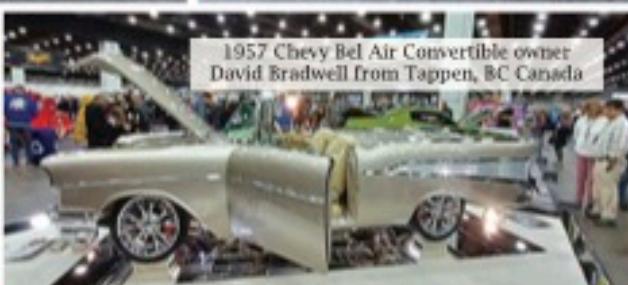
1947 Chevy Truck owner Ray
Wiegand from Lenox, MI



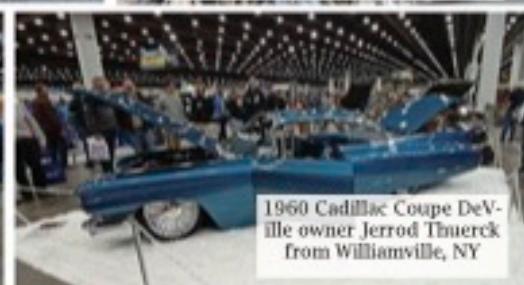
1947 Simplex Serv-cycle owner Eric
Paichet from Inkster, MI



1952 Ford Sunliner owner John
Milligan from Windsor, ON



1957 Chevy Bel Air Convertible owner
David Bradwell from Tappen, BC Canada



1960 Cadillac Coupe DeVille owner Jerrod Thuerck
from Williamsville, NY



1963 Lincoln Continental
McGran from Monument, CO



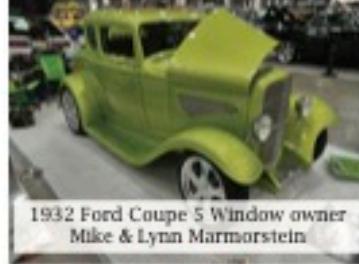
1962 Chevy Corvette owner
Marc Shoffstall from
Wapakoneta, OH



2005 Harley Davidson owner Ralph
Dickenson from Burton, MI



Cool Vintage Car!



1932 Ford Coupe 5 Window owner
Mike & Lynn Marmorstein



1956 Studebaker Golden Hawk owner
Chis Mizzi from Dearborn, MI



1964 Chevy Malibu SS Chevelle owner
Dale Lacy from New Baltimore, MI



Me & M&M Blue are
excited at Autorama!

72nd Annual Detroit Autorama Car Show

Car Show Review Held on
February 28 - March 2, 2025
Presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts
Huntington Place/Cobo Convention Center

Here's more coverage of the Autorama at Cobo Hall. Autorama had very enthusiastic people. We had to put on our spectacles to view amazing cars this year. The art was in the details and we had to take breathing time as we admired the work. You could see the people admiring the work done by all the car artists. Classic, customs, hot rods, pickups, motorcycles, bicycles & vintage cars were superbly done! Also, there were plenty of vendors there showing their

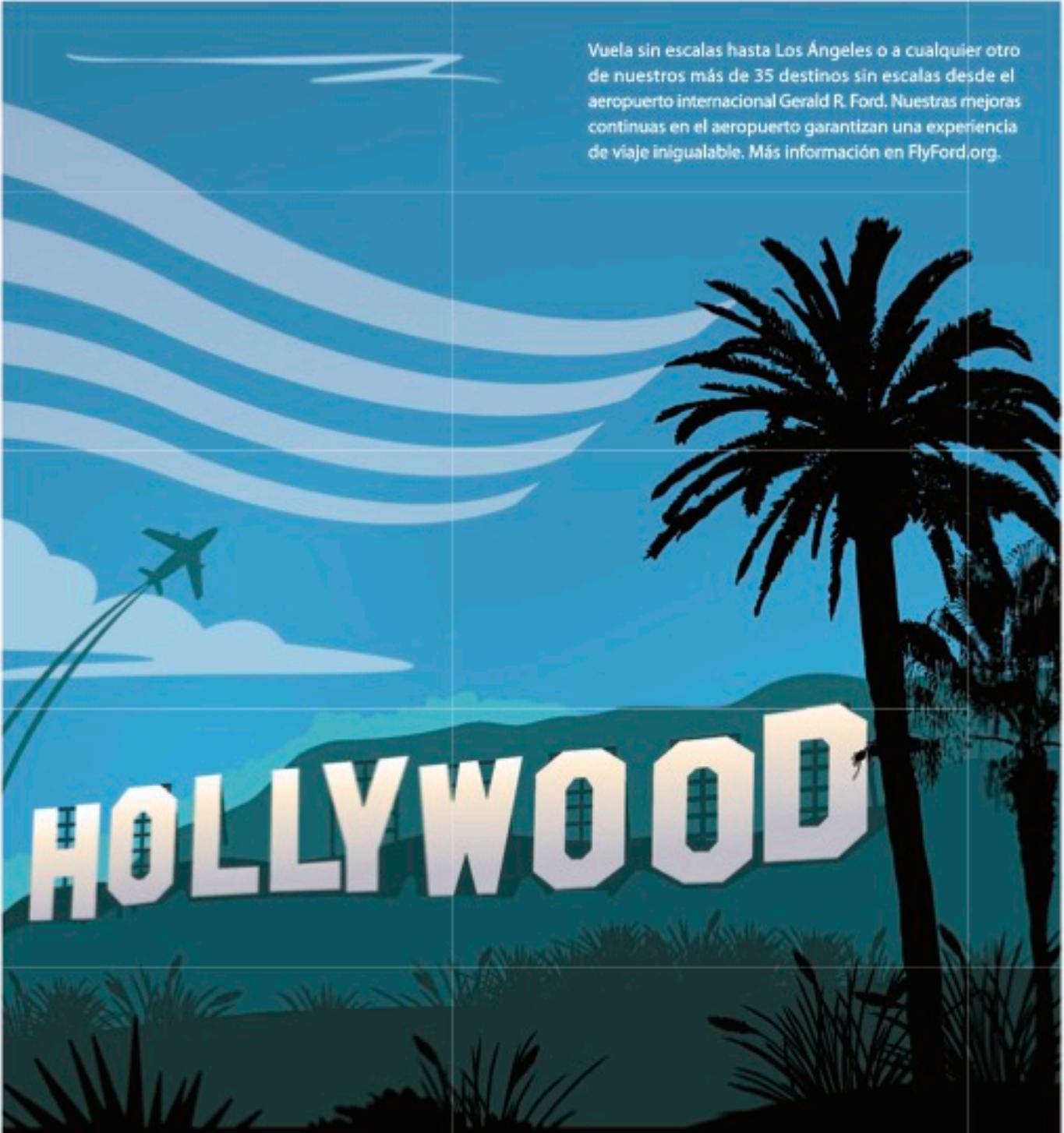
displays where you could buy souvenirs to take home.

Having a car event?
Contact Homero - (616)893-3906
deeho123@comcast.net

CAR SHOWS UPDATE MAY 2025
Metro Cruise Saturday, May 3, 2025
Dust Off Car Show
Wyoming Moose Lodge #763
2630 Burlingame Ave SW
Wyoming, MI 49509
9:00am - 5:00pm
Ride'N So-Low Michigan C.C.
Car & Truck Show

Sunday! June 22, 2025
237 N. River Rd.
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
Registration 10am - 12noon
\$20 (cash only)
Trophies at 4:00pm

LAUP's Fiesta Car Show
Sunday! July 20, 2025
Registration - 9:30am - 1:00pm
\$25 car - \$20 Motorcycle / Bicycle
11:00am - 4:00pm
Holland Civic Center
150 W 8th Street
Holland, MI 49423



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HOLLYWOOD

SIN ESCALAS A

LOS ÁNGELES

DESDE EL AEROPUERTO INTERNACIONAL GERALD R. FORD



I was just a teenager when I met Cheech and Chong in Grand Rapids, MI as they prepared their day touring downtown Grand Rapids. My friend "Sugarbear" and I were going to purchase tickets when we ran into the duo. We joked a bit with them as we tried to imitate a skit, they made famous. They invited us to the concert with free tickets and backstage passes. After the concert we went backstage, and they gave us "Sobrinos de Cheech & Chong" t-shirts, albums, and autographs. We were excited by their friendship and would remain lifelong admirers of their comic and acting talent!

Cheech and Chong's Last Movie (2025) is a documentary and humorous rewind about the two iconic figures in the history of cannabis use in the United States. This internationally famous Comic Duo; Cheech Marin and Tommy Chong, continue to dominate the pot culture of the United States as they continue to poke fun about the use of pot during a period of outlaw branding of its users.

There has been a historic turnaround in the social, political, and legal stigma of the use of cannabis and its by-products. Drugs and the drug culture have been changed forever in America. **Cheech & Chong were change agents during the "war on drugs"** providing humorous comic skits about police encounters during the 70's, 80's and 90's + yrs raising their notoriety internationally. This documentary is promoted as possibly their "last movie" if you can believe that! They filmed seven movies together. This duo has been on again/off again as their friendship and careers have placed them together and on their own often.

Cheech has had an awesome acting legacy including films and television roles, most notably **Born in East L.A.**, which was also his directorial debut, **The Shrimp on the Barbie**, **Tin Cup**, and **Once Upon a Time in Mexico**. His television acting career included **Nash Bridges** 1996-2001, Mexico trilogy, the Spy Kids trilogy, **From Dusk till Dawn** and **Machete** to name a few. Marin established The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art, Culture & Industry, in the City of Riverside, committed to preserving and highlighting the many contributions Chicanos have made in America.

Their current film premiered at the 2024 SXSW Film & TV Festival. It opened in select theaters on April 20, 2025, and expanded nationwide on April 25, 2025. The film offers a unique take on their lives and legacy, blending animation and archival footage providing a "trip down memory lane!" **Cheech and Chong's Last Movie 2025** traces an enduring legacy of the iconic comics through features interviews, sketches, and never-before-seen footage spanning the duo's five-decade career. Their fragile friendship, fame, turbulent times, social defiance, rebellious antics, and legal triumphs are well described.

The 2 hours long film is directed by David Bushell and is possibly a re-start of the comic duo Cheech & Chong comeback Tour! Who knows? They are extremely popular among seniors enjoying a decriminalized cannabis state in the nation. Youth will enjoy them! **See Cheech & Chong's Last Movie 2025** at a theatre near you!

Era apenas un adolescente cuando conocí a Cheech y Chong en Grand Rapids, Michigan, mientras preparaban su gira por el centro de Grand Rapids. Mi amigo "Sugarbear" y yo íbamos a comprar entradas cuando nos topamos con el dúo. Bromeamos un poco con ellos mientras intentábamos imitar una parodia que se hicieron famosos. Nos invitaron al concierto con entradas gratis y pases para el backstage. Después del concierto, fuimos al backstage y nos regalaron camisetas, álbumes y autógrafos de "Sobrinos de Cheech y Chong". Nos emocionó su amistad y seguirímos siendo admiradores de su talento cómico y actoral para toda la vida.

By Dr. José A. Flores

CHEECH & CHONG'S LAST MOVIE, NOW PLAYING!



PRE-SALE
CHEECH MARIN TOMMY CHONG
CHEECH & CHONG'S LAST MOVIE
EXCLUSIVELY IN THEATERS APRIL 25
SEE IT FIRST ON 4/20 OR 4/25TH

La Última Película de Cheech y Chong (2025) es un documental y un repaso humorístico sobre dos figuras icónicas en la historia del consumo de cannabis en Estados Unidos. Este dúo cómico de fama internacional, Cheech Marin y Tommy Chong, sigue dominando la cultura de la marihuana en Estados Unidos, burlándose del consumo durante una época en la que se prohibía a sus consumidores.

Su película actual se estrenó en el Festival de Cine y Televisión SXSW 2024. Se estrenó en cines selectos el 20 de abril de 2025 y se estrenó en todo el país el 25 de abril de 2025. La película ofrece una visión única de sus vidas y su legado, combinando animación y material de archivo, lo que proporciona un viaje al pasado. Cheech and Chong's Last Movie 2025 traza el legado perdurable de los icónicos cómicos a través de entrevistas, sketches y material inédito que abarca las cinco décadas de carrera del dúo. Su frágil amistad, fama, tiempos turbulentos, desafío social, travesuras rebeldes y triunfos legales están bien descritos. ¡Los jóvenes los disfrutarán! ¡Vea Cheech & Chong's Last Movie 2025 en un cine cerca de usted!



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Illiana Aurora Morales, Mexican/Puerto Rican raised in Michigan. Currently working as a Inpatient Pharmacy Technician.

During my free time, I enjoy collaborating and promoting small local Beauty Businesses, Community Events, participating in local music video promos and Modeling for clothing brands. I would like to thank Angelina Arnold at "As Within Beauty" for my Creative Eye Extensions. Look forward to continuing working with local entrepreneur's around the area to highlight local talent and skills.

2025 MAY MODEL SEARCH

THE COMMUNITY VOICE LA VOZ / MAY 2025 19

When and Why You Should Get a Colonoscopy

Cuándo y por qué debería hacerse una colonoscopia



When it comes to colorectal cancer screening, 45 is the new 50.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) lowered the recommended age to start screening from 50 to 45 in 2018, citing a "marked increase" in colorectal cancer incidence rates among younger and middle-aged populations.

Reasons for the increase in colorectal cancer rates is not clear, but researchers have some ideas.

- Diet patterns in children and young adults: A diet high in red meat like beef and pork, as well as processed meats like deli meat or hot dogs, could increase risks.
- Higher obesity rates: Individuals who have obesity are 30% more likely to develop colon cancer.
- Sedentary lifestyle: Spending more time sitting both at work and during leisure time can increase risks of cancer, obesity, cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Medical experts agree that screening for colon cancer saves lives. When detected early, cancer can be easier to treat. There are multiple ways to screen for colon cancer, with a colonoscopy considered to be the gold standard. It is helpful to discuss the best method for screening with your doctor.

Why should you get a colonoscopy?

Colonoscopies help find polyps in the colon or cancer at an early stage before serious symptoms appear.

During a colonoscopy, the doctor uses a thin, flexible tube to check for polyps or cancer inside the rectum and the colon. The doctor is able to find and remove most polyps during the procedure and biopsy areas suspicious for cancer. Colonoscopies are also used as follow-up for other screening tests, which can include a number of stool tests and a flexible sigmoidoscopy.

If you choose to have a colorectal cancer screening test other than a colonoscopy and the test result is abnormal, it must be followed up with a colonoscopy for further evaluation.

What age should you get a colonoscopy?

Those who are at average risk for colorectal cancer should start regular screening at age 45. ACS experts have determined that earlier screening could help save more lives. Healthy people without risk factors should consult with their primary care provider and plan to have a screening colonoscopy every 10 years through age 75.

People between the ages of 76 and 85 should talk with their primary care provider about whether to continue screening. The decision should be based on personal preferences, life expectancy, overall health and prior screening results.

Colorectal cancer screening is not routinely recommended over the age of 85.

What age should you get a colonoscopy if you have a higher risk?

It is not uncommon for physicians to recommend a colorectal cancer screening for someone under the age of 45, particularly if that person has a family history of colorectal cancer.

Early and more frequent screening for a person in their 20s or 30s is not out of the question for people at higher risk. You may fall into this category if you:

- Have a strong family history of colorectal cancer or certain types of polyps
- Have a personal history of colorectal cancer or certain types of polyps
- Have personal history of inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease)
- Have a family history of a hereditary syndrome such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or Lynch syndrome
- Have a history of radiation to the abdomen or pelvis to treat a prior cancer

No matter how old you are, you should speak with your primary care provider if you have symptoms that concern you. The two of you can discuss when to begin screening and how often you should get tested.

La Sociedad Americana del Cáncer (ACS) redujo la edad recomendada para comenzar las pruebas de detección de 50 a 45 años en 2018, citando un marcado aumento en las tasas de incidencia de cáncer colorrectal entre las poblaciones más jóvenes y de mediana edad.

Las razones del aumento en las tasas de cáncer colorrectal no están claras, pero los investigadores tienen algunas ideas.

- *Patrones de alimentación en niños y adultos jóvenes: Una dieta rica en carnes rojas como la res y el cerdo, así como en carnes procesadas como fiambres o salchichas, podría aumentar los riesgos.*
- *Mayores tasas de obesidad: Las personas obesas tienen un 30 % más de probabilidades de desarrollar cáncer de colon.*
- *Estilo de vida sedentario: Pasar más tiempo sentado, tanto en el trabajo como en el tiempo libre, puede aumentar el riesgo de cáncer, obesidad, enfermedades cardiovasculares y diabetes.*



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A Matter of Character; Police Shooting of Vincent Perez



By Jorge Martinez
U.S. Veteran

The average person is a complex mix of ideas, thoughts, and behaviors that often create complicated problems. These elements are often contradictory and mutually exclusive, leading people to believe they are special and entitled to what they desire. This sense of entitlement is particularly evident in the XYZ generation, who have been indulged since childhood, especially those raised by single mothers.

Today's average person's beliefs are often based on blatant lies and half-truths they tell themselves. Their interactions are driven by self-promoting cravings and illusions, leading to distorted character and toxic wants.

Research by the federal small business bureau revealed that 96% of the population would steal if given the chance, explaining why 96% of small businesses fail. This impulsive and spontaneous, yet unethical, behavior is a hallmark of what I call "96ers." These individuals justify their actions, no matter how bizarre, based on their feelings at the time. They can justify stealing from family as easily as cheating on a spouse, removing guilt or remorse in the process. Examples of such behavior can be seen in Trump's associates who were charged and convicted for their crimes but later pardoned. These 96ers rationalize their decisions, endangering the country to fulfill their fantasies of ego, power, and greed.

The recent police shooting of Vincent Perez, a mentally disabled man, is a stark reminder of the importance of character. Vincent Perez was a 17-year-old autistic teen with cerebral palsy. On April 5, 2025, at 5:22 p.m., Pocatello police officers responded to a call about an individual armed with a knife in the area of North Harrison Avenue. During the encounter, officers used lethal force on Vincent, shooting him nine times. Video footage from a witness shows that police officers opened fire from behind a chain-link fence just seconds after exiting their patrol cars. Vincent was declared brain-dead and was taken off life support on April 12, 2025. His family and community members were outraged by the incident, questioning why the officers did not make any apparent effort to de-escalate the situation or use less lethal weapons.

As a counselor at Morgan Hill James Boys Ranch in California, I often disarmed angry detainees without using lethal force. The overzealous use of deadly force by the cops who shot Vincent Perez reflects a toxic pathology. Captain Roger Schel defended the shooting, displaying disdain for a human being and rationalizing the behavior. Vincent was known to be mentally handicapped and was in his own backyard. This incident highlights the bigotry and lack of character in law enforcement, leading to a moral downward spiral.

In my 2016 book, "Boxing Heroes, Fighters, Amazons and Fools," I addressed the issue of character as it pertained to America's 2004 Olympic boxers. Having spent most of my life around fighting men as a soldier, boxer, trainer, and promoter, I have met many admirable, courageous men. However, I have also confronted the dark side of boxing and encountered horrible individuals disguised as people. The Olympic Boxing Team was once a prestigious goal for many young men, but today, it is plagued by malice and corruption.

The current state of our country under Trump is dismal. When unworthy individuals are elevated to positions of authority, we end up with charlatans, braggarts, and fools as leaders. Trump has destroyed the financial future of millions. The police shooting of Vincent Perez is a reminder that it's always about character. The only solution for Trump, the murdering cops, and their Chief is impeachment and termination.



La persona promedio es una mezcla compleja de ideas, pensamientos y comportamientos que a menudo crean problemas complejos. Estos elementos suelen ser contradictorios y mutuamente excluyentes, lo que lleva a las personas a creerse especiales y con derecho a lo que desean. Este sentimiento de derecho es particularmente evidente en la generación XYZ, quienes han sido consentidos desde la infancia, especialmente aquellos criados por madres solteras. Las creencias de la persona promedio de hoy a menudo se basan en mentiras descaradas y medias verdades que se dicen a sí mismos. Sus interacciones están impulsadas por antojos e ilusiones autopromocionales, lo que conduce a una personalidad distorsionada y deseos tóxicos.

Una investigación de la Oficina Federal de Pequeñas Empresas reveló que el 96% de la población robaría si tuviera la oportunidad, lo que explica por qué el 96% de las pequeñas empresas fracasan. Este comportamiento impulsivo, espontáneo y poco ético es un sello distintivo de lo que yo llamo "los del 96". Estas personas justifican sus acciones, por extrañas que sean, basándose en sus sentimientos del momento. Pueden justificar robar a la familia con la misma facilidad que engañar a su cónyuge, eliminando la culpa o el remordimiento en el proceso. Ejemplos de este comportamiento se pueden ver en los colaboradores de Trump, quienes fueron acusados y condenados por sus crímenes, pero posteriormente indultados. Estos del 96 justifican sus decisiones, poniendo en peligro al país para satisfacer sus fantasías de ego, poder y avaricia.

El reciente tiroteo policial contra Vincent Pérez, un hombre con discapacidad mental, es un duro recordatorio de la importancia del carácter. Vincent Pérez era un adolescente autista de 17 años con parálisis cerebral. El 5 de abril de 2025, a las 17:22, agentes de policía de Pocatello respondieron a una llamada sobre un individuo armado con un cuchillo en la zona de North Harrison Avenue. Durante el encuentro, los agentes emplearon fuerza letal contra Vincent, disparándole nueve veces. Las imágenes de video de un testigo muestran que los agentes abrieron fuego desde detrás de una valla metálica apenas segundos después de salir de sus patrullas. Vincent fue declarado con muerte cerebral y se le retiró el soporte vital el 12 de abril de 2025. Su familia y miembros de la comunidad se indignaron por el incidente y cuestionaron por qué los agentes no hicieron ningún esfuerzo aparente por calmar la situación o utilizar armas menos letales.

Como consejero en Morgan Hill James Boys Ranch, California, solíamos desarmar a detenidos furiosos sin utilizar fuerza letal. El uso excesivo de fuerza letal por parte de los policías que dispararon a Vincent Pérez refleja una patología tóxica. El capitán Roger Schel defendió el tiroteo, mostrando desprecio por un ser humano y justificando el comportamiento. Vincent era conocido por su discapacidad mental y se encontraba en su propio patio trasero. Este incidente pone de manifiesto la intolerancia y la falta de carácter en las fuerzas del orden, lo que ha provocado una espiral descendente de moral.

En mi libro de 2016, "Héroes, luchadores, amazonas y tontos del boxeo", abordé la cuestión del carácter en relación con los boxeadores olímpicos estadounidenses de 2004. Habiendo pasado la mayor parte de mi vida rodeado de hombres de combate como soldado, boxeador, entrenador y promotor, he conocido a muchos hombres admirables y valientes. Sin embargo, también me he enfrentado al lado oscuro del boxeo y me he topado con individuos horribles disfrazados de personas. El Equipo Olímpico de Boxeo fue en su día un objetivo prestigioso para muchos jóvenes, pero hoy está plagado de malicia y corrupción.

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