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El Concilio California to Open Charter School Named for Hometown Hero, NASA Astronaut José M. Hernández

By Latino Times

The longstanding community organization and the largest Hispanic-led nonprofit social services in the Central Valley, El Concilio California, has expanded operations with the creation of the affiliate 501(c)(3) El Concilio California Academies – the independent K-12 nonprofit educational arm of the agency that will open its first charter school – the Astronaut José M. Hernández Academy – for grades K-8 in Stockton this school year.

“The formation of El Concilio California Academies, or ECC Academies for short, is a natural progression for us,” El Concilio California president and CEO and ECC Academies Board Chair,

José R. Rodríguez stated. “It’s built upon our founding agency’s 50 years of experience providing comprehensive, early education for each stage of development at our Early Childhood Development Centers that provide research-based curriculum for infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children in a nurturing environment that promotes proper physical, mental, cognitive, social, and emotional development.”

ECC Academies will continue the personalized support and connections that the children receive at its parent agency’s Early Childhood Development Centers. Scheduled to open on August 10, 2022, and available to all Stockton

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Astronaut José M. Hernández

El Concilio California abrirá una escuela charter de inmersión bilingüe Nombrado por el Hero local, el astronauta de la NASA José M. Hernández

Por Latino Times

La organización sin fines de lucro de larga data y de servicio social comunitaria liderado por hispanos más grande en el Valle Central, El Concilio California, ha ampliado sus operaciones con la creación de la afiliada 501(c)(3) El Concilio California Academies, la organización educativa independiente sin fines de lucro K-12, una rama de la agencia que abrirá su primera escuela charter, la Academia Astronauta José M. Hernández, para los grados K-8 en Stockton este año escolar.

“La formación de El Concilio California Academies, o ECC Academies para abreviar, es una progresión natural para nosotros”, afirmó el presidente y director ejecutivo de El Concilio California y presidente de la junta de ECC Academies, José R. Rodríguez. “Se basa en los 50 años de experiencia de nuestra agencia fundadora brindando educación temprana integral para cada etapa de desarrollo en nuestros Centros de Desarrollo a Temprana Edad que brindan un plan de estudios basado en la investigación para bebés, niños pequeños y niños en edad preescolar en un entorno enriquecedor que promueve la salud física adecuada, mental, cognitivo, social y emocional”.

Las Academies ECC continuarán con el apoyo personalizado y las conexiones que los niños reciben en los Centros de Desarrollo a Temprana Edad

de su agencia de origen. Programada para abrir el 10 de agosto de 2022 y disponible para todos los estudiantes de Stockton, la recién nombrada escuela autónoma Astronaut José M. Hernández Academy, con una capacidad actual de 350 estudiantes y con mucho espacio para el crecimiento futuro, continuará brindando a los estudiantes y familias con un sólido vínculo comunitario que se encuentran en sus Centros de Desarrollo a Temprana Edad.

Al conocer a Rodríguez en la nueva escuela, una de las primeras cosas que queríamos saber era cómo sucedió todo. “Habíamos estado desarrollando planes para abrir una escuela charter desde hace varios años”, respondió rápidamente Rodríguez. “Entonces, cuando recibimos el pedido de tomar el control de la antigua Delta Bridges Charter School y hacerla nuestra, pareció fortuito y oportuno. Ya teníamos la visión y el plan; ahora, teníamos la escuela”.

Mientras nos daba un recorrido por la escuela charter recientemente renovada, Rodríguez continuó: “hace tiempo que sabemos que los niños de nuestro Centro de Desarrollo y sus padres están tristes por dejar a la familia de El Concilio California después de graduarse de uno de nuestros Centros para irse a la escuela primaria. Pero con la formación de ECC Academies y sus escuelas charteres, esa consistencia de

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Student Fast-Tracks Her Legal Career at Humphreys University

By Sabrina Cortes

Karen Calderon was born in Berkeley and moved to the Central Valley in 2006. Her family became established in the area, and she attended local public schools until she was a freshman in high school. Little did she know that her next move would set her up to reach her academic and career goals.

Ms. Calderon’s cousin knew she wanted to be a lawyer and told her about ABLE Charter School. ABLE Charter School is located in north Stockton and strives to expose students to career pathways in business, law and education. ABLE was founded by Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn and Dr. Robert Humphreys, Sr. in 2012 with the goal of empowering students to be independent, life-long learners and

productive global citizens. Many local high school students are not exposed to college experiences and ABLE is uniquely positioned with Humphreys University to introduce students to college early on so they know that a college degree is achievable. The more Karen learned about ABLE and its affiliation with Humphreys University, the more it confirmed that it was the right place for her.

Karen enrolled in ABLE Charter School in her sophomore year. One of the advantages of attending ABLE Charter School was that many of the AP classes articulated, or transferred in, to Humphreys University. She also took advantage of dual enrollment courses

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El Concilio

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mensajes y valores, apoyos y recursos continuará". Al observar el nuevo campus de Stockton, Rodríguez opinó: "Hemos estado creando un camino para que los niños ingresen a la escuela primaria y logren el éxito académico en el futuro durante 50 años. Ahora, con las Academias ECC, todos los niños de Stockton podrán beneficiarse de la participación coordinada de los padres y de las relaciones positivas entre maestros y niños que se derivan de los valores fundamentales de nuestros Centros de Desarrollo".

Nombrada en honor al exastronauta de la NASA José M. Hernández, quizás el hijo más famoso de una familia inmigrante local, la nueva escuela para los grados K-8 brindará a los estudiantes un plan de estudios centrado en STEM de inmersión bilingüe (inglés y español). "STEM significa Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas", señaló Rodríguez, "y por supuesto las Artes". La integración del plan de estudios bilingüe es significativa porque es un modelo de instrucción que puede ayudar a reducir la brecha de rendimiento entre los hablantes nativos de inglés y los estudiantes ELL (aprendices del idioma inglés). "La investigación ha demostrado que en un mundo cada vez más globalizado, quienes sepan inglés y otro idioma tendrán ventajas económicas y políticas", subrayó Rodríguez. "Se ha demostrado que tener un conocimiento profundo de otro idioma contribuye a un beneficio cognitivo en la creatividad y la conciencia metalingüística y mejora la comprensión intercultural. Y otra investigación ha demostrado que los estudiantes inscritos en programas de lenguaje dual tienen más probabilidades de permanecer en la escuela y continuar con la educación postsecundaria".

"Me siento honrado de que la escuela lleve mi nombre", dijo el astronauta José M. Hernández en una entrevista reciente. "Espero que el nombre de la escuela inspire a los estudiantes a soñar en grande y darse cuenta de que no importa dónde empiezas sino dónde terminas". También espera que la escuela sea un conducto para hacer realidad los sueños de los estudiantes. "José Hernández personifica lo que representa la escuela", compartió Rodríguez, "que a través de la tenacidad todos pueden alcanzar sus sueños y desarrollar las habilidades que Dios les ha dado".

En funcionamiento continuo durante más de 54 años, El Concilio California se guía por su misión de confianza de animar y defender a las poblaciones marginadas, minoritarias, económicamente segregadas y comunidades de color de California al brindarles acceso a servicios, programas y recursos cruciales para aumentar el bienestar psicológico y económico. Brindar acceso y servicios a más de 75,000 personas y familias anualmente a través de un enfoque de persona integral, El Concilio California ayuda a las personas a crear mejores futuros para ellos y sus familias, convertirse en líderes de la comunidad y, a su vez, empoderar a otros.

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seleccionados para los condados de Calaveras, Kern, Madera y Merced, los programas, el alcance, la participación comunitaria y el estado financiero de la agencia han crecido constantemente hasta convertirse en un presupuesto anual de \$ 25.73 millones, que atiende a niños, jóvenes, adultos, personas mayores y familias a través de sus seis departamentos que ofrecen más de 40 programas esenciales y 24 proyectos y servicios receptivos en salud y servicios humanos, educación y desarrollo infantil, salud mental y conductual, educación para adultos y desarrollo de la fuerza laboral, inmigración y servicios legales para sobrevivientes, así como participación cívica y desarrollo del liderazgo.

Ahora, con la creación de las Academias ECC, los estudiantes de la escuela primaria y secundaria pueden esperar que todos sus maestros los desafíen y exijan en la multitud de cursos de arte, ciencias, matemáticas y humanidades que ofrecen. Con asesores docentes dedicados, las aulas de la Academia serán espacios colaborativos, guiados por maestros que se preocupan profundamente por sus estudiantes. Para la directora de la nueva escuela, Donita Drulias-Daumer, "se trata de abrazar y apoyar a todos los que forman parte de la familia ECC, tanto en el aula como en la comunidad". Acompañándonos en nuestro recorrido, el orgullo de Drulias-Daumer es evidente. "Estamos hablando de una atmósfera en la que se alentará a los estudiantes a probar cosas fuera de sus zonas de confort, sin ansiedades ni presiones innecesarias para conformarse. ECC Academies no es solo una continuación de las relaciones comunitarias únicas construidas en El Concilio California, sino también una oportunidad para promover de manera efectiva las metas y los objetivos a largo plazo tanto de la agencia como de ECC Academies para aumentar la equidad para todos con base en el respeto, la integridad y el éxito".

La misión de las Academias ECC es inspirar a una comunidad diversa de estudiantes a la excelencia moral, intelectual, estética y física para que cada uno pueda alcanzar logros honorables y contribuir al bien común, guiados por los principios de Respeto, Integridad y Éxito a través de la Educación. ECC Academies busca empoderar a los estudiantes, especialmente aquellos de color y aquellos en comunidades desatendidas, para aprovechar las oportunidades educativas. Lo hace proporcionando maestros, consejeros y modelos a seguir positivos en un entorno comunitario de apoyo con expectativas definidas y metas alcanzables. En el corto plazo, el programa busca fortalecer el rendimiento académico, la autoconciencia y la autoeficacia de cada estudiante. A más largo plazo, ECC Academies busca inspirar a nuestros estudiantes a seguir una educación postsecundaria y carreras satisfactorias. Para obtener más información sobre las Academias ECC y cómo inscribir a su hijo en su nueva Academia Astronauta José M. Hernández, puede encontrar más información en línea en www.ECCAcademies.org

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Humphreys

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offered to ABLE students. Dual enrollment courses allow students to take college courses while in high school and earn high school and college credits at the same time with no tuition or book costs. The only requirement as an ABLE student is to pass a college entrance exam. Taking articulation courses and dual enrollment courses helped Karen save years of schooling in the long run.

Karen was awarded the Gregory Vaughn Memorial Book Scholarship and graduated high school in 2016 with 88 college credits by taking courses, including Oral Communications, various legal classes (like Torts and Contracts), and Psychology. Ms. Calderon obtained her Associate of Arts degree in 2017 while working full-time and attending summer and evening classes at the university. In 2018, she received her Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies Cum Laude. In addition, her academic excellence was recognized when she was named on the Dean's List and received the Outstanding Scholar Achievement Award that same year. This year, Karen gained her Juris Doctorate and is currently studying for the California bar exam.

During a recent interview, Ms. Calderon said, "I loved the faculty at Humphreys University because they always made me feel welcome, and they genuinely care about their students. The Dean of Law School and my advisor, Matthew Reynolds, gave me books

to study from and study tips when I took my LSAT. I love the sense of community at the school because everyone wanted me to succeed. I knew they had my best interest at heart."

She went on to say that the friendly competition between the students in the classes challenged her academically and pushed her to do better. The university does not have a party atmosphere like most colleges, so some students might feel like they are missing out on that part of student life. However, Humphreys caters to students who are serious and committed to their studies. Humphreys' students participate in study groups, support each other in academic achievements, and share notes. The small campus has a sense of camaraderie, and students find ways to connect with others on campus. Many of Karen's classmates were older adults who balanced family life and full-time jobs. She said that this inspired her and kept her motivated.

As a Latina, Karen said "I was impressed with the diversity that I saw while at my time at Humphreys. It made me so happy to see so many Latinos graduating at each ceremony and how proud their family members were of them."

Sandra Curiel, the Marketing Coordinator at Humphreys, explained, "ABLE is an extraordinary school that is being noticed in the community. However, what many people don't

know about is the partnership ABLE has with Humphreys. The partnership allows them to enroll into the university during their junior and senior years to jump-start their academic career, at no cost to the student or their family. Karen is a prime example of this partnership working and Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn and Dr. Humphreys' vision succeeding. Obtaining a JD for most individuals typically takes at least eight years of schooling, but since Karen attended ABLE, took advantage of articulation and dual enrollment courses, she obtained her JD by the age of 23. We have had many success stories, including students who graduate with their AA degree on the same day they graduate from high school. We are all extremely proud of Karen and hope that her story inspires others."

Humphreys University is a non-profit university founded in Stockton and focused on student success since 1896. They offer open enrollment throughout the year, 20 degrees, and 11

programs, including Legal Studies, Accounting, Court Reporting, Criminal Justice, and Business Administration. Humphreys is accredited by WASC Senior College and University Commission and the law school is accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California. They offer financial aid for qualified students and flexible schedules, such as online and evening classes, in addition to on-campus learning at their Stockton and Modesto campuses. Humphreys offers high school students many opportunities to explore early college experiences. Apart from their partnership at ABLE, they offer all Central Valley junior and senior high school students the opportunity to take a free summer course.

To learn more about Humphreys University, visit their website at www.humphreys.edu. For information about opportunities for high school students at Humphreys University, contact April Huerta at april.huerta@humphreys.edu.



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Josh Harder is an Independent Voice for the Central Valley

Josh Harder is an independent voice that Central Valley families can trust. Descended from a line of farmers that dates to San Joaquin County in the 1850s, Josh Harder grew up with the values of faith, service, and hard work. Now, alongside his wife, Pam, and their baby daughter, Lily, he is working to make the Valley a better place to live for everyone.

As a businessman and teacher, Josh Harder has seen the Valley left behind by politicians. Josh is running for Congress to take on the politicians and special interests and put the Valley first. “We need leaders who aren’t afraid to stand up to party bosses or corporate interests and who will actually put our Valley families first,” said Harder.

Josh is dedicated to protecting Valley water and fighting against the politicians who want to ship it away. In fact, Josh worked with Republicans and Democrats to build the Valley’s first new water storage project in a generation. Central Valley families can trust Josh Harder to protect the Delta and secure the Valley’s water supply. Farmers and ranchers across the Valley support Josh because he’s delivered on his word to protect our water.

He is also committed to improving public safety in the Valley. Josh Harder has a strong record of funding the police. Josh has secured millions in funds to fight drug trafficking, hire new police officers, and get dangerous weapons off the streets. That is why the

Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), the largest law enforcement organization in the state, is supporting his campaign.

Josh Harder has a proven record of standing up to politicians in both parties to do what’s right for the Valley. Josh consistently stands up to his own party to cut taxes, get costs down, and make the Valley an affordable place to live. As prices rise across the board, Josh Harder is a champion for suspending the gas tax, bringing good-paying jobs closer to home, and making healthcare more affordable. Additionally, Josh is a leader in the fight to bring down prescription drug prices including capping insulin at \$35 per month. Josh knows that Valley families are paying way too much for gas, groceries, and housing, and is leading the charge to get prices down.

To address homelessness in the Central Valley, Josh Harder has a plan to declare homelessness an emergency, get people off the streets, and tackle the root causes of the homelessness crisis. “It’s tragic to see this problem getting worse, not better,” said Harder. “We need to declare homelessness an emergency and do everything in our power to solve it.”

Both of Josh’s grandfathers served in uniform. Josh knows the importance of serving Valley veterans. When Josh heard that many Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange during their service were not getting the treatments



they deserved, he sprang into action. Josh wrote a bill that was passed into law and signed by President Trump to deliver health care to 30,000 Vietnam veterans. He also believes no veteran should ever face homelessness. Josh was instrumental in securing the funds to build the French Camp VA Clinic and the Victory Gardens veterans housing project. Valley veterans can trust Josh Harder to fight for them.

Josh Harder comes from the business world and Valley business owners can trust him to do what’s right. Josh has brought public investments to the Valley to create thousands of jobs and spur hundreds of millions in private investments. Josh knows that commute

times for Valley workers are far too long, so he’s dedicated to bringing good paying jobs closer to home.

Lastly, Josh Harder has held more than two dozen town halls, honoring his commitment to always being an accessible community leader. He has spent countless hours in small businesses, churches, and community centers, hearing from regular families and making sure their voices are heard.

“I see so much potential in San Joaquin County,” Harder said. “I’m excited for my baby girl to grow up here, but we must keep working hard to make sure our community is a safe and affordable place to live.”

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Josh Harder es una voz independiente para el Valle Central

Josh Harder es una voz independiente en la que las familias del Valle Central pueden confiar. Descendiente de una línea de agricultores del condado de San Joaquín desde la década de 1850, Josh Harder creció con los valores de la fe, el servicio y el afán. Ahora, junto con su esposa, Pam, y su pequeña hija, Lily, está trabajando para hacer del Valle un mejor lugar para vivir para todos.

Como hombre de negocios y maestro, Josh Harder ha visto el Valle olvidado por los políticos. Josh se postuló para el Congreso para enfrentarse a los políticos y los intereses especiales y poner al Valle primero. “Necesitamos líderes que no tengan miedo de enfrentarse a los jefes de los partidos o los intereses corporativos y que realmente pongan a nuestras familias del Valle primero”, dijo Harder.

Josh se dedica a proteger el agua del Valle y luchar contra los políticos que quieren enviarla lejos. De hecho, Josh trabajó con republicanos y demócratas para construir el primer nuevo proyecto de almacenamiento de agua del Valle en una generación. Las familias del Valle Central pueden confiar en Josh Harder para proteger el Delta y asegurar el suministro de agua del Valle. Los agricultores y ganaderos de todo el Valle apoyan a Josh porque ha cumplido su palabra de proteger nuestra agua.

También está comprometido a mejorar la seguridad pública en el

Valle. Josh Harder tiene un sólido historial de financiación de la policía. Josh ha asegurado millones en fondos para luchar contra el narcotráfico, contratar nuevos policías y sacar armas peligrosas de las calles. Es por lo que la Asociación de Investigación de Oficiales de Paz de California (PORAC, por sus siglas en inglés), la organización policial más grande del estado apoya su campaña.

Josh Harder tiene un historial comprobado de enfrentarse a los políticos de ambos partidos para hacer lo correcto por el Valle. Josh constantemente se enfrenta con su propio partido para disminuir los impuestos, reducir los costos y hacer del Valle un lugar asequible para vivir. A medida que los precios aumentan en todos los ámbitos, Josh Harder es un defensor de la suspensión del impuesto a la gasolina, atrayendo los empleos bien remunerados a casa y haciendo que la atención médica sea más accesible. Además, Josh es un líder en la lucha para reducir los precios de los medicamentos recetados, lo que incluye limitar la insulina a \$35 por mes. Josh sabe que las familias del Valle están pagando demasiado por la gasolina, los alimentos y la vivienda, y está liderando la carga para bajar los precios.

Para abordar la falta de vivienda en el Valle Central, Josh Harder tiene un plan para declarar la falta de vivienda como una emergencia, sacar a

las personas de las calles y abordar las causas fundamentales de la crisis de personas sin hogar. “Es trágico ver que este problema empeora, no mejora”, dijo Harder. “Necesitamos declarar la falta de vivienda como una emergencia y hacer todo lo que esté a nuestro alcance para resolverlo”.

Los dos abuelos de Josh sirvieron en uniforme. Josh conoce la importancia de servir a los veteranos del Valle. Cuando Josh escuchó que muchos veteranos de Vietnam expuestos al Agente Naranja durante su servicio no estaban recibiendo los tratamientos que merecían, se puso en acción. Josh escribió un proyecto de ley que fue aprobado y firmado por el presidente Trump para brindar atención médica a 30,000 veteranos de Vietnam. También cree que ningún veterano debería enfrentarse a la falta de vivienda. Josh jugó un papel decisivo en obtener los fondos para construir la Clínica French Camp VA y el proyecto de viviendas para veteranos Victory Gardens. Los veteranos del Valle pueden confiar en que Josh Harder luchará por ellos.

Josh Harder proviene del mundo de los negocios y los dueños de negocios del Valle pueden confiar en que hará lo correcto. Josh ha traído inversiones públicas al Valle para crear miles de puestos de trabajo y estimular cientos de millones en inversiones privadas. Josh sabe que los desplazamientos diarios de los trabajadores



del Valle son demasiado largos, por lo que se dedica a traer trabajos bien remunerados más cerca de casa.

Por último, Josh Harder ha realizado más de dos docenas de juntas, en honor a su compromiso de ser siempre un líder comunitario accesible. Ha pasado innumerables horas en pequeñas empresas, iglesias y centros comunitarios, escuchando a familias comunes y asegurándose de que se escuchen sus voces.

“Veó mucho potencial en el condado de San Joaquín”, dijo Harder. “Estoy emocionado de que mi bebé crezca aquí, pero debemos seguir trabajando arduamente para asegurarnos de que nuestra comunidad sea un lugar seguro y asequible para vivir”.

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NASA

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students, the newly named Astronaut José M. Hernández Academy charter school, with a current capacity of 350 students and having plenty of room for future growth, will continue to provide students and families with a solid communal bond found in its Early Childhood Development Centers.

Meeting Rodriguez at the new school, one of the first things we wanted to know was how it all came about. “We had been developing plans to open a charter school going back several years,” Rodriguez quickly responded. “So, when we were approached to take over the former Delta Bridges Charter School and make it our own, it seemed fortuitous and timely. We already had the vision and the plan – now, we had the school.”

While taking us on a tour of the newly renovated charter school, Rodriguez continued, “we’ve known for some time that our Development Center kids, and their parents are sad to leave the El Concilio California family after graduating from one of our Centers to go onto elementary school. But with the formation of ECC Academies and its charter schools, that consistency of messaging and values, supports and resources will continue.” Looking across the new Stockton campus, Rodriguez opined, “we have been creating a path for children to enter elementary school and achieve future academic success for 50 years. Now with ECC Academies,

all of Stockton’s children will be able to benefit from a coordinated parent involvement and positive teacher-child relationships that stem from the core values of our Development Centers.”

Named in honor of former NASA Astronaut José M. Hernández – perhaps the most famous child of a local immigrant family – the new school for grades K-8 will provide students with a dual-language immersion (English and Spanish) STEM-focused curriculum. “STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics,” Rodriguez noted, “and of course the Arts.” The integration of the dual-language curriculum is significant because it is an instructional model that can help reduce the achievement gap between native English speakers and ELL (English Language Learner) students. “Research has shown that in an increasingly globalized world, those who know both English and another language will have economic and political advantages” Rodriguez stressed. “Having an in-depth knowledge of another language has been shown to contribute to a cognitive benefit in creativity and metalinguistic awareness and enhanced cross-cultural understanding. And other research has shown that students enrolled in Dual Language programs are more likely to stay in school and continue into post-secondary education.”

“I’m honored that the school is be-

ing named after me,” Astronaut José M. Hernández said in a recent interview. “I hope that the school’s name inspires the students to dream big and realize that it doesn’t matter where you start but where you end up.” He also hopes that the school is a conduit to turn the students’ dreams into a reality. “José Hernández personifies what the school represents,” Rodriguez impressed, “that through tenacity everyone can achieve their dreams and develop their God-given abilities.”

In continuous operation for over 54 years, El Concilio California is guided by its trusted mission to uplift and advocate for California’s marginalized, minority, economically segregated populations, and communities of color by providing access to crucial services, programs, and resources to increase physical, psychological, and economic well-being. Providing access and services to over 75,000 individuals and families annually through a whole-person approach, El Concilio California helps people create better futures for themselves and their families, become leaders to the community, and in turn empower others.

With 12 locations and 24 satellite offices in San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Contra Costa counties, with selected services to Calaveras, Kern, Madera, and Merced counties, the agency’s programs, outreach, community involvement and financial status have steadily grown to an annual budget of \$25.73 million, serving children, youths, adults, seniors, and families through its six departments offering over 40 essential programs and 24 responsive projects and services in health and human services, child education and development, behavioral and mental health, adult education and workforce development, immigration and survivor legal services, as well as civic engagement and leadership development.

Now with the creation of ECC Academies, students at both the Elementary, and Middle School can expect to be challenged and stretched by all

their teachers in the myriad art, science, math, and humanities courses that they offer. With invested faculty advisors, the Academy’s classrooms will be collaborative spaces, guided by teachers who care deeply for their students. For the new school’s principal, Donita Drulias-Daumer, “it’s about embracing and supporting everyone who is a part of the ECC Family both in the classroom and in the community.” Joining us on our tour, Drulias-Daumer’s pride is evident. “We are talking about an atmosphere where students will be encouraged to try things outside of their comfort zones, without needless anxieties and pressures to conform. ECC Academies is not only a continuation of the unique community relationships built at El Concilio California, but also an opportunity to effectively forward the long-term goals and objectives of both the agency and ECC Academies for increasing equity for all based in respect, integrity, and success.”

ECC Academies’ mission is to inspire a diverse community of students to moral, intellectual, aesthetic, and physical excellence so that each may rise to honorable achievement and contribute to the common good, guided by the principles of Respect, Integrity, and Success through Education. ECC Academies seeks to empower students, especially those of color and those in underserved communities, to embrace educational opportunities. It does so by providing teachers, counselors, and positive role models in a supportive community setting with defined expectations and achievable goals. In the short term, the program seeks to strengthen each student’s academic achievement, self-awareness, and self-efficacy. In the longer term, ECC Academies seeks to inspire our students to pursue post-secondary education and fulfilling careers. For more information about ECC Academies and how to enroll your child in their new Astronaut José M. Hernández Academy, you can find them online at www.ECCAcademies.org

Catholic Cemeteries

DIOCESE OF STOCKTON

• COVID 19 GUIDELINES •

Due to the state COVID-19 Guidelines, the Catholic Cemeteries have made changes to both visitation and burial options for our families.

- The cemetery gates and mausoleum at San Joaquin Catholic Cemetery in Stockton are open daily between 8:00am and 4:30pm.
- All cemetery offices are open by appointment only. These appointments must be scheduled with the cemetery staff.
- Please limit visitations to our cemetery grounds. We ask everyone to follow the state and county shelter-in-place guidelines.
- Burial services are being held following cemetery guidelines.

We thank you for your cooperation during this difficult time.

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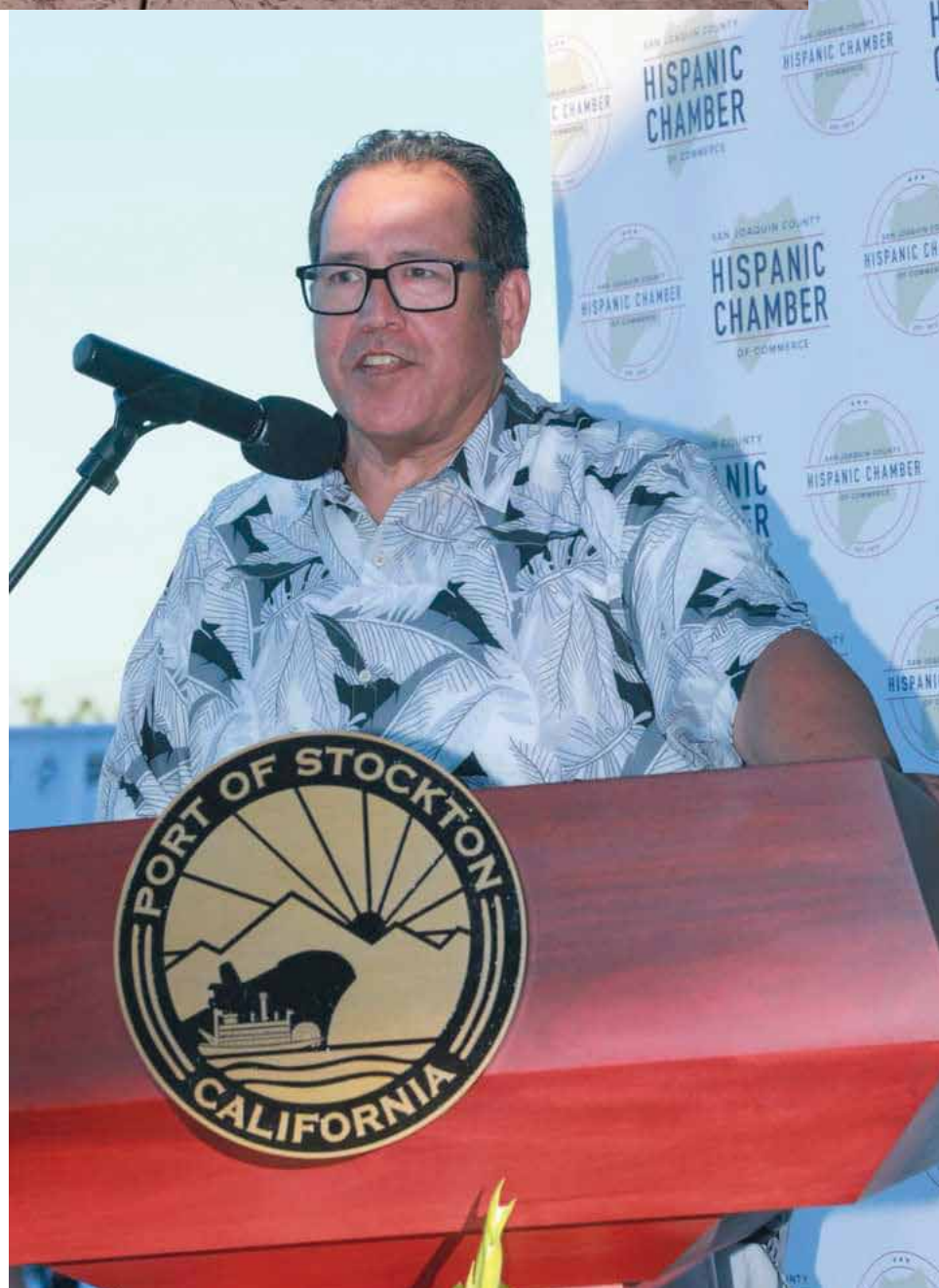
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Congratulations to the San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on their 50th Anniversary Celebration held on June 25th at the Port of Stockton with over 300 attendees. Legacy Awards were given to the following members for their service to the Chamber and the Community: Paul Guerrero, Julian Canete, Andrew Ysiano, Jim Molina, Jose Rodriguez and Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman.

Banca comunitaria construye comunidad

La toma de medidas centradas en la equidad racial, junto con la diversidad y la inclusión, requiere colaboración y generar confianza en la comunidad. JPMorgan Chase está ayudando a impulsar cambios sostenibles a través de su compromiso de equidad racial de \$30 mil millones a cinco años. Con un enfoque orientado a los negocios, este compromiso tiene como objetivo ayudar a abordar los factores claves de desigualdad de riqueza racial en las comunidades afroamericanas, latinas e hispanas al invertir directamente en ellas.

Desde su lanzamiento en octubre de 2020, hemos utilizado o destinado más de \$18 mil millones hacia nuestro objetivo de \$30 mil millones. Para sostener este progreso, debemos medir este esfuerzo y escuchar comentarios para que podamos tener un impacto aún mayor en el cierre de la brecha de riqueza.

Estos son solo algunos de los progresos que hemos realizado hasta ahora hacia nuestro compromiso,

mientras trabajamos junto con nuestros socios comunitarios en todo el país:

- Ayudamos a los propietarios de vivienda a ahorrar dinero en sus pagos hipotecarios mensuales al refinanciar 19,000 de nuestra meta de 20,000 préstamos incrementales
- Financiación aprobada para aproximadamente \$13 mil millones en préstamos con el fin de ayudar a crear y preservar más de 100,000 viviendas y unidades de alquiler asequibles en los Estados Unidos.
- Ampliamos nuestro programa de subvenciones para compradores de vivienda a \$5,000 para ayudar con el pago inicial y los costos de cierre
- Ayudamos a los clientes a abrir más de 200,000 cuentas de cheques de bajo costo sin cargos por sobregiro
- Gastamos \$155 millones adicionales con 140 proveedores afroamericanos, hispanos y latinos
- Invertimos más de \$100 millones en acciones en 15 institucio-



nes financieras diversas que prestan servicio a más de 89 comunidades en 19 estados y en el Distrito de Columbia

- Orientamos a más de 1,000 pequeños negocios afroamericanos, hispanos y latinos

Creando impacto comunitario

En el corazón de nuestros negocios se encuentra la sucursal bancaria comunitaria local. Pero una sucursal bancaria local, especialmente en vecindarios desatendidos, solo puede tener éxito cuando se adapta a las necesidades de la comunidad. Por eso, en los últimos años, hemos cambiado nuestro enfoque de banca comunitaria a “construcción comunitaria”, un enfoque de estar físicamente presente para satisfacer mejor las necesidades de nuestras comunidades locales.

Nuestras sucursales de Centro Comunitario son los símbolos más tangibles de nuestro compromiso con la construcción comunitaria, ya que se crearon para ser un espacio único en el corazón de las comunidades urbanas que organizan eventos comunitarios de base, sesiones de orientación para pequeños negocios y seminarios de salud financiera. Actualmente, contamos con 12 sucursales de Centro Comunitario en vecindarios como Oakland, Stony Island en el South Shore de Chicago, Crenshaw en Los Angeles y en los distritos electorales 7 y 8 en Washington, D.C.

Continuaremos agregando estas sucursales de Centro Comunitario en comunidades desatendidas en Miami, Atlanta, Baltimore, Philadelphia y Tulsa a más tardar para finales de este año. También hemos renovado más de 300 sucursales existentes con el fin de incluir espacios para que la comunidad los utilice con el objetivo de ayudar a ampliar el acceso a los bancos e impulsar la salud financiera y la inclusión entre las comunidades afroamericanas, hispanas y latinas.

Una fuerza laboral con más diversidad

La creación de un impacto duradero es tanto para las personas que contratamos como para los programas que implementamos. La mayor diversidad en equipos nos permitirá generar mejores ideas y mejores resultados, disfrutar de una cultura corporativa más sólida y ofrecer una experiencia bancaria más transformadora a nuestros clientes.

A pesar de la pandemia y los desafíos en la retención de talentos, seguimos impulsando nuestra representación, especialmente entre las mujeres y las personas de color.

Queremos que nuestras sucursales representen los vecindarios a los que prestan servicio, razón por la que seguimos contratando en nuestras comunidades locales. Durante este tiempo, hemos contratado a más de 300 personas para puestos centrados en la comunidad: casi 150 gerentes comunitarios, 150 asesores de préstamos para viviendas comunitarias así como 25 diversos consultores de negocios con experiencia.

El gerente de Centro Comunitario en particular es una nueva función dentro del banco cuyo principal trabajo es servir como embajadores locales para generar confianza y fomentar relaciones con líderes comunitarios, socios sin fines de lucro y pequeños negocios.

Durante el último año, nuestros gerentes comunitarios han organizado más de 1,300 eventos comunitarios que llegaron a más de 36,000 personas en todo el país con discusiones que van desde formas de aumentar la propiedad de vivienda hasta cómo generar riqueza generacional y estabilidad.

Mientras celebramos Juneteenth este año, se nos recuerda la promesa y la esperanza del futuro. Nos comprometemos a asegurarnos de que tengas los recursos que necesitas para ser propietario de una vivienda, comenzar un negocio, ahorrar para la universidad o lograr cualquier otra meta o sueño. Esperamos trabajar juntos y seguir creando un impacto duradero para tu comunidad y tu familia en los años que vienen.

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA SOBRE EL BORRADOR DEL PLAN DE TRANSPORTE REGIONAL/ESTRATEGIA COMUNITARIA SOSTENIBLE 2022, EL BORRADOR DEL PROGRAMA FEDERAL DE MEJORA DEL TRANSPORTE 2023 Y EL CORRESPONDIENTE BORRADOR DEL ANÁLISIS DE CONFORMIDAD

SE NOTIFICA que el Consejo de Gobiernos de San Joaquín (San Joaquin Council of Governments, SJCOG) celebrará una audiencia pública el 22 de julio de 2022, a las 12:00 p. m. durante la reunión del Comité Ejecutivo de SJCOG en el edificio de oficinas de SJCOG ubicado en 555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA 95202, con respecto al Borrador 2022 RTP/SCS, el Borrador del Programa Federal de Mejora del Transporte 2023 (2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, 2023 FTIP) y el correspondiente Borrador del análisis de conformidad de la calidad del aire para el 2023 FTIP. Si se permite conforme a la Ley de la Asamblea (Assembly Bill, AB) 361, se puede asistir a ambas audiencias públicas de forma virtual. Los enlaces virtuales y la información adicional sobre el aviso público se pueden encontrar en la página web del aviso público del SJCOG: <https://www.sjcog.org/270/Press-Releases-Hearings-Public-Notices>. El propósito de las audiencias públicas es recibir comentarios del público sobre estos documentos:

- El 2022 RTP/SCS es una estrategia coordinada de transporte/uso de la tierra a largo plazo para satisfacer las necesidades de transporte del Condado de San Joaquín hasta el año 2046
- El FTIP 2023 es una lista a corto plazo de los gastos de mejora de capital y operativos que utilizan fondos federales y estatales para proyectos de transporte en el Condado de San Joaquín durante los próximos cuatro años.
- Este aviso público también satisface los requisitos del Programa de Proyectos (Program of Projects, POP) del Programa de fórmula del área urbanizada de la administración federal de tránsito (FTA), Sección 5307. Si no se reciben comentarios sobre el POP propuesto, el programa de tránsito propuesto (financiado con dólares de la FTA 5307) será el programa final.
- El correspondiente Análisis de Conformidad contiene la documentación que apoya la conclusión de que el FTIP de 2023 y el RTP/SCS de 2022 cumplen con los requisitos de conformidad de la calidad del aire para el ozono y las partículas.

Las personas con discapacidades pueden llamar a Rosie Gutierrez (209-235-0600) del SJCOG (con aviso de 3 días hábiles de anticipación) para solicitar apoyos auxiliares necesarios para participar en la audiencia pública. Los servicios de traducción están disponibles (con un aviso previo de 3 días laborables) para los participantes que hablen cualquier idioma que cuente con servicios de traducción profesional.

El 7 de junio de 2022 se abrirá un periodo de revisión y comentarios públicos de 55 días, que concluirá el 1 de agosto de 2022, para el RTP/SCS de 2022.

Se abrirá un periodo de comentarios de 30 días para el FTIP de 2023 y el documento de conformidad del FTIP de 2023, del 1 julio al 1 de agosto de 2022.

Los borradores de los documentos están disponibles para su revisión en la oficina del SJCOG, ubicada en 555 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, CA 95202, en las bibliotecas públicas y en el sitio web del SJCOG en <http://www.sjcog.org>.

In the U.S. and around the world, inflation is high and getting higher

By Drew DeSilver

Two years ago, with millions of people out of work and central bankers and politicians striving to lift the U.S. economy out of a pandemic-induced recession, inflation seemed like an afterthought. A year later, with unemployment falling and the inflation rate rising, many of those same policymakers insisted that the price hikes were “transitory” – a consequence of snarled supply chains, labor shortages and other issues that would right themselves sooner rather than later.

Now, with the inflation rate higher than it's been since the early 1980s, Biden administration officials acknowledge that they missed their call. According to the latest report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual inflation rate in May was 8.6%, its highest level since 1981, as measured by the consumer price index. Other inflation metrics also have shown significant increases over the past year or so, though not quite to the same extent as the CPI.

Inflation in the United States was relatively low for so long that, for entire generations of Americans, rapid price hikes may have seemed like a relic of the distant past. Between the start of 1991 and the end of 2019, year-over-year inflation averaged about 2.3% a month, and exceeded 5.0% only four

times. Today, Americans rate inflation as the nation's top problem, and President Joe Biden has said addressing the problem is his top domestic priority.

But the U.S. is hardly the only place where people are experiencing inflationary whiplash. A Pew Research Center analysis of data from 44 advanced economies finds that, in nearly all of them, consumer prices have risen substantially since pre-pandemic times.

In 37 of these 44 nations, the average annual inflation rate in the first quarter of this year was at least twice what it was in the first quarter of 2020, as COVID-19 was beginning its deadly spread. In 16 countries, first-quarter inflation was more than four times the level of two years prior. (For this analysis, we used data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a group of mostly highly developed, democratic countries. The data covers 37 of the 38 OECD member nations, plus seven other economically significant countries.)

Among the countries studied, Turkey had by far the highest inflation rate in the first quarter of 2022: an eye-opening 54.8%. Turkey has experienced high inflation for years, but it shot up in late 2021 as the government pursued unorthodox economic

policies, such as cutting interest rates rather than raising them.

The country where inflation has grown fastest over the past two years is Israel. The annual inflation rate in Israel had been below 2.0% (and not infrequently negative) every quarter from the start of 2012 through mid-2021; in the first quarter of 2020, the rate was 0.13%. But after a relatively mild recession, Israel's consumer price index began rising quickly: It averaged 3.36% in the first quarter of this year, more than 25 times the inflation rate in the same period in 2020.

Besides Israel, other countries with very large increases in inflation between 2020 and 2022 include Italy, which saw a nearly twentyfold increase in the first quarter of 2022 compared with two years earlier (from 0.29% to 5.67%); Switzerland, which went from -0.13% in the first quarter of 2020 to 2.06% in the same period of this year; and Greece, a country that knows something about economic turbulence. Following the Greek economy's near-meltdown in the mid-2010s, the country experienced several years of low inflation – including more than one bout of deflation, the last starting during the first spring and summer of the pandemic. Since then, however, prices have rocketed upward: The annual inflation rate in Greece reached 7.44% in this year's first quarter – nearly 21 times what it was two years earlier (0.36%).

Annual U.S. inflation in the first

quarter of this year averaged just below 8.0% – the 13th-highest rate among the 44 countries examined. The first-quarter inflation rate in the U.S. was almost four times its level in 2020's first quarter.

Regardless of the absolute level of inflation in each country, most show variations on the same basic pattern: relatively low levels before the COVID-19 pandemic struck in the first quarter of 2020; flat or falling rates for the rest of that year and into 2021, as many governments sharply curtailed most economic activity; and rising rates starting in mid- to late 2021, as the world struggled to get back to something approaching normal.

But there are exceptions to that general dip-and-surge pattern. In Russia, for instance, inflation rates rose steadily throughout the pandemic period before surging in the wake of its invasion of Ukraine. In Indonesia, inflation fell early in the pandemic and has remained at low levels. Japan has continued its years-long struggle with inflation rates that are too low. And in Saudi Arabia, the pattern was reversed: The inflation rate surged during the pandemic but then fell sharply in late 2021; it's risen a bit since, but still is just 1.6%.

Inflation doesn't appear to be done with the developed world just yet. An interim report from the OECD found that April's inflation rate ran ahead of March's figure in 32 of the group's 38 member countries.

Junio 2022

DTSC AVISO PÚBLICO

Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. Nuestra misión es proteger a las personas, las comunidades y el medio ambiente de California de las sustancias tóxicas, mejorar la vitalidad económica al restaurar la tierra contaminada y obligar a los fabricantes a fabricar productos de consumo más seguros.

Borrador del plan de trabajo de acción de remoción para el proyecto de terraplén del ferrocarril Sacramento Weir disponible para revisión

Oeste de Sacramento, California

PERÍODO DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS: 28 de junio de 2022 al 29 de julio de 2022

¿Qué se propone? El Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas (DTSC) está supervisando las actividades de investigación y limpieza en Railroad Embankment cerca de Sacramento Weir en West Sacramento, California 95691 (sitio). El sitio limita con Old River Road y el río Sacramento al este, County Road 126 y Sacramento Bypass al sur, y campos agrícolas al oeste y al norte (consulte la figura de ubicación en la página 3). El desvío de Sacramento existente se ampliará como parte del proyecto más grande de control de inundaciones American River Common Features, y primero se debe eliminar la contaminación. El contaminado de preocupación es el arsénico en el suelo. Un plan de limpieza ambiental, denominado borrador del Plan de Trabajo de Acción de Remoción (borrador RAW) para la remoción de tierra en el Sitio está abierto para revisión y comentarios públicos.

Ley de Calidad Ambiental de California (CEQA): La Junta de Protección contra Inundaciones del Valle Central (CVFPP) y el Cuerpo de Ingenieros del Ejército de los EE. UU. (USACE) prepararon una Declaración de Impacto Ambiental Suplementaria/Informe de Impacto Ambiental (EIS/EIR) que aborda el Proyecto de Ampliación del Presa de Sacramento (EIS/EIR suplementario de 2021). Un Anexo al EIS/EIR (Anexo No. 3) perfeccionó la descripción de la remoción y eliminación de rieles, balastos, durmientes y tierra del terraplén ferroviario existente de acuerdo con el RAW. El DTSC evaluó el Anexo No. 3 y determinó que los impactos y las medidas de mitigación identificadas en este documento de CEQA son aplicables al proyecto de remoción de suelo que se aprueba.

¿Cómo participo? DTSC lo invita a revisar y comentar sobre el borrador RAW para Sacramento Weir Railroad. El período de comentarios públicos comienza el 28 de junio de 2022 y finaliza el 29 de julio de 2022. Todos los comentarios deben recibirse antes del 28 de julio de 2022 a Gregory Ruiz, gerente de proyectos de DTSC, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826, 916-255-3694, o Gregory.Ruiz@dtsc.ca.gov.

Depósitos de información: Puede revisar el borrador RAW y otros documentos relacionados con el Sitio en los siguientes lugares:

El borrador de RAW está disponible en www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov para el sitio de Sacramento Weir Railroad Embankment (60003234)

Arthur F. Turner Community Library, 1212 Merkle Avenue, West Sacramento, California 95691, o llame al 916-375-6465 para consultar el horario.

DTSC – Oficina Regional de Sacramento, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, California 95826, o llame al 916-255-3758 para programar una cita

Información de Contacto de DTSC: Las siguientes personas pueden ser contactadas con cualquier pregunta o inquietud que pueda tener con respecto al proyecto:

Gregory Ruiz, Gerente de Proyectos de DTSC al 916-255-3694 o Gregory.Ruiz@dtsc.ca.gov

Tammy Pickens, especialista en participación pública del DTSC o al 916-255-3594 o al 1(866) 495-5651; o Tammy.Pickens@dtsc.ca.gov

Para solicitudes de medios: Sanford Nax, Oficial de Información Pública de DTSC al (916) 327-6114 o Sanford.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov

Las Personas con Discapacidad Auditiva pueden usar el Servicio de Retransmisión de California en el 711 o en el 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO/HCO para expresar su opinión.



Se puede encontrar información adicional sobre los sitios del DTSC a través de nuestro EnviroStor. (rev. 5-2020)



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Cualquier inmigrante indocumentado puede ser deportado por ICE tras bloqueo de Tribunal a prioridades de Biden

La Administración Biden enfrenta un nuevo reto legal, luego de que el Tribunal de Apelaciones para el Quinto Circuito rechazara suspender el bloqueo a sus prioridades de deportación, por lo que ahora cualquier inmigrante indocumentado podría ser detenido y perseguido, mientras hay una apelación

Por Jesús García

El Departamento de Seguridad Nacional (DHS) perdió una batalla legal ante el Tribunal de Apelaciones para el Quinto Circuito, por lo que ahora cualquier inmigrante indocumentado, sin importar que no tenga récord criminal, podría ser detenido y procesado para su deportación.

Todavía no es una decisión final, pero el DHS no podrá aplicar por ahora la guía anunciada en septiembre del 2021 por el secretario Alejandro Mayorkas.

Esto luego de que el juez federal Drew Tipton, de Texas, desechara a política que pedía a los agentes de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) contemplar “todas las condiciones” de un indocumentado antes de su persecución.

El Tribunal de Apelaciones se expresó “perturbado” por la política im-

pulsada por Mayorkas, en respuesta al DHS a su petición de suspender provisionalmente la decisión del juez Tipton, mientras se prepara la apelación. “El tribunal de Distrito determinó que la regla está en conflicto con los estatutos federales, es arbitraria y caprichosa, y que su promulgación era procesalmente inválida”, dice la negativa del panel de jueces. “Nos inclinamos a estar de acuerdo”.

Las juezas Edith Jones y Edith Brown Clement y el juez Kurt Engelhardt coincidieron en que el DHS no demuestra “probabilidad de éxito” en la apelación, además de citar una decisión previa el Sexto Circuito.

Sin embargo, el panel de jueces deja abierta la puerta al proceso de apelación.

“Se NIEGA la moción de suspensión pendiente de apelación”, dice la opinión. “Distinguimos este caso de

una decisión reciente del Sexto Circuito, que autoriza una suspensión pendiente de apelación, basada en un precedente diferente y el beneficio de un expediente de juicio completo”. Las pautas impulsadas por Mayorkas —las cuales entraron en operación en noviembre del 2021— se enfocan en las amenazas a la seguridad pública y nacional, además de ampliar la discreción para que los oficiales de ICE puedan evitar perseguir a un no ciudadano solamente por ser indocumentado.

El argumento central de Mayorkas es que ICE cuenta con recursos limitados, por lo que la guía se enfoca en casos de atención prioritaria, si la persona tiene antecedentes criminales, pero también busca atender la política del presidente Joe Biden sobre un sistema migratorio más humano.

Los jueces consideraron que las guías de Mayorkas incumplieron con la

Ley de Procesos Administrativos (APA), un argumento común en las demandas sobre políticas federales.

Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, director de Políticas del American Immigration Council, destacó en Twitter los argumentos del Quinto Circuito sobre la negativa de aplicar las guías de prioridades de deportación, pero consideró que el Departamento de Justicia —que aboga por el DHS en el caso— debería ir directo a la Corte Suprema.

“Aquí sigue sin haber prioridades de aplicación de la ley de inmigración”, recuerda Reinchlin-Melnick. “El Quinto Circuito ha impedido que la Administración Biden decida quién debe ser priorizado para la deportación y dejó a los propios agentes de ICE a cargo”.

La demanda contra las regla de deportación de la Administración Biden es liderada por los gobiernos republicanos de Texas y Louisiana.

StanRTA Offers Free Dedicated Routes to Stanislaus County Fair

Modesto, CA — The Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority (StanRTA) announced The S will provide two dedicated fixed shuttle routes to the 2022 Stanislaus County Fair from July 8 through 17. In addition, all fixed routes on The S will be free during the entire month of July.

The temporary dedicated routes will start in Modesto and Patterson. Detailed route information is available at <https://stanrta.org/504/Stanislaus-County-Fair-Shuttles>.

The Modesto Route - Riders can board at either the Modesto Mall Park & Ride lot or at the Magnolia

Street and 3rd Street stop in Ceres. The Patterson Route - Riders will board at Ward Avenue and East Las Palmas Avenue (Walmart).

StanRTA is a sponsor of this year's fair and will be hosting an event booth with MOVE, a nonprofit organization connecting residents with transportation options to access the community. “We’re excited to work with the Fair. It will be nice to see the community have fun in July again,” said Adam Barth, StanRTA CEO.

“We’ve been offering free rides in July for four years, but adding the dedicated Fair routes feels extra special in

2022.”

Barth hopes the free dedicated routes to the fair will help people save money on gas and parking. Shuttles to the fair will drop passengers off at the main entrance on Broadway.

StanRTA (The S), City of Turlock (Turlock Transit), and the City of Merced (The Bus) are providing free rides on all fixed-route buses during July as part of a joint free-ride promotion. This includes local fixed-route as well as ACE, BART, and Stockton Commuter bus services, but excludes ADA Paratransit, Medivan, and Dial-a-Ride services. Funding for the

free-ride promotion is made possible through a grant from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), as well as federal transit funding.

StanRTA was formed in 2021 through the consolidation of Modesto Area Express and Stanislaus Regional Transit and is the provider of local and regional public transit in Stanislaus County. StanRTA operates fixed-route, demand-response, and commuter services seven days a week. For more information, visit www.stanrta.org or call 209-527-4900.



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Community Hospice Foundation Announces Appointments to Board of Directors

Modesto – Community Hospice Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to raising funds and awareness to support the patients and families of Community Hospice, announces the appointment of two community leaders to its Board of Directors.

Joining the Community Hospice Foundation Board of Directors for an initial three-year term is Erika Mendoza, Senior Technical Project/Program Manager of AT&T Operations, Inc., San Ramon/Modesto and Melissa Williams, Public Affairs Manager of Modesto Irrigation District.

Erika Mendoza is a talented project management professional with a record of success driving corporate change through collaborative consultation, quality and process improvement, and facilitation of personal and professional development. She is high-

ly regarded for her ability to improve processes and business results.

As the Public Affairs Manager for Modesto Irrigation District, Melissa Williams role includes media relations, public relations, advertising, issues and emergency management, strategic planning, and development. Melissa has been instrumental in the success and implementation of MID's education programs.

"We are pleased to have Erika and Melissa join our Community Hospice Foundation and our outstanding Board of volunteer leaders to lend their leadership in moving us forward," said Francine Foley, Community Hospice Foundation Executive Director. "We are grateful they have chosen Community Hospice Foundation as their non-profit to share their time and talents."



Melissa Williams



Erika Mendoza

PUBLIC NOTICE: San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, (herein referred to as "Rail Commission") has established a Proposed Overall Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Goal of 4.5% for Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2023/2024/2025. The Rail Commission proposes to meet 100% of the goal through the use of race-neutral measures 0% through the use of race-conscious measures. The DBE goal is applicable

to U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)- assisted contracts scheduled to be solicited and awarded during the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025.

The Rail Commission's Proposed Overall Goal and its rationale (developed in response to DOT DBE Program Regulations published under Title 49 CFR Part 26) are available for inspection and public review as of July 1, 2022 for thirty (30) days following the date

of this Notice on the Rail Commission's website at <https://www.sjrcc.com/dbe-sbe-and-title-vi/>.

The Rail Commission will accept public comments for thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice, at the following address: San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, Attention: Tamika Smith, 949 E Channel St., Stockton, CA 95202 or via email at civilrights@acerail.com. The public comment period will close on July 31, 2022.

The Meeting will be held on Wednesday July 20, 2022 at 5:00pm: In Person: Robert J. Cabral Station – Board Room 949 E. Channel Street Stockton, CA 95202.

Upon request, materials can be provided in alternate languages, language translation can also be made available. All requests for reasonable accommodations must be made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date.

¿Está buscando comprar su primera casa?

Hay muchos sucesos por primera vez en la vida de uno. Y comprar una casa puede traer muchas preguntas y dudas. Cuando esté listo para ser dueño de una vivienda, cuente con nosotros para obtener orientación y opciones de préstamos para sus necesidades únicas.

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Cirque du Soleil returns with Alegría

This summer, Sacramento gets even hotter when Cirque du Soleil returns with its internationally-acclaimed production Alegría. Undeniably the most iconic Cirque du Soleil production, Alegría is an all-time classic reimagined for a new generation to fall in love with. An uplifting immersive experience, Alegría whisks audiences away to a mystical world sprinkled with visual poetry and acrobatic extravagance.

First premiered in 1994, Alegría ('joy' in Spanish) has become one of the most beloved Cirque du Soleil shows by mesmerizing over 14 million spectators in 255 cities across 40 countries in over 19 years of touring. Its Grammy-nominated soundtrack—featuring the iconic title track "Alegría"—is still the most purchased and streamed Cirque du Soleil album to date. In 2019, in celebration of its 25th anniversary, Alegría was restaged under the Big Top in a whole new light, ensuring that all its components - stage direction, music, acrobatics, sets, costumes, lighting & make-up designs - would be as inspiring for today's audiences as they were at the time of the original creation. Reenergized by a cast of 53 acrobats, clowns, musicians and singers, Alegría remains timeless and imbued with a joyous magical feeling. A total of 113 people from 23 countries are part of the touring cast and crew of Alegría. The 53 artists alone represent 19 different nationalities, including Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada,

China, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Mongolia, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States and Venezuela. Alegría travels via 70 trailer trucks carrying close to 2,000 tons of equipment. The entire site set-up takes 8 days and includes the installation of the mobile Cirque du Soleil village which includes Big Top, the Concessions Tent, the VIP Tents, a kitchen, offices, technical shops, and rehearsal spaces. Completely self-sufficient for electrical power, the site relies only on local water supply and telecommunication facilities to support its infrastructure.

The Big Top itself stands at 62 feet high, 167 feet in diameter, and seats more than 2,600 guests. The four steel masts stand at 82 feet each. A total of 550 pegs are required to hold the Big Top firmly to 48,500 square feet of asphalt. The light-colored Big Top helps counter the effects of the sun, thereby reducing energy consumption and minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. It took more than 20,000 hours of work to put together the costumes of Alegría. There are 96 costumes and 533 different costume elements in the show. Each costume is custom-fitted to the artist's body and handcrafted at the Cirque du Soleil Headquarters in Montreal, Canada. The average lifespan of each costume piece is six months. Alegría performs at Sutter Health Park July 28 – August 28, 2022. For tickets, visit www.cirquedusoleil.com/alegria.



¡Felicidades!

from Health Plan of San Joaquin

Andrew Ysiano

Latino Times Founder and Publisher

for receiving San Joaquin
County Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce's (SJCHCC)



HAPPY **50th** ANNIVERSARY

to SJCHCC! Through your organization, local businesses are provided with opportunities to grow and become trusted partners in our expanding economy.



Join Health Plan of San Joaquin and our community partners for our last Caravan for Health fairs of the baseball season.

Stockton Ports

July 17th 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

Modesto Nuts

July 29th 12 P.M. - 7 P.M.

FREE testing and health screenings available for all, as well as a backpack giveaway for children!

Health Plan 
of San Joaquin

888.936.7526, TTY 711
www.hpsj.com

Health Plan of San Joaquin Wants Everyone to Stay Summer Safe – And Help Parents Get Kids Ready for School!

Safe Kids and Water – “Fewer kids took swim lessons during the COVID-19 pandemic putting them at risk,” says the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). A Commission report found “child drownings remain the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages one to four years old.” Click here (<https://tinyurl.com/krfecwns>) for CPSC’s pool safety tips. For more on how to stay safe at the lake or open water click here (<https://tinyurl.com/4x9dwa9c>)

TOP TIPS FOR CHILDREN’S WATER SAFETY: Watch kids when they are in or around water. Choose a water watcher. Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a pool. Teach children how to swim with these five water survival tips: (1) Jump into water over their heads and swim to top | (2) Turn around in the water and orient to safety | (3) Float or tread water | (4) Breathe with forward movement in the water | (5) Leave the water.

Follow your local Safe Kids Coal-

ition (www.safekids.org/coalition/safe-kids-california) on Facebook or Instagram for the latest on events and safety tips.

A.C.T. for Kids – Never leave your car without checking the back seat! Each year, children die of heatstroke when left alone. While we may think the weather is not hot enough, inside the car can rise 20 degrees in a short time. Prevent death from heatstroke by doing ACT. (A.) Avoid heatstroke. Never leave your child alone in the car, not even for a minute! (C.) Create habits and reminders to aid safety. (T.) Take action right away and call 911 if you see a child in danger.

Avoid Deadly Heat Sickness
With summer heat comes heat-linked sicknesses and they can turn deadly. High temperatures cause hundreds of deaths each year, per the CDC. Causes include heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat rash. But these deaths can be prevented. For starters, note the Summer HEAT SAFETY Rule of Five: (1) Drink plenty of water | (2) Wear light



clothing | (3) Use sunscreen | (4) Stay indoors | (5) Skip being outdoors during the hottest part of the day (late afternoon).

For heat sickness symptoms and how to take care – along with nearby

cooling places, click here (<https://tinyurl.com/4h8rwxua>).

Since it’s also fire season, click here (SJReady.org) for help from San Joaquin County, and here (<https://tinyurl.com/4ak6e34s>) for Stanislaus County.

🌊 **WATER**

🌬️ **AIR**

🦉 **WILDLIFE**

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We may work on the water, but we know the value of unspoiled earth. Which is why the Port is using sand dredged from our waterways to help Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge restore its lands and save endangered butterfly and plant species. It’s also why we’re cleaning up a neighboring former naval property for use that will create jobs and economic opportunity. At the Port, we’ll do what it takes to keep the future’s land as clean as its water, even if we have to dig a little deeper.

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