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El Cierre del I-10 Podría Aumentar el Tráfico en el Sur de Tucson

Por Colin Moore

Los oficiales del Sur de Tucson temen que el proyecto de la ampliación del Interestatal 10 aumentará el tráfico en la ciudad y dificultará los servicios de emergencia locales.

Durante los próximos tres años, el Arizona Department of Transportation (Departamento de Transportación de Arizona) supervisará un proyecto de 200 millones de dólares que cambiará para siempre la manera en que los habitantes del sur de Arizona viajarán por el Interestatal 10. Para el 2010, ADOT espera terminar la construcción de cuarto carriles normales y uno auxiliar, los cuales ayudarán a los conductores transitar por el Interestatal 10.

Los oficiales de la ciudad temen que la construcción aumentará el tráfico en las avenidas Fourth y Sixth, creando problemas serios para los residentes del Sur de Tucson y posiblemente impedirá el paso a bomberos, policías, así como a otros refuerzos de emergencia.

Además, los mismos oficiales dicen que ADOT no ha sido receptivo en cuanto a sus preocupaciones.

“Le pedimos a ADOT hace más de un año que se reunieran con nuestros departamentos de policía, bomberos y obras públicas para que así se den cuenta el impacto que esto tendrá en nuestras calles y posiblemente en nuestro departamento de seguridad pública,” dijo el Alcalde Jennifer Eckstrom del Sur de Tucson. “Esa junta nunca ocurrió.”

Eckstrom también dice estar en desacuerdo por que el ADOT no ha informado de manera adecuada a los

residentes sobre el proyecto.

Sin embargo, según ADOT, ha habido mucha comunicación con los residentes del Sur de Tucson. Los registros de ADOT afirman que el departamento ha estado en contacto con 13 colonias del Sur de Tucson y ha ofrecido dos juntas informativas como servicio público.

Los registros afirman que aproximadamente 226 residentes y representantes de pequeños negocios de la comunidad asistieron a dichas juntas públicas.

A principios de junio, ADOT cerrará las bajadas y subidas del Interestatal 10 entre 29th Street y Prince Road. Los conductores que normalmente usan estas salidas tendrán que conducir por el frontage localizado junto al tramo del Interestatal 10.

El Ayuntamiento del Sur de Tucson y otros oficiales de la ciudad se reunieron con representantes de ADOT el 22 de enero para discutir las preocupaciones que la ciudad tiene acerca del proyecto. Eckstrom pidió que ADOT se reuniera específicamente con los departamentos de policía, bomberos y obras públicas, por que cree que la junta debe realizarse durante las próximas semanas.

“Estamos pidiendo que ADOT ofrezca una plática sobre este problema que afecta nuestros departamentos,” dijo Eckstrom.

El aumento de tráfico que se espera con esta construcción, será un problema para el Sur de Tucson, dicen los oficiales de la ciudad.

“No creo que ADOT se de cuenta que tenemos topes en casi todas las calles en el Sur de Tucson,” dijo Eckstrom.

'I-10' ver página 6



PHOTO BY ROBERT FONOROW

Internationally regarded artist David Tineo stands with one of his pieces. This particular work is a multi-textured relief painting that is meant to be seen and felt.

Tineo Shows Off His 'Vision'

By Scott M. Ward

Esteemed local artist David Tineo will be exhibiting his newest collection of artwork starting Feb. 11 at Galeria Mistica.

The exhibit, entitled “Myth, Legends and Angelic Retribution,” adds another chapter to Tineo’s prolific career in Tucson and abroad.

“It’s an introduction to his new series, his new style,” said Eugene Edwards, owner of Galeria Mistica. “If I walked in here, I wouldn’t know it was a Tineo.”

Tineo initially gained acclaim for including early-20th century Mexican mural art into his style and accrued recognition and awards both locally and nationally.

He was voted Tucson’s best artist by Tucson Weekly readers in

1998 and is the only Latino to be given the Robert Rauschenberg Award, presented to artists and educators for their work with children and the arts.

In his latest work, Tineo used a combination of caulk, latex and acrylics to create pieces where the detail is “implied” to the viewer.

Tineo is afflicted with the chronic eye disease macular degeneration. He said he hopes the frames,

which Edwards aided in constructing, appear straight. He describes

his affliction as “a gift and a curse” and believes his art has moved in a

new direction due to his heightened dependence on touch. He characterizes the paintings as “more tactile.”

“This is the beginning of a new phase,” he said. “My recent works are very spiritual. It gets very primal.”

Tineo said he hopes that with his recent batch of

mixed-media art, he will be able to not only battle macular degeneration, but also to appear straight. He describes

“Myth, Legends and Angelic Retribution”

by David Tineo

Feb. 11-March 15

Galeria Mistica

2318 S. Fourth Ave.

Gallery hours:

1:00-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Saturday

or by appointment

Admission is free.

622-8000

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Tortillas, 12 Pesos por Kilo en Nogales

Por Berenice Rosales

NOGALES, Sonora — “Nuevo Año, nueva vida,” frase popular usada al comenzar un nuevo ciclo de 365 días, sin embargo, los mexicanos no tuvieron tan buen comienzo en este 2007 ya que el precio de la Tortilla de Maíz, soporte principal de la dieta mexicana, se ha disparado notablemente afectando los bolsillos de las personas de bajos ingresos.

A finales de enero, después del escándalo público en México con respecto al aumento del costo de productos de maíz, el presidente mexicano Felipe Calderón firmó un acuerdo con las principales empresas envueltas en la producción de maíz para estabilizar el precio a un máximo de 8.5 pesos (75 centavos) por kilogramo —en la mayor parte de los estados del país.

Sin embargo, este acuerdo no incluirá al estado de Sonora porque las empresas que firmaron la propuesta no operan ahí, según un comunicado de prensa de PROFECO, agencia federal de protección del consumidor en Sonora.

Según el INEGI (Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas,

Geográfica e Informática), 81.5 por ciento de las familias mexicanas consumen tortillas de maíz, y cuatro de diez familias fueron afectadas por el aumento del precio.

Carmen Lucia Durán, ama de casa en Nogales y clienta de la Tortillería La Mexicana, dijo sentirse inconforme con el precio de las tortillas porque ahora tiene que pagar más para comprar menos.

“Solía comprar 25 pesos de tortillas,” dijo Durán. “Ahora, recibo menos tortillas por el mismo precio.”

El aumento del uso de etanol como una alternativa de la gasolina, ha sido un factor principal en el aumento del precio del maíz, ya que el etanol se produce con esta materia prima.

El año pasado, los Estados Unidos produjo alrededor de 151 millones de hectolitros de bio-etanol, lo cual aumentó el precio de maíz mundialmente, según un comunicado de prensa de MAPA, una agencia de Agricultura, Pesca y Nutrición en México.

“Los Estados Unidos utiliza el maíz para producir

'Tortillas' ver página 6



PHOTO BY BERENICE ROSALES

El precio de la tortilla en Nogales se mantiene en 12 pesos por kilo.

More Chances To Save on Cars

By Katy Graham

The smell of engine exhaust wafted through the air as potential car buyers listened closely to the auctioneer shout out prices. South Tucson's only auto auction has gained enough popularity to persuade owners to increase the number of auctions starting this month.

"We got overwhelmed with cars and local dealers that wanted us to go three times a month instead of twice," said Brad Dorsey, co-owner of Leader Automotive Group, 2627 S. Fourth Ave. "Dealers, such as Dobbs Honda, want us to flush out their inventory of trade-in vehicles."

The Feb. 3 auction was one of the busiest to date. About 200 people scoped out nearly 200 cars between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., said South Tucson reserve police Officer John Martinez, who was working as a security guard.

"This is the biggest crowd I have ever seen," Martinez said. "But it is still a very smooth-running process."

The process for potential bidders is simple: they show up, register and place a bid when the car they want rolls through the bidding area.

Dinora Martinez purchased a 1999 Chevrolet Malibu at last month's auction and came back with her husband to see if they could find another good deal.

"I paid \$1,700 for a car that is



A black BMW sedan rolled through the auction stage area as interested buyers placed their bids.

usually \$10,000 at the dealer," she said as her daughter acted as a translator. "My friends were jealous!"

The auction is open to the public and held at the corner of South Fourth Avenue and 36th Street. The cars, which vary from Cadillac sedans to lifted Chevrolet trucks, come mostly from local dealerships that need their trade-in cars to be sold. Occasionally, the cars will come from government impounds and drug seizures.

Oscar Navarrette, the auction's manager, is looking forward to February and March because tax season brings in people with cash looking to purchase a car.

"People will be getting back their tax returns and go crazy," he said.

Only about 60 percent of the

cars at an auction will be sold, Dorsey said, because buyers will balk at the sellers' floor price, the minimum amount of money they are willing to sell the car for.

"Sometimes the sellers will lower their floor price because they want to flush out their inventory," he said. "But most of the time, they will stick to their original asking amount."

On a recent Saturday, sales included a 2001 Toyota Corolla for \$3,200 and a 2002 Honda Accord for \$4,400.

The next two auctions are set for Feb. 10 and 17, and the cars will be pre-shown to the public the day before each date.

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By Monica Galan

Pastry lovers across Tucson can soon satisfy both their vegetable and donut cravings with a short trip down the street instead of a trek to South Tucson.

Rudy Molina Jr., manager of Le Cave's Bakery, 1219 S. Sixth Ave., plans to open additional bakeries in Tucson or turn Le Cave's into a franchise, giving more people a chance to try its "Original Vegetable Glazed Donut."

"You try it for the first time," Molina said, "and you're pretty much hooked."

It's not just the South side that's been hooked. The bakery has received calls from prospectors in California, Colorado, Seattle and Plattsburgh, N.Y., looking to franchise said Albert Gonzalez, assistant manager of Le Cave's.

While Seattleites may appreciate access to Le Cave's unique donuts, Tucsonans can look forward to more locations closer to home. The Northwest and far East sides of Tucson are probable locations for new Le Cave's bakeries, Molina said.

Once the branch units are established, the original Le Cave's would probably relocate, possibly near the Tucson International Airport, because the South Sixth Avenue "area is dying," he said.

"There's more opportunity, as far as business, in other areas," Gonzalez said.

The South side doesn't need to panic just yet, however. While Molina is looking forward to the changes, he said they will not come for at least a year and a half.

In the meantime, the pastry icon offers what it has offered so well since before World War II — a variety of vegetable glazed donuts, cookies, empanadas and decorated cakes.

Ronald Tellez, a dedicated Le Cave's fan, works in Northwest Tucson and said he is excited about having his weekly dose of strawberry popovers and glazed potato donuts a short drive away.

"The quality of the donuts is much better than anyone else," Tellez said. "Dunkin' Donuts are horrible. Circle K donuts are horrible."

Although some of its business declined with the opening of Krispy Kreme in Tucson, Le Cave's has proven it can compete with a major franchise. Krispy Kreme left the city in August, while Le Cave's is thriving.

Originally opened by Basil Le Cave in 1935, the bakery was taken over by Molina's father, Rudy Molina Sr., in 1981 when Le Cave became ill. While his father still owns the bakery, Molina is manager.

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El Independiente encourages letters from all its readers, but reserves the right to edit correspondence for grammar, style, clarity and length.

UA Journalism
P.O. Box 210158B
Tucson, AZ 85721
Phone: 621-3618
elindieua@gmail.com

Adviser
Maggy Zanger

Graphics and Layout Adviser
John deDios

Managing Editor
Abbey Hood

News Editor
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College Dreams Take Flight With Help of Project SOAR

By Lauren Miller

From pediatrics to professional modeling, middle school students are dreaming big about their careers. Thanks to a mentoring program in a South Tucson school, those ambitions are closer to coming true.

Student Outreach And Resiliency, also known as Project SOAR, teams 15 University of Arizona undergraduates with middle school students to talk about college and careers. The program focuses on giving guidance and career planning to students who may not have thought much about college.

"We want them to be able to have conversations and ask questions, and this naturally develops into considering college," said Sara Chavarria, director of education outreach at UA and a coordinator with Wildcat School, where the majority of the mentors work.

Most mentor and student meetings take place during an afternoon activity period at Wildcat School, 5660 S. 12th Ave. The preteens and teens have time to discuss everything from school uniforms to current events. They explore college options and talk about applications, financial aid and campus life.

Mentors work in pairs or with a small group, where students can spend time talking about college and forming a support network, said Michelle Espino, a Project SOAR coordinator.

The program specifically targets middle school students at an age

when they start making decisions on whether or not they should attend college.

"They all have superhero potential but then they are growing into adults who are starting to see the world a little differently," Chavarria said.

"We definitely hear 'When I go to college' more often," Chavarria said.

Stephanie "Coop" Cooper, 20, said she sometimes needs to do research before meeting with her partner, Gilbert Rivera, who loves to talk politics. An avid news watcher, 11-year-old Rivera is considering a career in the military, and Cooper thinks she sees a budding political science major.

Rivera wanted to join the military right out of high school. The mentors brought up the idea of ROTC, where Rivera can follow the philosophy that by joining after college he can have a higher rank and pursue a military career with more impact. Cooper said she tries to share some of her own experiences to inspire Rivera.

"I like talking to Coop about the news and the war, and I really enjoy coming here," Rivera said. "My parents think this thing is great and are glad we are getting along."

Parents have responded positively to the program, meeting the mentors and watching the relationship between their child and the UA student grow.

Angela Crespo, 19, said she often talks to the parents of her student,

Maqui Voirin, 11. They discuss what Voirin needs help with in school and in the future. Voirin, who loves children and babies, dreams of being a pediatrician and has talked with Crespo about saving money for college.

The program was developed in 2004 as a service-learning course at the UA by Dr. Jenny Lee, an assistant professor with the Center for the Study of Higher Education.

Mentors take a semester-long class to prepare to work with Project SOAR and then are matched up with participating schools. In addition to Wildcat School, mentors also work at Roskrige Elementary School, 501 E. Sixth St. Project SOAR's sister program, Native Project SOAR, has 15 mentors at Ha:sañ Preparatory & Leadership School, 1333 E. 10th St.

"We believe that every student has the potential to obtain a college education with the right support, mentoring, and guidance," Lee said.

Like the goals they inspire in their students, Project SOAR is also thinking big. They hope to expand the number of mentors throughout Wildcat School and beyond.

"The kids have really developed a relationship with us and by earning (their) trust we've become really close," said Charlie Kuoni, 20, who returned as a mentor for a second semester.

"They deserve every chance in life that they can get and even more," Kuoni said. "I hope the community will rally around them and show their appreciation."

Reading Week Shares the Love of Literature

By Laura Ory

Ten-year-old Adriana Moran-Sanchez was more interested in a Disney computer game than the books at the Sam Lena Library – on a recent Saturday afternoon. Still, the Harry Potter book she's currently reading was next to her.

"I like the magic and stuff," she said. "Sometimes I feel like I'm in the book."

Librarians and community members are hoping to foster a love of reading among more Tucson children during Love of Reading Week Feb. 12-16.

To celebrate Reading Week, authors will read children's stories at local libraries, said Gina Macaluso, an author and coordinator of youth services for the Pima County Public Libraries.

Spanish and English readings of Macaluso's "Green Corn Tamales" and Mary Margaret Mercado's "Splat" will kick off the week's events at 6 p.m. Monday at the Quincie Douglas Branch Library, 1585 E. 36th St.

Macaluso said she enjoys reading a good book to children.

"You can see the expressions in their faces when the words of the sto-

ries come alive through reading aloud," she said.

Leanne Yoder, a children's librarian, said the Quincie Douglas Library will also have a display where children can write down their favorite books and authors.

Jahaziel Felix, 6, said his favorite author is Eric Carle. Felix said he recently checked out "Draw Me a Star" from Quincie Douglas because he liked the pictures.

His brother, Uzziel, 9, said his favorite books are the "Captain Underpants" series by Dav Pilkey. He likes the flip-page animation of the "flip-o-ramas" and the books' comic-book style.

Frank Moreno said he went to Joel D. Valdez Main Library with his son, Frank Jr., 3, to pick out more books to read to him.

"I'm trying to get him into the whole concept of learning," Moreno said. Since his son is so young, he remembers and enjoys books with textures and colorful pictures.

Donie Gignac, manager of the Sam Lena-South Tucson Branch Library, 1607 S. Sixth Ave., said par-



Librarian Leanne Yoder shows Kiera Chamberlain, 3, left, and Dahlia Schour, 1, how books can be multifunctional at Quincie Douglas.

PHOTO BY LAURA ORY

ents should choose something they enjoy reading to their children to introduce them to a love of reading.

"Choose the things you like to read, and read with expression and lots of enthusiasm," Gignac said. "If you like poetry, read poetry. If you like silly stories, and I really like to read silly stories, read those."

Pueblo Magnet High School students will be reading to pre-school and kindergarten students at Mission View Elementary School, 2800 S. 8th Ave., said Claudia Leon, a community representative with Mission View.

She said the school hopes Reading Week will get their students more familiar with literature and show

them that "reading is valuable and something they need."

The school is planning classroom readings throughout the week and will also start a Chicano literature book club for parents as part of the activities.

Monday, Feb. 12, 6 p.m.

•Quincie Douglas Library, 1585 E. 36th St.
•Bilingual readings of "Green Corn Tamales/Tamales de Elote" by Gina Macaluso and "Splat" by Mary Margaret Mercado

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2 p.m.

•Miller-Golf Links Library, 9640 E. Golf Links Road
•"The Troll Treasure" by John Vornholt

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2:30 p.m.

•Valencia Branch Public Library, 202 W. Valencia Road
•"The Three Little Javalinas" by Susan Lowell

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2:30 p.m.

•Woods Memorial Public Library, 3455 N. First Ave.
•"Correctamundo: Prickly Pete's Guide to Desert Facts and Cactifracsts" by David Lazaroff

Friday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

•Joel D. Valdez Main Library, 101 N. Stone Ave.
•A selection from "Gothic: 10 Dark, Original Tales" by Janni Simner – In conjunction with the C-SPAN Book TV Bus

Center Sweats to the Beat of a Different Drum

By Abbey Hood

The plain white walls on the corner building at South Fourth Avenue and 33rd Street come alive at 5 p.m. on Wednesday nights. Passers-by hear shouts, drumming and music as people inside practice TaikoFit, a cardio class combining Japanese drumming and aerobics.

The Mo-Sun Art and Wellness Center attracts people from all over Tucson for its Taiko and TaikoFit classes. Having opened in early January, the center is the only place in the United States that offers TaikoFit.

Owner Mo Sullivan and her team of three instructors are the only four people in the nation certified to teach the art.

"TaikoFit is great," said weekly TaikoFit attendee B.J. Cather. "It's great for beginners."

For Sullivan, the opening of her own art and wellness center is the realization of a longtime dream. After watching friends open fitness shops in Tucson, Sullivan said to herself, "I would love to do this."

Sullivan opened Mo-Sun after 10 years of dreaming and planning, while keeping her full-time job for the Tucson branch of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

She envisions a place that will bring families together for exercise and body-strengthening in a safe and encouraging environment.

"South Tucson has such a great opportunity for everything," Sullivan said. "There is a lot happening in South Tucson."



Thomas Lapp (left) leads Melva Morrow (right) and B.J. Cather (far right) in an enthusiastic class of TaikoFit at the Mo-Sun Art and Wellness Center.

Enough is happening at Mo-Sun to attract Sahuarita resident Robyn Saxton. She and her husband come every Wednesday night for TaikoFit.

"I came to the first class, and it was a very different workout," Saxton said. "It is a full upper- and lower-body workout."

TaikoFit uses the Japanese drum sticks bachi and the Japanese drum taiko. Instructors lead the one-hour class with upbeat Asian pop music while beating the drum. The class progresses through a series of moves that appear to fuse kickboxing with salsa dancing.

After her fourth class, Saxton said she saw improvement in her breathing, metabolism and body firmness and has seen weight loss.

Aside from TaikoFit, Mo-Sun offers taiko drumming lessons, martial arts classes, massage therapy, personal training and self-defense classes.

"Mo-Sun is an arts and wellness facility with all facets of wellness," said Thomas Lapp, a TaikoFit instructor.

Classes are daily at various times. The first class is free, and subsequent classes cost \$10 each. The center also offers one-, three- and six-month passes.

At around 6 p.m. at the Wednesday TaikoFit class, the music lowers, and the people inside the white building come together in the center of the room with their drums. They put them between their legs, and the instructor begins a cool-down session. As the class concludes, the group quietly bows and says together, "Domo arrigato (thank you)."

"I feel Mo-Sun is what South Tucson is all about," Sullivan said. "It is about finding out what South Tucson needs and giving them what they need."

PHOTO BY LEIGH LAWS

Bibliotecarios Comparten el Amor de la Lectura con los Niños

Por Laura Ory
Traducido por Anders Peterson

Adriana Morán-Sánchez, de 10 años de edad, se interesaba más en un juego de computadora de Disney que en los libros de la biblioteca Sam Lena durante un sábado en la tarde. Sin embargo, el libro de Harry Potter que actualmente está leyendo estaba a su lado.

"Me gusta la magia y cosas por el estilo," ella dijo. "A veces siento que estoy en el libro."

Bibliotecarios y miembros de la comunidad esperan promover el interés por la lectura entre los jóvenes de Tucson durante el National Love of Reading Week (semana nacional del amor por la lectura) del 12 al 16 de febrero.

Para celebrar Reading Week, algunos autores de libros leerán historias juveniles en las bibliotecas locales, dijo Gina Macaluso, escritora y coordinadora de servicios de jóvenes para las bibliotecas del Condado de Pima.

Lecturas en inglés y español del libro de Macaluso "Green Corn Tamales" (tamales de elote) y del libro de Margaret Mercado "Splat" se leerán al comienzo del evento el lunes a las 6 p.m. en la biblioteca Quincie Douglas Branch, 1585 E. 36th St.

Macaluso dijo que le agrada leer un buen libro a los niños. "Puedes ver las expresiones en sus caras cuando las palabras de las historias toman vida al leerlas en voz alta," ella dijo.

Leanne Yoder, una bibliotecaria juvenil, dijo que la biblioteca Quincie Douglas también tendrá un pizarrón donde los niños podrán anotar el título de sus libros y autores predilectos.

Jahaziel Felix, de 6 años de edad, dijo que su escritor favorito es Eric Carle. Felix dijo que recientemente llevó a casa el libro "Draw Me a Star" (dibújame una estrella) de Quincie Douglas porque le gustan los dibujos.

Su hermano, Uzziel, 9 años, dijo que sus libros preferidos son una serie de "Captain Underpants" (Capitán Calzoncillos) por Dav Pilkey. Le gustan la animación al doblar las páginas en los "flip-o-ramas" y el estilo de las historietas.

Frank Moreno dijo que fue a la biblioteca en compañía de su hijo, Frank Jr. de 3 años de edad, para escoger algunos libros para leerlos.

"Estoy tratando de mostrarle el concepto del aprendizaje," dijo Moreno, añadió ya que su hijo es muy pequeño para acordarse y disfrutar libros con texturas y dibujos coloridos.

Donie Gignac, gerente de la biblioteca Sam Lena-South Tucson Branch, 1607 S. Sixth Ave. dijo que los padres deben seleccionar algo que les guste leer a sus hijos para iniciarles el interés y amor a la lectura.

"Elijan algo que les guste leer, y léanlo con mucha atención y bastante entusiasmo," dijo Gignac. "Si les gusta poesía, lean poesía. Si les gustan historias simples, a mí me encantan las historias simples, leanlas."

Alumnos de Pueblo Magnet High School (escuela secundaria Pueblo Magnet) leerán a los estudiantes de pre-escolar de la Mission View Elementary School (escuela primaria Mission View), localizada en 2800 S. 8th Ave., dijo Claudia León, representante comunitaria de Mission View.

Ella dijo que la escuela espera que Reading Week familiarice a los alumnos con la literatura y mostrarles que "la lectura es valiosa y algo que necesitan."

La escuela está planeando lecturas en las aulas durante la semana y además comenzarán un club de literatura chicana para los padres, siendo parte de las actividades del pro.

Laborers Gamble on Daily Work

By Ernesto Romero

Sergio Romero gets up at 4:30 a.m. in his South Tucson apartment. It's still dark and freezing cold. He pulls on his worn jeans and white-speckled work boots. He grabs his jacket and a straw hat and heads out in search of a day's work.

He arrives in the parking lot at Southside Presbyterian Church, 317 W. 23rd St., and joins perhaps 40 other day laborers. The workers mill about, talking quietly and joking with one another as they wait for people to pull up their vehicles in search of hands to paint, build brick walls or clean up the debris in their yards. Tom Petty's "Free Fallin'" blares from a small boom box. Its owner, wearing an imitation Nike jacket, can't find a Spanish-language radio station, so scratchy pop music in English suffices.

The sun is starting to come up, but it will be hours before the first potential employer drives up. Romero, nicknamed "Osama" by his fellow workers for his facial similarities to Osama Bin Laden, waits in the cold with the others.

Finally, a red Ford Explorer slows down and pulls into the parking lot. The driver, a man, raises his left hand and shows four fingers to the workers.

"Hay va la carrera, sobres, sobres," Nelson Lopez yells. Let the race begin.

The men jump up and rush the Explorer. If they're chosen they will get a day's work.

Apparently, the driver is unable to find the skills or the workers he is looking for and drives away after a few minutes.

This happens four more times during the morning.

The Southside church operates a day-laborer center during the week, and



PHOTO BY ROBERT FONOROW

Day laborers wait for possible employers to show up near Southside Presbyterian Church. Workers can earn about \$10 an hour if they work at all. The church organizes the hiring during the week, but on weekends, it's every worker for himself.

the process is a bit more orderly. Workers are issued numbers, and potential employers hire according to who's next in line. But on weekends, it's every man for himself.

Romero isn't a huge fan of the day-laborer center and its numbering system.

"If you get here too late, then there are no chances for you to work," Romero said.

Romero first came to Tucson from Nogales, Sonora, in 1980 looking for a job. He learned English and eventually

became a plumber.

Seven years later, he developed cirrhosis, which damaged his liver and led to diabetes. Unable to work, Romero ended up living on the streets.

Life as a homeless person was tough for Romero. He started using cocaine, became addicted and struggled to survive.

"La Roca is a dangerous substance," Romero said, rubbing his hands together for warmth. "You don't want to get caught up in it."

He eventually got his life in back on track, choosing sobriety over being sent back to Mexico. Although he said he is here legally, he could be deported for any minor legal infraction.

Romero expressed a dislike toward workers who only go to the center to make enough money for a drug fix.

"You can see some of them high, twitching and acting crazy," Romero says. "I know the signs of getting high and it's not right that these people take the jobs of workers like myself."

Workers for Hire

The Southside Presbyterian Church runs a day-laborer center that is open Monday-Friday from 6 to 10 a.m. If you need temporary workers, either go to the center and speak with the volunteers or pick up workers who have worked for you in the past. Laborers must be paid in cash. On Saturday or Sunday, the laborers will be waiting in the parking lot outside of the center.

Museo Afro-Americano un 'Trabajo de Amor'

Por James Larrenaga

Traducido por Derrick Del Pilar

En 1964, Charles Kendrick empezó a construir lo que pretendía ser un almacén y farmacia al sur de Park Avenue. Ahora, es un restaurante de barbacoa y un museo de historia afro-americana.

Mr. K's BBQ, bajo la dirección del hijo de Kendrick, Ray, sirve montones de sabrosas costillas, salchichas, y carne tierna que dan apoyo financiero a la verdadera pasión de Kendrick: un museo de historia afro-americana que comparte el mismo edificio.

"El museo simplemente no paga," dijo Charles Kendrick, de 75 años de edad. Él y su amigo Shad "Standman" Blair, de 74 años, empezaron el museo en 1998 con sus colecciones personales de artículos afro-americanos.

A su falta de financiamiento del estado o de la ciudad, los dos hombres siguieron adelante usando solamente sus limitados recursos.

"Decidimos que nos gusta mucho la historia de los negros, y sabemos tanto sobre ella, y hemos vivido tanto por ella, que decidimos hacerlos solos," dijo Kendrick.

La cocina de barbacoa nació del bajo negocio en el museo.

"Sabíamos como hacer barbacoa entonces decidimos abrir un local de barbacoa y eso ha sido el soporte del museo desde entonces," dijo Kendrick.

Kendrick y Blair decidieron fundar el museo para superar el partidismo que veían en la historia popular de las minorías en los Estados Unidos.

"Yo me gradué de Tucson High School en 1950, y mi libro de historia aquí en Tucson era muy vergonzoso," dijo Kendrick. "Tenían solo un párrafo sobre las contribuciones de los negros en América. Mencionaron Joe Lewis y el Dr. George Washington Carver en un párrafo como la contribución a la historia negra en América. Yo sabía más que eso."

En un área, el museo enseña las insignias de los Soldados de Búfalo, que formaron el primer régimen negro del ejército de los Estados Unidos durante la Guerra Civil.

El museo ilustra el racismo extenso que era muy común en América y documenta las injusticias llevadas a cabo contra los indí-

genas de la pradera y los japoneses internados durante la segunda Guerra Mundial.

"Este es el principal motivo tras el museo de historia afro-americana," dijo Kendrick, "para mostrar algunas partes de la historia Americana que los libros de Historia han ignorado completamente."

La mitad de su batalla ha sido simplemente de quedarse con el edificio por tantos años. En 1967, antes de que la construcción fuese completada, Kendrick se dio cuenta que simplemente no tendría el dinero para financiar su sueño de dirigir un almacén en el vecindario.

"Yo levante el edificio y le puse figuras adentro, pero nunca pude pedir prestado ningún dinero para trabajarlo," el dijo.

Kendrick logró quedarse con el edificio (1830 Park Ave., al norte de East Silverlake Road) trabajando en el hospital del condado como farmacéutico. Alquiló el edificio a varios negocios hasta convertirlo en el museo.

Kendrick y Blair han tenido que ser creativos para juntar dinero para mantener vivo el museo.

Hoy en día, un método que usan para establecer el museo es hacer y vender réplicas de los broches con la insignia de los Soldados de Búfalo y monedas con la cara de un búfalo.

Anidado en un rincón lejano del museo hay un taller donde Kendrick y Blair hacen los objetos que venden por Internet. Kendrick muestra una caja llena de las réplicas de las insignias de los Soldados de Búfalo de la novena y la décima jornada del régimen de caballería.

El museo está dividido en secciones que representan aspectos diferentes de la historia afro-americana.

Una exhibición ilustra una escuela rural típica con filas de escritorios de madera, una vieja pizarra negra, y una estufa de leña.

Kendrick explicó que al bobo de la clase se le dio por tarea salir al frío y traer la leña para la estufa.

"Yo era el bobo," dijo Kendrick, riéndose entre dientes, "Me cansé de traer la leña adentro."

Kendrick dijo que viajó a Kansas City para comprar los escritorios para aquella exhibición.

Hace alrededor de 40 años, Kendrick y Blair han coleccionado artículos relativos a la historia afro-americana. Muchos objetos, sin embargo, llevan precios que superan su financiamiento.



PHOTO BY MALLORY LORING

Charles Kendrick ha coleccionado piezas de la historia Afro-Americana, juntandolas en el museo desde hace 9 años.

"Sabemos donde está la historia negra, pero no hemos podido alcanzarlo porque esta muy caro," dijo Kendrick.

Mientras tanto, Ray continúa sirviendo ensalada de col con canela, sándwiches jugosos de carne tierna de los cuales gotean salsa picante de barbacoa y papas dulces acarameladas, todo para pagar los gastos.

"Es un trabajo de amor," dijo Kendrick, "porque definitivamente no hay ningún dinero en él."

African-American Museum a 'Labor of Love'

By James Larrenaga

In 1964, Charles Kendrick started building what he intended to be a grocery store and pharmacy on South Park Avenue. Today, it's a barbecue restaurant and African-American history museum.

Mr. K's BBQ, run by Kendrick's son, Ray, serves up savory mounds of spare ribs, sausages and beef brisket that financially support Kendrick's true love: an African American history museum that shares the building.

"The museum just doesn't pay off," said Charles Kendrick, 75.

He and his friend Shad "Standman" Blair, 74, started the museum in 1998 with their personal collections of African-American artifacts.

After failing to secure funding from the city or the state, the two men forged ahead using their limited resources.

"We decided that we like black history so much, and we know so much about it, and we lived through so much of it, that we would go on our own," Kendrick said.

The barbecue kitchen was borne of slow business at the museum.

"We knew how to barbeque so we decided to open up a barbeque place, and that's been the backbone of the museum ever since," Kendrick said.

Kendrick and Blair were determined to start the museum to overcome the bias they saw in popular views of the history of minorities in the United States.

"I graduated from Tucson High School in 1950, and my history book here in Tucson was very embarrassing," Kendrick said. "They only had one paragraph on blacks' contribution to America. They mention Joe Lewis and Dr. George Washington Carver in one paragraph as the contribution to black history to America. And I knew better."

In one area, the museum showcases the regalia of the Buffalo Soldiers, who comprised the United States' first black regiments, during the Civil War.

The museum illustrates the pervasive racism that was once commonplace in America and documents the injustices carried

out against Native Americans on the prairie and Japanese interned during World War II.

"That's the motivation behind the Afro-American museum," Kendrick said, "to show some parts of American history that the history books have ignored completely."

Half the battle has been simply holding on to the building for so many years. In 1967, before construction was complete, Kendrick realized he simply would not have the money to finance his dream of running a neighborhood store.

"I got the building up and the fixtures in, but I never could borrow any money to operate with," he said.

Kendrick managed to hold onto the building (1830 S. Park Ave., just north of East Silverlake Road) by working for the county hospital as a pharmacist. He rented the building out to various businesses until he turned it into the museum.

Kendrick and Blair have had to be creative about raising money to keep the museum alive.

Today, one way they fund the museum is making and selling replica pins of the Buffalo Soldier insignia and buffalo nickel money clips.

Nestled far back in one corner of the museum is a workshop where Kendrick and Blair make the items they sell on the Internet. Kendrick shows off a box full of replica Buffalo Soldier insignias of the 9th and 10th cavalry regiments.

The museum is divided into sections depicting different aspects of African-American history.

One exhibit illustrates a typical country schoolhouse with rows of heavy wooden desks, an old black chalkboard, and a wood-fired stove.

Kendrick explained that the class clown was relegated the duty of going out into the cold and bringing in wood for the stove.

"I was the class clown," he said, chuckling. "I got tired of bringing the wood in."

Kendrick said he traveled to Kansas City to purchase the desks for that exhibit.

For roughly 40 years, Kendrick and Blair have been collecting artifacts related to African-American history. Many items, however, are priced beyond their funding.

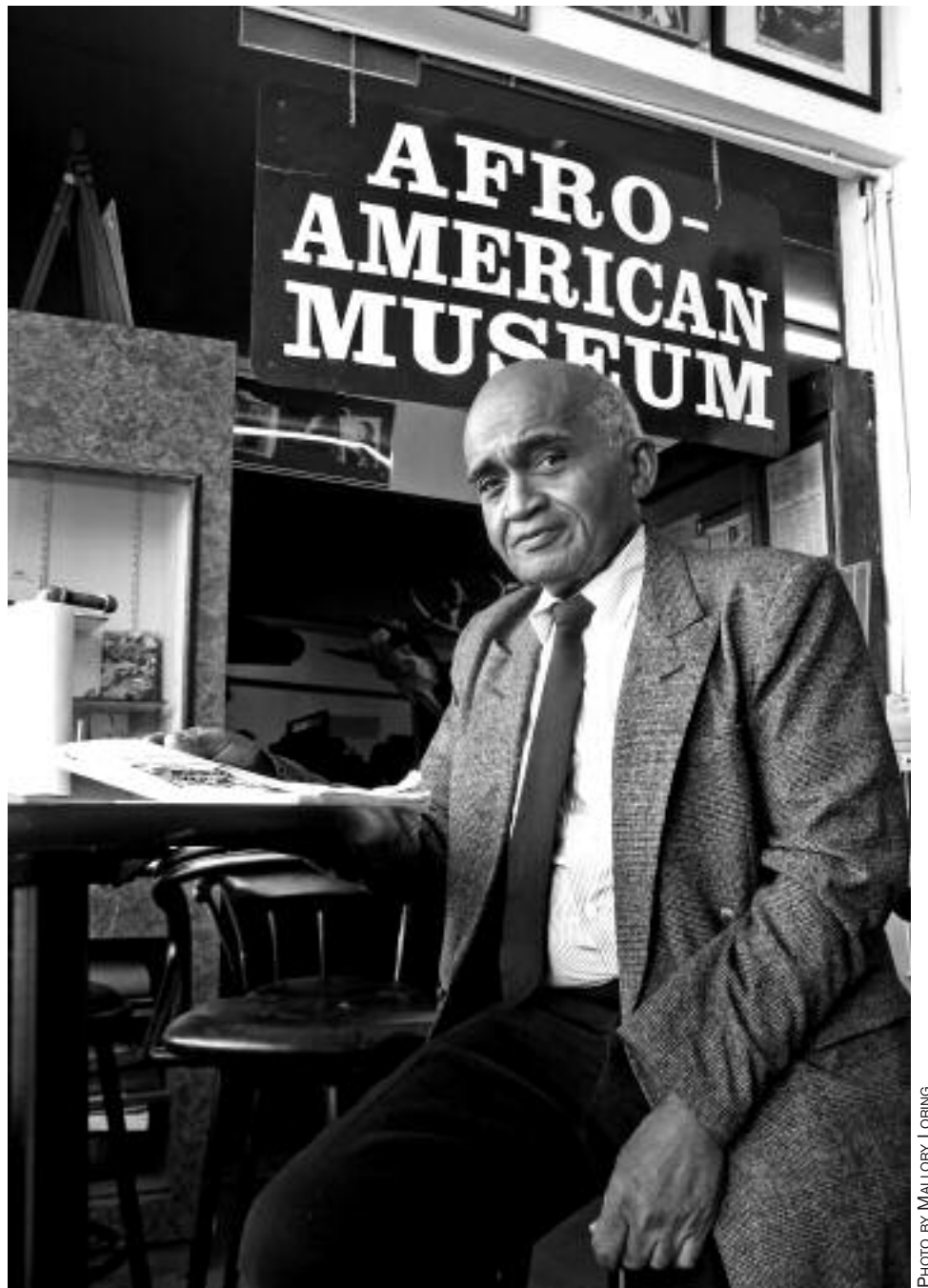


PHOTO BY MALLORY LORING

Charles Kendrick has been collecting pieces of African American history for years and brought the artifacts together in his museum about nine years ago.

"We know where a lot of black history is, but we haven't been able to afford it because it's so expensive," Kendrick said.

Meanwhile, Ray continues to serve up cinnamon-flavored coleslaw, sloppy brisket sand-

wiches dripping with spicy barbecue sauce and candied sweet potatoes to pay the bills.

"It's a labor of love," said Kendrick of the museum, "because there's definitely no money in it."

Esperando Trabajo en la Oscuridad

Por Ernesto Romero
Traducido por Guadalupe Zamora

Sergio Romero se levanta a las 4:30 a.m. en su departamento al Sur de Tucson. Aún está oscuro y hace mucho frío. Se pone sus pantalones viejos y sus botas de trabajo con manchas blancas. Toma su chaqueta y un sombrero de paja y sale en busca de trabajo.

Llega al estacionamiento de la Iglesia Prebeteriana del Sur, 317 W. 23rd St. para unirse con otros 40 jornaleros. Los trabajadores se mueven de un lado a otro, hablando en voz baja y bromeando un poco entre ellos mismos. Ellos esperan que personas lleguen en sus autos en busca de manos que pinten, construyan paredes de ladrillo, o limpien la basura de sus patios. La canción "Free Fallin'" de Tom Petty se escucha a todo volumen desde un estéreo móvil pequeño. El dueño del estéreo, quien trae puesta una chaqueta de imitación Nike, no puede encontrar una estación de radio en español así que la música pop en inglés es suficiente.

El sol comienza a salir, pero pasaran varias horas antes de que un posible empleador llegue en coche. Romero, a quien sus compañeros de trabajo le dicen "Osama" por su semejanza facial a Osama Bin Laden, espera en el frío con los otros.

Finalmente, una Ford Explorer roja disminuye su velocidad y entra al estacionamiento. El conductor eleva su mano izquierda y muestra cuatro dedos a los trabajadores.

"¡Hay va la carrera, sobres, sobres!" grita Nelson Lopez. Que comience la carrera.

Los hombres brincan y corren hacia la Explorer. Si son escogidos tendrán un día completo de trabajo.

Aparentemente, el conductor no encuentra las habilidades que busca en los trabajadores y se va pocos minutos después.

Esto ocurre cuatro veces más durante la mañana.

La iglesia del sur tiene un centro de jornaleros entre semana y el procedimiento tiene más orden. Se les da un número a los trabajadores y los posibles empleadores contratan al trabajador del número que sigue.

Pero para el fin de semana, es cada hombre por sí mismo.

Romero no es un fan del centro de jornaleros ni de su sistema de numeración.

"Si llegas muy tarde, no hay oportunidades de trabajar," dijo Romero. El vino a Tucson por primera vez de Nogales, Sonora en 1980 buscando trabajo. Aprendió inglés y se hizo plomero.

Siete años después, desarrolló cirrosis, lo que le ha dañado su hígado provocándole también diabetes. Sin poder trabajar, Romero terminó pidiendo trabajo en las calles.

Una vida sin hogar fue una dura experiencia para Romero. Comenzó a consumir cocaína, desarrollándole una adicción, misma que ha combatido valientemente para sobrevivir.

"La Roca es una sustancia peligrosa," dijo Romero, frotando sus manos para sentir calor. "No debes de enredarte con eso."

Finalmente puso su vida por buen camino, prefiriendo estar sobrio en lugar de ser enviado a México. Aunque dice que está aquí legalmente, puede ser deportado por cualquier infracción pequeña.

Romero expresó disgusto hacia los trabajadores que solamente van al centro para conseguir suficiente dinero para comprar drogas.

"Puedes ver a algunos drogados, temblando y actuando como locos," dice Romero. "Yo conozco los síntomas de una persona drogada y no es justo que esa gente le quite el trabajo a trabajadores como yo."

Romero trabaja cada día como jornalero y hace como \$10 la hora cuando consigue trabajo. Dice que tiene suerte si encuentra trabajo dos de cada siete días a la semana porque sabe inglés, aunque de vez en cuando consigue trabajo de un periodo de una semana en trabajos de construcción.

Romero se siente frustrado con la escasez de oportunidades para sus compañeros que no hablan inglés.

"Si no hablan ingles, la gente no los contratarlos para trabajar," dijo Romero.

Mientras se acercan la nueve de la mañana, y menos coches se acercan al centro, todos permanecen en el estacionamiento. Minutos después, algunos trabajadores regresan a casa.

El sol deslumbra de una ventana cercana de un Jeep. Son las 9:30 y la calidez del sol de Tucson ha calentado las manos congeladas de Romero. Pero él se da por vencido. No hay posibilidad de trabajar hoy.

"La comida me espera en el centro," dice Romero, alejándose tranquilamente.

Jornaleros Disponibles

Cajón de Información: El centro de jornaleros de la Iglesia Presbiteriana de Sur está abierta de lunes a viernes de 6 a 10 a.m. Si necesita un jornalero, vaya al centro a hablar con los voluntarios que han trabajado con usted previamente o recoja a trabajadores que han trabajado con usted antes. Se les paga a los trabajadores en efectivo. Si va en sábado o domingo, los jornaleros estarán esperando en el estacionamiento afuera del centro.

Cierre del 1-10

'1-10' continúa de página 1

“¿Acaso ADOT averiguó si nuestras calles aguantan camiones de diesel sobre ellas? Esto impactará la manera en que nuestros residentes conduzcan de un lado a otro desde sus casas.”

Durante la junta informativa, el consejo le preguntó a Greg H. Gentsch, ingeniero del distrito de ADOT, si el departamento había inspeccionado las calles del Sur de Tucson.

Gentsch le preguntó al consejo si querían que ADOT hiciera investigaciones del Sur de Tucson o del Interestatal 10.

“Espero que tomen en cuenta el Sur de Tucson, por que es ahí donde habrá más tráfico,” dijo Eckstrom.

Según ADOT, las investigaciones de la calles frontage que serán usadas por los conductores, muestran que el tráfico seguirá su flujo normal. Gentsch dice que ADOT instalará 72 cámaras que observarán el tráfico y también se ajustarán los semáforos de las calles del frontage.

Teresa Welborn, directora diputada de relaciones públicas de ADOT, dijo que para mantener el tráfico moviéndose, las imágenes tomadas de la cámara serán transmitidas a un sitio de Internet que será observado por el Traffic Operations Center (Centro de Operaciones de Tráfico).

Mientras el plan de ADOT promete resultados positivos para el Interestatal 10 y para las calles frontage, no todos en el Sur de Tucson se sienten convencidos que esos resultados serán buenos para su comunidad.

“Las encuestas de ADOT no son realistas,” dijo Larry Anderson el Jefe de Bomberos del Sur de Tucson.

Anderson dijo que no todo lo que pinta bien se convierte en realidad al menos que ADOT haga visitas y observaciones al tráfico del Sur de Tucson.

Anderson cree que ADOT pasó por alto o no reconoció el problema serio

que los residentes del Sur de Tucson pueden afrontar: un gran aumento en tráfico en las avenidas Fourth y Sixth.

Los conductores que viajan hacia el oeste en el Interestatal 10 hacia el centro pueden escoger entre las salidas de las avenidas Fourth y Sixth o las calles frontage que comienzan en la 29th Street. La salida anterior proporciona una ruta directa al Centro de Tucson y muchas salidas importantes que serán afectadas por el cierre.

Anderson dice que la decisión entre las dos opciones será fácil para los conductores — ellos escogerán las avenidas del Sur de Tucson.

Anderson dice que entre más automóviles transiten, más accidentes puede haber y por lo tanto más llamadas de emergencia. Mientras los accidentes de tráfico aumenten en el Sur de Tucson, el departamento de bomberos y otros servicios de emergencia tendrán que usar menos vehículos para responder, dijo Anderson. Así mismo, el tiempo de la respuesta de policías y bomberos en una emergencia aumentará.

Los oficiales de la ciudad también creen que el deterioramiento de las calles agregará tensión a los servicios de emergencia.

Mientras más coches inundan el Sur de Tucson, las calles se desgastarán rápidamente, aumentando el número de baches u otros posibles deterioro. Los servicios de emergencia y residentes que transitan por estas calles, pueden darle servicio a sus vehículos frecuentemente, porque las calles en malas condiciones significan más desgaste para los coches.

Los oficiales esperan que ADOT arregle éstos problemas antes de junio.

“No estoy segura por qué ADOT no reconoce el problema que tendrá el Sur de Tucson, es un asunto que me preocupa mucho,” dijo Ekstrom.



PHOTO BY ROB FARROW

David Tineo gestures to a painting from his 'Angels' series. The three-breasted woman represents trinity and purity.

Multi-dimensional art offers alternative

'Gallery' continued from page 1

tion as an obstacle, and turn a seeming negative into a positive, but also give back to the community through an exhibit he welcomes observers to touch or simply gaze upon.

“The true artist adapts to obstacles we overcome,” Tineo said. “We hope to create because that’s what we are.”

While largely known for helping introduce Mexican mural art to Tucson, Tineo also counts everything from Aztec culture to a military stint in Germany as influences on his art.

“As artists we respond to our society,” Tineo said. “We are mirrors of society. We hope to reflect.”

In addition to his desire to express his internal issues through his work, Tineo said he aims to communicate his feelings toward subjects that affect more than just himself. His pieces confront topics such as death, poli-

tics and faith in an array of color and brush strokes.

The exhibit features artwork new and old but nonetheless emphasizes the new direction Tineo has taken. He said his usual themes of spirituality, culture and life are still tackled but are expressed through more personal interpretations, ranging from the deeply spiritual to the fun and ornamental.

Tineo said his technique has changed and that he is both more aware and more focused. Furthermore, he believes he is coming full-circle with his career, and some touring might be in order.

“This is my past, present — my vision for the future,” Tineo said.

The exhibit will conclude March 15. Tineo hosted a reception Feb. 2.

Sube el precio de tortillas

'Tortillas' continúa de página 1



PHOTO BY BERENICE ROSALES

Cinco kilos de tortillas son pesadas en la Tortillería la Mexicana.

etanol,” dijo Juan Manuel Corral, dueño de La Tortillería Tecnológico. “Esta es la razón principal de la crisis de maíz en México y el aumento del precio en el mercado mundial.”

México está en el cuarto lugar entre los productores más grandes de maíz en el mundo con una producción de 22 millones de toneladas anuales. Sergio García de Alba, secretario de economía de México, ha dicho que el país planea importar acerca de 300,000 toneladas de maíz en un futuro próximo.

Corral dijo que el precio de las tor-

tillas es sujeto a la oferta y demanda del mercado. Él espera que el precio en Sonora se mantenga alrededor de 10 a 12 pesos por kilogramo.

“Tenemos que vender tortillas a 12 pesos por kilogramo,” dijo Corral. “En noviembre, el precio por kilogramo era de 10 pesos. Subió en los últimos dos meses.”

Según el dueño de Tortillería La Mexicana, Ricardo Orozco, hay muchos factores que afectan el precio del maíz, incluyendo los costos que generan la materia prima y el transporte, asimismo a la producción que

incluyen la electricidad y el gas.

“Todos los costos de producción se agregan al precio final dado al público en general,” dijo Orozco.

Corral dijo que el transporte del maíz desde el sur al norte de México es muy costosa y aumenta el precio de los productos.

“Tenemos que pagar para traer maíz desde el centro de México hasta la parte norte,” dijo Corral. “Esto también cuesta.”

“Esto está muy mal,” dijo Adriana Arballo, quien es dueña de una taquería pequeña en Nogales. “Hay mucha gente que no pueden pagar ese precio.”

Jorge Castro, trabajador en la Tortillería La Sonorense, un negocio local competidor con Orozco, dijo que ocasionalmente los clientes se enojan con ellos cuando se les dice el precio de los diferentes productos de maíz.

“Algunos clientes se enojan con nosotros porque las tortillas son muy caras,” él dijo.

Mientras tanto, padres de familia luchan para mantener comida en la mesa. Durán dijo que el gobierno debería reglamentar mejor el precio de tortillas en todo el país ya que este alimento es básico para los mexicanos.

“Mis gastos familiares están sumamente afectados,” ella dijo. “Mis hijos necesitan comer.”

Urban League Gets New Leader, Rec Center

By Leigh Laws

The Tucson Urban League kicked off its new year by bringing in a new president and CEO and receiving a \$300,000 check for a new South side recreational center.

The Urban League welcomed new president and CEO Kelly Langford at its annual meeting Jan. 24. Langford joins the Urban League after a 30-year career with Tucson United School District, most recently as a student services senior academic advisor.

“I know that I stand on the shoulders of those who have come before me,” Langford said. “I could share all these things about me, but it would pale in comparison to what the Tucson Urban League has done for this community.”

Langford said he has big plans for the upcoming year. He intends to expand the number of houses the Urban League holds to begin a new project that would create up to 15,000 affordable new houses. Langford is also interested in putting to use his educational background for Tucson Urban League Academy, the Urban League’s charter school.

He got a great start to his new

term when Tim Prawdy of the Tucson Conquistadors presented a check the size of a coffee table for \$300,000.

“I don’t know how it can get much better. How many people on their first day get a big check?” Langford said.

The money matched the funds the Urban League has been raising for its proposed recreational center. The Urban League is negotiating with construction companies and hopes to break ground within the next 90 days, according to senior vice president Jacque Thompson.

The new facility will be built in the lot behind the Urban League business offices, 2305 S. Park Ave. The building is projected to provide an additional 1,000 square feet, said vice president Vernon Trotter.

In addition to offering a place for the community and Academy students to enjoy themselves, the new building will provide much-needed office space, Trotter said.

The center is meant to offer families a safe place for activities like soccer and basketball, Langford said. During construction, the lot’s existing basketball courts will be covered.

The center is projected to be open by June, Trotter said.

1-10 Closures May Clog South Tucson Streets

By Colin Moore

South Tucson officials fear the Interstate-10 widening project will bring increased traffic to city streets and deter local emergency services.

For the next three years, the Arizona Department of Transportation will oversee a \$200-million project that will forever alter the way Southern Arizonans travel on I-10. By 2010, ADOT hopes to have finished construction on a fourth through-lane and an auxiliary lane, which will help drivers merge on and off I-10.

But city officials fear that the construction will greatly increase traffic on Fourth and Sixth avenues, creating serious problems for South Tucson residents and possibly hindering fire, police and other emergency response efforts.

Furthermore, they said ADOT has not been receptive to their concerns.

"We asked ADOT over a year ago to meet with our police, fire, and public-works departments so that they would fully realize the impact that this would have on our streets and, potentially, our public-safety department," said South Tucson Mayor Jennifer Eckstrom. "That meeting never occurred."

Eckstrom is also concerned that ADOT hasn't properly informed residents about the project.

According to ADOT, however, there has been communication with South Tucson residents. ADOT records state that the department has been in contact with 13 different neighborhood associations in South Tucson and held two public information meetings.

The records state that approximately 226 residents and small-business representatives from the community attended the two public meetings.

Starting in June, ADOT will close all exits and on-ramps on I-10 between 29th Street and Prince Road. Drivers who normally use those exits and on-ramps will be forced to use the frontage roads to reach their destinations along that stretch of I-10.



The Sixth Avenue exit off I-10 will soon be jammed with traffic when all exits between 29th Street and Prince Road are closed for three years for the I-10 widening project.

The South Tucson City Council and other city officials met with ADOT representatives Jan. 22 to discuss the city's concerns with the project. Eckstrom requested that ADOT meet specifically with the police, fire, and public works departments, and she thinks the meeting should take place within the next couple of weeks.

"We are asking that ADOT address the issues that our departments have," Eckstrom said.

A potential problem facing South Tucson is the increase in traffic that can be expected when the construction on I-10 begins, city officials said.

"I am not sure that ADOT realizes that we have speed humps on almost every street in South Tucson," Eckstrom said. "Did ADOT look to see if we could handle the diesel trucks on our streets? This will impact the way our residents drive to and from their homes."

During the informational meeting, the

council asked Greg H. Gentsch, ADOT's district engineer, if the department had done traffic surveys for South Tucson streets.

Gentsch asked the council if they had wanted ADOT to conduct surveys for South Tucson or I-10.

"I hope that you would do counts for South Tucson, since this is where the traffic is going to be," Eckstrom said.

According to ADOT, studies of the frontage roads to be used by drivers show that traffic will continue to flow normally. Gentsch said ADOT will install 72 cameras to observe traffic and make real-time adjustments to the stoplights along the frontage roads.

Teresa Welborn, deputy public involvement director for ADOT, said that to keep traffic moving smoothly, images taken from the cameras will be transmitted to a Web site that will be watched over by the Traffic Operations Center.

While ADOT's plan promises positive

results for I-10 and the frontage roads, not everyone in South Tucson is convinced that those results will spill over to their community.

"ADOT's traffic surveys are unrealistic," said South Tucson fire Chief Larry Anderson.

Anderson said what looks good on paper doesn't always translate to reality, and unless ADOT actually visits and observes the traffic in South Tucson, they can't really understand it.

Anderson believes that ADOT has overlooked, or failed to recognize, a serious problem South Tucson residents could face: greatly increased traffic on Fourth and Sixth avenues.

Drivers traveling west on I-10 toward downtown can choose between the Fourth Avenue and Sixth Avenue exit or the frontage road beginning at 29th Street. The former exit provides a direct route to Downtown and many of the major exits affected by the closure.

Anderson said the decision between the two options will be easy for drivers to make — they will choose South Tucson's avenues.

Anderson said that more cars mean more accidents and, therefore, more emergency responses. As traffic accidents increase in South Tucson, the fire department and other emergency services will have to use the few vehicles that they have to respond to them, he said. This may decrease emergency police and fire response times for residents.

City officials are also concerned that deteriorating road conditions will add extra strain on emergency services and residents.

As more and more cars are dumped into South Tucson, the roads will erode more rapidly, increasing the number of potholes or other potential hazards. The emergency services and residents who use these roads can expect to service their vehicles more frequently, as crumbling roads translate to an increase in wear and tear on cars.

Officials hope that ADOT will address these problems before June.

"I am not sure why ADOT is overlooking South Tucson, but it is very concerning," Eckstrom said.



Eleven pounds of fresh corn tortillas are weighed and bagged at Tortillería la Mexicana.

Consumers Flip as Tortilla Prices Increase

Nogales Not Part of Presidential Agreement

By Berenice Rosales

NOGALES, Sonora — "New Year, new life" is a popular saying when kick-starting a new 365-day stretch, but this year, with the price of corn in Mexico skyrocketing, many citizens aren't so hopeful. Corn tortillas are a staple in the average Mexican diet, and their recent, significant price increase is shoring up the already shallow pockets of low-income families.

In late January, after public outrage erupted in Mexico over the jump in cost of corn products, Mexican President Felipe Calderon signed an agreement with major businesses involved in corn production to stabilize the crop at a maximum price — about 8.5 pesos (75 cents) per kilogram — in most of the country's states.

The agreement will not affect Sonora, however, because businesses that signed the proposition do not operate there, according to a press release from PROFECO, a federal consumer-protection agency in Sonora.

According to the National Institute of Geographical Statistics and Information, 81.5 percent of Mexican families consume corn tortillas, and four out of 10 Mexican families have been affected by the

price increase.

Carmen Lucia Duran, a Nogales housewife and customer of Tortillería La Mexicana, a local maker and shipper of corn tortillas, said she is unhappy about the new price of corn because now she has to pay more for less.

"I used to buy 25 pesos of tortillas," Duran said. "Now, I receive a smaller amount of tortillas."

The increased use of corn-based ethanol as an alternative to gasoline has been a major factor in the price increase.

Last year, the U.S. produced about 151 million hectoliters of bio-ethanol, which increased corn prices on the world market, according to a press release from MAPA, an agriculture, fishing and nutrition ministry in Mexico.

"(The) United States is using the corn to produce ethanol," said Juan Manuel Corral, owner of Tortillería Tecnológico, a corn-tortilla manufacturer in Nogales. "This is the main reason of the corn crisis in Mexico and the price increase on the world market."

Mexico is the fourth-largest corn producer in the world with 22 million tons annually, and Sergio Garcia de Alba, Mexico's secretary of economy, has said the country plans to import another 300,000 tons of corn in the near future.

Corral said the price of tortillas is subject to supply and the demand of the market. He expects it will remain about 10 to 12 pesos per kilogram in Sonora.

"We have to sell tortillas at 12

pesos per kilogram," Corral said. "In November, the price per kilogram was 10. It went up in the last two months."

According to Tortillería La Mexicana owner Ricardo Orozco, there are a lot of factors affecting corn prices, including the costs of raw material and transportation, as well as production processes that involve electricity and gas.

"Everything has added its weight to the final price given to the general public," Orozco said.

Corral said that the transportation of corn from southern to northern Mexico is expensive and increases the costs of products.

"We have to pay to bring the corn from central Mexico up to the north side," Corral said. "It also costs."

"This is a bad situation," said Adriana Arballo, who owns a small taco business in Nogales. "There are a lot of people out there who can't afford it."

Jorge Castro, attendant at Tortillería La Sonorense, a local competitor of Orozco's, said that occasionally customers get angry with them when told the prices of the different corn products.

"Some customers are offensive with us because tortillas are very expensive," he said.

Meanwhile, families struggle to keep food on the table. Duran said she thinks the government needs to better regulate the price of tortillas.

"My family expenses are really affected," she said. "My kids need to eat."

COMMUNITY EVENTS

By Alexis Savlov

Teen Education Network February 7

Earn a \$25 gift card by attending life education classes at Teen Outreach, 39 N. Tucson Blvd. These classes cover important topics such as having healthy relationships, creating healthy futures through effective decision-making, as well as life skills to reduce the risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. The classes are free for all teens and begin at 6 p.m. Call 888-2881 for more information.

Butterfly Magic February 11-28

Hundreds of exotic butterflies are on display in an indoor exhibit at the Tucson Botanical Gardens. Visitors can walk among a rainbow of fluttering butterflies, watch new specimens emerge or pull out their cameras during special photography sessions. Open daily at 2150 N. Alvernon Way, this is a great sight for all ages. The entrance fee is \$9 for adults and \$5 for ages 6-12. Children 5 and younger get in free. Call 326-9686 for more information.

Galeria Mistica February 11-March 15

Local artist David Tineo will be exhibiting his new collection of artwork at Galeria Mistica, 2318 S. Fourth Ave. Tineo has been voted

Tucson's best artist by Tucson Weekly readers for his use of Mexican mural art. He hopes to give back to the community through showcasing his exhibit.

The gallery is open from 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday or by appointment. Call 622-8000 for more information.

Dollars and Sense: Raising Financially Responsible Children February 12

This family-oriented event will discuss the importance of raising financially responsible children. At this workshop, you will discover ways to help children develop good saving and investment habits, become disciplined shoppers and learn how to earn and appreciate an allowance, as well as many more key elements necessary to spend and save money in a controlled manner. All workshops are free and open to the public. This workshop will be held at the Kirk-Bear Canyon Branch Library, 8959 E. Tanque Verde Road, from 6-7 p.m. Visit www.tppl.org/index.cfm for more information.

Bilingual Family Story Time February 12

This is a great way to get the entire family involved and interested in reading. The Quincie Douglas Branch Library, 1585 E. 36th St., will

be holding this event to give families a chance to read and enjoy a good book presented in English and Spanish. This is an excellent experience for monolingual and bilingual children of all ages. This event is free and will be held from 6-6:45 p.m. in the library's meeting room. Call 791-5214 for more information

Beautiful Beasts: The Horse

Depicted Through Art February 15

Slide-illustrated art talks are held at no charge every Thursday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. until March in the Education Center Auditorium at the Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave. This art talk will discuss and examine the horse's place in art from early cave paintings to contemporary works. Call 624-2333 for more information about this talk and others.

V-Day Tucson 2007 February 16-17

A benefit production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues," directed by Jillian Courtney, will be held at Fox Tucson Theatre to raise funds for Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault. V-Day is a global movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through this benefit production. Doors

open at 7 p.m., and general admission is \$20. You can buy your tickets online at www.sacasa.org or visit the box office at 17 W. Congress St. Call 624-1515 for tickets and more information.

6th Annual Arizona Animal Fair February 17

This is a free event for the entire family, including pets! With pet blessings, a pet psychic and a pet blood drive, you are bound to have a day full of animal fun. There's also art camp for dogs, pet photography, and a low-cost vaccination clinic. Live entertainment, children's activities, food and a beer garden are all available as well. The fair takes place at Reid Park, 900 S. Randolph Way, in the dog training area from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 829-7891 or check out www.safeanimals.com for more information.

La Fiesta de los Vaqueros February 17-25

La Fiesta de los Vaqueros features traditional professional rodeo events as well as the 82nd annual Tucson Rodeo Parade on February 22. The event takes place at the Tucson Rodeo Grounds, 4823 S. Sixth Ave. The cost of admission varies; call 741-2233 or check the rodeo website at http://tucsonrodeo.com/media/3_FactSheet.htm.

EVENTOS DE LA COMUNIDAD

por Alexis Savlov
traducidos por Derrick Del Pilar

Red de Educación Para Adolescentes 7 de febrero

Gane una tarjeta de regalo de \$25 por asistir clases de vida educativa en Teen Outreach, 39 N. Tucson Blvd. Estas clases cubren temas importantes, incluyendo como tener relaciones saludables, crear el futuro a través de hacer decisiones efectivas, y estrategias para disminuir el riesgo de embarazo y enfermedades de transmisión sexual. Las clases son gratis para todos los adolescentes y empiezan a las 6 p.m. Llame al 888-2881 para más información.

Mágia de Mariposas Del 11 - 28 de febrero

Cientos de mariposas exóticas se mostrarán en una exhibición en los Jardines Botánicos de Tucson (Tucson Botanical Gardens). Visitantes pueden caminar por un arcoíris de mariposas dando revoloteos, observar nuevos especímenes surgir, o sacar sus cámaras durante sesiones especiales de fotografía. Abierto diariamente en 2150 N. Alvernon Way, este es un espectáculo apto para todas las edades. El costo por admisión es \$9 por adultos y \$5 para niños entre 6 a 12 años de edad. Niños de 5 años ó menos entran gratis. Llame al 326-9686 para más información.

Dolares y Sentido: Criando Niños con Responsabilidad Financiera 12 de febrero

En este evento orientado para la familia se discutirá la importancia de educar a los niños para que tengan responsabilidad financiera. En este taller, usted descubrirá modos para ayudar a los niños a tener buenos hábitos de ahorro e inversión, convertirse en compradores disciplinados, y aprender más habilidades para gastar el dinero con responsabilidad. Todos los talleres son gratis y abiertos

al público. Este taller será puesto en la Biblioteca de Kirk-Bear Canyon Branco Library, 8959 E. Tanque Verde Road, de las 6 p.m. a las 7 p.m.

Visite www.tppl.org/index.cfm para más información.

Galeria Mistica 11 de febrero - 15 de marzo

Artista local David Tineo exhibirá su nueva colección de arte en Galeria Mistica, 2318 S. Fourth Ave. Tineo ha sido elegido como mejor artista de Tucson por los lectores de Tucson Weekly por el uso de influencias del arte mural mexicano. La galería está abierta de 1 de la tarde ha 5, de martes hasta sábado o por cita. Llame al 622-8000 para más información.

Hora Bilingüe de Cuentos para la Familia 12 de febrero

Esta es una buena oportunidad para envolver e interesar a la familia con la lectura. La Biblioteca Quincie Douglas, 1585 E. 36th St., llevará a cabo este evento para dar una oportunidad a las familias para leer y disfrutar de un buen libro presentado en inglés y español. Esta es una experiencia excelente para niños monolingües y bilingües de todas las edades. El evento es gratis y empieza desde las 6 p.m. a las 6:45 p.m. en la sala de reuniones de la biblioteca. Llame al 791-5214 para más información.

Charla de Arte - Bestias Bellas: El Caballo Representado por el Arte 15 de febrero

Charlas de arte ilustradas con diapositivas se dan gratis todos los jueves a las 1:30 p.m. de la tarde, hasta el mes de marzo en el Auditorio del Centro de Educación en el Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave. Esta charla de arte discutirá y examinará el lugar que tiene el caballo en el arte desde los ciclos pictóricos de cuevas

hasta obras contemporáneas. Llame al 624-2333 para más información sobre esta y otras.

V-Day Tucson 2007 16-17 de febrero

Una producción filantrópica de la obra "Los monólogos de la vagina," dirigida por Jillian Courtney, estará en el Fox Theatre Tucson. Los fondos beneficiarán al Centro del Sur de Arizona contra el Abuso Sexual. V-Day es un movimiento global con la visión de acabar con la violencia contra mujeres y niñas. Las puertas abren a las 7 p.m., la entrada general vale \$20. Se pueden comprar boletos por el Internet en www.sacasa.org o en la taquilla ubicada en 17 W. Congress St. Llame al 624-1515 para boletos y más información.

6ª Feria Anual de Animales 17 de febrero

Este es un evento gratis para toda la familia, ¡incluyendo las mascotas! Con bendiciones de mascotas, un psíquico de mascotas y donaciones de sangre de mascotas, tendrás un día lleno de diversión animal. También hay un taller de arte para los perros, fotografía de mascotas, y una clínica de inoculación de bajo costo. Entretenimiento en vivo, actividades para niños, comida y un jardín de cerveza se ofrecerán también. La feria es en Reid Park, 900 S. Randolph Way, en el área de entrenamiento de perros, desde las 10 p.m. hasta las 5 p.m. Llame al 829-7891 o visite www.safeanimals.com para más información.



Una pintura de David Tineo. Esta y otras obras pueden ser vistas durante "Myths, Legends, and Angelic Retribution," en la Galleria Mistica.

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La Fiesta de los Vaqueros 17-25 de febrero

La Fiesta de los Vaqueros tiene eventos tradicionales del rodeo profesional y también tiene el 82º Desfile Anual del Rodeo de Tucson el 22 de febrero. El evento va a ser en los Tucson Rodeo Grounds, 4823 S. Sixth Ave. Hay varios precios de admisión; llame al 741-2233 o visite http://tucsonrodeo.com/media/3_FactSheet.htm para más información.