**Molina Moves on After 10 Years of Crime Fighting**

By James Larrenaga

In September of 1997, a sergeant who had been working for the Tucson Police Department for almost 25 years stepped up as police chief for the City of South Tucson.

During Sixto Molina’s time as police chief, between 1997 and 2006, crimes of sexual assault dropped about 78 percent, aggravated assault and burglary dropped about 46 percent and murder dropped 75 percent, according to South Tucson Crime Data.

"We started some crime fighting initiatives and you can see crime slowly decreasing," said Sixto Molina, flipping through pages of statistics on the more serious crimes such as murder, aggravated assault and burglary.

Molina said he always paid close attention to the statistical details of crime.

However, disagreement between Molina and City of South Tucson officials would soon result in his resignation, and an end to his crime-fighting career.

"Crime was much higher in 1997 than now according to F.B.I. data," Molina said the department ran into trouble when the city began cutting funding.

As a result, the number of officers the police department was allowed to hire went from 29 to 22, cutting their strength by almost a quarter.

"As time went on they kept cutting back," said Molina of the city. "My biggest fear was that a police officer would get killed or injured because there weren’t enough officers on the street."

Molina particularly ran into conflicts with Ruben Villa, then acting city manager.

Molina said Villa took a "hands on" approach with the police department, at one point telling the chief he should not leave South Tucson while on-duty.

Despite Villa’s demands, Molina continued traveling outside of South Tucson to talk with other law enforcement agencies.

"There appeared to be a group in city hall that wanted to get rid of him and eventually forced him out," said Hector Morales of the South Tucson Lion’s Club, an international non-profit organization oriented toward community service and fundraising for charitable causes.

With tensions between Molina and the city manager’s office and cuts in personnel, Molina had enough.

He sent a letter of resignation to the city manager’s office June 13. But it didn’t end there. A letter came back from the city manager’s office two days later telling him that although his employment would be officially terminated on July 15, he had to clear out his office by June 20 and was not to represent himself as chief of police any longer.

"We didn’t care for the way that he was discharged from his duties," said Morales.

The city manager’s office did not return attempts to contact them.

The club held a luncheon for Molina on Aug. 28 to honor his 10 years of service to South Tucson.

"We felt it was only proper to do something to recognize him for the kinds of things he did for the community," said David Kenyon, also with the Lion’s Club. "No child was ever murdered during his ten years and that’s a pretty good thing that we think should be honored."

Molina has since found a new job as head of security for the Sunnyside School District.

"It was an honor and privilege to serve the people of South Tucson," Molina said. 

**South Tucson’s Bilingual Newspaper**

September 21/22 de septiembre 2007

Free/gratis

**Mall Traffic, Construction Concerns Residents**

By Siobhan Daniel

Residents and commuters near the expansion of the Tucson Spectrum Mall just south of West Irvington Road on South Calle Santa Cruz are concerned the new business will increase their traffic woes.

“I know I can’t take Irvington to get to work, it takes too long,” said Aimie Kosinski, who works near the construction of the new mall.

“If I am coming off the freeway, I will pass Irvington and get off on Valencia to avoid the traffic,” said West Irvington Road is known for its congestion.

Tucson Police Department Sergeant Tim Bless said 11 accidents occurred in 2006 from 1300 to 1500 W. Irvington Road, one block east and one block west of South Calle Santa Cruz.

On average, it’s one accident every 36 days.

Stg. Beam said areas of high traffic usually have more accidents, usually from drivers failing to yield or reduce speed.

"It is safe to assume more accidents are going to happen because more stores leads to more traffic, which is going to cause more accidents," he said.

The new Spectrum Mall is funded through the Barclay Group, a full-service commercial real estate company, which is working with the city to decide what improvements the mall-area will need to reduce congestion, said Michael Graham, public information officer for the City of Tucson Department of Transportation.

Some of the plans Barclay has to ease traffic concerns are adding two signal lights along South Calle Santa Cruz and two right turns into the Spectrum Mall.

"It will increase their traffic woes," said Graham said.

A connecting bridge will also be constructed.

**INSIDE**

South Tucson’s Day-Laborers

The Southside Presbyterian Church offers help and guidance to people looking for work.

**Sunnyside’s Jovan Stevenson**

Stevenson is motivated by more than just the chance to help his team win state.

**Art House**

Talavera shards climbing walls, metal coyotes and gila monsters are all present at a local South Tucson artist’s home — and all are for sale.

**Romero: De Trabajadora de Granja a Candidata del Concilio Municipal**

Por Yusra Tekbali

Traducido por Anders Peterson

Por primera vez en la historia de la zona oeste, los residentes del Distrito 1 podrán ser representados por una latina.

Regina Romero ganó fácilmente las elecciones primarias demócratas y se está postulando sin oposición para las elecciones municipales de noviembre.

"Todavía tengo que ser elegida," dijo Romero, de 32 años de edad. "Pero mi experiencia laboral en programas de barrio ayudando en la edificación y mejoramiento de las comunidades se encuentra allí. Esa es mi pasión."

Romero ganó las elecciones primarias del 15 de septiembre con un 80 por ciento del voto. Entre las iniciativas que se reinvertirán en su comunidad.

"El Distrito 1 ha sido ignorado," dijo Romero. "Queremos asegurarnos de que estamos reinvertiendo en nuestra comunidad."

Si es elegida, Romero dijo que planea usar sus cinco años de experiencia como coordinadora de Neighborood Reinvestment (Reinversión del Barrio) del Condado de Pima para asegurar fondos para que los barrios y parques inviertan en las necesidades infraestructurales como la mitigación de tráfico, el diseño de jardín, se reúna comunitaria y alumbra público.

"Quiero que la gente se sienta cómoda al caminar en su barrio," dijo Romero, quien también trabajó con Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (Centro contra el Abuso Sexual del Sur de Arizona) a quien actualmente Romero trabaja en su mesa directiva.

Romero también agregó que ayudará a los ciudadanos a sentirse seguros al desarrollar un sistema separado de fondos para los departamentos de policía y de bomberos de Tucson.

Ella quiere fomentar los programas de empleo juvenil y proveer más cuidados para los ciudadanos de la tercera edad. Romero, quae es madre de un niño de un año de edad, piensa mejorar el programa extra curricular y de verano de KIDCO de Tucson al contratar a más maestros e incorporar Matemáticas y Ciencia al plan de estudios.

Como representante del "Romero" ven a la página 6

**Above:** City Council candidata Regina Romero talk with supporter Maurice Diestelout at a party in the Reif of Democrats on Sept. 11 at Riverpark Inn.

**Left:** Romero holds a baby white on the campaign trail.
Recycled Styrofoam, Leftover Fly Ash, Cement Equal Low Cost, Eco-Friendly Building Materials

By Ashley Houk

Recycled Styrofoam + Fly Ash + Cement

What may sound like a recipe for a disgusting industrial concoction may just be the formula for the building industry, and it all started at Mikey Block, 501 E. 27th St. in South Tucson.

The three ingredients are the secret behind Mikey Block—a unique and feasible way to protect the environment for the future. Mikey Block’s Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF) are recycled, environmentally friendly, permanent and energy efficient. ICFs are foam structures filled with concrete and steel to make the exterior or walls of homes.

“There are several ICF on the market,” says Bryce Reichardt, who built his home with Mikey Blocks. “Ours is the most user friendly.”

The company, which nationwide headquarters has been in South Tucson for the past five years, was originally the idea of Dave Taggett, owner of the company and “creative genius,” says Reichardt, its operations manager. Their factory is half a block away, also on 27th Street, and the company has outlets in Texas, Tennessee, Alabama and Idaho.

“He (Taggett) really wants to build a better world,” Reichardt says. Inside the factory, it seems like Mikey Block is creating products for space shuttles instead of houses. White and gray colored 90-degree degree corner pieces and straight pieces lay throughout the building. The finished Mikey Block product comes in many shapes and sizes.

The main block, or the “Mikey Stretcher Block,” has two parallel long sides with four pedestal-like stands holding the sides together. The block is 12 inches tall, 4 feet long and 10.5 inches deep, according to the Mikey Block Web site.

Other Mikey Block formations, such as the “Max Corner,” have the same pedestal portions inside corner blocks. All the blocks connect with each other, and are similar to Legos.

The gray color on the blocks comes from a mixture of fly ash and cement, which is mixed together in liquid form and put into wooden molds to dry. It takes one day to dry and once dry, the fly ash and cement combination is attached to the molded Styrofoam, and the blocks are complete.

Fly ash is created when coal is burned and Mikey Block buys it from the Tucson Electric Power Company. Some of the excess fly ash is pressed into ready mix companies to create concrete, says Reichardt, but most of it ends up in landfills. The same goes for the Styrofoam, which the company recycles from landfills.

These blocks are around $20 each, and Reichardt estimates that it would cost $4,000 in Mikey Blocks to build a 1,600 square-foot home with 8-foot-high walls.

The best part: anyone can easily lift and carry 10 Mikey Blocks, each block weighs only three pounds, which makes do-it-yourself home building simple.

“It was very easy to work with,” says Mike Franco who built his 3,100 square-foot home in six months with Mikey Blocks. “I can show you photos of my granddaughters bringing the Mikey Block out of the trailer.”

Building with them is made easier because the blocks interlock. “Once the walls were 5 feet high, then we pumped every other cell with cement, let it sit, and added the other 4-foot wall,” Franco says. “If you were to see my house, you would like it too.”

Some Mikey Block builders say they usually have two of their friends building their homes with the blocks.

“I was very happy with the product. It is simple to use and reminded me of the days when I was younger and played with Legos,” says John Montiel Jr., another customer who built five houses using Mikey Block. “I enjoyed building my house.”

Mikey Block has a “high R value,” meaning they are energy efficient. They cut down on heating and cooling costs because the Styrofoam does not conduct nearly as much heat as wood or adobe walls, says Reichardt. The Styrofoam is made of air cells which keeps the outside temperature out, maintaining the inside temperature of the home all year round.

Styrofoam never breaks down and using it to create blocks prevents it from going into landfills.

Now, all the company needs is the green building block idea to catch on with large-scale home developers, the way it has with do-it-yourselfers.

Mikey Block “is more energy efficient than building with the conventional style of building — lumber,” says Montiel. “I wouldn’t build another (house) without them.”

Border Deaths so far Break Record-Setting 2005 Numbers

By Nicole Santa Cruz

U.S. and Mexico border deaths have exceeded last year’s numbers, according to the Pima County Medical Examiner’s Office. From Jan. 1 to Aug. 29, this year, 177 suspected border crossing died, while in the same time period for 2006, 139 suspected border crossing died.

Thus far, 2007 has also exceeded the numbers for all-time record-setting 2005, when 157 bodies were recovered during the same time period, said Bruce Parks, chief medical examiner for the Pima County Medical Examiner’s Office.

“Too far, 2007 has also exceeded the numbers for all-time record-setting 2005, when 157 bodies were recovered during the same time period, said Bruce Parks, chief medical examiner for the Pima County Medical Examiner’s Office.”

“Too far, 2007 has also exceeded the numbers for all-time record-setting 2005, when 157 bodies were recovered during the same time period, said Bruce Parks, chief medical examiner for the Pima County Medical Examiner’s Office.”

“We're up to a total of 177 this year, which is higher than last year,” said Parks.

Parks said if deaths are recovered at the border, they are more likely to be recovered at the hospital, as opposed to in the desert.

As of Aug. 31, there have been 186 deaths in the Tucson sector, compared with 160 deaths for the same time in 2006. The Tucson sector is responsible for 98% of the deaths to the southern border of Arizona, and includes Ajo, Casa Grande, Douglas, Naco, Nogales, Sonorka, Tucson and Wilcox. Border Patrol numbers were record-setting in 2005, with 201 deaths by Aug. 31. The Pima County Medical Examiner's Office counts anyone that a Pima County Sheriff encounters, while the U.S. Border Patrol does not. This includes deaths due to heat, cold, and those involved in transit during a motor vehicle accident, Peters said.

The Pima County Medical Examiner’s Office does not include Cochise County in their numbers, either. Sometimes, Parks said, some bodies that are brought to the examiner’s office are bodies that have been in the desert for months, if not years.

Visit El Independiente online at:
www.journalism.arizona.edu or www.theeatscan.com
**Latinos, en Más Riesgo de Contraer Cáncer de Piel**

Por Siobhan Daniel

El cáncer de piel es el tipo de cáncer más común en los Estados Unidos y afecta a todas las razas y tonos de piel.

Los hispanos, a pesar de ser la minoría más grande de personas que tienen un tono de piel oscuro, también pueden sufrir quemaduras de sol y pueden estar en riesgo de contraer cáncer de piel, de acuerdo con un estudio reciente sobre adolescentes hispanos publicado en el ejemplar de agosto de Archivos de Dermatología.

"Hay personas que tienen un tono más oscuro de piel que se queman con más facilidad," dijo el Dr. Colín Trout, un dermatólogo en Irmonger Dermatology en Tucson. "El reto es protegerlos a todos y asegurarse de que comprendan el riesgo de desarrollar cáncer de piel.

El melanoma es la forma más seria de cáncer de piel y todos estamos en riesgo."

"La gente necesita estar informada de que pueden estar expuestos a la radiación y que hay maneras de protegerse," dijo Trout. "Hasta 10 minutos al aire libre causan daño permanente a la piel."

Una manera de prevenir las quemaduras de sol es usar protectores solares apropiados. Trout recomienda usar un protector solar con un factor solar de 20 o más.

**Mother Fuels Stevenson’s Fire**

By Ricky Almada

Manny, and women fast cars and don’t fuel Stevenson’s younger heat, but fuel Stevenson’s motivation to be the best; it’s showing his parents that he can be a great athlete.

"Always wanted to show my mother and father that I could be someone from the get go," he says. "He’s becoming that someone through football.

In 2006, as the running back for the Sunny Side Blue Devils, Stevenson rushed for 1,876 yards and 14 touchdowns in the season, impressive numbers for a high school player, who played six less games per season than an NFL player.

Stevenson’s excellent year led the Devils to the 5A state title game and won him First Team All State and First Team All Region. His performance also attracted college offers from Oregon State, Arizona State Academy, University of Nevada Las Vegas and Utah.

"He’s the type of ball-control he’s on the field he’s like fire," said Rachel Vasavilbaso, a secretary at Sunny Side High School, located at the corner of East Bilby Road and South Campbell Avenue.

Vasavilbaso attends every game and has seen Jovan grow.

"She says he knows nothing about football, but can still vouch for Stevenson’s great speed and natural flair on the field."

"He knows exactly where to stand," Vasavilbaso says of Stevenson when he’s making a big play. "I do not know how he does it. I’m just proud he’s one of our players." Despite his success, Stevenson is continuously striving to improve his game.

"After a two-hour plus practice on a hot September afternoon, which ended with running 12 sets of 20-yard sprints, Stevenson still walks tall.

"He likes football and that’s why we say Stevenson's is still working hard. At practice, he is so focused that the other players and the coaches hardly need to speak with him.

"We don’t have to talk to him much to get it done," Sanchez says. Stevenson’s drive to be the best is a quality he says he learned from his two cousins, Michael and Xavier Smith.

"Xavier, 20, a Sunny Side graduate, is in his second year as the running back for the Arizona Wildcats and looks to take over the starting role soon. Stevenson knows the work his cousins have put into football and through his cousins he can see the way of the work, especially Xavier’s, can take him."

"(They) always worked hard and always wanted to be better," he says. Stevenson also modeled his cousin’s work ethic since he was a child.

"Karleen Stevenson, his mother, says his son was always motivated. She would often refer to her son as “little man” when he was younger because he was “very determined,” she says.

According to his mother, football was on his mind since he was a young child.

"He liked football and that’s all the thought about and dreamed about," she says. Stevenson first picked up a football in kindergarten and was always a running back.

"My passion is running the ball," he says.

**If you go**


* Homecoming ** Senior Night

All home games are held at Sunny Side’s Blue Devil Stadium, 1725 E. Bilby Road, and start at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit www.sunnysidefootball.com.

By Walter Lingerman

Wakefield Middle School kicked off with activity on its first day of after-school programs, an activity time. The program is called FIESTA Time.

FIESTA Time, which means Fun Education, is a program for Sustainable, Teachable, Activities, lives up to its name.

Classes for improving reading and computer skills are also offered, along with an introductory video production class and bead-making course.

The program is part of a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant to provide academic enrichment opportunities for children, particularly those who are in after-school care, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

Volunteers, staff and students scrambled as extracurricular classes got started. Students came prepared, with pencils, paper and crayons.

Program Coordinator Andres Burrola was calm under the hot sun as he worked to shuttle students. "It was a tough day," he said. "The weather was such, so things were pretty hectic," Burrola said.

FIESTA Time offers students a diversity of sport, dance and cultural activities in a safe and secure environment.

Teacher Mark Romero, who supervised Wakefield’s intramural basketball program, said the program provided good food for students to feel like a part of team while representing the school. The program keeps kids off the streets and away from crime while giving them "a sense of belonging, a sense of teamwork," he said.

Patricia Stevenson, Mark’s wife, supervised “At the Corner of East Bilby Road and South Campbell Avenue,” a program that started Sept. 5.

During a break from practice, Stevenson cools himself off on the sidelines.

During the off season, he “goes backwards” in a ditch to stay in shape, played catch to keep his hands flexible and played basketball to keep his body moving.

"I won’t sit around," he says. "I would move and I wouldn’t think about football.

With the season now, he “goes backwards” in a ditch to stay in shape, played catch to keep his hands flexible and played basketball to keep his body moving.

"I want a better life for myself and my mother," he says. "I gave her some hell and I want to pay her back.”
Josefina Ahumada, una voluntaria del centro de trabajo en South Tucson, ayuda a un trabajador mientras espera que le toque el turno a las 9 a.m., el centro de trabajo de la iglesia cumplió su primer aniversario. El programa provee un lugar de encuentro para los trabajadores. Ahumada mencionó que antes de que los trabajadores caminan hacia la mesita de información, y labor rights. The program is funded by the church from parishioner’s dona- tions, which range from $50 to $300.

“Many times employers don’t pay on time, but they come back the next day to rehire us,” said Miguel Ángel Lemus, who has assisted the center since its opening.

“And then they never come back,” said Lemus, a constructor, plumber and carpenter. "A pesar del estado legal de una persona, se debe emplear a un salario justo," dijo Ahumada.

Ahumada agregó que uno de los proyectos del centro es crear un libro de texto, similar a una guía de enseñanza, el cual incluirá gramática y vocabulario en español e inglés para ser utilizado en el trabajo, recursos de información de la comunidad y los derechos del trabajador. "Me gustaría que la gente supiera que estos son hombres hon- orables, trabajadores, que sólo están aquí en busca de empleo," concluyó Ahumada.

Centro de Trabajo Crea Empleos, Organiza a Jornaleros

Por Daniella Gallardo

Tradiciones de Paul Chinchillas

Cuando un empleador se acerca a un centro de trabajo localizado en el sur de Tucson, un grupo de hom- bres rodean su camioneta y le preguntan acerca del tipo de trabajo que tiene disponible.

"Dóbita, venga," grita un hom- bres de entre los trabajadores. Ahumada se encarga de supervisar su encuentro con el empleador, se asegura de que get jobs in an orderly way through the lottery to give every- one an equal opportunity. The employer of the ra- lilleur can still sign up to work, but they have to do it before noon, when the center closes. About 50 men come daily to the center and on a good day, about 40 percent of them find work, Ahumada said. On a bad day, only about 10 percent.

Sometimes laborers who land a job are not paid, an issue that has diminished with the center’s super- vision and coaching.

"What men were tending to do out of desperation was to jump in the employer’s car and take off without knowing what the pay was or where they were going," she said. And then there would be this. "Well, I didn’t say I was going to you that," Ahumada said.

That is why the center’s volun- teers have been coaching the men on how to avoid this situation and providing workshops in the parking lot about workers’ rights.

"There are about two or three workers a day that the employer does not get paid," said Sebastian Quinac, Immigration and Border Coordinator American Friends Service Committee.

"Regardless of what your status is, you have the right to a fair wage," Ahumada said.

Now the majority of the men ask employers about the salary, hours, location and available trans- portation to get back to the center. But if the employer wants to hire you for just three hours but they don’t want to pay you more than $5 an hour, said Ernesto Valles, a day laborer.

Ahumada said occasionally people offer workers a pay of $5 an hour for three hours, a situation she usually uses to protect the workers from abuse, laborers are required to accept no less than $8 an hour.

In addition, volunteers write down the employer’s license plate number. If a worker decides to complain, the center refers the case to Coalition de Derechos Humanos or to American Friends Service Committee, where advocates act as mediators between the workers and employers.

“There are about two or three workers a day that the employer does not get paid,” said Sebastian Quinac, Immigration and Border Coordinator American Friends Service Committee.

“Regardless of what your status is, you have the right to a fair wage,” Ahumada said.

Now the majority of the men would include English and Spanish grammar and vocabulary applica- ble to work, community resources information, and labor rights.

The program is funded by the church from parishioner’s dona- tions, which range from $50 to $300. Manly they need volunteers, and sometimes they try to set up their own committees or by maintaining order or waving a banner at the center’s cor- ner to get the attention of potential employers passing by. “Some people are too know these are honorable, hard work- ing men, who are just looking for a job,” Ahumada said.
Local Artist Brings Mexican Flair to Tucson

By Jason Coyne

Born in Nogales, Sonora, Antonio has to maintain plankned walkways and retaining walls. He hopes to build a covered structure to display an upcoming shipment of dried chiles from Mexico.

“Some products come straight from Mexico,” says Esperanza. “We pick painted tiles that Antonio can set into the tables and chairs or anything his talent decides.”

Traditionally made in Puebla, Mexico, Talavera tiles and pottery are tin glazed earthenware derived from 16th century Spanish monks who brought renaissance style to southwestern look to it,” says Jordan Jurr, an afternoon customer meaning "to hang on your from door Antonio’s products range from $5 to $80. And he assures you, “all are a very good deal.” Customers are welcome everyday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m at 201 West 22nd St.

Cananea Miners look to Tucson for Solidarity, Support in Strike

By Jason Coyne

Local 65, the Cananea branch of the Mexican Mine Workers Union, began striking on Aug. 27 when their employer, Grupo Mexico, the largest mining corporation in Mexico, failed to show up to a two-day contract review with Mexico’s Secretary of Labor because of "traffic" and then postponed three more meetings.

According to miners in Local 65, the conditions in the mine are uneven property, Antonio has to keep the mine to that way. In the past he’s asked rowdy teenagers to be respectful, telling them, “Everything in this community is about respect.”

Borit, in Nogales, Sonora, Antonio was raised in a family that made art its business. From a young age he learned how to work with wood and clay, and with some practice was able to sell his own designs. Later, Antonio moved to Guadalajara, Mexico where he continued to learn how to create the metal plants and animals.

Following his brother to Tucson, Antonio still has the good neighbor mentality that comes from the Mexican community. He tates to help immigrants and the homeless through his church, and says his favorite activity is, “work- ing hard.”

With an open gallery atop an uneven property, Antonio has to maintain plankned walkways and retaining walls. He hopes to build a covered structure to display an upcoming shipment of dried chiles from Mexico.

“Some products come straight from Mexico,” says Esperanza. “We pick painted tiles that Antonio can set into the tables and chairs or anything his talent decides.”

Traditionally made in Puebla, Mexico, Talavera tiles and pottery are tin glazed earthenware derived from 16th century Spanish monks who brought renaissance style to already accomplished indigenous clay makers. Colorful Talavera tiles are found in Mexican restaurants, kitchens, bathrooms and garden fountains. “Talavera pottery has a very southwest look to it,” says Jordan Jurr, an afternoon customer meaning “to hang on your from door Antonio’s products range from $5 to $80. And he assures you, “all are a very good deal.” Customers are welcome everyday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m at 201 West 22nd St.

El Hospital VA se Prepara para un Nuevo Edificio

Por Nicole Santa Cruz

La construcción está en camino para un nuevo centro de salud mental de $12.5 millones para el Hospital de Veteranos del Sur de Arizona. El centro de salud mental de 36,000 pies cuadrados abrirá sus puertas en el verano del 2008, dijo Pepe Mendoza, portavoz de la Administración del Sistema de Salud de Veteranos del Sur de Arizona.

Triumph Builders, la compañía de construcción que se encuentra trabajando en el inmueble, ha colo- lado el cimiento y las paredes, y ha empezado a poner el techo. “Simplemente será un edificio increíble,” dijo Mendoza.

El nuevo centro de salud mental consolidará los servicios de los otros cuatro centros de veteranos y ayudará a regular el incrementado número de veteranos que regresan de Iraq.

Distinguidos programas serán implementados en el nuevo establecimiento, incluyendo una clínica de cuidados primarios que proveerá consejería a pacientes externos y programas familiares, el programa de trastorno por estrés post traumático, el programa mili- tar de trauma sexual, el programa para vagabundos y el programa de terapia de trabajo consolidado.

“Es más conveniente para los pacientes externos,” dijo Mendoza, habiendo que muchos de los pro- gramas ayudan a los veteranos a reintegrarse al ámbito laboral de una manera más sencilla.

David Emleyt, director de la línea para el cuidado mental de Southern Arizona VA (Veteranos del Sur de Arizona), dijo que una de las principales razones para con- struir un nuevo edificio es que el VA ha crecido más allá de su capacidad original.

El VA ya ha incrementado el personal de la oficina de salud mental. Emleyt dijo, Ahora están “hasta el tope” en términos de espacio de oficina.
Muertes en la Frontera 
Rompen con el Récord Establecido

Por Nicole Santa Cruz
Traducido por Ana Quiroz

El número de muertes en la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos, superó los registros del año pasado con la Oficina del Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima. Desde el primero de enero hasta el 29 de agosto de este año, 177 presuntos inmigrantes murieron al cruzar la frontera. Mientras que durante el mismo periodo en el 2006, 139 de éstos murieron.

Hasta ahora, el 2007 también ha excedido las cifras más altas de todos los tiempos establecidas en 2005, cuando 157 cuerpos fueron recuperados durante el mismo periodo de tiempo, dijo Bruce Parks, jefe de la oficina del Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima.

Si los cadáveres siguen siendo encontrados a ritmo constante, el 2007 podría imponer un nuevo récord para la oficina del médico forense, dijo el Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima, contó 197 muertes. Hasta el martes 11 de septiembre, 181 cuerpos habían sido recuperados, dijo el Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima.

“Obviamente hay múltiples factores que están contribuyendo,” dijo Peters, refiriéndose a las estaciones de agua y a la incrementada seguridad a lo largo de la frontera. Peters dijo no saber si el número de personas intentando cruzar la frontera, los problemas de inmigración y más personas están murriendo debido a las temperaturas. Peters dijo que una revista de los Estados Unidos cuenta las muertes de una manera diferente a la de la Oficina del Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima, sin embargo ellos también muestran que los números de muertes van en aumento.

Hasta el 31 de agosto, hubo 186 muertes en el sector Tucson, comparado con 160 en el mismo periodo en el 2006, el sector Tucson, en la ciudad de Pima, cerca de la frontera de Arizona e incluye Ajo, Casa Grande, Eloy, Florence, Gila, Guadalupe, Maricopa, Nogales, Sonora y Wilcox. Los números de la patrulla fronteriza impusieron récord en el 2005, con 201 muertes hasta el 31 de agosto.

La Oficina del Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima cuenta a cualquier persona que el almacín del condado de Pima ha encontrado en el sector de la frontera no lo hace. Esto incluye muertes por el calor, el frío y aquellos que parecen ser accidente automovilístico, afirmó Peters.

La Oficina del Examinador Médico del Condado de Pima tampoco incluye a los cadáveres que han estado en el desierto por meses, si no es que años.

El Border Action Network (Red de Acción Fronteriza) anunció el mes pasado el inicio de dos programas que ayudarán a prevenir posibles abusos en contra de los inmigrantes, los cuales podrían ocurrir debido a las presentes refuerzos fronterizos.

Durante los próximos tres meses, la organización va a entrenar a ciudadanos en las comunidades fronterizas para que puedan documentar adecuadamente violaciones de derechos humanos, oficiales de la organización comentaron.

Los residentes de las áreas donde exista una gran cantidad de inmigrantes, pueden esperar recibir visitas a su domicilio.

La misma campaña conducida el año pasado encontró 90 casos de abuso contra inmigrantes por parte de la Patrulla Fronteriza, la policía, los supervisores de campos de golf y hoteles, y los propietarios de casas en alquiler, según la red.

La documentación de incidentes es de suma importancia para poder cambiar las leyes estatales, dijo Katie O’Connor, la asistente del director ejecutivo de Border Action Network.

En este mes también empezará la clase titulada “I Know My Rights” (Conozco mis Derechos) en donde se les enseñará inglés básico a los aduandos y al mismo tiempo se les informará sobre sus derechos legales. La clase es una respuesta a las recomendaciones de la Proposición 300, que ha hecho a estudiantes verificar su estado legal antes de pagar la cuota estatal, antes de resolver que pagar a sus hijos para ir a clases de idiomas.

El número de inmigrantes que asisten a los colegios de la comunitario y a las universidades es disminuyendo. La red espera responder a la necesidad de enseñar inglés a los inmigrantes a sus derechos al mismo tiempo.

El próximo día de instrucción en el colegio es el próximo martes 24 de septiembre, de 6 p.m. a 10 p.m. en el Centro Cultural El Paseo, 1400 S. Lunaena.


Para más información, visite www.borderaction.org.
Skin Cancer More Common in Hispanics Than Thought

By Bhishan Daniel

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States and affects people of all races and skin tones.

Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in the United States and need to be aware that dark-skinned people can get sunburned and suffer from skin cancer, according to a recent study on Hispanic teenagers published in the August issue of Archives of Dermatology.

"Just because you have darker skin doesn’t mean you do not get sunburned," said Dr. Colton Trout, a dermatologist in Tucson, DermaCare in Tucson. "There are darker skinned people who get sunburned and suffer from skin cancer, according to a recent study on Hispanic teenagers published in the August issue of Archives of Dermatology.

The recent study found that an increasing number of Latinos were being seen with skin cancer due to increases in ultraviolet radiation exposure, which is associated with increasing melanoma cancer in people with darker skin, according to the study on Hispanic teenagers.

Melanoma is the most serious form of skin cancer and everyone is at risk.

"You need to be aware they can get cancer from being outside in the shade or by a window in their homes," Trout said. "Even 10 minutes outside causes radiation exposure."
September and October - Mariachi
Friday Night Flicks - The Santa Rosa Center Double Digit Teen Club presents Friday Night Flicks! Come watch a family movie under the stars in the outdoor stage area! Entrance is free, refreshments may be purchased. The series runs through Oct. 19. Films are shown at 6 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center. 1080 S. 10th Ave. Call 791-4589 for more information.

September 20 - Bilingual Story Time
This is a free service of the Pima County Public Library that gives parents and their children a chance to read together in a fun way. Children can read, sing songs and do crafts that promote language learning with parental participation. This event is free and for all ages. It takes place in the Sam Lena-South Tucson Branch Library, 1607 S. Sixth Ave. from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information call 791-4791 or visit www.library.pima.gov for more information.

September 22 - Chess Challenge for Children and Teens
Come learn how to play for the first time or challenge a South Tucson expert to a game of chess. From 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free and fun! Sam Lena-South Tucson Branch Library, 1607 S. Sixth Ave. Call 791-4791 or visit www.library.pima.gov for more information.

September 26 - Teen Time at Santa Rosa
Teen Time is an opportunity to meet with friends and other young people and have fun doing a variety of activities such as arts and crafts, movies, music, and other fun. Ages 12 to 17 are welcome from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. every Wednesday. The Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center at 1075 S. 10th Ave. Call 879-8019 for more information.

September 26 - Home work Help
Tutors available for all ages, from elementary to college level students. Starting Sept. 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. The cost is free and the help is outstanding! Quin cie Douglas Branch Library, 1585 E. 36th St. Call 791-5214 for more information.

September 29 - Ormsby Fall Festival of Fun
Come and bring the entire family to the annual Ormsby Fall Festival of Fun! Participate in carnival games, dancing, live entertainment and more! Food is available for purchase. The cost is free and all ages are welcome from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ormsby Center Park, 899 W. 24th St. Call 791-4011 for more information.

October 1 - Children’s Swim Lessons
Swim lessons are two times per week for a half hour each class period. Call pools for times and days of classes. From Oct. 1 to 26. The cost is $2 per session, payable at pool on first day of class. Classes are held at both the Quin cie Douglas and El Pueblo Pools. Call 791-5941 or 791-4176 for more information on dates and times.

October 12 - Schoolzout Grading Day Camp
For ages 5 to 11, a day camp where kids can come to play with children their age, be active, and take part in fun activities! Starting October 12 from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The cost is $2 per day, per child. Held at the El Pueblo Neighborhood Center, 101 W. Irvington Rd. Call 791-5155 for more information.

October 27 - Halloween Haunt
Family fun for all ages! This Halloween celebration includes a glow-in-the-dark scary scavenger hunt, a haunted house, creepy and crawly carnival games and terrifying treats! It’s a Halloween tradition that nobody can say no to! This is a free festival to attend and food is available for purchase. Oct. 27 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center and Park, 1080 S. 10th Ave. Call 791-4589 for more information on this scary night!

Tuesday through Friday - Boys and Girls Club
At the Holmes Tuttle Clubhouse, kids of all ages can come and interact with other kids, learn new skills in technology, arts, and more! Boys and Girls Club meets every Tuesday through Friday from 3 to 9 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Holmes Tuttle Clubhouse is located at 2455 E. 36th St. Call 622-0094 for more information.

Every Wednesday and Friday - El Pueblo Senior Club
Senior Club members have free access to the Activity Center on Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ages 55+. Activities include field trips, game room, access, walking programs, loteria speakers, line dancing, crafts and monthly potlucks. El Pueblo Neighborhood Center, 101 W. Irvington Rd. Call 791-4733 for more information.

Thursdays - Family Story Time
Bring your children of all ages every Thursday to listen to stories and sing songs and give your children an opportunity to engage in activities to promote development and learning. All programs are designed for parents to participate with their children. Cost is free. Every Thursday from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the Santa Rosa Public Library, 1075 S. 100 Ave. Call 791-4629 for more information.

Every Monday through Friday - Late Night Hoops
A great basketball program for children ages 13 to 19. Male, female, and co-ed teams available. Games take place on Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. starting in October at the El Pueblo Center, 101 W. Irvington Rd. Free. For more information call 791-4870.

Every Saturday - Saturday Special
Special themed activities for the entire family that’s free! Every second and fourth Saturday of each month, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center, 1080 S. 10th Ave. Call 791-4589 for more information.

Wednesday through Friday - Junior-移送 Citizenship Class
This Pima College Adult Education Citizenship Class offers the opportunity to learn about the U.S. government and U.S. history, while improving English language skills and preparing for the Citizenship Exam. Call 884-8628 for more information on dates and registration.