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Josh Flores and students serving la comida at El Día de los Muertos dinner hosted by the Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center. See article on page 2.

Your Hispanic Weekly

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS HONORS FAMILIA, P. 2

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Lincoln-West celebrates International Studies Week

Students at Lincoln-West’s International Studies Academy celebrated their diverse student population during International Studies Week from Nov. 14 to Nov. 18, 2011.


Students and staff at Lincoln-West celebrate their diversity during International Studies Week Nov. 14-18, 2011.
Día de los Muertos honors first Toledo familias

By Kevin Milliken for La Prensa

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is alive and well in Toledo, as the Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center’s main yearly fundraiser proved to be a sell-out. The dinner/dance held at the Erie St. Market for the first time drew 325 people Saturday evening, Nov. 5, 2011.

“We had to turn people down because we were over-sold,” admitted Quintero Center board member Milva Wagner. “(A new venue) was needed. We never could have held that many people here. We were afraid we were not going to have enough food for everyone. It’s just been amazing. We are just so excited and thankful for all the support that we got.”

The annual event continues to grow in scope and attendance. This year’s Día de los Muertos celebration included a dozen altars set up to honor Toledo’s first Latino families at the Quintero Center, as well as a procession Sat. morning that included a special Mass at SS Peter and Paul Church. And a special altar set up at the Erie St. Market was moved back to the Quintero Center for public viewing.

“I think people are becoming more aware and more understanding of the significance of Día de los Muertos,” said Ms. Wagner. “We’re also getting more young people in attendance coming to our function,” said Joe Balderas, Quintero’s executive director.

“That’s a boost for us in that people are recognizing this and recognizing what we’re doing. We’re the only organization in Toledo really keeping the Mexican culture alive for the next generation. We need to do that.”

The dinner/dance was held to honor Toledo’s first Latino families. A special altar was constructed in their memory at the Erie St. Market. Participants were invited to bring special mementos to add to the altar, which was blessed by Father Juan Francisco Molina during the event. A mariachi band—Salvador Torres and El Mariachi Mexico 2000—also played a tribute to lost loved ones.

Entertainment also included El Corazón de México Ballet Folklorico, Baile Rico Dancers, and El Tony Bueno. Margarita de León was the emcee, Quintero Board President Dr. Alberto González welcomed those in attendance.

The Quintero Center board strongly believes in continuing to promote Mexican culture, history, and traditions locally, because as more young people assimilate into a US-American way of life, “At times they may think I go a little overboard with photos and videos and collecting things, but they get the big picture,” she said. “Whether or not they take a role in creating an altar or contributing substantially to the already established altar will be up to them, but I am pretty comfortable knowing that they do value this tradition.”

People also were able to come view the altars at the Quintero Center Sunday afternoon. A dozen were set up, including ones from Antwerp and Waite high school students, Bowling Green State University students, along with several family altars. The public also will be able to see the altars on display Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12 and 13, from 2-5p.m. Admission $5.

“I really see it as a tribute to our ancestors,” said Ms. Wagner. “There are the little things that we take for granted and now we realize how blessed we were to have had a grandmother like her.”

Because her grandmother was also a singer and a songwriter, the family also included a few samples of her music in a binder on the altar. She would wear it when she would perform. Ms. Elizondo-Serratos even stated she still can hear her singing “Un Dia a la Vez,” which was one of her favorites.

Ms. Elizondo-Serratos admitted her own kids did not participate in creating the altar this year, but noted they understand the importance of remembering loved ones, as well as “how important family is to us every day of our lives.”

“Because they see the altars and they see the items their families have brought, it may make them think of their own families and what kinds of things are important to those who have passed in their families.”

In the southwestern part of the United States, Día de los Muertos has become “a big deal,” according to Balderas. Entire festivals are built around the celebration. The Mexican tradition also has become a growing part of the arts community.

“I’m seeing two types of altars now—the traditional altar dedicated to the family, then you see the artistic altar that’s created by an artist,” said Balderas. “To him, it’s just another form of art expression. Instead of just doing a flat, one-dimensional altar drawing, now it’s 3-D and live.”

Building Family Altars

Sabina Elizondo-Serratos and her family have put together an altar since the Quintero Center began the tradition 15 years ago. Her maternal family, the Martinez family, is one of the first families to settle in the Toledo area. They migrated from the Crystal City, Texas area and San Luis Potosi, Mexico area.

Through the altar, she remembers several members of her family: maternal grandparents Concepción (Concha) and Eusebio (Sam) Martinez; paternal grandparents Consuelo and Marcos Elizondo; cousins Gloria Ruiz and April Love Martinez, uncles Simon Martinez, Marcus Elizondo, David Cortez, André Olguín, José Ramirez and Álvaro Valles. She called the altar both “nostalgic and bittersweet.”

“The suggestion to participate actually came from my Uncle Joe [Martínez], who is an artist, and my Aunt Barbina,” said Ms. Elizondo-Serratos. “They both have done a tremendous job in gathering items and memorabilia of the loved ones in our family who have passed on. I am so grateful for their commitment to keeping the memories of my grandparents, cousins, uncles and even some friends alive.”

The family’s altar includes photos of loved ones and some items that either belonged to them or remain to this day. Family members several members of their late relatives.

For example, Grandmother Concepción Martinez loved to sew, so there is a small sewing kit. She also loved to cook for her entire family so there is molcajete and tortilla warmer.

“She would make fresh tortillas daily. As children, my cousins and I would rush into the kitchen grab a fresh, warm tortilla, throw butter on it and we were happy for the rest of the day,” said Ms. Elizondo-Serratos. “Those are the little things that we take for granted and now we realize how blessed we were to have had a grandmother like her.”

Because her grandmother was also a singer and a songwriter, the family also included a few samples of her music in a binder on the altar. One of her singing lessons is hung up alongside the altar. She would wear it when she would perform. Ms. Elizondo-Serratos even stated she still can hear her singing “Un Dia a la Vez,” which was one of her favorites.

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**Letters from the Heart**

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Mich. dairy owners face jail in immigration case

BAD AXE, Nov. 4, 2011 (AP) - The owners of a Michigan dairy farm who pleaded guilty to hiring undocumented immigrants are getting support from businesses that rely on the farm's effort to avoid jail time.

John and Anja Verhaar pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges and acknowledged employing 188 undocumented immigrants from 2000 through fall 2007. Many were hired on multiple occasions using different names or Social Security numbers.

After emigrating from the Netherlands in the 1990s, the Verhaars have turned a small farm into a major operation in Huron County, 110 miles north of Detroit.

“The Verhaars are law-abiding, honest individuals who made bad judgments with respect to certain hiring decisions,” attorney Matthew Leitman said in an Oct. 27 court filing.

They face up to six months in jail Tuesday, but supporters hope the Verhaars remain free. Federal prosecutors have not taken a position.

“Since the Verhaars’ arrival to our area, they have become valued members of our community—both socially and economically—and I cannot even begin to stress the adverse effects likely to occur” if the farm suffers, veterinarian Ken Verhulst said in a letter filed in court.

Kameron Southworth of Michigan Manure Management said Aqualia Farms has been a steady customer for years and is a significant source of income. Hay suppliers Scott and Trudy Podor said they might have to lay off their own children if the dairy farm doesn’t buy hay again.

“Now would not be a good time for them to have to find new employment with the economy such as it is,” the Podor’s said.

Leitman said the farm already has agreed to pay a $2.7 million penalty and any time in jail would jeopardize the business.

“The Verhaars’ farming operation simply cannot continue without them.” That is exactly why the Verhaars have avoided leaving their farm for vacations or travel and have encouraged to great lengths to avoid leaving together for even short periods of time,” the attorney said.

Wayne State University’s Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies program honored nationally for increasing degree completion among Latinos

September 27, 2011: U.S. Under Secretary of Education Martha J. Kanter and Jon Whitmore, CEO of ACT, joined Excellence in Education at the U.S. Capitol today to honor Wayne State University’s Center for Chicanos-Boricuas Studies (CBS) program as one of US-America’s top programs for increasing bachelor’s degree completion among Latinos.

CBS was selected from among 195 competitors as one of 16 national finalists for the 2011 Examples of Excellence recognition, presented during the Celebración de Excelencia en Educación.

Examples of Excellence is a national initiative to systematically identify and honor institution-based programs and departments that demonstrate with evidence that they effectively boost Latino enrollment, performance and graduation rates. It is supported by USA Funds, ACT, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, Eduk, Univision Communications, Educational Testing Service, College Board and the California State University System.

WSU Professor Jorge Chinea, director of CBS, said the center’s goal is to create a community of learning and a spirit of collaboration that offers students the necessary support and tools for achievement. “Research indicates that personal investment and a sense of being connected enhances college retention rates,” Chinea said. “At CBS, our students, counselors and faculty develop a partnership that is focused on the student attaining academic success.”

CBS provides centralized delivery of services that are normally distributed throughout many university offices. These include recruitment, orientation, courses in Latino topics, academic and financial aid advising, academic advising and mentoring, an academic self-empowerment seminar, guest speakers, on-site access to faculty, tracking through graduation and occasional job placement. The center awards more than $150,000 in scholarships annually and is networked with other student services throughout Wayne State.

In a competition generally dominated by universities in California and Texas, CBS is the first program in Michigan to be recognized by Excelencia in Education, and the second program from the Midwest to be honored in the Baccalaureate division.

All of the programs recognized during the Celebración de Excelencia en Educación 2011 event are listed in the latest edition of “What Works for Latino Students in Higher Education”, which Excelencia in Education released today. The publication is available for download at: http://www.excelencia.org.

About Center for Chicanos-Boricua Studies

With nearly 40 years of commitment to excellence in education, the Center for Chicanos-Boricua Studies (CBS) is one of the oldest Latino Studies programs in the Midwest. Our mission is to transform the university’s campus and ultimately society, by providing equitable access to a quality university education to students interested in U.S. Latino and Latin American cultural studies while enhancing diversity on campus.

About Wayne State University

Wayne State University is a premier urban research institution offering more than 400 academic programs through 13 schools and colleges to nearly 32,000 students.
La Prensa—Ohio

November/noviembre 11, 2011

Falcon Marching Band brings its big sound inside

Bowling Green State University’s Falcon Marching Band will present “The Best of Times,” its annual “Sounds of the Stadium” concert, at 3 p.m. Nov. 13, 2011 in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Led by Dr. Carol Hayword, an associate professor of music education, the band will perform music from its halftime shows at this season’s Falcon football games, as well as traditional school songs and pregame music.

Among the selections will be: “I Hear America Singing,” a creative collection of patriotic selections that features the BGSU Men’s Chorus, under the direction Tim Cloeter. Other favorites from the season will include “Beatlemania,” a selection of hit songs made famous by the Fab Four, “Let’s Hear It for Boys,” a spoof of some of the popular ’60s boy bands; and “Styx and Stones,” featuring the music of the classic rock bands Styx and the Rolling Stones.

The largest student organization on campus, with 280 members, the band is composed of students from all colleges of the University and is open to all students by audition regardless of major and class standing.

Tickets are $7 for students and senior citizens and $10 for other adults in advance, and $10 and $13, respectively, on the day of the concert. For more information, call the box office between noon and 6 p.m. weekdays at 419-372-8171 or 1-800-589-2224.

Owens Center for Emergency Preparedness offers new Personal Safety and Security Classes, Nov. 12 and 15

Area residents interested in enhancing their personal safety and situational awareness are invited to participate in a new Personal Safety and Security Class offered through Owens Community College’s Center for Emergency Preparedness, Nov. 12 and 15, 2011.

Two separate four-hour classes will take place at the College’s Center for Emergency Preparedness. The first class will occur on Saturday (Nov. 12) from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., while a second class will take place on Tuesday (Nov. 15) from 6-10 p.m. Owens is located on Oregon Road in Perrysburg Township.

“Owens Community College is proud to offer a new community public safety class, which is intended to increase an individual’s situational awareness so that they may recognize the potential for danger and take steps ahead of time to avoid it,” said Michael Cornell, Owens Director of the Center for Emergency Preparedness.

During the four-hour class, attendees will receive knowledge and expertise in the areas of situational awareness, basic self-defense, tasers, pepper spray, mace, stun guns and collapsible batons. Additionally, students will learn about how to create a safe room/offices as well as practice hands-on self-defense moves and the proper use of self-defense weapons. Individuals are encouraged to wear exercise clothing and athletic shoes.

The Center for Emergency Preparedness is the premier all-hazards national training facility located at Owens Community College. As the world continues to change so will the critical training demands for the men and women who place themselves in harm’s way.

The Center for Emergency Preparedness is dedicated to securing the homeland and assuring the safety of our citizens by building a well-trained community of first responders, first receivers and allied professionals who are ready to safely respond to and mitigate the effects of an all-hazards event.

The cost of the personal safety class is $35. For more information, or to register, call (567) 661-2411 or 1-800-GO-Owens, Ext. 2411.

Owens Community College is a public institution of higher education located in Perrysburg Township.

BGSU Lively Arts Calendar, Nov. 10-15, 2011

Nov. 10—“Der Neunte Tag (The Ninth Day),” the 2004 German film directed by Volker Schlöndorff, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in BGSU’s Gish Film Theater. Based on a true story, the film follows a Catholic priest who returns to Luxembourg after the war to avenge the Nazi war crimes he witnessed as a child. The film will be shown in German with English subtitles. Free admission.

Nov. 10—The BGSU Vocal Jazz Ensemble, directed by Chris Buzzelli, will perform at 8 p.m. in Bryan Recital Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free admission.

Nov. 10—A reception for the College’s annual Student Exhibition, at 3 p.m. in Willard Wankelman Gallery of the Fine Arts Center. Free admission.

Nov. 13—The BGSU Marching Band presents “Sounds of the Stadium,” recreating the atmosphere of a sporting event in a concert setting. The performance begins at 3 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free admission.

Nov. 13—The BGSU Jazz Lab Band II, with Director Jeff Halsey, will be in concert at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free admission.

Nov. 15—The BGSU Jazz Lab Band II, with Director Jeff Halsey, will be in concert at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. Free admission.
Celebrations to honor veterans set for November 11 at UT

As veterans cross the nation and around the world are honored Nov. 11, 2011, a Veterans Day celebration will be held on the University of Toledo Main Campus to give those who served a chance to reconnect with each other and to provide the public an opportunity to thank the men and women who keep our country safe.

A breakfast for veterans will be served at 8:45 a.m. at Savage Arena followed by a presentation at 9:30 a.m. Acremony of remembrance open to the public will begin at 11 a.m. at the UT Veterans Plaza, located on the northeast corner of Centennial Mall. Transportation to the arena will be provided. The celebration is sponsored by the Lucas County Commissioners, the American Red Cross of Greater Toledo, the Lucas County Veterans Service Commission, Block Communications, and UT.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Beasley, chair of UT’s Department of Military Science, will give the keynote speech during the morning breakfast. “This is an opportunity to thank veterans for their service and a reminder to everyone that in times of need, there always have been men and women who rise to serve the nation,” Beasley said. “We need to be sure we recognize their efforts and never take for granted those who volunteer.”

Lee Armstrong, a retired U.S. Navy veteran and executive director of the Lucas County Veterans Service Commission, noted that according to the last census, only 4 percent of Ohioans have served in the armed forces. “Certainly the families of armed services members also are asked to make sacrifices, but it is important that we take the time to step back and thank veterans and current members of the armed forces for the work they do to enable the society we all enjoy,” Armstrong said.

Tim Yenrick, executive director of the local Red Cross chapter, said support for veterans and their families around the world is an important part of the emergency response organization’s mission. “Service and support for the military and their families is a part of our past and will be a part of our future,” Yenrick said. “We’re honored to help celebrate the contributions of so many men and women to this country.”

In addition to remarks by Lucas County Commissioner Tina Skeldon-Wozniak, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Mayor Michael Bell, and State Senator Teresa Fedor, there will be words from Jacob Cox, a UT student and president of the last Student Veterans of America. “This can be a difficult transition. You’re often a little older than those in class with you, and have had different experiences. There’s a mutual bond with other military members and connecting with them can help make college a better experience,” said Cox, who served as a U.S. Army special agent in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne in 2007 and 2008.

The morning’s events will conclude in the plaza with remarks from UT Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Cadet Battalion Commander Chazine Jablonski, a senior majoring in criminal justice. “My time at UT and in ROTC has really changed the meaning and significance of Veteran Day for me,” Jablonski said. “As my understanding of the military and sacrifices of so many women and men has grown, so has my thanks for veterans and members of the armed forces.”

Kateri Catholic Academy teaches kids how to manage money and stay out of the dog house

Fifth and sixth grade students at Kateri Catholic Academy will learn to stay out of the financial “dog house” when Mrs. Kristin Dobrovic, CPA and Vice President of Finance at Kateri Catholic Academy and Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School visits their class on Nov. 9, 2011.

Dobrovic will lead students in a fun and competitive game called FETCH!, which stands for Financial Education Teaches Children Healthy Habits®. The program is sponsored by The Ohio Society of CPAs and The Ohio CPA Foundation, and is being presented in more than 300 classrooms today by CPAs and volunteers across Ohio. FETCH! teaches children basic money management skills so they are better equipped to make responsible financial decisions as adults.

The game is set in a dog park where teams of students own a fictional pet and are tasked with caring for and financially responsible.-

With each roll of the dice, Dobrovic will coach students on how to use their math skills and devise strategies to stay out of debt and put more money in the bank. They soon learn the responsibility isn’t just a walk in the park and the game often imitates life.

First you have to earn money to buy the basics—a leash, bowl and a bone. If Fido learns a new trick or wins first place in the dog show, you earn cash for your savings account. But if your dog is naughty, you might have to pay the neighbor’s fence. And if Fido gets sick, the vet bills can put your bank account further in the red and delay plans to start your pet sitting business.

The team that ends the game with the most money in the bank, and the most items for their pooch, wins. “FETCH! is a fun way to teach children the relationship between smart spending and saving for their future goals,” said Kristin Dobrovic. “It’s built on a simple concept, yet requires students to make decisions that have consequences they can understand, just like in real life.”

The lesson couldn’t be timelier as families across Ohio continue to struggle to meet their basic needs. According to the Federal Reserve Bank, in 2011, 40 percent of U.S. families spend more money than they earn.

A 2011 Gallup poll randomly surveyed 1,721 U.S. American students in grades 5-12 and found that the majority had goals and desires to start and run a business, but only half of the students attended schools that offer classes on how to do so.

FETCH! teaches students important budgeting and cash management skills that can be used in everyday life or to start their very first business.

FETCH! was created in 2010 by The Ohio Society of CPAs and its charitable affiliate, The Ohio CPA Foundation with guidance from elementary teachers and a curriculum developer. It includes a testing component to determine if students have mastered a basic understanding of financial terms.

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La Prensa

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Neighborhood activist reaches out to Latino teens via YouTube

Ramón Pérez is used to reaching out to Latinos and others as a neighborhood organizer for United North. But Pérez, 55, is now reaching teens through technology—with a series of YouTube videos they can see on their computers.

The first video involves encouraging young people to register to vote. Pérez even draws his presentation with a little slang and Spanglish to remain relevant.

The video was shot in a local art studio. Pérez hopes to feature a different local Latino artist in each monthly presentation. The whole idea is to give local and regional Latinos “a voice,” by making the videos interactive and inviting feedback from viewers on future episodes, topics, even naming the YouTube series.

The idea came to Pérez during his involvement with the Latino Youth Forum, a spinoff of the Hispanic Strategic Alliance. The project involved neighborhood canvassing, community meetings, and other outreach efforts.

“Hearing from the folks talking to the neighborhood, especially the young people, about having some sort of outlet to communicate with other Latino communities and others in general,” explained. “It’s just a way to promote what we’re thinking, what we’re feeling, and making it fun and informing people about different issues.”

The long-time neighborhood activist pointed out that protestors of the Arab Spring movement in the Middle East communicated via social media, such as Facebook, to gather, demonstrate, and demand change in their countries, such as in Libya and Egypt. In the U.S., the Occupy Wall Street demonstrations communicate in much the same fashion.

“It’s just another new venue for doing what people want to see and hear,” said Pérez. “It’s a good vehicle for finding out what Latinos are thinking and feeling. I’m excited about it.”

Pérez described the first YouTube effort as “real rough and experimental.” The video series is as yet unnamed, even though he joked that a friend calls it “Ramón’s Rant.” Pérez is asking for suggestions, then put it to a viewer vote with the top two or three ideas.

“I just need to get it out there and get it started, force me to do the next one,” he said, chuckling. “So hopefully, in the next month or so, I’ll have the next one ready and show it from those who do watch it and care to respond to it and give me input. The idea is to invite them to be a part of it—help develop it, to be on it, to say what they want to say.”

The idea comes at an opportune time: at the onset of the 2012 presidential campaign, as well as the unrest involved with the Occupy Movement across the country. With so much economic and political turmoil, Latinos will want to get involved and have their say. Many political pundits even believe the Latino community will decide who will become the next president, if they show up at the polls in large enough numbers.

With that in mind, Pérez demonstrated with the help of two teens how quick and easy it has become to register to vote—at a local library, the bureau of motor vehicles, and other locations.

“We just need to get ourselves in those places,” Pérez said. “Read about them, learn about them, then have something fun, creative, provocative, whatever—to say about it, respond to it. Maybe this is the vehicle to do that. I want to give them a format and a forum to do that.”

Traditional neighborhood organizing involves good old-fashioned, grassroots, face-to-face contact. But Pérez attended a recent conference on social media and other forms of communication are becoming the new strategy to reach a wider audience with a message.

“There’s new technology, new resources that have actually been out there for a while—for a lot of us are just now catching up with it and realizing it’s a very powerful tool,” he said. “A lot of people are starting to get hip to it, including me.”

The United North organizer stated the key to making the project work is to keep it open-ended and interactive, so that people discover its relevance and respond.

“It’s going to be a lot of fun. It’s going to be a whole lot of good, bad, and ugly.” Pérez said with a laugh. “I’m excited about it.”

The “Ramon Show’’ YouTube video can be accessed at this link: http://youtu.be/aSlEKIC4o7U.
LCCC to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week Nov. 17-18

Lorain County Community College will celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week with activities sure to inspire entrepreneurs of all ages.

The events will take place on Wednesday, November 16 and Thursday, November 17, on the LCCC campus. All activities are free and open to the public.

The celebration will kick off at 11 a.m., Wednesday, November 16, with a Great Lakes Innovation and Development Enterprise (GLIDE)/Open House at the Entrepreneurial Innovation Center (EIC). The open house will go until noon and include a presentation by Dennis Croco and Cliff Reynolds, co-directors of GLIDE. During this time, entrepreneurs in residence at GLIDE will open their doors to visitors.

From 12-12:50 p.m., Andrea Trogovich, an Innovation Fund award winner and owner of Wellness Integrated Network, will present at a brown bag luncheon on the topic “Female Investment Groups.” The lunch is open to the public and will be held in the EIC lobby.

From 1-1:45 p.m., Trogovich and other entrepreneurs will be available for networking and a question and answer session in the EIC lobby.

On Thursday, November 17, GLIDE will host a business assessment table in College Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jim Gray from the Small Business Development Center, along with Katie Van Dyke from GLIDE will be available to mentor and guide students interested in starting their own businesses.

V. A. Van Dyke and Gray will be joined by Mike Belisto, an Innovation Fund winner and owner of eFuneral and his partner, Ross Chaitkin. Belisto was named the “Entrepreneur in Residence” for the City of Lakewood earlier this year, and started an initiative called Startup Lakewood (www.startuplakewood.com) and created a series of events (Startup U) that focuses on topics that entrepreneurs and soon-to-be entrepreneurs care about.

For more information about Global Entrepreneurship Week at LCCC, visit www.lorainccc.edu/entrepreneurs.

The trip to nationals is not the boards, it belongs to the city of Lorain. The mobile museum has been traveling through Ohio the past month, from Fremont to Akron and in Lorain as well. Washington, Elementary showed interests in the museum through its principal, Kathy Ortiz.

“I think it’s important that we celebrate the cultural diversity that we have in the city of Lorain. May of our students come from diverse backgrounds like Guatemalan and Puerto Rican,” said Mrs. Ortiz. “I think it’s important that we celebrate and each others successes and understand each others cultures.”

Along with the Puerto Rican national anthem and Mexican hat dance, performed by Washington School students, Pepe Rivera, a local musician and artist, recited a “poesia” or poem called, “Nostalgia de Virgilio Daniela” and a traditional folk dance was performed by Kerilis Montañez, Aysia Montañez, Yoanessa Ortega, and Yami Ortega, conducted by Marla Sanabria.

The crowd of parents, students, and teachers were amazed by the performers’ discipline and grace of the dancing.

“They did such a good job,” said one parent. “They really knew what they were doing.”

Among the “wows” and applauds, the student performers shared a culture the US Census now says represents one out of four Lorain’s population—the Latino cultures.

As principal of Washington Elementary, Ortiz feels it is important “to unite these communities, to unite the students, and to unite the staff so that we can celebrate each others diversity.”

Lorain County Community College women’s volleyball team is ready to spike the competition as they take their game to the national level.

The team won the Division III District 12/20 Regional Tournament and is preparing for the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III National Championship November 10-12, 2011 in Rochester, Minn.

“This is a strong group that plays together as a team,” Coach Marc Pogachar said. “We’re looking forward to going out and playing our best as part of the Elites.”

The Lady Commodores powered the regional competition and defeated Howard Community College 3-0, Butler Community College 3-1, and Anne Arundel Community College 3-0. In the finals, the team once again defeated Butler 3-2.

This is the first time in history that the LCCC volleyball team won a regional tournament.

Three LCCC players were named to the regional all-tournament team: Britany Leininger of Elyria, Jasmine Myers of Lorain, and Kaylee Koller of Amherst. Koller also won top honors as Tournament Most Valuable Player. Leininger was previously honored by the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference as Player of the Week for the week ending October 10. That week, she racked up 24 blocks, 39 kills and six aces.

“These players did an outstanding job,” Pogachar said.

The trip to nationals comes on the heels of a steller regular season for the Lady Commodores. They recorded 26 wins and just 12 losses during the season.

“I’m so proud of this team and how well they came together,” Pogachar said. “Every girl has a role to play and understands how that role is part of what makes the team successful.”

As they prepare for nationals, the squad will continue to promote team work.

“We want to make it as far as possible. We’ll do the best we know how and see where it plays out.”

To learn more about volleyball at LCCC, visit www.lorainccc.edu/sports.

Latino cultures celebrated at Washington Elementary

By Marcus Atkinson for La Prensa


The presentation featured Lorain city school students singing and dancing to a variety of Latino music. The United States pledge of allegiance was recited in both English and Spanish, the Puerto Rican national anthem was sung, as well as a rendition of the Mexican hat dance.

Guillermo Arriaga, president of the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures said it is important for parents to show who they are, and for children to understand where they came from.

“We need to introduce our culture and keep our culture alive,” said Arriaga. “This museum is not mine, it belongs to the city of Lorain. The mobile museum has been traveling through Ohio the past month, from Fremont to Akron and in Lorain as well. Washington Elementary showed interests in the museum through its principal, Kathy Ortiz.

“I think it’s important that we celebrate the cultural diversity that we have in the city of Lorain. May of our students come from diverse backgrounds like Guatemalan and Puerto Rican,” said Mrs. Ortiz. “I think it’s important that we celebrate and each others successes and understand each others cultures.”

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As principal of Washington Elementary, Ortiz feels it is important “to unite these communities, to unite the students, and to unite the staff so that we can celebrate each others diversity.”

The University of Akron is hosting a month long series of events (Startup U) that focuses on topics that entrepreneurs care about.

For more information about Global Entrepreneurship Week at LCCC, visit www.lorainccc.edu/entrepreneurs.

Computer Engineering Technology Information Sessions at LCCC and the Midpoint Campus Center

There are few careers today that can match the opportunities available in the fast-growing field of Computer Engineering Technology. In fact, five of the top 25 jobs are related to computer systems, software and networking, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Learn how you can train for employment in this exciting field by attending an information session hosted by Lorain County Community College and The University of Akron. Sessions will be held:
• 12 p.m., Wednesday, November 16 at the Midpoint Campus Center, 50 Pearl Road, Suite 300, Brunswick;
• 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 16 at the Midpoint Campus Center;
• 11 a.m., Thursday, November 17 in room 139 of the Advanced Technologies Center on LCCC’s Elyria campus.

The LCCC and The University of Akron Computer Engineering Technology programs make it easy for you to get the training needed to land a great job. Programs will give you the skills to design and implement software, hardware interfaces and networking of equipment with computers, utilizing devices and computer communication systems.

The stackable programs allow students to earn a one-year technical certificate and associate degree from LCCC and then continue on to earn a bachelor’s degree from The University of Akron. Students can specialize in manufacturing, health care, banking and finance, digital forensics or transportation and logistics.

For more information, visit www.midpointcampus.com/itprogram.
Offer good for Church’s Chicken at
2124 Franklin Avenue
Toledo, Ohio
“But, I work full-time.”

Evenings & Weekends at Cooley Law School.

For lots of reasons, people cannot attend law school during traditional hours. The Cooley Law School curriculum was designed to work for both traditional and non-traditional students. Cooley offers classes year-round, January-May and September-December, along with day evening and weekend classes. With so many options at Cooley, many people are finding that it’s possible to fit law school into their busy lives.

Learn about Cooley Law School at cooley.edu

It’s possible.

(my saucy celebration)

The McRib® sandwich is back and every bit as good as you remember! Tender boneless pork smothered in hickory BBQ sauce, pickles and onion all on a corn-dusted roll. Try one with a Dr Pepper® and America’s Favorite Fries.®

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Journey back 2000 years to Bethlehem and discover a scientific explanation for the star the wise men followed to find the baby Jesus. The Appold Planetarium’s newest holiday show The Mystery of the Christmas Star investigates possible dates for the birth of Christ and looks at recorded sightings of significant astronomical events during this timeframe.

During The Mystery of the Christmas Star, guests will see how signs in the sky could have been remarkable enough to cause the wise men to travel across the desert from Babylon to Bethlehem to see the newborn King. This modern retelling of the Christmas story is sure to charm and captivate audiences of all ages. Shows at 7:30 p.m. on the following Saturdays: December 3, December 10, and December 17, 2011.

Admission is $5 for adults and $4 for children under 12 and for Lourdes students presenting their student ID. Shows at the Appold Planetarium are limited to 50 and often sell out. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Dr. Laura Megeath, Appold Planetarium Coordinator, email planetarium@lourdes.edu or call at 419-517-8897.

Lourdes University’s Appold Planetarium is a proud member of the NASA Museum Alliance and has been designated an official NASA Space Place. Named “Best Place to See the Stars” by Ohio Magazine, the Appold Planetarium features SciDome, a fulldome video system powered by Starry Night—the world’s most comprehensive astronomy software, allowing real-time 3D sky simulation, fulldome shows and multi-media presentations.

For a list of current and upcoming shows, visit the Appold Planetarium online at www.lourdes.edu/planetarium.

Do you love babies and young children? Due to the recent retirements of many veteran foster parents, Lucas County Children Services is looking for families to provide foster care for babies and children under five. Registration is now open for our next training class:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6 - 9 p.m., January 10 - February 16, 2012

Becoming a foster parent is easier than you think. You...

- Must be at least 21 to become a foster parent.
- Can be married or single.
- Can own or rent your home.
- Can work outside the home.
- Don’t have to earn a lot of money, just enough to support yourself.

For more information or to register, call 419-213-3336 or visit www.lucaskids.net

Foster parents always needed for children and sibling groups of all ages.

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**Svetlana Schreiber**

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“Mujeres en Rosa” (Women in Pink), a pilot program

El Centro de la Mujer (Center for Women) was recently awarded a grant by the Susan G. Komen Foundation. This funding will support an annual community and awareness pilot program about breast cancer and Latina women. The program will be implemented during the month of December, 2011.

Even though non-Hispanic Caucasian women get breast cancer at higher rates, Hispanic/Latina women are also more likely to get breast cancer. Some ethnic and racial groups have been less likely to receive breast cancer screening, and thus their breast cancers are often diagnosed at later stages. This later diagnosis increases the risk of dying from breast cancer (source: the Susan G. Komen Foundation).

The pilot program—

“Mujeres en Rosa” (Women in Pink) —will guide the participants to know their risks, know what is normal, make healthy lifestyle choices, and to get screened.

To obtain more information call 419-708-0668.

“Mujeres en Rosa”, a program piloto

El Centro de la Mujer recibió fondos de la Fundación Susan G. Komen para realizar un programa piloto de educación y concientización acerca del cáncer de mama en la mujer latina. Dicho programa se implementará comenzando el mes de diciembre.

Se sabe que aunque las mujeres blancas presentan tasas de incidencia más altas en el desarrollo de cáncer de seno, las mujeres hispanas/latinas tienen una probabilidad más alta de morir a causa del cáncer de seno que las mujeres blancas. Algunos grupos étnicos y raciales han tenido menor probabilidad de recibir servicios de detección temprana del cáncer de seno y por lo tanto, su cáncer de seno usualmente se detecta en etapas tardías. Este diagnóstico tardío aumenta la probabilidad de Morir a causa de cáncer de seno (información tomada de la Fundación Susan Komen).

El programa piloto “Mujeres en Rosa” tiene como objetivo educar en detalle a las participantes acerca del reconocimiento de los riesgos, determinar que es normal, tener un estilo de vida saludable y la importancia de la prevención. Para más información llame al 419-708-0668.

El Centro celebrates Dec. 14th opening at annual fundraiser

By Marcus Atkinson for La Prensa

Five years ago, the board of El Centro de Servicios Sociales Inc. made a promise to raise money for a new building that would serve the people of Lorain. The promise was also made to stay together, for the sake of the campaign, no retirements, no resignations.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, during its 37th Annual Gala, the campaign came to an end with its goal to raise funds to move the new facility to 2800 Pearl Avenue. It was achieved and now El Centro will have space almost doubling the size of its original facility, which will undoubtedly dominate the majority of community members in South Lorain.

This year has been many hardships and many successes,” said Victor Leandry, executive director of El Centro. “And I can proudly say that we will open the new building next month Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011, at 7pm.”

The opening day is actually an open house for the community to see the inside of the building, what Leandry says is not his, it is not El Centro’s, it belongs to the people, and the city of Lorain.

This building belongs to the community, and we did not want the community have to debt.” According to Margarita Quiniones, vice president of El Centro and chairwoman of the capital campaign to raise money for the new facility. Fundraising began three years ago; the goal was to raise $1.5 million, but the campaign fell short slightly at $1.2 million. But that will not stop the doors from opening and services to begin.

“Though we didn’t raise all the money the building will be fully functioning and ready to go,” said Karol Perez, youth program coordinator of El Centro.

“Even though the building isn’t open yet, and we didn’t have an opening date yet, agencies came to partner with us to provide services to Lorain,” said Leandry.

The news of the new facility opening and more services for Lorain comes at a time when the Brookings Institute released poverty numbers Thursday, Nov. 3 that showed Lorain – in particular South Lorain – had experienced high poverty level spikes over the past five years.

Donors of the capital campaign were truly a community effort, spearheaded by financial institutions, community organizations, and private donations. The Gala attendees were supporters of El Centro – which provides services for the youth, the elderly, the disabled, and those who speak only Spanish. Joel Arredondo, Lorain City Council President, was in attendance as well as Lorain’s Roy Carrion, interim director of community development. Marcy Kaptur, congresswoman for the 9th Congressional District, was in attendance as well as Ted Kevo, Lorain County Commissioner.

Lidia Cavanaugh and Richard Yoquish,(Language) the pilot program on Hispanic/Latino Affairs traveled to enjoy the night, and representatives of the Lorain County Hispanic Fund showed support. Antonio Martinez, vice president of the Coalition for Hispanic/Latino Issues and Progress (CHISP) and others from the Vietnamese American Business & Entrepreneurs, El Centro de la Mujer, the Lorain County Health Department and Healthy Lorain County.

The gala was a huge success and举出了五位嘉宾,Leandry shared his thoughts.

“People have come up to me and said ‘did you get a plaque or something,’ I said no, because today is not goodbye,” said Leandry. “She sheereum! February, today is a day to celebrate.”

Latinos in eastern Pa., and elsewhere, searching for opportunity

By KATE WILCOX, Reading Eagle

READING, Pa., Nov. 2, 2011 (AP): Mariano Torres graduated from high school in Puerto Rico. He had no money and no way to better his life.

Job opportunities were scarce in Puerto Rico in 1960, when at age 20 Mariano decided to move to Reading, a place where—he had heard—jobs were plentiful.

“In that time, it was difficult to find a job in Puerto Rico,” Mariano, now 71, said in Spanish. “Where I lived was beautiful and very historic, but it did not have opportunities.”

He settled on Third Street in Reading, not far from his future wife, Aida, whose family lived in a small Puerto Rican enclave on Pine Street. The couple formally met at the Puerto Rican Civic Association in 1961. It was love at first sight.

“I think it always goes that way,” Mariano said.

They married in 1962 in St. Peter’s Church on South Fifth Street and raised four children in Reading. Mariano made a living at Birdsboro Steel Corp., at which he worked for 31 years. Aida was an interpreter for the Reading School District. Now retired and living in Birdsboro, the couple’s story is typical of Puerto Ricans who came to Reading in the years after World War II, lured by the promise of jobs in the factories, mushroom plants and chicken-processing farms of Berks County.

By 1970 there were nearly 10,000 Latinos in Reading, or about 10 percent of the population.

Mariano’s father, Daniel Torres, already was a civic leader in Reading when Mariano arrived in 1960. Daniel Torres was a founder of the Puerto Rican Civic Association and Reading’s Hispanic Center, which now bears his name.

The Torres family and others were the roots of a Latino community that, by 2010, had grown to 51,230, or 58 percent of Reading’s population.

“We came for the same reason everyone else did,” said Aida Torres, 69. “For a better environment. For a better life.”

And since Puerto Rico was a territory of the U.S., there was no need to apply for citizenship or a green card.

“The service jobs are there,” said Michael Rivera, assistant vice president of the Puerto Rican Civic Association and Reading’s Hispanic Center. “And Latinos take advantage of that.”

Among them was Marcelino Colón Sr., who was 16 when he came to Reading from Puerto Rico in 1946, following his brother, Francisco Colón, who had joined the Army.

Colón started working at the Crystal Restaurant on Penn Street and soon could communicate in Spanish with the Italian immigrant workers there.

Later, like Mariano Torres, Colón took a job at Birdsboro Steel, where he operated a crane for 28 years. Eventually, because of the huge number of production and industrial trial jobs, more of his siblings came to Reading.

“They said, ‘Hey, I hear it’s a nice town,’” said Marcelino Colón Jr., Colón’s son and the United Way of Berks County’s director of community development.

“Jobs were plentiful that didn’t require English skills or a college education.”

But, Colón Jr. said, his father learned English along with the Italian immigrants.

“That generation is completely bilingual,” he said. “They had to learn it to survive.”

Growth in Reading’s Puerto Rican population has slowed in recent years, but with about 36,300 residents, Puerto Rican residents are still Berks County’s largest Latino group.

Mariano’s father, Daniel Torres, said the family moved into the suburbs.

Colón now lives with his family in Mohlneberg Township.

Most recently, Dominican Republic immigrants have come to Reading. From 2000 to 2010, Berks County’s Dominican population climbed to 10,545 from 8,155.

“People are looking for peace,” said Rafael Nuñez, a Dominican immigrant.

Many Dominicans, he said, are transplants from New York and New Jersey, drawn by low housing prices in Berks.

“They are coming here to start businesses,” Nuñez said, pointing to the small grocer stores known as bodegas that dot many Reading street corners.

Latinos dominate the small-business market in Reading, mirroring a trend that saw Latino-owned businesses expand at twice the national average from 2002 to 2007.

In Pennsylvania, Latino businesses increased 43.7 percent in that period.

Latinos — mostly Dominicans and Mexicans — own the majority of multi-services, auto mechanic shops, beauty salons, barber shops and bodegas in Reading.

“The Dominican population is growing and they’re entrepreneurs,” said Rivera of the Chamber of Commerce.

“In a lot of those countries, there’s not a lot of work and they have to find some way to feed their families.”

Another reason immigrants turn to opening their own businesses could be language barriers or immigration status.

“They can’t get work, so instead of looking, they’ll start their own business,” Rivera said.

These small businesses are largely owned by first-generation immigrants.

One problem with this business model is that too many bodegas can choke the market.

“Business is slow,” bodega owner Ronnie Díaz said. “And I hear that from everyone. Nearly everyone I know owns a bodega.”

Díaz and his father, Francisco Díaz, own Díaz Grocery and Restaurant on Franklin Street and Surangel Grocery on Washington Street. Like many other bodegas, they sell Latino products such as Fabuloso dish wash and Goya beans and rice.

Often, aside from providing groceries, the bodegas are central to community life, offering Latinos a place where they feel comfortable among others who speak their language.

Ronnie Díaz came to Reading from the Dominican Republic six years ago and stayed because his family is here and the city is quieter than New York.

“And I want to own a house some day,” he said. “Prices are cheap in Reading.”

For at least 60 years, that sense of opportunity and optimism has been a familiar theme among Latinos making Reading their home.

“It has been good here,” said Aida Torres. “We were poor and we came to better ourselves.”


Information from: Reading Eagle http://www.readingeagle.com/
Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-052, (Project #) 5004-11-1629 for University Medical Center Emergency Room Final Renovations for the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Main Campus, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 2:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from Julie Caveuse of MBA Architects and Planners at 419-873-8450. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. in the Health Education Building, Room 105, at the University of Toledo, Health Science Campus, 3000 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required by section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: $35,000,000; Breakdown: General Const: $229,553,000; Plumbing: $48,500,000; Fire Protection: $5,000,000; HVAC: $23,000,000; & Electrical: $79,000,000.

Notice to Bidders: Inquiry # FY12-056, (Project #) 0093-12-794 for The Crossings Mass Notification Upgrade for the University of Toledo. Sealed bids for this project must be clearly marked with the project number on all inner and outer envelopes and/or shipping containers. Bids must be addressed and delivered to the University of Toledo, Facilities and Construction, Plant Operations, Room 1100, 2925 E. Rocket Drive, MS 216, Toledo, Ohio 43606 before 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Bids will be publicly opened that same day at 3:05 p.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000. Copies of Plans, Specifications, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615. Call 419-385-5303 for an appointment to pick up bid package. A cost of $40.00 will be charged per set. Any further information may be obtained from David Desjardins, P.E. of JDRM Engineering, Inc. at 419-824-2400. One Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Plant Operations Building, Room 1000, at the University of Toledo. 2925 E. Rocket Drive, Toledo, OH 43606. Total Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond are required per blueprint 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. EDGE Participation Goal: 10%. Project Estimate: $250,000,000; Breakdown: Electrical: $250,000,000.

The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Pipefitters.

Overview
The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is $32.09 per hour. After six months the rate of pay is $34.07.

Scope of Work
Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is in all shop and outside in all weather conditions. Perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned. Candidate will be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work; participate in training programs as assigned; and understand and comply with Toledo Refining work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

Qualifications
Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a high school diploma or equivalent; and hold a current driver's license.

Completion of a state approved Pipelife apprenticeship program with no less than 5 years work experience or equivalent work experience is required. Equivalent work is no less than 8 years as a Pipelife. Successful candidates must possess First Class Pipelife work experience and First Class Pipelife skills. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Working knowledge of blueprint reading and hand-sketching related to prime skill. Ability to work from written and oral directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work, function as a member of a team to get work done; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation of refinery equipment. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Must meet written test and skills demonstration requirements.

Unusual Working Conditions
Must be able to perform physically-active assignments including work on high structures and within confined spaces. Mandatory overtime as required as well as occasional shift work required.

Conditions of Employment
Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; ability to demonstrate basic computer skills; and pass a post offer pre-employment physical, background check and drug screening.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, November 27th, 2011. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter.

All interested candidates must submit a resume to the following e-mail address:

TLR.hiringmanager@pbfinergy.com Please place “Pipelife” in the subject line. Also, only use Microsoft Word as the format for resumes. EOE/M/F/D/V

The Toledo Refining Company, LLC is currently hiring First Class Maintenance Machinists.

Overview
The Toledo Refining Company is located in Oregon, Ohio and is owned by PBF Energy LLC. The refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 170,000 barrels per day. Our company is committed to a foundation of safe and environmentally compliant operations so all employees must follow all procedures and safe work practices. Starting pay is $32.09 per hour. After six months the rate of pay is $34.07.

Scope of Work
Completion of assignments relative to the maintenance or installation of equipment within the Refinery utilizing First Class prime skills. Work to be performed is in all shop and outside in all weather conditions. Candidate will perform tasks in other incidental craft areas as assigned; be held accountable for the quality and quantity of work; participate in training programs as assigned; and understand and comply with Toledo Refining Co. work rules, the Code of Conduct and Company Policies and Procedures.

Qualifications
Must be at least 18 years of age; be legally authorized to work in the United States without restrictions; hold a high school diploma or equivalent; and hold a current driver’s license.

Completion of a Machinist apprenticeship program or equivalent work experience is required. Equivalent work is no less than 3 years as a Machinist or millwright. Successful candidates must possess First Class Machinist work experience and First Class Machinist skills as a field Machinist and/or a shop Machinist. Ability to demonstrate First Class performance is required. Working knowledge of blueprint reading and hand-sketching related to prime skill. Ability to work from written and verbal directions to perform assigned tasks. Ability to coordinate work; function as a member of a team to get work done; perform tasks in any craft as incidental work; and participate in training programs to maintain and/or upgrade skills. Must have working knowledge of equipment and tools required to expedite the efficient installation of refinery equipment. Candidate must have the physical ability to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Must meet written test and skills demonstration requirements.

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Conditions of Employment
Written tests and assessments; meeting physical criteria for the job; a physical skills demonstration test; ability to demonstrate basic computer skills; and pass a post offer pre-employment physical, background check and drug screening.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must submit their resume per the following process on or before 11:59 PM on Sunday, November 27th, 2011. All contact information must be accurate and up to date. Selected candidates will be notified and assigned a testing date and time by phone and letter.

All interested candidates must submit a resume to the following e-mail address:

TLR.hiringmanager@pbfinergy.com Please place “Machinist” in the subject line. Also, only use Microsoft Word as the format for resumes. EOE/M/F/D/V
TECHNICAL SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

Part-time (15-18 hrs/week) position available for experienced individual to ensure continuity of computer system services for computer users by providing technical expertise and assistance necessary to install computer software products, modify or repair hardware and resolve technical issues. Desired candidate must be proficient in Windows XP and Windows 7 troubleshooting. Must demonstrate the ability to define problems, analyze data, establish facts, draw valid conclusions and make recommendations.

Send résumé or apply to: Human Resources – IT
1425 Starr Avenue
Toledo, OH 43605
Fax 419.936.7574
Email: hr@unisonbhg.org
EOE

Unison Behavioral Health Group, Inc.
Join us for a Career Fair!
Wednesday, November 16, 2011
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
at our Cherry Street Location
1212 Cherry Street
Toledo, Ohio 43608

Bring your résumé, complete an application, and speak with hiring managers. Enjoy refreshments and register for door prizes.

Opportunities are available in AOD Adolescent Residential, AOD Child/Adolescent, Child/Family Community Based, Dual Diagnosis and Intensive Services.

AOD Clinical Coordinator
AOD Therapists
AOD Clinicians
AOD Residential Specialists
Program Manager, CPST Services
CPST Clinicians
CPST Clinician-Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment
CPST Clinician – Child/Family Community Based Services

For additional information regarding position requirements, please visit our website at www.unisonbhg.org. If you are not able to make our Career Fair and are interested in these or other employment opportunities, please contact us directly at 419-936-7576 for an application or email your résumé to hr@unisonbhg.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer

HELP WANTED!
Need Housekeepers for Cleveland Area hotels/offices,
440.887.0916

Certified Occupational Therapy
Assistant – 7200

The University of Toledo Medical Center has an opening for a full-time, COTA in Occupational Therapy. Under the supervision of an OTRL, this position facilitates individual and group interventions to rehabilitate persons with sensorimotor, cognitive and psychosocial impairments through meaningful occupations. Qualifications include: Must maintain current licensure from Ohio Board of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers. Please apply online at https://jobs.utoledo.edu. Review of application materials will begin November 14, 2011. EO/AA Employer MF/D/V

Front Desk for Leasing Office
Bi-Lingual

Required Qualifications: Bi-lingual, Professional, Self-starter, Motivated, Organized, Telephone Etiquette; Computer Literate, Team Player, Reliable and Detail oriented. Personal transportation.

Duties:
• Answer/Respond to Incoming telephone and on-site inquiries of potential tenants;
• Host walk-through of property;
• Perform occupancy pre-lease process;
Base pay: $8/hour plus commission.
Hours: Part Time availability to work weekends and evenings;
Location: Southwest Detroit.

Send résumé via email to: H. Payne
Incorporated h.payneinc@att.net

BUY THIS SPACE! ADVERTISE IN LA PRENSA!
(419) 870-6565 Toledo
(313) 729-4435 Detroit
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INTERESTED BIDDERS: TOLEDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Deveaux Middle School, Leverette Junior High and Washington Kindergarten School DEMOLITION

Sealed bids will be accepted by the Board of Education of the Toledo Public School District until 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 23rd 2011, at the Toledo Public Schools Treasurers’ Room 3, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608, for all labor, material and supervision necessary for the Demolition of Deveaux Middle School, Leverette Junior High and Washington Kindergarten, as more fully described in the drawings and specifications for the project prepared by The Collaborative, Inc. and will be opened publicly and read immediately thereafter.

Bid Documents for the project may be examined at the F.W. Dodge plan room in Columbus, Builders Exchange in Toledo, University of Toledo – Capacity Building, E.O.P.A. – Hamilton Building, Northwest Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and The Plan Room in Ann Arbor, Construction Association of Michigan, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and Ohio Construction News.

Bid documents may be purchased from Becker Impressions, 4646 Angola Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615, phone: (419) 385-5363. Drawings may be obtained on CD-ROM for no cost with the purchase of the specifications.

PREBID CONFERENCE is scheduled for Friday November 11, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Toledo Public Schools Board Room, 420 E. Manhattan Blvd., Toledo, Ohio 43608. Site walk-throughs at the schools will commence after the pre-bid meeting according to the schedule provided at the meeting.

If you have any questions or need for additional information, please direct all questions in writing to Patrick.Stutler@lgb-llc.com, by phone at (419) 776-5600, or fax at (877) 281-0784.

Bid Package – Deveaux Middle School:
Bid Item No. 1 Deveaux Middle School Building Demolition $493,419.00

Bid Package – Leverette Junior High:
Bid Item No. 1 East Toledo Junior High Building Demolition $405,592.00

Bid Package – Washington Kindergarten:
Bid Item No. 1 Washington Elementary School Building Demolition $161,092.00

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Unit Kitchen Replacement – Robert Dorrell Manor
IFB #11103-01

WANTED WANTED
Entrepreneurial leaders in the Latino Community
Join us Friday, Nov. 11th at 7 pm to find out more.

SeaGate Convention Centre
401 Jefferson Ave.
Toledo, OH 43604

Please present this ad upon arrival

St. Patrick of Heatherdowns
Winter Bazaar
Saturday, November 12, 2011,
10:00AM to 4:00PM
Bring the family and make the annual Winter Bazaar your free Saturday outing. There will be a variety of exciting crafts to purchase, face painting and hourly raffles. The Girl Scouts will be selling refreshments and lunch. We look forward to seeing you there.

COMMERCIAL BUILDING
FOR SALE
In Downtown Toledo near courthouse.
3 levels.
For More Information CALL 419-870-6565

SE SOLICITAN TECNICOS INSTALADORES de ANTENAS DE SATELLITE; SUELDO DESDE $200.00 DIARIOS; llame para contratación INMEDIATA! 1-877-247-0370!

SEAMSTRESS NEEDED
Must have experience in womens clothing manufacturing.
Will operate serger, straight stitch and various industrial machinery, plus light pressing.
Competitive Wages-Part time till January. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-5 January Full time after training completed.
Contact-Lisia 248 629 9650 or email lisia@saaintfoval.com

Abundant Life
of Perrysburg
is a subsidized independent housing facility for those 62 or older.
We are located in a beautiful, quiet residential setting in Perrysburg.

Abundant Life offers one bedroom garden apartments with private patios, indoor mailboxes, reserved parking and busing to local grocery stores. Applications are now being accepted.

Call 419-872-3510 or 419-874-4371.

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Drivers: CDL-A 23yoa
Home Weekends, Excellent Pay
Great Equipment.
Health/Dental, 401K match.
Tucker: 800-359-9710 x105

Happy Birthday
LEO
PECINA
Nov. 11

Happy Birthday
MICHAEL
PECINA II
Nov. 9

Happy Birthday
SONIA
PECINA
Nov. 9

Happy Birthday
JOSE
BRIONES
Nov. 9

Happy Birthday
VICENTE
OLVERA
Nov. 9

Love your dad
George

Sanchez Roofing
Preventive m a i n t ; roofrepairs; rubberroofing; re-roof shingles; 25 years exp; roof coatings; roof leaks; se habla espanol.

Call Pete Sánchez 419-787-0612!

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Housing Cleaning Service

• Residential
• Commercial
• Serving East & West Cleveland
Contact Luis:
216-832-1437

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LaPrensa1@yahoo.com

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Cleveland Public Library ranked one of the top four libraries in the nation

Cleveland Public Library (CPL) was ranked one of the top four libraries in the country, receiving the highest possible rating of five stars in the Library Journal’s America’s Star Libraries 2011, and moved up in the rankings after another strong year.

“The Library Journal’s ranking is just more proof that Cleveland Public Library is providing superior service and value to our city and region by promoting both a love of books and reading while propelling Cleveland forward through our community-based programming,” said Felton Thomas, CPL’s executive director. “It’s exciting to see that our signature collections and progressive community agenda are making a difference.”

Library Journal’s Index of Public Library Service (LJ Index) ranks more than 7,000 library systems in four categories: library visits, circulation, program attendance, and public Internet usage. Cleveland Public Library ranked 4th out of all library systems nationwide in its category and improved its overall ranking because of increases in circulation and higher usage of computers as even more community members turn to libraries for resources in these tougher financial times.

A strong supporter and advocate of CPL, Mayor Frank G. Jackson lauded the news. “On behalf of the City of Cleveland, we congratulate the Cleveland Public Library for the five-star rating they received from the Library Journal,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “This honor is a reflection of the outstanding and invaluable services the Library provides to our children, their families and job seekers. The 28 branches of the Cleveland Public Library are community assets that allow residents throughout our neighborhoods access to much needed resources and programming everyday.”

Nov. 1, 2011: A series of events will be held at Cuyahoga Community College to observe National Distance Learning Week, Nov. 7-11.

Throughout the week, student activity tables will be set up on each campus and webinars and information sessions will be offered online. For more information about National Distance Learning Week at Tri-C, please visit www.el1.wordpress.com or contact Kevin Dranuski at 216.987.6123 or Kevin.Dranuski@tri-c.edu.

“Tri-C is continually responding to the changing needs of the local community, recognizing that students require more flexible and convenient schedules to start and finish college. We are excited to participate in National Distance Learning Week in support of the students who benefit from these course offerings,” says Dr. Christina Royal, associate vice president of the Office of eLearning and Innovation.

Distance learning has evolved significantly over the past several years. More than 90 percent of all Tri-C students register for classes online, with approximately one-third enrolling in some form of distance learning. Tri-C offers 51 degrees and 13 certificates at a distance, making it Ohio’s second-largest provider of distance learning coursework.

“This week was developed to celebrate and create greater awareness of distance learning and to recognize leaders as well as best practices in the field,” says Dr. Kenneth Hartman, national committee chair and academic director of Drexel University Online.

“The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) could not have found a better person to lead this initiative,” said Dr. John Flores, chief executive officer and president of USDLA. “Dr. Hartman’s experience in education and the media will ultimately result in a very successful campaign to educate the public about distance learning.”

About Distance Learning: Online learning is the fastest growing segment of education with 3.5 million adults and 700,000 K-12 students taking a course and or completing their degree completely online. Distance learning is the acquisition of knowledge and skills through mediated information and instruction, encompassing all technologies and other forms of learning at a distance. National Distance Learning Week is an initiative that was developed to generate greater awareness and appreciation for distance learning and to recognize leaders and best practices in the field.

Growth starts at the Minority Business Development Center.

Cleveland’s new Minority Business Development Center, a strategic partner of COSE, will work one-on-one with you to give you greater access to capital and financing assistance with non-traditional partners, and introduce you to new procurement opportunities to help expand your business.

The time for growth is now. Contact the MBDA at 216.592.2253 or visit us at gpartnership.com/MBDACleveland today.
Día de los Muertos honors first Toledo familias
See article by Kevin Milliken on Page 2.