Leyes Migratorias Impactan la Mano de Obra Campesina

Por Sarah Stanton
Traducido por Teresa Lorenz

Se considera que Yuma, Arizona es la capital de la nación por los vegetales que se cultivan allí; pero si sigue la escasez de los campesinos en Arizona, es posible que las familias de este país vayan a pagar mucho más por las verduras el invierno que entra. La reciente legislación, que propone iniciar programas para que los campesinos puedan trabajar sin ser residentes, ahonda este problema. Los granjeros dicen que hace mucho tiempo que han enfrentado esta situación.

“Hace años que nosotros nos enfrentamos con esto,” dice Paul Muthart, gerente general de la compañía “Pasqualielli Produce” en Yuma. Muthart dijo que se necesita 25 porciento más campesinos en su campo agrícola.

El problema no es único del campo agrícola de Muthart. Tim Chelling, vicepresidente de comunicaciones de la asociación de Western Growers, dijo que las zonas agrícolas de Arizona y California padecen una escasez de un promedio de 30 a 35 porciento.

“Esta de moda,” dijo Chelling. “No es una escasez de poca duración.”

Chelling y Muthart atribuyen la escasez de campesinos a las restricciones fronterizas, lo que Muthart dice está haciendo que muchos campesinos se alejen de Yuma.

“Hasta los campesinos que son legales se ponen nerviosos y no quieren venir a Yuma porque saben que van a tener que tratar con los agentes de la Migra,” dijo él.

Según las estadísticas de la Escuela de Agricultura de la Universidad de Arizona, la agricultura recauda $6.6 millones al año para el estado de Arizona, y el Condado de Yuma, en sí, gana más de $1.3 millones en ventas agrícolas cada año.

El éxito de la industria, especialmente de los vegetales, depende mucho de la mano de obra. Muthart dijo que la cosecha es “trabajo intenso,” debido al hecho de que el proceso no está mecanizado para ningún trabajo. “Necesitamos obreros ahora y lo necesitamos en grandes cantidades,” dijo él.

La controversia sobre la mano de obra en las zonas agrícolas se basa en el hecho de que por lo menos la mitad de los 1.8 millones de obreros de los Estados

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Peaceful Rally Supports Immigrants

By Jessie Mandel

More than 2,000 people passed through Tucson’s downtown Armory Park on Monday, hoping to show their support for the thousands of protesters who were rallying against the Arizona immigration law.

In an attempt to show how important immigrants are to the nation’s economy, Monday May 1 was labeled as “Day of Action” across the nation. Immigrants throughout the country were told to refrain from attending work or school, or from buying anything.

“The ‘Day of Action’ boycott was a nationally organized event, constructed by immigrant activists who are fed up with the way federal legislators have been handling illegal immigrant situations,” said Tony Yuma, a spokesman for the May 1 coalition.

“They’ve set an unfair double standard because immigrants are continuously attacked for crossing the U.S.-Mexican border, yet hired to be landscapers, construction workers or farmers for our country’s produce.”

Melo Tirafo-Paredes, director of the University of Arizona’s Soccorro (We are Part of the Solution),

School student, said he attended every Tucson rally, and even though the number of attendees has dropped since the last protest, he felt the message being sent was still strong and people were using Monday’s protest more as a demonstration for how much immigrants affect the U.S. economy.

“The fact that we have less people walking around the park marching or chanting means nothing. Today, it’s much more important to show the importance of immigrants through the lack of workers or purchases,” Garcia said “Hopefully that will make people see how much immigrant aid helps our economy.

“Hopefully one day all of this will make a difference.”

Minutemen End Month-Long Tour Along Arizona-Mexico Border

By Adam Gaub

THREE POINTS, Ariz. – The much ballyhooed group known as the Minutemen Civil Defense Corps has finished scouring the desert for illegal immigrants, for now anyway.

The group came to the desert south of Three Points to stake out positions between two small mountain ranges, where the U.S. Border Patrol told them is the Mexican border.

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A Minuteman volunteer keeps watch for illegal immigrants in the desert outside Three Points.
Minutemen Leave Border Area

Continued from page 1

talk to them, but they made first contact," said Joseph Augustine, a car salesman from Detroit. “We are allowed to give them water and humanitarian aid if it is determined that is what they need.”

“I told him to go in Spanish because (we) couldn’t detain them,” Augustine said.

One of the more interesting experiences for both Marriott and Augustine came while they were sleeping back at the ranch, when a group of migrants, desperate for food, approached them.

“Last night (April 3), we went back in and found four more,” Marriott said. “We gave them water and...ham and cheese sandwiches.”

The migrants did not seem to be bothered by the presence of the Minutemen, but rather grateful that they were there.

“One guy said, ‘They’re nice people—I would probably be doing the same thing in my country,’” Marriott said. He also said it would be common for Minutemen and Border Patrol to see the same guy three or four times in a week, effectively turning the crossing of the desert into an almost friendly game of cat and mouse.

That friendly game can also be a lifesaver for migrants who are unprepared for the journey ahead of them, said Carmen Mercer, the sector chief for the Minutemen’s April mission.

“We have first responders, EM’s and we have a doctor,” Mercer said. “If they need first aid we have to call it in to 911 right away.

“We’ve saved about 200 lives in four years.”

There have been about 1,500 volunteers altogether. She believes the spike in numbers is in response to the immigration protests and school walkouts that have been taking place all over the country and in Tucson.

“It’s grown tremendously... with the flag burning and people being totally fed up,” Mercer said, while making the statement that most of the Minutemen back HR 4437 as one of the only pieces of legislation they feel is determined that is what they need.

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“One of the volunteers put out a lot of their own money,” Mercer said. “It’s a huge patriotic effort and (they made) a lot of sacrifices to do that.”

One man making sacrifices by taking time away from his job is Richard B. Tempest, a former state senator from his home state of Utah, who was supporting 67 people back home with the money he was making from working at his company in Utah, said Tompsett. Tempest, who owns his own company in Utah, said he likes hiring Mexicans who come to the United States on temporary work permits because of how hard they work.

“There are some that are such good workers that we pay for their motel rooms,” Tempest said. “They made first contact,” said Joseph Augustine, a car salesman from Detroit. “We are allowed to give them water and humanitarian aid if it is determined that is what they need.”

“We’re being invaded by a foreign country,” Tempest said. “I know that the Border Patrol has what, 6,500 gay? You could put them in this wash and they still couldn’t stop them.”

Minutemen Leave Border Area

Continued from page 1

“...if I was a father and had children I would be the first one to come up here,” Tempest said. They need to be done, you did it, not wait for some government agency to handle it. They should have done something 20 years ago.”

Tempest, who owns his own company in Utah, said he likes hiring Mexicans who come to the United States on temporary work permits because of how hard they work. There are some that are such good workers that we pay for their motel rooms, Tempest said. “They make more in a month working for us than in a year in Mexico.

“Tempest said he understands the plight of the Mexican people, having seen people take their paychecks and send them right back home to Mexico at the end of the week.

“If I was in Mexico... the corruption is so endemic... if I was a father and had children I would be the first one to come up here,” Tempest said. He also said it would be common for Minutemen and Border Patrol to see the same guy three or four times in a week, effectively turning the crossing of the desert into an almost friendly game of cat and mouse.

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Minutemen Leave Border Area

Continued from page 1

## South Tucson Welcomes Cool New Swimming Pool

By Joshua Dryer

South Tucson has a new way to cool off this summer.

The almost 11,000 square foot Quinicie Douglas swimming pool, 1563 S. 36th St., had grand opening on April 29. The pool, which cost nearly $3.5 million, was funded through the Pima County general obligation bond funds and flood-control funds. It was built with the kids in mind.

Complete with a 141 foot-long slide, a water cannon, and a splash pad with water toys, the pool can accommodate 300 swimmers.

Gabrielle Reyes, 18, of South Tucson said that a lot of people will be going to the pool and she is excited that it was built with the kids in mind.

For the more competitive swimmers, there is a 25-yard, eight-lane lap pool with starting blocks, which will also be used by Tucson High School’s swim team.

Billy Sassi, aquanatics manager for the Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, said so far they have gotten a very good reaction from the public and he believes it will be a well-utilized pool.

The pool is only one part of the Quinicie Douglas Neighborhood Center, which includes the library, two baseball fields, soccer fields, a play-ground and a three-fourths mile track.

Mele Ferreira, coordinator for the Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, said the center offers a senior nutrition program, the Kids Forever daycare service, the Oasis Alternative High School, a GED program run through Pima Community College, and even ballet and ceramics classes.

The center has plans to build a covered basketball court, which Ferreira said should be built in the next three to four years.

There are also plans to build a recreation center next to the pool, which will include bil-liards, ping pong, tables and computers. Ferreira said this should be built in the next four to five years.

The pool is temperature controlled so it will be open all year long.

The summer hours for recreational swim are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends. The pool is closed on Mondays.

Admission will be 25 cents for children and $1 for adults. Children will get in free during family time, which is 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., when accompanied by a paying adult.

“It’s a really nice pool, the best one we have,” said Ferreira. “I’m sure we’ll have a huge turnout.”

## South Tucson’s Bilingual Newspaper

Managing Editor Adam Gauß

News Editor Jesse Lewis

Spanish Editor Monica Warren

Design Editor Erin Haskell

Photo Editor Billy Sassi

Community Events Editor Stephanie Papp

Copy Editor Catherine Marten

Copy Editors Kevin Stamler, Lexi Bush

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

Letters to the editor can be sent to the managing editor, Adam Gauß at agauß@email.arizona.edu

El Independiente, a local bilingual newspaper, was founded in May 2006 by a group of students who wanted to provide a platform for the community to share their voices.

The goal of El Independiente is to promote understanding and respect for cultural diversity, while also addressing local issues that affect the South Tucson community.

El Independiente is published biweekly and distributed through different channels, including local community centers, schools, and other organizations.

If you would like to contribute to El Independiente, please contact the managing editor, Adam Gauß at agauß@email.arizona.edu.
Unidos son indocumentados, según el Departamento de Labor. Muthart dijo que los inmigrantes siempre han for- mado una gran porción de campesinos y probablemente siempre lo harán. “Los americanos no harán ese trabajo así de simple” dijo él. “Los campesinos extranjeros cosecharán aquí en América o en otro país.”

Muthart dijo que su campo agrícola ofrece salarios competitivos (aproximadamente $8 por hora) tanto como suelo y plata para sus hijos, pero que esto todavía no atrae a los naturales de América. “Pagar más no es la solución,” dijo él, agregando que los campesinos de este sector, “están haciendo que sea imposible que los campos agrícolas cobren el aumento del costo de labor a los consumi- dores.

Muthart dijo que cree que los campesinos nativos de América están poco dispuestos a recoger la cosecha porque es un trabajo duro y poco atractivo. “Nadie le da a su hijo que quiere que un día sea un productor de alimentos, “dijo él. “Otras industrias como la construcción pagan más y se consideran más presti- giosas.”


Según un reportaje del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional, ABC II aumentó el número de agentes de la Migra ubicados en Arizona en un 25 por ciento y asignó temporalmente 23 aviones en la frontera de Arizona.

El propósito de las dos fases del iniciativo ABC fue detener el flujo de los inmigrantes ilegales entrando por Arizona, por donde muchos entraron después de que Texas y California reforzaron sus operaciones de ejecución de la ley a mediados de la década 1990.

El éxito que los agentes de la Migra no se fijan sólo en los campesinos. “El Departamento de la Migra no selecciona a quien detiene o no,” dijo ella. Muchos campesinos de Arizona dicen que apoyan la ejecución de la ley en la frontera pero que no pueden evitar el hecho de que dependan de la mano de obra ilegal.

“Queremos una frontera segura, pero también quer-emos mano de obra legal y estable,” dijo Chelling. “La solución, según Muthart y Chelling, es la legis- lación que proporcione un programa para que los que no son residentes puedan trabajar. “Estamos de acuerdo con el Presidente Bush que un programa de este tipo es necesario,” dijo Chelling.

Chelling estima que “arreglar” la inmigración solucio- naría el problema de campesinos en dos o tres años. “No puedo hablar por las otras industrias, pero creo que la agricultura ha comprobado la necesidad de mano de obra legal y estable,” dijo Chelling.

La asociación de Western Growers apoyó el proyecto de ley de reforma que se retiró del Senado a fines de marzo.

El proyecto hubiera abierto las puertas para que sea accesible la ciudadanía estadounidense para muchos inmigrantes ilegales, incluyendo una provisión para un “safety net” caso de que no se puedan encontrar otras formas de inmigración, titulada una provisión para un “safety net” caso de que no se puedan encontrar otras formas de inmigración, incluyendo una provisión para un programa de agricultura para los que no son residentes. “Estamos decepcionados que no se aprobo, y esper-amos que el próximo año, el juicio y la previsión política de aprobar algo pronto,” dijo Chelling.

Muthart dijo que pensó que las recientes protestas y manifestaciones fueran una forma de generar la reforma, pero dijo que los manifestantes deben ser más prudentes en el “espíritu y actitud” de las manifestaciones.

“A veces es difícil saber si es una petición o una demanda por los derechos,” dijo él. Muthart y Chelling dijeron que se oponían vehe-mentemente el Proyecto de Ley 4437 del Senado, y a demanda por los derechos,” dijo él.

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El controversio sobre el proyecto de la ley de Trabajo, con el asunto de los inmigrantes, es un tema que ha sido discutido en muchas partes del país, incluyendo en Tucson, Arizona. El proyecto fue presentado por el senador Benjamín Cardenas, quien espera que esta ley se pase puesto que de esta manera se puede regularizar a muchos de los indocumentados que cruzan.

"Hice crecido demasiado... con la quema de la buderana y todo lo demás, la gente ya esta harta," dijo Cardenas. "La gente ha tenido que luchar mucho para poder salir de esta situación."

"Se me puso la piel de gallina, viendo a los niños de familias para estas cosas," dijo el senador.

"Yo hice un trabajo duro, mi cuate," dijo. "Pero la gente tiene derecho a trabajar."
By Zach Colick

Many South Tucson residents and business owners are condemning the actions taken by the U.S. House of Representatives, who hope to pass the controversial House Resolution 4437 (H.R. 4437). The bill would make an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants residing in this country into criminals with permission to stay. The Senate Bill 4, which was arrest-ed anywhere in the country for trespassing.

The success of the industry, especially for the sale of vegetables, is highly dependent on human labor.

South Tucson agreed that dropping picking crops is “very labor intensive,” due to the fact that the process is not mechanized in any way.

“We need labor now and we need a large quantity of it,” he said.

“If immigrants are already paying their taxes, then they should be able to stay here,” said Mark Durazo, assistant manager at Discount Tire, 2632 S. Sixth Ave. “Our govern-ment needs to ease these immigration laws. Mexicans are simply trying to make a better life for themselves.”


The bill would offer a guest-worker pro-gram and eventual path for some illegal immigrants to earn citizenship.

Those who disagree with H.R. 4437 came out in droves on April 10, holding signs, flags and banners as they, including children skipping school, marched downtown to the federal building chanting, “Si, se puede” or “Yes, we can.”

“It gave me the chills, seeing how it affected so many kids,” said Lourdes Fletcher, assistant manager of the Salvation Army, 2717 S. Sixth Ave. “People are liter-ally dying to get here and they shouldn’t have to sneak around just to get to work.”

In addition to marching and falling, many protesters dressed in white to symbol-ize peace, left work and school, and boy-cotted gas stations and other items to show the economic effect of Latinos.

“This disbelief the stereotypes that all Mexicans are apathetic and that they won’t come out in support of something they care passionately about,” said Armando Bernal, 55, who attended both of the Tucson marches against H.R. 4437.

Diana Ugalde, 37, owner of Taqueria Pico de Gallo, 2618 S. Sixth Ave., said while legislation like H.R. 4437 is unfair for those who work for the U.S. illegally, she said she ultimately hopes the bill is passed so that immigrants are required to have a work permit to live and work here legally, and pay taxes into Social Security.

She said, however, individuals from Mexico wanting to receive legal status aren’t willing to work legally.

“We all pay taxes and work and they should as well,” said Ugalde.

Ugalde said two of her employees have already returned to Mexico for fear of the government tracking them down. She said that leaves a lot of employers like her left hanging in the balance of how to replace them.

“That is going to cost me a lot of money to replace and retain them,” Ugalde said.

But Durazo, 37, who picked strawberries as a 12-year-old in California, said day-work-ers programs aren’t enough, though he believes many Mexicans wouldn’t turn down such an incentive.

“It’s hard work, man,” he said.

Bernal said day-work programs would be an opportunity Mexicans could benefit from because Americans shun many of the minimum wage jobs offered in the market-place.

He said he finds there is a lot of “histori-cal irony” on the issue of immigration with city names like Los Angeles and San Francisco. Many employers hire Mexicans out of “economic necessity,” but then get rid of them once they are no longer needed.

Even as a child growing up in America, Bernal said the word “Mexican” was coined as a “dirty word” by many non-Hispanics in his neighborhood.

Years later, Bernal said things haven’t changed much for the better.

“Mexican-Americans like myself are treated almost like permanent immigrants,” he said. “It’s simply a political issue based on the color of a Mexican’s skin.”

Bernal said. “But nothing is going to change. If these people were Canadian, they could assimilate easier and it wouldn’t be a problem.”

The Western Growers Association Sup-porters of the reform bill that was pulled from the Senate floor at the end of March. The bill would have opened the way to citizenship for many illegal immigrants and included a provi-sion for an agriculture guest worker program.

“We’re disappointed it didn’t pass, and we hope they have the wisdom and political fore-sight to pass something soon,” Chelling said.

Muthart said he thought the recent immi-gration protests and demonstrations would help persuade Congress to pass reforms, but said protesters need to be cautious in the “spirit and attitude” of the demonstrations.

“Sometimes it’s hard to tell whether it’s a request or a demand for rights,” he said.

Muthart and Chelling said they were strongly opposed to House bill 4437, the enforcement-heavy bill passed by the House that does not include a guest worker program.

“It’s awful from a humanitarian standpoint and a practical standpoint,” Muthart said.

By Kate Kermer

Orange cowboy boots with a matching belt is considered appropriate dance wear in the purple haze of the camera lights at the “Tejano Dance Contest Live,” featured on the cable channel Access Tucson. DJ’s spin the danceable Tejano music that reverberates through Studio A over loud-speakers as the hosts coax audience members onto the dance floor for the live Thursday evening broadcast from downtown Tucson.

The hour-long plus program is co-hosted by Bunny Uriarte, 19, a University of Arizona studio art major who originally sponsored an interview program in the time slot.

But when a larger studio became avail-able, Uriarte realized there was room for as many as 20 people in the space and she and her mother thought a Tejano dance contest would be “something to reflect Mexican cul-ture.”

Generally, judges select one couple per show as the best dancers of the night. They are then eligible for the semi-final contest later in the spring.

“Tejano Dance Contest Live” will be broadcast live on May 4 and May 18 at 8 p.m., from Studio A at Tucson Access downtown at 124 E. Broadway Avenue. The three-day competition semifinals will be held at the same time on June 1 and the con-test finals will be broadcast on June 15. All dancers - male and female, singles and cou-pies, old and young - are welcomed to join.
Actividades de Verano para Todas las Edades

Por Kristin Connors

Cada vez están más calientes los días y todos sabemos que lo que significa el verano es acercarse a un mes de que los estudiantes salgan de vacaciones de verano, es tiempo de empezar a pensar que hacer con todo este tiempo libre. En el Sur de Tucson se pueden encontrar muchas actividades para la gente de cualquier edad como tallerías, actividades acuáticas, deportivas y campamentos.

Actividades Deportivas

Acuáticas
Descripción: Abierta todo el año, alberca nueva con resbaladilla y equipo de natación.
Costo: $2,00 por adulto, $1,00 por niños (12 y menor).
Ubicación: Centro “John A. Pima Community College

Clases de Natación
Descripción: Clases de Natación para niños de 6 meses de edad hasta 17 años. Este curso enseña la natación. La clase se divide en 4 sesiones que duran dos semanas cada una y que se imparten en 8 clases por sesión.
Costo: $120 por adulto, $60 por niño.
Ubicación: Centro “John A. Pima Community College

Diversidad Familiar
3er Aniversario, A Celebrar con una Fiesta
Descripción: Actividades para toda la familia las cuales incluyen juegos de mesa, baile, diversiones además de información acerca de las alud y bienestar familiar. Habrá a la venta comida y bebidas.
Dia/Hora: Sábado 3 de Junio de las 6:30 a 10:30 p.m.

Noches de Diversión Familiar
Descripción: Diversión para toda la familia con diferentes actividades y eventos.
Dia/Hora: Viernes 7 de Julio y el 7 de Agosto de las 6 a las 8 p.m.
Costo: $5 por los que posean un pase.
Lugar: Centro “Santa Rosa”

Costo: $2 por adulto, $1 por niño.
Dia/Hora: Sábado 2 de Julio de las 6:30 a las 10:30 p.m.
Lugar: Centro “Santa Rosa”.

Profesiones
Descripción: Curso que enseña a los adolescentes de educación preparatoria posibles profesiones a seguir en nivel Universitario. Habrá ponentes expertos en diferentes áreas como aviónica, mecánicos, automóviles, chefs, así como cursos de orientación de cómo seleccionar una profesión. Favor de llamar al 206-4901 o visítela en la página WEB de Pima para obtener mayor información.
Dia/Hora: Junio 12-29 y Julio 10-27, de Lunes a Jueves de las 6:30 a las 7:30 p.m.
Costo: $30 por sesión
Ubicación: Pima Community College Campus
Visita la pag web por ubicación.

"Un Puente transatlántico"
Descripción: programa que ayuda a los jóvenes a lidiar con los cam- bios por los que pasan al graduarse de la escuela secundaria y seguir su edu- car con nivel superior. Alumnos que estén cursando el último año del preparatoria podrán tomar clases en el Pima ubicado en "Desert Vista" y en "downtown.”
Favor de llamar al 206-7277 para registrar, o comunique con Katie Eland al mismo número.
Dia/Hora: De Lunes a Jueves de 8 a 10 a.m. 12 p.m. Encerrando a finales de Mayo hasta Junio.

Tips de AAP y de la Cruz Roja.
La temperatura promedio de Tucson durante el verano es de 100 grados, la Asociación de Pediatras (AAP) y la Cruz Roja señalan que no exista medidas preventivas para estas temperaturas.
• El bloqueador solar debe ser aplicado mucho antes de exponerse a los rayos solares y debe de ser re-aplicado cada dos horas después del sol beta.
• Procure permanecer en la sombra y evitar exponerse al sol entre las 10 am y 4 pm., que son las horas mas intensas de los rayos solares.
• Nunca deje a los niños solos en albercas o cerca de ellas, que usen flota- doras y hagan actividades que requieran de usarse flotadores.
• Tome mucha agua para mantenerse hidratado, especialmente cuando este extremo a actividades que requieran de usarse flotadores.
• Punta de atencion en las temporadas, no nadar si se pronostica llo- vías, o haya truenos.

Ayto Inscripciones abier- tas hasta el jueves de Fútbol
Descripción: Fútbol para niños Los entrenamientos son en el par- que Rudy Garcia en la sexta aven- dita y Irvington.

Club de los Niños
Descripción: Club para niños de 3 a 5 años de edad.
Costo: $100 por mes
Ubicación: Centro “John A. Pima Community College

Campamentos
Descripción: Campamentos para niños de 5 a 12 años de edad.
Dia: del 24 de Mayo al 2 de Junio
Costo: $52 dólares diarios, hay des- cuentos.
Lugar: Centro “Quince Douglas”

Los Angeles Programa introductorio a la Educación Superior
Descripción: Este programa esta dirigido a jóvenes de 13 a 18 años quienes estén cursando la educación preparatoria y llenen buenas califi- caciones.
Costo: $529 por sesión
Favor de comunicarse con Ryan Smith al 206-7661 para mayor información.
Summer Options, Activities for all Ages

By Kristin Connors

It’s getting hotter outside and we all know what that means: summer is approaching. With less than a month until students go on summer vacation, it is time to figure out what to do with all that spare time.

There are dozens of opportunities and fun for all ages in areas including academics, aquatics, sports and camps.

Sports and Recreation

Aquatics
Description: Year-round brand-new activity pool with a water slide and swim team.
Costs: Daily Pass–Adults ($1), Youth (8-25) Summer Pass–Adults ($225), Youth ($7).
Family of four ($37)
Location: Quincie Douglas Neighborhood Center, 1575 S. 36th St., 791-2507

Jr. Lifeguard
Description: An introductory program for children ages 10-12, aimed to improve swimming abilities, and teach safety techniques and first aid.
Dates: July 11-14
Cost: Free
Location: Quincie Douglas Neighborhood Center

Summer Swim Lessons
Description: Swimming lessons for children 6 months old to 17 years old instructed by the American Red Cross. There are four, two-week sessions, with eight lessons per session.
Dates: Session one: June 5-16, Session two: June 19-30, Session three: July 3-14, Session four: July 17-28
Cost: Youth (8-12): $25 (40/session)
Contact: Quincie Douglas Neighborhood Center

Late Night Hoops
Date/Time: Fridays and Saturdays starting June 2 to mid-August, 7-11 p.m.
Cost: $50
Location: Gil Pueblo location, 101 W. Irvington Rd., 791-5155

Summer Open Gym Jam
Description: Open gym program for youth ages 8-18. Children under 8 need to be accompanied by an adult. Open gym includes volleyball, basketball, badminton, board games and other activities.
Date/Time: Monday through Thursday from 6-10 p.m.
Location: Pueblo High School, 3500 S. 12th Ave., 791-4870

AYSO Region 224 Soccer Signups
Description: Youth soccer programs and teams for the South Tucson region. Practices take place at the Rudy Garcia Park on Sixth Street and Irvington Road.
Date/Time: Signups on May 20, June 26, July 15, and July 29 from 1-4 p.m.
Cost: $60
Location: Valencia Branch Library, 202 W. Valencia Road

Kajenko
Description: A form of martial arts available to all ages.
Date/Time: Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-7 p.m.
Cost: $31/month
Location: Centro Del Sur Community Center, 1631 S. 10th Ave., 792-3937

Zowle Boxing Club
Description: Boxing club ages 8 to adult.
Date/Time: Monday-Friday 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Academic Programs

Pima for Kids
Description: Activity classes for children ages 5-12. Classes offered include Leaps and Learn, Living in the Desert, Let’s Get Cooking, and the Three Cs: Cooking, Crafts, and Creative.
Cost: $150-179/session
Location: Pima Community College

 Tween Program
Description: Focuses on education, career development and empowerment courses.
Ages: 10-18
Date/Time: Monday-Friday, 5-8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free
Location: John A. Valenzuela Youth Center

Kids Café
Description: Twice weekly, learn about healthy life skills and how to prepare nutritious meals.
Date/Time: Monday-Friday, 5-8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free
Location: John A. Valenzuela Youth Center

TRIO Talent Search
Description: Program that supports low-income and first-generation students thinking about college. Includes one-on-one mentoring for students ages 11-27 and runs year round.
Cost: Free
Location: Pima Community College

Upward Bound Pre-College Program
Description: Program supports low-income and first-generation students thinking about college. Includes individual advising and mentoring, career exploration, guest speakers, and field trips. Program includes classes in literature, writing, math and science.
Students that participate in the summer program get to live in residence halls. Offered for students ages 13-18 who are currently in a participating high school and are making academic progress.
Cost: Free
Contact: Ryan Smith at 206-7601 for more information.

Summer Career Academies
Description: Available to high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors who want to explore possible career paths. Students hear from guest speakers and participate in hands-on activities and field trips. Some of the classes offered are: Early Childhood Care, Exploration of Aviation Careers, Automotive Technician Skills and Career Opportunities, Exploration of Culinary Arts Careers, Making Career Choices/College Study Skills and many more. Call 206-4901 or check the PCC Web site to find out more information about classes and locations.
Date/Time: June 12-29 and July 10-27, Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Location: Pima Community College Campuses. See Web site for locations.

Summer Bridge
Description: Program to bridge the gap between high school and college and helps students get a head start on a Pima degree. High school seniors can take community college courses at the Desert Vista and downtown locations and receive extensive support. Call 206-7274 to apply or contact Katie Elandt at Campus Student Development Office at 206-7274 for more information.
Date/Time: Monday-Thursday 8-12 a.m., late May through June
Cost: Free
Location: Pima Community College

Camp Wannago
Description: Summer day camp for children ages 5-12 as long as kindergarten has been completed. Camp includes arts and crafts, games, sports, swimming, hands on banking, fitness and nutrition lessons. Breakfast, lunch and a snack are provided.
Date/Time: Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Cost: $25 for four to five days a week, $98. Fee assistance and scholarships may be available through the Department of Economic Securities Child Care Division.
Location: Mulcady/City YMCA 5085 S. Nogales Hwy., 249-1449

Boys and Girls Club of Tucson
Description: Holmes Tumble Clubhouse
Location: Pueblo Gardens Park, 2585 E. 36th St., 791-6804
Date/Time: Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Family Fun
Description: Activities for the entire family that include game booths, displays, demonstrations, DJ and music, and health and wellness information. Food and beverages will also be available for sale.
Date/Time: Saturday June 3 from 6-10 p.m.
Cost: Free to facility pass holders
Location: Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center, 1010 S. 10th Ave., 791-4859
Family Fun Nights
Description: Fun for the entire family with theme nights, cooking and activities.
Date/Time: Friday July 7 and Friday August 7 from 6-8 p.m.
Cost: Free to facility pass holders
Location: Santa Rosa Neighborhood Center Facility Pass Costs: Daily pass–adults ($1.50), Youth ($1.25) Quarterly pass–adults ($20), Youth ($16)

Teen Program
Description: Crafts, cooking, games, sports, field trips, weight room, fitness program, computer lab, general recreation.
Ages: 13-18
Date/Time: Monday-Friday, 5-8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free
Location: John A. Valenzuela Youth Center

Community Pride
Description: Service events
Cost: Free
Location: John A. Valenzuela Youth Center

Opportunities, Exploration of Culinary Arts
Location: Holmes Tuttle Clubhouse
Contact: Nogales Hwy., 249-1449

Welcome to the July/Agosto issue of EL INDEPENDIENTE! www.elpapeler.com
After 30 Years Making an Impact on Young People, Sunnyside Superintendent Bejarano Retires
By Laura Pauli

After working as superintendent of Sunnyside Unified School District for six years, Raul Bejarano announced his retirement for June 2007. While superintendent of the district, Bejarano has faced many challenges in the school district, including growth and dealing with a transient population. The student mobility rate has been more than 30 percent for the past eight years, according to Sunnyside's demographics on the district's Web site.

But Bejarano has been able to deal with these problems by helping to found Lauffer Middle School and the new Gallego Elementary School, said Eva Dong, president of Sunnyside's Governing Board.

In 2002, the district was given a $2 million grant by pushing them forward technologically by instituting computer learning programs and maintaining good relationships with the business community.

"We are very good relationship with businesses has helped the district not only financially but businesses have been willing to come into classrooms and further students' education," said Dong.

"He's a very fair person and because he's a very fair person, people work well with him and listen to him," Dong said.

Dong said Bejarano also works well with students.

"Students have his ear as far as issues are concerned," said Dong. "He listens to them, listens to their needs and addresses them."

Raul Nido, principal of Sunnyside High School said he believes Bejarano is well liked by students and parents in the district.

"I think he's a very charismatic individual, he's not afraid to laugh at himself and he's self-confident," Nido said. "But it's a position of power, it's about being in a position to help."

Robert Jaramillo, a member of the Sunnyside Governing Board, said that Bejarano has been a good leader for people in the district.

"He's genuine, he's truthful and he's stayed focused on our main objective in the district, which is achievement," Jaramillo said.

Bejarano has worked in education for almost 40 years. He began his career as a teacher at Nogales High School where he taught history and Spanish. He moved up the ranks to principal, assistant principal, then principal of Nogales High School and finally superintendent of Sunnyside District in 2000.

Bejarano, 60, said he loves working in education, but "I never thought I was going to go into education," he said.

Conference Addresses Drug Abuse Treatment Disparities
By Elise Jackson

Therapists, researchers and community members from across the country came together in a conference to determine ways to reduce substance abuse treatment disparities among Native Americans and Latinos.

With over 200 people attending, the series of seminars and workshops, given by medical professionals and educators, aimed to discuss and further explore ways to enhance treatment for Native American and Latino people seeking help for drug and alcohol abuse.

"Often times when intervention treatment methods evaluated, one size fits all kind of thing," said Luis Guevara, psychologist and manager of cross cultural training at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles. "We don't know if it really does work with the Latino population."

The three-day conference, April 17 to 19, was presented by the Pima Indian Health Sciences Center along with "Project Export," a part of the UA Center for Health Equality. The Center for Health Equality is part of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the UA. After receiving a 36 million dollar grant in Feb. 2003, they termed "Project Export" which aims to inform the community and address health disparities in Arizona.

While the conference featured dozens of seminars focusing on different aspects of drug abuse treatment, they all had one idea in common. Substance abuse treatment programs need to take cultural aspects into consideration in order to have an impact.

"You can't treat an individual without taking into consideration the cultural environment in which they are a part of," said Miguel Gallardo, assistant professor at Pepperdine University and president of the California Latino Psychological Association.

In 2003, only 36 percent of Hispanics admitted themselves to treatment for alcohol and even fewer did so for other drugs including marijuana, cocaine and opiates, according to the Drug and Alcohol Information Services System.

The conference also covered the many risk factors these minority populations face as opposed to some other populations. Young people are at a particular risk for drug and alcohol abuse, according to Guevara. This is something the Latino population needs to be aware of as 39 percent of the United States Latino population is under 21 years old, according to the 2004 U.S. Census Bureau statistics.

Educational attainment was another important risk factor mentioned at the conference. About 27 percent of Latinos have less than a ninth grade level of education and 11 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher, according to Gallardo.

Other risk factors mentioned included being unemployed, impoverished and lacking health insurance, especially for children.

The conference encouraged therapists and other medical professionals to change traditional behaviors when it comes to working with patients of certain cultures.

"We have to begin to do things that historically we have been told not to do, as therapists," Gallardo said. Ideas mentioned included therapists opening up to patients, redefining the "therapeutic hour" and the environment in which patients are expected to come in and open up.

"Gallardo also emphasized an exchange from culture to culture to connect and reach out in small ways such as playing certain music and other ways of showing interest in a patient's culture in order to gain more respect and attention from the patient.

"Getting together in an effort to increase awareness about disparities is the first step to making changes. "It's like, developing the couch to the community," Gallardo said.

The conference was just one of the many ways the UA Center for Health Equality hopes to address health disparities in the community.

A list of upcoming events can be found at the Center for Health Equality web site at www.publichealth.arizona.edu.