

31 de Marzo 2022

# THE WEEKLY ISSUE **El Semanario**

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**Farm Workers Continue César's Legacy** **8**  
*Los Trabajadores Agrícolas Continúan el Legado de César*

**31 de Marzo 2022**  
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# MARLIOTZIN UNRAVELED AND REWOVEN

INDIGENOUS WEAVING, TECHNOLOGY, AND FASHION

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## The Democrats' Title 42 Dilemma

**Maribel Hastings and David Torres**

The administration of President Joe Biden is facing a moral dilemma, and also a political one, when it comes to demands to eliminate the disastrous Title 42. The situation is relevant due to the very nature of this policy, established by Donald Trump who, in the name of COVID, kept migrants from seeking asylum in the United States and, in many cases, repatriated them to the nations they fled. To do it or not seems to be the question.

And in the back and forth swinging of the pendulum of national values and political interests, thousands of migrant families have suffered unspeakably at the doors of a nation that, in its discourse, invites the world's downtrodden and persecuted to see the United States as a safe haven, but contradicts itself when it comes down to it, locking the doors of welcome.

On the one hand, doctors, experts, and activists say that it's time to revoke the policy that has lead thousands of immigrants who have arrived at our southern border to seek asylum to be returned to México to face violence, prej-

udice, and all types of troubles in the border region, controlled by drug dealers and gang members. The numbers, in this sense, don't lie: border officials have used Title 42 to expel migrants more than 1.7 million times, according to their own data.

**As a country, the United States cannot demand that other nations do what is morally correct and open their arms to refugees, when at home the story is totally different.**

But now, with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the treatment of Ukrainian refugees, it's become clearer than ever that this is a discriminatory policy that has no reason to exist. A few days ago, a Ukrainian family, rightfully, was exempted from Title 42 upon arriving at the southern border, according to the new DHS directive to not apply Title 42 to Ukrainians and instead process them, case by case, with a one year grant of humani-

tarian parole and the right to temporarily live and work in the United States legally.

However, Haitian families and those from other countries are rejected and, in many cases, deported to nations that cannot absorb them, plagued by violence and misery as they are. In that way, the contrast is all the more cruel and discriminatory, leaving a wide disadvantage for those who not only requested asylum earlier, but also due to the same reasons of extreme violence in their countries of origin. For those fleeing other countries, the conditions they face are wars not officially declared but still systematic, fueled by organized crime and local authorities steeped in corruption, not to mention the harmful influence of gangs.

On the other hand there is the political pressure, with its possible consequences on the midterm elections. In one camp, progressive and pro-immigrant groups remind Biden that he won thanks to support from communities of color who, to this day, have not seen progress on the issues they advocate and do not look kindly upon a public policy they view as racist, according to various sectors. Some are already trying to mobilize vot-



Photo/Foto: América's Voice



Photo/Foto: América's Voice

ers of color, particularly Latinos, who realize that there has not been any immigration reform and that the main news stories are about discrimination against migrants from Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean, and other regions, especially those seeking asylum.

This indecision or lack of political courage to accomplish what they promised is a potential breeding ground for future arguments over immigration, which could even be interpreted as the typical "divide and conquer" strategy, but in this case help absolutely no one: not a single party, not migrant communities, and especially not U.S. society.

At the same time there is a third factor, more specifically at the border, as reports abound that the Biden administration fears that

upon rescinding Title 42, thousands of migrants will arrive at the southern border, fueling Republican attacks that the border is "out of control" and that Democrats are "to blame."

There is no doubt that Republican strategists have already begun to design future campaigns with the same anti-immigrant song and dance about "border security," something that has worked well for them with some social groups while undermining their credibility with many others. Not seeing the border issue with 21st century clarity, conservatives are trying to defend the border—as if it were the only one—at gunpoint and with the attitudes of an arrogant action-movie "hero."

**See Hastings/Torres on page 5**

## Dilema Demócrata Ante Título 42: Con Dios o con el Diablo

**Maribel Hastings y David Torres**

La administración del presidente Joe Biden enfrenta, de una parte, una disyuntiva moral, pero también política, de

la otra, ante las demandas por la eliminación del funesto Título 42. La situación es relevante, dada la naturaleza de dicha política establecida por Donald Trump que, a nombre del Covid, impide que migrantes soliciten asilo en Estados Unidos y, en muchos casos, sean repatriados hacia las naciones de las que huyeron. Hacer o no hacer, esa parece ser la cuestión. Y en ese ir y venir del péndulo de los valores nacionales y los intereses políticos, miles de familias migrantes han sufrido lo indecible ante las puertas de una nación que en el discurso invita a los desvalidos y perseguidos del mundo a ver en Estados Unidos su tabla de salvación, pero que se contradice al momento de poner candados a la posibilidad de una bienvenida.

Es decir, de una parte, médicos, expertos y activistas señalan que es hora de revocar la regulación que ha provocado que miles de inmigrantes que han llegado a la frontera sur para pedir asilo sean retornados a México a enfrentar violencia, prejuicio y todo tipo de vejaciones en sectores de la franja fronteriza, controlados por narcos y pandilleros. Los números, en ese sentido, no mienten: las autoridades de la frontera han utilizado el Título 42 en más de 1.7 millones de ocasiones para expulsar migrantes, según sus propios datos. Pero ahora, ante la invasión rusa en

Ucrania, y con el trato a los refugiados ucranianos, ha quedado plasmado de manera más evidente que se trata de una política pública

**“**

Como país, Estados Unidos no puede estar exigiendo a otras naciones que hagan lo moralmente correcto y le abran los brazos a refugiados, cuando en casa la historia es totalmente diferente.

discriminatoria que no tiene razón de ser. En días atrás una familia ucraniana, con toda razón, fue eximida del Título 42 a su arribo a la frontera sur, de acuerdo con la nueva directriz del DHS, de no aplicar a los ucranianos dicho Título 42 y procesarlos caso por caso, con base en una concesión de un año de libertad condicional humanitaria, además de permitirles vivir y trabajar legalmente en Estados Unidos de manera temporal.

Sin embargo, familias haitianas y de otras naciones de color son rechazadas y, en muchos casos, deportadas a naciones que no los pueden absorber, pues están plagadas de violencia y miseria. De este modo, el contraste es aún más cruel y discriminatorio, dejando en amplia desventaja a quienes han solicitado asilo no solamente aun antes, sino debido a las mismas razones de extrema violencia en sus naciones de origen, en una guerra no declarada oficialmente, pero sí de manera sistemática, lo mismo por la delincuencia organizada, que por poderes locales alimentados por la corrupción, sin olvidar el nocivo influjo de las pandillas.

Perde otra parte está la presión política con sus posibles consecuencias en estas elecciones de medio término. Por un lado, los sectores progresistas, así como los grupos pro inmigrantes, le recuerdan a Biden que triunfó gracias al apoyo de comunidades de color que, hasta ahora, no han visto progreso en los temas que defienden y que no ven con buenos ojos

**Vea Hastings/Torres/Esp, página 16**

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## We Must Stop Family Separation – And We Can Do It Now



Photo: Center for Law and Social Policy

**Wendy Cervantes**

**I**'m scared all the time, even in my sleep." I will never forget the teary-eyed 8-year-old who told me that — one of the bravest young people I've ever met.

I met him just five months after the Trump administration took office and began an onslaught of harsh immigration actions, including prioritizing the deportation of all undocumented immigrants. That included this 8-year-old citizen's parents, and he was terrified of losing them.

Despite the change in administration, our country still has too many children living with the same fear. With Congress failing again to create a pathway to citizenship, over 5 million U.S. children continue to face instability due to their parents' precarious immigration status.

But if it chooses, the Biden administration can do much more now — even without legislative action — to help millions of families.

A White House task force on reuniting families forcibly separated by the Trump administration recently sought input on preventing

future harm. Hundreds of experts and advocates responded, including leading children's groups, urging the administration to prioritize children and families in immigration policy decisions.

Putting children and families first means ending harsh immigration enforcement that risks children's lives and tears families apart. Beyond ending the horrific expulsion of asylum seekers — including pregnant women, children, and infants — to dangerous conditions, it's time to reverse our immigration system's punitive approach.

Today, nearly 18,000 immigrants are languishing in jails — most of them run by for-profit corporations — with no guaranteed access to legal counsel or timeline for release. Many have children who will be the future of our country, but they can only talk to their kids through an occasional phone call.

**"I'm scared all the time, even in my sleep."** I will never forget the teary-eyed 8-year-old who told me that — one of the bravest young people I've ever met.

I met one mother who shared how much her daughters worried about their father. He was detained in the massive 2019 Mississippi raids that targeted poultry plant workers.

The father was detained hundreds of miles away, making it impossible for his family to visit him

regularly. Even phone calls cost about \$50 a week, too costly for a family without their primary breadwinner.

His 2-year-old often refused to eat or drink milk after his arrest — a common symptom of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) in young children. When his family was finally able to visit him in detention, the young girl shrieked with joy and rushed past guards to throw herself in his arms.

Instead of cruelly locking people up, our government should prioritize proven community-based programs. Rather than jailing immigrants or tracking them with ankle bracelets, community-based programs connect people and families to resources, including legal representation, as they await the outcome of their case.

The Freedom for Immigrants nonprofit has been piloting such programs since 2014. Before it was stopped by Trump, even the Department of Homeland Security piloted a similar program that served asylum-seeking families.

Attending to the best interests of children also means making deportation the exception.

Thousands of parents with deep roots here continue to be deported, making their child's worst nightmare a reality. These kids suffer long-term harm to their mental and physical health, educational outcomes, and economic security, while parents left behind struggle to make ends meet.

Rather than deport, our government can use prosecutorial discretion for parents or caregivers, allowing them to remain here and work legally. Existing options, such as Temporary Protected Sta-

tus (TPS), can also be extended to those who can't safely return to their country.

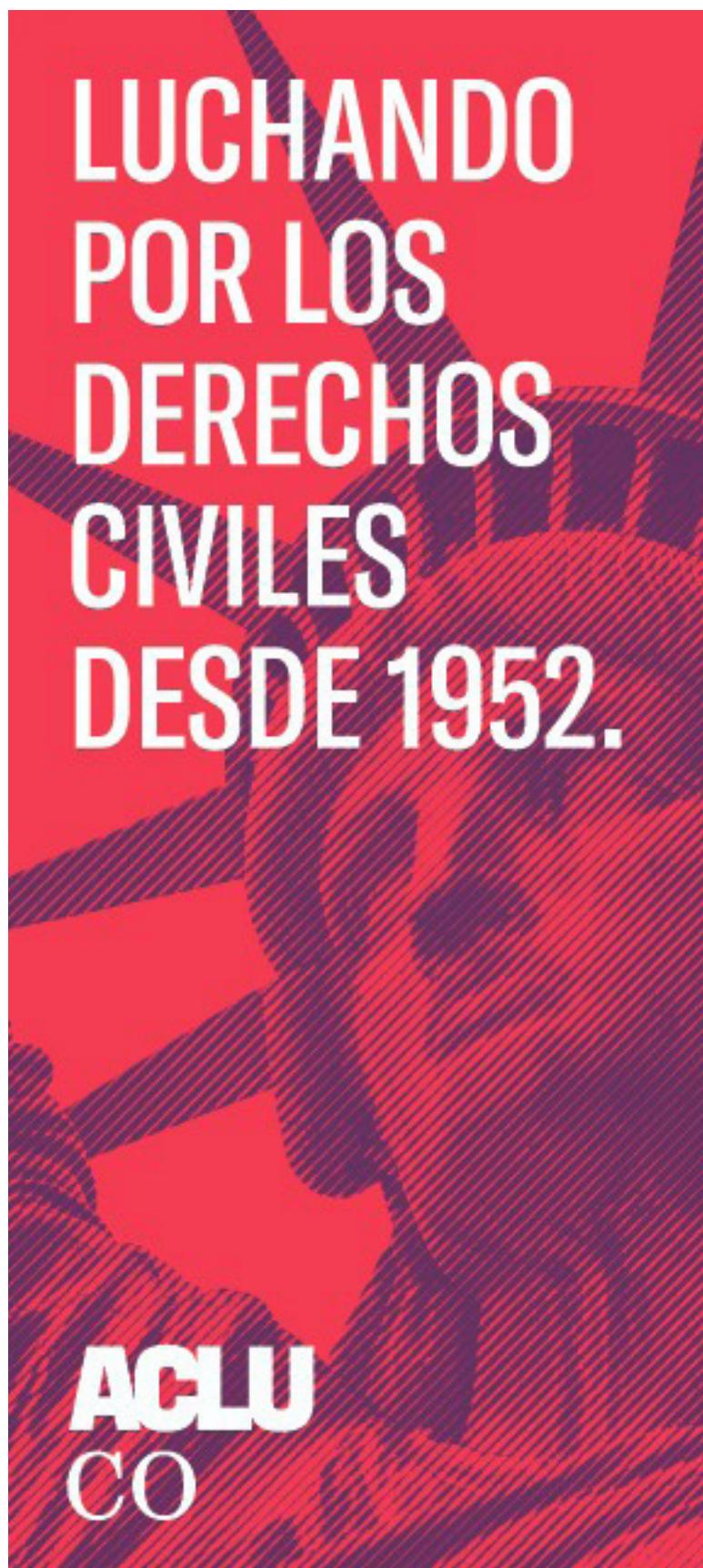
Finally, parents who were unjustly deported should be allowed to return and reunify with their families.

While a path to citizenship and restructuring our immigration laws are critical, a more humane and family-centered approach to our immigration system is possible *right now*. No 8-year-old should have to fear losing a parent simply because an immigration system fails to consider his well-being.

As an immigrant advocate and mother to two young children, I remain hopeful we can change course, so all children have a brighter future.

**Wendy Cervantes** is the director of immigration and immigrant families at the Center for Law and Social Policy. This op-ed was distributed by OtherWords.org.

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**Hastings/Torres**

However, there are several problems with this premise about the arrival of thousands of immigrants. One is that it's time for Democrats to stop fearing Republicans' anti-immigrant rhetoric. It's time for them to confront the matter, demonstrating that they can do what's right from a moral and humanitarian view. Another is that they should show they are capable of dealing with situations that arise along the border.

This nation has the capacity and the resources to deal with asylum seekers. Nations like Poland, Romania, and others, who are not world powers, have absorbed more than three million Ukrainian refugees in one month. On its own

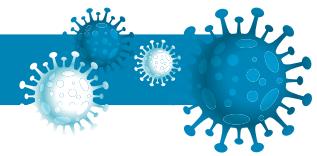
Poland, the country to which a majority of refugees have been directed, is now home to more than one million Ukrainian immigrants in a nation of 38 million people. Yet the United States fears a few thousand at its border. As a country, the United States cannot demand that other nations do what is morally correct and open their arms to refugees, when at home the story is totally different.

**Maribel Hastings** is a Senior Advisor to América's Voice. **David Torres** is a Spanish-language Advisor at América's Voice.

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## Sharing Covid Vax Facts Inside ICE Detention, One Detainee at a Time

By Anna Maria Barry-Jester

**O**ne of Patrick Green's first orders of business each day is to open a tap and fill a bottle with sludge.

A utilities plant operator in Modesto, a city of nearly a quarter-million people in California's San Joaquin Valley, Green helps keep the city's sewers flowing and its wastewater treated to acceptable levels of safety. But in recent months, he and his colleagues have added covid-19 sleuthing to their job description.

At the treatment plant where Modesto's sewer pipes converge, larger items, ranging from not-supposed-to-be-flushed baby wipes to car parts, are filtered out. What remains is ushered into a giant vat, where the solids settle to the bottom. It's from that 3-feet-deep dark sludge that researchers siphon samples in their search for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes covid.

Across the country, academics, private companies, public health departments, and sewage plant operators have been working to hone a new public health tool, one with uses that could reach well beyond covid. Wastewater surveil-

lance is not a new concept, but the scale and scope of the current pandemic have vaulted the technique over the narrow walls of academic research to broader public use as a crucial tool for community-level tracking of covid surges and variants.

Sewage surveillance is proving so useful that many researchers and public health officials say it should become standard practice in tracking infectious diseases, as is already the case in many other countries. But whether that happens — and which communities get access — depends on the nation's ability to vastly scale up the approach and make it viable in communities rich and poor.

Like many other public health tools, wastewater testing initially took off in big cities and university towns with access to research expertise, equipment, and money. The Modesto project offers a glimpse of the challenges and opportunities involved in making this technology available in communities with more limited resources.

"You should be injecting more resources in places that are underserved since they have the disproportionate burden of disease," said

Colleen Naughton, an engineering professor at the University of California-Merced who is helping set up testing in Merced, Modesto, and surrounding Central Valley farm towns.

William Wong, director of utilities for Modesto, oversees water and sewage operations. Since early in the pandemic, he's wanted to monitor the city's sewage for SARS-CoV-2. It's a natural extension of his work; the safe disposal of excrement is a foundation of both public health and modern society. "We always viewed what we do as protecting the public health," Wong said.

For covid surveillance, wastewater isn't subject to the tricky inconsistencies that come with testing for the coronavirus in humans. Covid testing shortages have been a persistent problem throughout the pandemic, stemming both from supply-chain shortfalls and wide variation in local governments' response. Long delays in test results can leave health officials weeks behind in detecting and monitoring infection trends.

More recently, at-home tests, whose results rarely find their way to public health departments, have



Patrick Green, a utilities plant operator in Modesto, California, siphons wastewater sludge to be analyzed for evidence of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes covid. Across the country, sewage surveillance has become a crucial public health tool for community-level tracking of covid surges and variants. / Patrick Green, operador de una planta de servicios públicos en Modesto, California, extrae lodo de aguas residuales para analizarlo en busca de evidencia del SARS-CoV-2, el virus que causa covid. En todo el país, la vigilancia de las aguas residuales se ha convertido en una herramienta de salud pública crucial para el seguimiento a nivel comunitario de los picos de la pandemia y variantes de covid.

proliferated. And for people living in lower-resource communities, there are incentives not to test at all, said Dr. Julie Vaishampayan, the health officer for Stanislaus County, where Modesto is located. A positive test can be a huge problem for people who can't take time off work or keep their kids out of school.

By contrast, sewage surveillance is an effective and relatively low-budget enterprise, less reliant

on human whim. Everyone poops, as the saying goes, and around 80% of Americans deposit their solids into a sewer system.

Dozens of research projects around the country have shown that the method can be used to accurately track covid trends over time. And because people shed covid in their feces before they show symptoms, upticks and

See **Wastewater** on page 18

## Los Funcionarios Ven Progresos en la Vigilancia de las Aguas Residuales

Por Anna Maria Barry-Jester

**U**na de las primeras tareas del día de Patrick Green es abrir un grifo y llenar una botella con lodo.

Como operador de una planta de servicios públicos en Modesto, una ciudad de casi un cuarto de millón de habitantes en el Valle de San Joaquin, en California, Green ayuda a mantener el flujo de las alcantarillas de la ciudad y el tratamiento de sus aguas residuales a niveles de seguridad aceptables.

Pero en los últimos meses, Green y sus colegas han sumado a sus tareas la investigación de covid-19.

En la planta de tratamiento donde convergen las tuberías de alcantarillado de Modesto, se filtran los artículos más grandes, desde

toallitas húmedas para bebés que no se deben tirar por el inodoro, hasta piezas de automóviles. Lo que queda se lleva a una tina gigante, donde los sólidos se depositan en el fondo.

Los investigadores extraen muestras de ese lodo oscuro de 3 pies de profundidad en busca del SARS-CoV-2, el virus que causa covid.

En todo el país, académicos, empresas privadas, departamentos de salud pública y operadores de plantas de tratamiento de aguas residuales han estado trabajando para perfeccionar esta nueva herramienta de salud pública, con usos que podrían ir mucho más allá de covid.

La vigilancia de aguas residuales no es un concepto nuevo, pero la escala y el alcance de la

pandemia actual han hecho que la técnica saltara los estrechos muros de la investigación académica para un uso público más amplio, como una herramienta crucial para el seguimiento a nivel comunitario de los aumentos repentinos de casos de covid, y las nuevas variantes.

La vigilancia de las aguas residuales está resultando tan útil que muchos investigadores y funcionarios de salud pública dicen que debería convertirse en una práctica estándar en el seguimiento de enfermedades infecciosas, como ya ocurre en muchos otros países.

Pero si eso sucede, y las comunidades que puedan implementarla, depende de la capacidad de la nación para ampliar enormemente el enfoque y hacerlo viable tanto en comunidades ricas como pobres.

Al igual que muchas otras herramientas de salud pública, las pruebas de aguas residuales comenzaron primero en las grandes ciudades y campus universitarios con acceso a experiencia en investigación, equipos y dinero. El proyecto de Modesto ofrece una visión de los desafíos y oportunidades que implica hacer que esta tecnología esté disponible en comunidades con recursos más limitados.

"Se deberían inyectar más recursos en lugares que están desatendidos, ya que tienen una carga desproporcionada de enfermedad", dijo Colleen Naughton, profesora de ingeniería en la Universidad de California-Merced, que está ayudando a establecer pruebas en Merced, Modesto y en los pueblos agrícolas alrededor del Valle Central.

William Wong, director de servicios públicos de Modesto, supervisa las operaciones de agua y alcantarillado. Desde principios de la pandemia, ha querido monitorear las aguas residuales de la ciudad en busca de SARS-CoV-2. Es una extensión natural de su trabajo; la eliminación segura de los excrementos es la base tanto de la salud pública como de la sociedad moderna. "Siempre consideramos que lo que hacemos es proteger la salud pública", dijo Wong.

Para la vigilancia de covid, las aguas residuales no están sujetas a las inconsistencias complicadas que vienen con las pruebas del coronavirus en humanos. La escasez de pruebas de covid ha sido

Vea **alcantarillas**, página 19

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## Cover /Portada

## United Farm Workers Leadership, Immigrants Continue Legacy of César Chávez



Ur M. Jaddou, director for the USCIS presented Teresa Romero, President of the United Farm Workers with the Outstanding Americans by Choice award. / Ur M. Jaddou, director del USCIS, entregó a Teresa Romero, presidenta de la Unión de Campesinos, el premio Outstanding Americans by Choice.

**F**irst Lady Dr. Jill Biden honored César Chávez on Monday, just a few days before what would have been the civil rights and farm labor leader's 95th birthday (March 31) by helping swear in 31 immigrants from nine countries as new U.S. citizens during a U.S. Citizenship and Im-

migration Services (USCIS) ceremony where Chávez lived and labored his last quarter century in Keene, California. One of the new citizens is a United Farm Workers Foundation member from Bakersfield, California, whose husband is a farm worker, Claudia Marcela Campos.

"I know how hard you have worked to be here today—how long many of you have waited. You've had to sacrifice—to adapt—and I also know that the values that make you who you are, and brought you this far, have only been strengthened by your journey. Today, you are not



Farmworkers leader, César Chávez, speaking at rally during Delano grape strike in 1974. / El líder de los trabajadores agrícolas, César Chávez, hablando en una manifestación durante la huelga de la uva de Delano en 1974.

Photo/Foto: Joel Levine/CC 3.0/Wikimedia

just Americans. You are Americans by choice," said Dr. Biden. "And like so many generations of immigrants who have come before you, you will shape your corner of our country to be stronger, more unique, and more beautiful than before. We are grateful to welcome you today—and we are proud to call you our countrymen and women."

USCIS Director Ur M. Jaddou administered the Oath of Allegiance and presented a national award to United Farm Workers (UFW) President Teresa Romero, herself an immigrant and naturalized citizen, as an Outstanding American by Choice.

Dr. Biden expanded on the efforts of Romero and the UFW.

"As many of you know, in just a few days, we will celebrate César Chávez Day," said the First Lady. "Last year, I spent it at the Forty Acres with the United Farm Workers. So, I'm excited to honor a woman who has taken up his legacy: Teresa Romero. Teresa, with your leadership, the United Farm Workers continues to be a voice of justice and humanity for the hard-working people who keep food on our tables. You make our nation stronger every day. "And you remind us of César's words: 'God did not promise us that the world would be humane and just. He gives us the gift of life and allows us to choose the way we will use our limited time on earth.' "His words are a call to all Americans—to raise our voices, to bring our best—and that is especially true of you, our newest Americans," said Dr. Biden to those at the naturalization ceremony. "Because who knows the value of justice better than those who have faced persecution and exploitation? Who knows how to build strong communities better than those who have left behind de-

struction? Who knows the possibility of a dream better than those who traveled miles just to find it?"

Romero is the first Latina and first immigrant woman to become president of a national union in the United States. She replaced Arturo S. Rodríguez as the third president of United Farm Workers in December of 2018.

"I first came to this country in my 20s, seeking a better life for myself—like millions of immigrants before me, like many of you," stated Romero. "My respect for the UFW and the farm workers—and my understanding of their struggles—hails from the fact that when I came to América, I did not speak or understand English. I appreciate what it is like to come to a new country, to be exposed to a new language, a new culture, a new people. I have come to be equally proud of my Mexican and Zapotecan heritage as well as my U.S. citizenship."

César Chávez Foundation President Paul F. Chávez also delivered remarks at the ceremony. "My dad was the son and grandson of immigrants who in the late 1800s fled the servitude of the hacienda system in México. They sought opportunities they knew they could never have in their native country, sharing the dream of all immigrants—then and now—to partake in the opportunities, benefits, and prosperity this nation offers. But my father was convinced American citizenship is about more than taking an oath and waving the American flag. Citizenship is about empowering yourself and your community through participation, becoming fully informed, registering to vote, voting, and becoming fully engaged in your community's civic, political, and cultural affairs."



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## La Dirección de la UFW y los Inmigrantes Continúan el Legado de César Chávez



La Primera Dama, Dra. Jill Biden, dio la bienvenida a 31 nuevos ciudadanos estadounidenses durante una ceremonia de naturalización celebrada con motivo del Día de César Chávez. / First Lady Dr. Jill Biden welcomed 31 new US citizens during a naturalization ceremony held in observance of César Chávez Day.

**L**a primera dama, la Dra. Jill Biden, rindió homenaje a César Chávez el lunes, pocos días antes de lo que habría sido el 95º cumpleaños del líder de los derechos civiles y del trabajo agrícola (31 de marzo), ayudando a jurar a 31 inmigrantes de nueve países como nuevos ciudadanos estadounidenses durante una ceremonia del Servicio de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de los Estados Unidos (USCIS) en el lugar donde Chávez vivió y trabajó su último cuarto de siglo en Keene, California. Una de las nuevas ciudadanas es una miembro de la Fundación United Farm Workers de Bakersfield, California, cuyo marido es un trabajador agrícola, Claudia Marcela Campos.

"Sé lo mucho que han trabajado para estar aquí hoy-cuánto tiempo han esperado muchos de ustedes. Habéis tenido que sacrificaros -adaptaros- y también sé que los valores que os hacen ser quienes sois, y que os han traído hasta aquí, no han hecho más que fortalecerse con vuestro viaje. Hoy, no sois sólo estadounidenses. Sois estadounidenses por elección",

dijo el Dr. Biden. "Y como tantas generaciones de inmigrantes que han llegado antes que ustedes, darán forma a su rincón de nuestro país para que sea más fuerte, más único y más hermoso que antes. Estamos agradecidos de dárles la bienvenida hoy, y estamos orgullosos de llamarlos nuestros compatriotas."

El director de USCIS, Ur M. Jaddou, administró el juramento de

lealtad y entregó un premio nacional a la presidenta de la Unión de Campesinos (UFW), Teresa Romero, ella misma inmigrante y ciudadana naturalizada, como estadounidense excepcional por elección (foto de portada).

El Dr. Biden se refirió a los esfuerzos de Romero y de la UFW.

"Como muchos de ustedes saben, dentro de unos días celebraremos el Día de César Chávez", dijo la Primera Dama. "El año pasado, lo pasé en los Cuarenta Acres con la Unión de Campesinos. Así que estoy emocionada de honrar a una mujer que ha recogido su legado: Teresa Romero. Teresa, con tu liderazgo, la Unión de Campesinos sigue siendo una voz de justicia y humanidad para la gente trabajadora que mantiene la comida en nuestras mesas. Haces que nuestra nación sea más fuerte cada día.

"Y nos recuerdas las palabras de César: 'Dios no nos prometió que el mundo sería humano y justo. Nos da el don de la vida y nos permite elegir la forma en que utilizaremos nuestro limitado tiempo en la tierra'.

"Sus palabras son un llamamiento a todos los estadounidenses para que alcemos la voz, para que aportemos lo mejor de nosotros mismos, y esto es especialmente cierto en el caso de ustedes, nuestros nuevos estadounidenses", dijo el Dr. Biden a los asistentes a la ceremonia de naturalización. "Porque ¿quién conoce mejor el valor de la justicia que aquellos que se han enfrentado a la per-

secución y la explotación? ¿Quién sabe cómo construir comunidades fuertes mejor que quienes han dejado atrás la destrucción? ¿Quién conoce la posibilidad de un sueño mejor que aquellos que recorrieron kilómetros para encontrarlo?"

Romero es la primera mujer latina e inmigrante que llega a la presidencia de un sindicato nacional en Estados Unidos. Sustituyó a Arturo S. Rodríguez como tercera presidenta de United Farm Workers en diciembre de 2018.

"Llegué a este país por primera vez a los 20 años, buscando una vida mejor para mí, como millones de inmigrantes antes que yo, como muchos de ustedes", declaró Romero. "Mi respeto por la UFW y los trabajadores agrícolas -y mi comprensión de sus luchas- proviene del hecho de que cuando llegué a América, no hablaba ni entendía el inglés. Aprecio lo que es llegar a un nuevo país, estar expuesto a un nuevo idioma, una nueva cultura, un nuevo pueblo. He llegado a sentirme igualmente orgulloso de mi herencia mexicana y zapoteca, así como de mi ciudadanía estadounidense".

El presidente de la Fundación César Chávez, Paul F. Chávez, también pronunció un discurso en la ceremonia. "Mi padre era hijo y nieto de inmigrantes que a finales de 1800 huyeron de la servidumbre del sistema de haciendas en México. Buscaban oportunidades que sabían que nunca podrían

"Mi respeto por la UFW y los trabajadores agrícolas -y mi comprensión de sus luchas- proviene del hecho de que cuando llegué a América, no hablaba ni entendía el inglés".

Teresa Romero, United Farm Workers

tener en su país natal, compartiendo el sueño de todos los inmigrantes -entonces y ahora- de participar en las oportunidades, beneficios y prosperidad que ofrece esta nación. Pero mi padre estaba convencido de que la ciudadanía americana es algo más que prestar un juramento y ondear la bandera americana. La ciudadanía consiste en capacitar a ti mismo y a tu comunidad a través de la participación, estando plenamente informado, registrándote para votar, votando y comprometiéndote plenamente en los asuntos cívicos, políticos y culturales de tu comunidad."

Vea [UFW/Esp](#), página 20

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## State News / Noticias del Estado

Denver Will Gather for 21<sup>st</sup> Annual César Chávez Celebration

## COLORADO

The César Chávez Peace and Justice Committee of Denver (CCPJC) began a tradition honoring César Estrada Chávez in 2002. The memory of the late labor leader and humanitarian continues in Colorado on Saturday, April 2nd, with an in-person celebration at Cesar Chavez Park in north Denver. The theme of the 21st Annual celebration is "Community Resilience as an Essential Pathway to Justice".

This year's celebration will begin with a traditional Catholic mass at 8:30am, St. John Francis Regis Chapel, 3333 Regis Boulevard, Denver, CO 80221. Masks optional (please continue to



The César Chávez Peace and Justice Committee of Denver celebrates their 21<sup>st</sup> annual celebration honoring the late labor leader with an in-person event on April 2. / El Comité de Paz y Justicia César Chávez de Denver celebra su 21<sup>a</sup> edición en honor al fallecido líder sindical con un evento presencial el 2 de abril

check for any (changes/updates). after the Mass at 10am, starting from the Regis Chapel to César E.

Chávez Park, on 4131 N. Tennyson St., Denver, CO 80212.

The program and awards ceremony will begin at 11:15am at César Chávez Park. Each year, the CCPJC of Denver honors individuals and organizations who embody the ideals and vision of César Chávez. The event will present the awards to the following recipients: Alondra Gil Gonzales will be honored with the Youth Female Leadership Award; Jose Palacios Casillas is the recipient of the Youth Male Leadership Award; Lisa Lucero will be honored with the Adult Female Leadership Award; Anthony Garcia, Sr., will receive the Adult Male Leadership Award; Carlos Castañeda will be presented with the Anciano Leadership Award;

and Christina Sigala will receive the Anciana Leadership Award. The Community Awards will be presented to the Acequia Institute and Su Teatro.

The celebration will feature food and entertainment, and this week the CCPJC announced "Los Mocochetes" will perform at the event.

In the late 60's and early 70's, Chávez led a nation of support for the country's farmworkers who continually faced abuse, low pay and sometimes no pay, and inhumane working conditions. He created awareness for the people who had no voice, and was instrumental in creating the United

See Denver on page 19

Denver Se Reunirá para la 21<sup>ª</sup> Celebración Anual de César Chávez

## COLORADO

El Comité de Paz y Justicia César Chávez de Denver (CCPJC) inició una tradición en honor a César Estrada Chávez en 2002. La memoria del difunto líder laboral y humanitario continúa en Colorado el sábado 2 de

abril, con una celebración en persona en el Parque César Chávez en el norte de Denver. El tema de la 21<sup>a</sup> celebración anual es "La resiliencia de la comunidad como camino esencial hacia la justicia".

La celebración de este año comenzará con una misa católica tradicional a las 8:30 de la mañana,

en la capilla St. John Francis Regis, 3333 Regis Boulevard, Denver, CO 80221. Las máscaras son opcionales (por favor, continúe comprobando cualquier (cambio/actualización).

La tradicional Marcha comenzará después de la Misa a las 10am, partiendo de la Capilla Regis hacia

el Parque César E. Chávez, en 4131 N. Tennyson St., Denver, CO 80212.

El programa y la ceremonia de premiación comenzarán a las 11:15am en el Parque César Chávez. Cada año, el CCPJC de Denver honra a individuos y organizaciones que encarnan los ideales y la visión de César Chávez.

En el evento se entregarán los premios a los siguientes galardonados: Alondra Gil Gonzales será honrada con el Premio al Liderazgo Femenino Juvenil; José Palacios Casillas es el receptor del Premio al Liderazgo Masculino Juvenil; Lisa Lucero será honrada con el Premio al Liderazgo Femenino Adulto; Anthony García, Sr., recibirá el Premio al Liderazgo Masculino Adulto; Carlos Castañeda será presentado con el Premio al Liderazgo Anciano; y Christina Sigala recibirá el Premio al Liderazgo Anciano. Los premios comunitarios se entregarán al Instituto de la Acequia y a Su Teatro.

La celebración contará con comida y entretenimiento, y esta semana el CCPJC anunció que "Los Mocochetes" actuarán en el evento.

A finales de los años 60 y principios de los 70, Chávez lideró una nación de apoyo a los trabajadores agrícolas del país, que se enfrentaban continuamente a abusos, salarios bajos y a veces inexistentes, y condiciones de trabajo inhumanas. Creó conciencia para la gente que no tenía voz, y fue fundamental en la creación del sindicato United Farm Workers (UFW), exigiendo derechos para la gente del campo.

En 2001, los ex representantes del estado de Colorado Frana Mace y Rob Hernández patrocinaron un proyecto de ley para crear un día festivo en el estado, y la ex concejala de Denver Ramona Martínez inició un día festivo en Denver en reconocimiento de Chávez y sus logros.

Please contact COLOR about upcoming community forums on the "Know Your Rights" training for immigrant families and the "What's At Stake?" information sessions regarding your health care coverage.

Contacta las oficinas de COLOR para obtener información de los próximos foros comunitarios sobre inmigración y el taller Conozca Sus Derechos. En los foros puedes saber más sobre como puede verse afectada tu cobertura médica mediante el taller ¿Qué está en juego?



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Escucha a la COLORista Gina Millan cada martes de 9 a 10 de la mañana en tu radio en la 1150am.

Topics such as reproductive justice, immigrant rights, health insurance, sex and sexuality among others will be discussed. Phone lines will be open for listeners. Please call (303) 337-1150 to speak with Gina.

Listen online at  
**onda1150am.com**

Hablamos de temas como la justicia reproductiva, derechos del inmigrante, cobertura médica, sexo y sexualidad, entre otros. Las líneas telefónicas están abiertas a los radioescuchas. Por favor comunícate a la radio llamando al (303) 337-1150 y comparte tus preguntas y comentarios.

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THE WEEKLY ISSUE  
El Semanario  
Community Partners

## Farmworker Advocates File Lawsuit Challenging Overtime Pay Standards Rule

### COLORADO

**T**oday, on César Chávez day, a holiday that celebrates the life of a civil rights activist who worked endlessly for the rights of agricultural workers, Colorado Jobs with Justice, a coalition of labor, community, faith, and student organizations that unites to advance workers' rights and economic, racial and gender justice, and Patricia Vital Rangel, a former farm worker, served a complaint filed against Governor Jared Polis and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, challenging a recently-promulgated rule that set overtime standards for Colorado's agricultural workers.

The lawsuit alleges the rule is inconsistent with the authorizing statute, violates Colorado's Administrative Procedure Act, and contrary to the guarantee of equal protection of the law under the Colorado Constitution. Colorado Jobs with Justice is represented by Towards Justice, Project Protect Food Systems, and Farmworker Justice, while Ms. Vital Rangel is represented by the Migrant Farm

Worker Division of Colorado Legal Services.

**“**

"It is a monumental disappointment for workers who have long been excluded from overtime and other basic labor rights enjoyed by other workers in the state."

Pamela Resendiz Trujano, Colorado Jobs with Justice

The rule, which became effective on January 1, 2022, establishes that no agricultural workers will receive any overtime pay until after November 1, 2022. At that point, agricultural workers will only get overtime after 60 hours, while most workers in Colorado are entitled to overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek. This first phase will remain in place until January 1, 2024, at which time it will provide for substantially weaker overtime standards compared to workers in other industries, kicking in after

48 to 56 hours depending on the size of the employer and whether the employer is considered "highly seasonal." The rule also establishes a lengthy phase-in period that spans years, meaning most workers will not see the full increase in pay until 2025.

"It is a monumental disappointment for workers who have long been excluded from overtime and other basic labor rights enjoyed by other workers in the state," said Pamela Resendiz Trujano, Executive Director of Colorado Jobs with Justice.

For almost a century, agricultural workers have been excluded from many of this country's most important and hard-fought labor rights, including the right to organize, the right to overtime pay, and in the case of thousands of Colorado farmworkers, the right to minimum wage. The origins of these exclusions, which go back decades, are explicitly racist—originally part of an effort to exclude workers of color from the New Deal's most important labor protections.

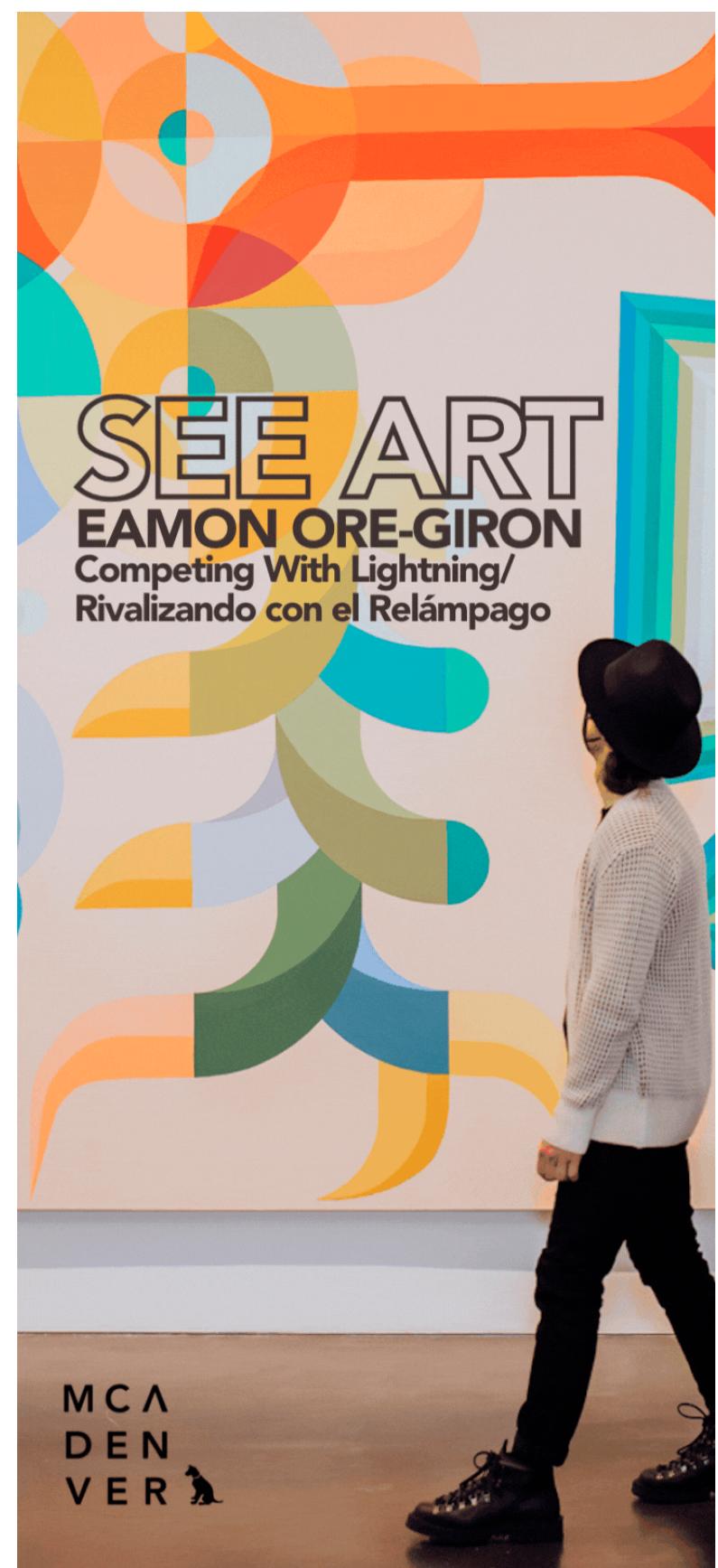
Last summer, Governor Jared Polis signed the Agricultural Work-

ers' Rights Bill, which was intended to extend workplace protections to agricultural workers that have long applied to other industries. The bill was introduced shortly after farmworkers in Washington successfully challenged a decades-old provision in state law exempting agriculture industry employers from paying overtime wages. The Washington Supreme Court struck down the provision because it violated the state's constitution.

Farmworkers are some of the lowest-paid workers in the U.S.: Their average yearly earnings are

between \$20,000 and \$24,999, according to the National Agricultural Workers Survey. "Labor laws, including overtime standards, are at the root of economic security and justice," said Jenifer Rodriguez. "For generations we have seen that lax workplace-related standards rooted in racism negatively impacts worker health and economic well-being. It is profoundly disappointing that Colorado has continued this legacy."

**For More Colorado News:**  
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## Defensores de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Presentan una Demanda

### COLORADO

**H**oy, en el día de César Chávez, un día festivo que celebra la vida de un activista de los derechos civiles que trabajó incansablemente por los derechos de los trabajadores agrícolas, Colorado Jobs with Justice, una coalición de organizaciones laborales, comunitarias, religiosas y estudiantiles que se une para promover los derechos de los trabajadores y la justicia económica, racial y de género, y Patricia Vital Rangel, ex trabajadora agrícola, presentó una demanda contra el gobernador Jared Polis y el Departamento de Trabajo y Empleo de Colorado, impugnando una regla promulgada recientemente que establecía horas extras, estándares para los trabajadores agrícolas de Colorado.

La demanda alega que la regla es inconsistente con el estatuto de autorización, viola la Ley de Procedimiento Administrativo de Colorado y es contraria a la garantía de igual protección de la ley bajo la Constitución de Colorado. Colorado Jobs with Justice está representado por Towards Justice, Project Protect Food Systems y Farmwork-

er Justice, mientras que la Sra. Vital Rangel está representada por la División de Trabajadores Agrícolas Migrantes de Servicios Legales de Colorado.

**“**

"Es una decepción monumental para los trabajadores que durante mucho tiempo han sido excluidos de las horas extras y otros derechos laborales básicos que disfrutan otros trabajadores en el estado".

Pamela Resendiz Trujano, Colorado Jobs with Justice

La regla, que entró en vigencia el 1 de enero de 2022, establece que ningún trabajador agrícola recibirá pago de horas extra hasta después del 1 de noviembre de 2022. En ese momento, los trabajadores agrícolas solo recibirán horas extra después de las 60 horas, mientras que la mayoría de los trabajadores en Colorado tienen derecho al pago de horas extras después de 40 horas en una semana laboral. Esta primera fase permanecerá vi-

gente hasta el 1 de enero de 2024, momento en el cual establecerá estándares de horas extras sustancialmente más débiles en comparación con los trabajadores de otras industrias, y entrará en vigor después de 48 a 56 horas, según el tamaño del empleador y si el empleador es considerado "altamente estacional." La regla también establece un largo período de incorporación gradual que abarca años, lo que significa que la mayoría de los trabajadores no verán el aumento total en el pago hasta 2025.

"Es una decepción monumental para los trabajadores que durante mucho tiempo han sido excluidos de las horas extras y otros derechos laborales básicos que disfrutan otros trabajadores en el estado", dijo Pamela Resendiz Trujano, directora ejecutiva de Colorado Jobs with Justice.

Durante casi un siglo, los trabajadores agrícolas han sido excluidos de muchos de los derechos laborales más importantes y por los que más se ha luchado en este país, incluido el derecho a organizarse, el derecho al pago de horas extras y, en el caso de miles de

## State News / Noticias del Estado

Colorado Offering 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Dose of COVID Vaccine

## COLORADO

**O**n Tuesday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended a fourth dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for people 50 and older and a fifth dose for individuals who are immunocompromised. People over 50 may now receive a fourth dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines at least four months after their third dose, and Colorado COVID-19 vaccine providers are authorized to administer those doses now.

There are more than 1 million adults 50 and older in Colorado who have received a third dose who are able to get a fourth dose following the CDC announcement. The state has an estimated 470,000 doses of Moderna and Pfizer vaccines in the field across Colorado as of March 29, which are available for those eligible for both third and fourth doses. With CDC's authorization of fourth doses for adults 50 and older, the need to secure and expand the nation's COVID-19 vaccine supply has never been greater.

"Coloradans age 50 and older can now get a fourth dose of the life-saving COVID-19 vaccine, increasing their protection from this virus," said Diana Herrero, deputy director for the Division of Disease Control and Public Health Response at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "We urge Congress to secure funding to purchase enough vaccine doses for all and invest in variant-specific vaccines or a pan-COVID vaccine protecting against a range of variants should the science and data demonstrate the need."

In addition, the CDC has also approved a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine at least four months ago. Read more about booster doses and eligibility at [covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine-follow-up-doses-booster](https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine-follow-up-doses-booster).

Vaccines are the safest, most effective way to slow the spread of COVID-19 and its variants, and to help avoid the worst outcomes



Foto/Foto: AdobeStock

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now recommends a fourth dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for people 50 and older and a fifth dose for individuals who are immunocompromised. / Los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades recomendaron que los mayores de 50 se apliquen una cuarta dosis de las vacunas Pfizer-BioNTech y Moderna.

(severe illness, hospitalization, and death) among those who do become infected. More information about COVID vaccines, as well as assistance with scheduling an appointment, is available at [covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine](https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine). You can also call Colorado's Vaccine Hotline to get help finding a vaccine. Call 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926).

There are more than 1,900 provider locations across Colorado,

including pharmacies and doctor's offices. The COVID-19 vaccine is free. Coloradans don't need ID or insurance to get vaccinated and are entitled to paid time off from your job to get vaccinated and recover from any side effects.

Continue to stay up to date by visiting [covid19.colorado.gov](https://covid19.colorado.gov).

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## El Estado ya Puede Administrar la Cuarta y Quinta Dosis de la Vacuna COVID

## COLORADO

**L**os Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC, por sus siglas en inglés) recomendaron esta semana que los mayores de 50 se apliquen una cuarta dosis de las vacunas Pfizer-BioNTech y Moderna. Asimismo, aconsejan una quinta dosis para las personas

con inmunocompromiso. Los mayores de 50 años podrán recibir una cuarta dosis de las vacunas Pfizer o Moderna al menos cuatro meses después de su tercera dosis. Los proveedores de la vacuna contra el COVID-19 de Colorado están ahora autorizados a administrar esas dosis.

Hay más de un millón de adultos mayores de 50 años en Colorado

que ya han recibido una tercera dosis y que cumplen los requisitos para aplicarse una cuarta dosis tras la autorización de la FDA. Al día de hoy, el gobierno estatal dispone de aproximadamente 470,000 dosis de vacunas Moderna y Pfizer a través de Colorado, las cuales están disponibles para ser administradas como tercera y cuarta dosis a aquellos que reúnen los requisitos para aplicárselas. Con la autorización de las cuartas dosis por parte de los CDC para adultos mayores de 50 años, nunca ha sido mayor en nuestro país la necesidad de asegurar y ampliar el acceso al suministro de las vacunas contra el COVID-19.

En palabras de Diana Herrero, Subdirectora de la División de Control de Enfermedades y Respuesta de Salud Pública del Departamento de Salud Pública y Medio Ambiente de Colorado: "Los habitantes de Colorado mayores de 50 años pueden recibir ahora una cuarta dosis de la vacuna contra el COVID-19, potenciando así su protección contra este virus. Instamos al Congreso a que garantice la disponibilidad de fondos para adquirir suficientes dosis de vacunas que lleguen

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**February 6–May 8, 2022**

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Image: Alfredo Ramos Martínez, *La Malinche (Young Girl of Yalala, Oaxaca)*, 1940. Oil paint on canvas; 50 x 40½ in. Phoenix Art Museum: Museum purchase with funds provided by the Friends of Mexican Art, 1979.86. ©The Alfredo Ramos Martínez Research Project, reproduced by permission. Traitor, Survivor, Icon: The Legacy of La Malinche is organized by the Denver Art Museum. This exhibition has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy demands wisdom. Additional funding is provided by Furthermore: a program of the J. M. Kaplan Fund, University of Denver: College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, the donors to the Annual Fund Leadership Campaign, and the residents who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Promotional support is provided by 5280 Magazine and CBS4. Special thanks to the National Institute of Anthropology and History and Mexico's Secretary of Culture.

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



## Malintzin: Unraveled and Rewoven Explores the Timeless Icon of La Malinche



Photo: Courtesy LCAC

The Gold Crown by Lilian Lara is highlighted in a new exhibit "Traitor, Survivor, Icon: The Legacy of La Malinche" at the CU Denver Experience Gallery.



Photo: Courtesy LCAC

Artist Lilian Lara created brilliant images for a new exhibit "Traitor, Survivor, Icon: The Legacy of La Malinche" at the CU Denver Experience Gallery.

### COLORADO

**M**alintzin: Unraveled and Rewoven Explores the Timeless Icon of La Malinche

**M**alintzin: Unraveled and Rewoven, is an immersive journey that untangles one of México's most prolific and captivating icons. It opens March 31, with a reception at the CU Denver Experience Gallery (formerly the Next Stage Gallery), from 5-7pm. The Gallery is located at 1025 13th St, Denver, CO 80202

(in the Denver Performing Arts Complex, across the Buell Theatre)

Inspired by the Denver Art Museum's (DAM) exhibition "Traitor, Survivor, Icon: The Legacy of La Malinche," this installation uses fresh artwork from Denver artists Lilian Lara, Norberto Mojardin, and CU Denver Professor Bryan Leister and his students to examine the polarizing figure that served as a bridge between the Aztec and Spanish empires. It loosens the threads of Malinche and reweaves them into a jungle of fabric foliage, textiles and designs that reflects an

evolving interpretation of her power as a woman caught in an impossible situation.

The Latino Cultural Arts Center [Latino Cultural Arts Center](#) (LCAC) is pleased to announce that a sliver of the Abarca Family Collection will be available for viewing, including never before exhibited textiles that honor the power and knowledge Malintzin wielded and wove. She was a skillful Indigenous dignitary and power broker who led with compassion, grace

and style. *Unraveled and Rewoven* takes an insult directed at women, unpacks it, and reframes how we view powerful and intelligent women, historically and today.

Complementing DAM's exhibition, which spans five centuries of Malintzin-inspired works, this show exhibits current works of art, craft and design from upcycled materials to unpack a woman whose legacy has been reinterpreted and reimaged by artistic, scholar and activist communities across the

U.S.-Mexican border. Breathing new life into conversations about our role as consumers, *Unraveled and Rewoven* recontextualizes a woman reviled as a traitor of her Indigenous roots and hailed for her achievements of birthing a nation that mixes Spanish and Indigenous cultures and heritages.

Weaving tradition and lore, artist and fashion designer Norberto "Beto" Mojardin will be creating

See **Malintzin** on page 17

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## State News / Noticias del Estado

29<sup>th</sup> Annual Recuerda César Chávez y Dolores Huerta Celebration

## NEW MEXICO

**O**n Saturday, April 2, 2022, the Recuerda a César Chávez Committee(RCCC) is proud to host the 29th Annual César Chávez and Dolores Huerta Celebration in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dolores Huerta, labor leader and co-founder of the United Farm Workers will be the event's honored guest and keynote speaker.

The free community event is an annual celebration that pays tribute to César Chávez and Dolores Huerta, the civil rights leaders who have inspired us to believe that together we "can" make a difference. In keeping with their unwavering courage, this year's celebration is conducted in the spirit of "Si se Puede," "Yes, we can" and will honor the hospital nurses, teachers, farm workers and many more frontline essential workers who have kept us going throughout the COVID pandemic.

For over two years, the impact of COVID has affected many families and communities and, most notably, the essential workers who often risk their own health and welfare on the frontlines of

"It's so important to remember our city's legacy of community leadership, and lift up their mission to create equitable opportunity. The fight for labor and civil rights did not pause when the pandemic hit and is as critical today as ever."

Tim Keller, Albuquerque Mayor

COVID-19 to help get us through this pandemic.

"It's so important to remember our city's legacy of community leadership, and lift up their mission to create equitable opportunity," said Mayor Tim Keller. "The fight for labor and civil rights did not pause when the pandemic hit and is as critical today as ever. We're grateful for our partners and Albuquerque advocates who are keeping the fight alive and making progress happen."

In keeping with the spirit of service to community set by César

Chavez and Dolores Huerta, the RCCC is also hosting the 13th Annual Dolores Huerta Day of Service & Learning on Friday, April 1st. The virtual day of service learning with Albuquerque public school students will include a Zoom meeting with Dolores Huerta to discuss their projects.

The RCCC will also be collecting donations of work gloves for New Mexico farm workers. The public can drop donations off Saturday April 2nd from 9am-11am in the NHCC parking lot, 1701 4th Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Special guests will include Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller, NHCC Executive Director Dr. Margie Huerta, Mexican Consul General Norma Ang Sánchez, Congresswoman Melanie Stansbury, and keynote speaker Dolores Huerta.

The RCCC 17th Annual "Si Se Puede" Awards, will be given to two individuals who have served their community in the spirit of César Chávez and Dolores Huerta. Event entertainment features two bands, Nosotros, one of the most recognizable Latin bands in the Southwest and has shared the



Photo/Foto: RCCC

The Recuerda a César Chávez Committee is hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dolores Huerta Day of Service & Learning on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. / El Comité Recuerda a César Chávez organiza el 13º Día Anual de Servicio y Aprendizaje Dolores Huerta el viernes 1 de abril.

stage with some of the biggest names in music; and Lasotras is an Albuquerque-based group that performs U.S. and Latin American folk music.

The celebration is sponsored by the City of Albuquerque and is supported by the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) and the County of Bernalillo. The entire event will be livestreamed on the Recuerda a César Chávez Committee website so that the public can safely observe all of the activities. The virtual celebra-

tion will feature a private event with key leaders, local dignitaries, and keynote speaker Dolores Huerta honoring the frontline essential workers to whom we owe such a great debt. Other highlights include a car show, blood drive, health screenings.

For more information visit the Recuerda a César Chávez website. Proof of vaccination and mask required for all in attendance.

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**Los Volcanes Senior Center**  
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## 29<sup>a</sup> Celebración Anual Recuerda César Chávez y Dolores Huerta

## NEW MEXICO

**E**l sábado 2 de abril de 2022, el Comité Recuerda a César Chávez (RCCC) se enorgullece de organizar la 29<sup>a</sup> Celebración Anual de César Chávez y Dolores Huerta en Albuquerque, Nuevo México.

Dolores Huerta, líder laboral y cofundadora de United Farm Workers, será la invitada de honor del evento y la oradora principal.

Este evento comunitario gratuito es una celebración anual que rinde homenaje a César Chávez y Dolores Huerta, los líderes de los derechos civiles que nos han inspirado a creer que juntos "podemos" marcar la diferencia. En consonancia con su inquebrantable valor, la celebración de este año se lleva a cabo con el espíritu de "Si se Puede", y honrará a las enfermeras de los hospitales, a los maestros, a los trabajadores agrícolas y a muchos más trabajadores esenciales de primera línea que nos han mantenido en pie durante la pandemia de COVID.

Durante más de dos años, el impacto del COVID ha afectado a



"Es muy importante recordar el legado de liderazgo comunitario de nuestra ciudad y elevar su misión de crear oportunidades equitativas. La lucha por los derechos laborales y civiles no se detuvo cuando llegó la pandemia y es tan crítica hoy como siempre."

Tim Keller, Alcalde de Albuquerque

muchas familias y comunidades y, sobre todo, a los trabajadores esenciales que a menudo arriesgan su propia salud y bienestar en la

primera línea del COVID-19 para ayudarnos a superar esta pandemia.

"Es muy importante recordar el legado de liderazgo comunitario de nuestra ciudad y elevar su misión de crear oportunidades equitativas", dijo el alcalde Tim Keller. "La

Vea Recuerda/Esp, página 20

## Afghans Describe Challenges in Building New Life in New México

### NEW MEXICO

By Patrick Lohman

**A**bdul Amiry thinks of his home country when he sees the Organ Mountains in southern New México.

"These are like Afghanistan," he said on a recent drive through Las Cruces, gesturing toward the range's jagged peaks.

Any similarities pretty much stop there. This new city, state and country — Amiry's home for the last several months — are deeply unfamiliar and, so far, quite unwelcoming, he said.

Amiry and about 200 other Afghans have tried to find a new life in Las Cruces in recent months, what they hoped would be the final leg of a harrowing journey from a country in collapse.

But in New México's second-biggest city, Amiry and 15 other refugees who spoke to Source New Mexico say they've encountered unnecessary obstacles in meeting basic needs, plus failures by every level of government and the nonprofit organizations paid to help them get settled.

In broken English or through a Pashto translator, Afghans described having to make impossible choices with little resources. Some have decided to leave Las Cruces, sometimes to meet family, but often just to try their luck in places they hear are better.

That means Nebraska, Iowa, Maryland, Texas, elsewhere.

Their interviews provide a rare glimpse into the difficulties Afghans face in their new country, one that invaded theirs more than 20 years ago and then hastily left.

Leaders of the two agencies resettling Afghans in Las Cruces said they are doing their best to furnish English education, transportation, medical care, benefits and jobs to the newcomers. It's the first time either agency has resettled refugees like this. They're doing so in a city with no pre-existing Afghan community, one that is also hosting refugees from the Middle East for the first time in its history.

#### Amiry

Amiry, 31, said he served in the Afghan National Directorate of Defense, basically the CIA of Afghanistan.

He declined to use his full name or have his portrait taken, citing enemies he left behind.

The father of three desperately wants to bring his family here. He



Abdul Rab Noori stands in the middle of the street in his former Las Cruces neighborhood.



Mohammad Sabir stands in front of the Las Cruces mosque after a Friday service.

escaped Afghanistan on a United States military aircraft while the Taliban encroached, thinking he would be flown to another base within the country. But instead he was flown to Qatar, and has been unable to see his family since. His young daughter still expects to see him.

"When the airplanes going (above) my house like this, my little daughter is saying, 'Father, come back, come back. Please don't go,'" he said. "Every day, she's doing that. So it's hard. It's so painful. With this, you cannot stay alive."

He's working on getting a path to citizenship, he said, and bringing his mother, wife and children, including a new son born two weeks ago.

The agency tasked with helping him, El Calvario United Methodist Church, provides an immigration attorney, but the lawyer is available just once every two weeks to help more than 100 Afghans, Amiry said.

So, in the meantime, he is trying to make money to send home. Last weekend, he began working 12-hour overnight shifts at a local cheese factory. His English skills — gained, he said, by watching American sci-fi and fantasy series — helped greatly in helping him get the job. But he still faces daunting financial challenges.

Upon arrival, Amiry, like other New México Afghans, received about \$1,200 each from the federal government for basic services — things like housing, food and clothing. But the money is held by El Calvario, and it's all Amiry has for now.

He will have to dip into that fund to pay for housing, which he's seeking for himself and two friends, both also refugees.

El Calvario found him two places to choose from. On a recent

Friday, he visited one of them, listed for \$400 a month. But it was a one-bedroom apartment, not a three-bedroom apartment, which is what he hoped for.

The apartment was made vacant when the three Afghans, also men and also clients of El Calvario, left for Nebraska. The trio was tired, among other things, of packing themselves into the too-small apartment, Amiry said.

The other apartment, a three-bedroom, costs \$1,200 a month. It's too expensive, Amiry said. Until recently, he was staying

for free at a Las Cruces hotel. On his last night, he spoke to a reporter about his options.

"If I pay \$1,200 for house, how much money I can send for my family to support them? How much money I can give a lawyer for my green card or asylum case?" he said. "I have a lot of things to do."

In addition to housing, the trio is also trying to find a car to take to work at the cheese factory. He's hoping to find one for less than \$5,000, a rarity amid inflation and supply chain snags.

Without a clear solution, Amiry decided to wait to talk to his case worker the following day. It was around 9 p.m., and dinner was ready. His friends and potential roommates used an electric stove-top in their hotel room to make murq qorma, an Afghan curry dish with lemon and chicken.

They were able to find every ingredient at Walmart to re-create it, they said, except they had to use French bread instead of Afghan naan.

See Afghans on page 21

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una política pública de corte racista, según varios sectores. Quienes ya están tratando de movilizar a los votantes de color, particularmente a los latinos, recuerdan que no hay reforma migratoria y que las únicas noticias que prevalecen son sobre la discriminación de migrantes de Latinoamérica, África, el Caribe y otras regiones, sobre todo los solicitantes de asilo. Esa indecisión o falta de valor político por cumplir con lo prometido es un potencial caldo de cultivo de futuras rencillas migratorias, que incluso se podría interpretar como el típico recurso de "divide y vencerás", pero que en este caso de ninguna manera conviene a nadie, ni a un partido, ni a las comunidades migratorias, pero sobre todo ni a la propia sociedad estadounidense.

Al mismo tiempo hay un tercer factor más específicamente fronterizo, al abundar reportes de que el gobierno de Biden teme que, de anular el Título 42, arriben miles de migrantes a la frontera sur, alimentando los ataques republicanos de que la franja "está descontrolada" y que los demócratas son los "culpables". No es de dudar que ya los estrategas políticos republicanos hayan empezado a diseñar sus futuras

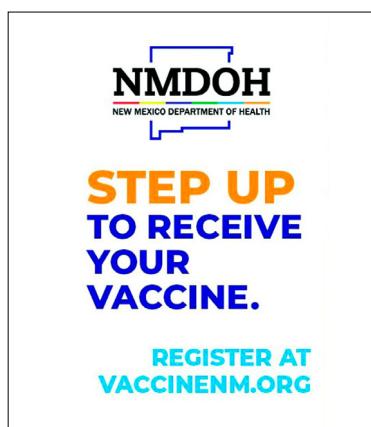
campañas con la misma cantante antiinmigrante en función de la seguridad fronteriza, algo que si bien les ha funcionado con unos sectores sociales, les ha minado credibilidad en muchos otros. No ver la cuestión fronteriza con una visión propia del Siglo XXI, remite a esa parte conservadora a tratar de defender esa frontera —como si fuera la única— a punta de pistola y con actitudes de "héroe" arrogante de película de acción.

Hay, sin embargo, varios problemas con esa premisa del arribo de miles de inmigrantes. Uno de ellos es que ya es hora de que los demócratas no le tengan tanto miedo a la retórica antiinmigrante de los republicanos. Ya es hora de que enfrenten este asunto, primero demostrando que pueden hacer lo correcto desde el punto de vista moral y humanitario. Y otro es que demuestren que son capaces de afrontar las situaciones que se susciten en la franja fronteriza. Esta nación tiene la capacidad y los recursos de lidiar con los solicitantes de asilo. Naciones como Polonia, Rumania y otras, que no son potencias mundiales, han absorbido más de tres millones de refugiados ucranianos en un mes. Tan solo en Polonia, el país adonde se ha dirigido la mayoría de los refu-

giados, ya vivía más de un millón de inmigrantes ucranianos, en una nación de 38 millones de personas. Y aun así, Estados Unidos le teme a unos miles en su frontera. Como país, Estados Unidos no puede estar exigiendo a otras naciones que hagan lo moralmente correcto y le abran los brazos a refugiados, cuando en casa la historia es totalmente diferente. No se puede estar con Dios y con el Diablo. Es hora de que el gobierno de Biden decida con quién está.

**Maribel Hastings es Asesora Ejecutiva de América's Voice.  
David Torres es Asesor en Español de América's Voice.**

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Time: 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Location: 1140 W. Custer Place; Denver, Colorado 80223**



## Strange

mammal on Cemanahuac (Planet Earth).

Our governance models were taken and remodeled into the democracy, communism and Libertarian ideologies. Professional sports would never have moved outside of the gladiator ring if not for our balls. Still, the rich tapestry of this American continent was not a simple natural occurrence. Even our Sonoran desert is full of life. Geologists map out millions of years of sedimentation and plate tectonics and these ideas have merit, but our ancestors had oral histories that explain many geographical anomalies and they are not fairy tales. They are metaphors and lessons that illustrate the relationships that we share with earth's mountains, canyons and natural spring waters.

Many authentic observations of the human form can explain phenomenon within the environment and even beyond into the universe. The simple comprehension that our body is made up of many organs united into one single form. Equally, the Planet is composed of many organs like - forests, rivers, atmosphere, insects, fish, foul and filth; all these systems have a function to the natural processes that sustain life and death. Our self-discovery is also mapped through the time cycles of Anahuac as the image of Tezcatlipoca holds all the twenty day signs to guide us through the process. There are foundational steps that lead to the wisdom of Toltecayotl, yet remain unknown to the majority of us because the system oppresses and represses our ancestral knowledge. There are many today that try to follow a Toltec path. Just be cautious of those Broken Eagle Feathers.

Life begins in the womb of mother. The conception of life begins in mystery explained through Ometeotl—Ome is 2—Teotl is potential energy. Two potential energies - one being male, one female, they generate a third new entity (sometimes a fourth) and the new nucleus family is formed. The embryo begins the 273 day (nine months) of gestation. This is the proper human cycle count. Codified in our bodily form with 20 digits (fingers and toes) and 13 articulations along the body from ankles, knees and hips, shoulders wrists and elbows and the neck in the center. With six right and six left joints, the head is center 7th and has dual attributes like Ometeotl - two eyes, two ears, two nostrils, two sets of teeth. You also have two arms, two legs, you even have two butt cheeks!

Just as nature divides and multiplies through Ometeotl the image of Guadalupe presents us with two realities. One of immaculate conception and the other of carnal passion. When you take a distant look at the overall image of Guadalupe it is in the shape of a vagina. The church has demonized that instrument through which all human beings pass through into this realm and our male dominant society abuses the women through subjection and objectification of sexual perversion. Of course, his-story loves to paint native women as promiscuous, likely another justification of Spanish rape and plunder. Real research will indicate that native women were more conservative in child-bearing by limiting their birth rates and having full reproductive rights. They also divorced their husbands when they determined it was for best. And when, in rare cases, that men had more than one wife, it was because of her consent and choice. Author Sandra Garza gives some excellent research in her essay: "Decolonizing Intimacies: Women of Mexican Descent and Colorism".

I tread lightly with this subject because I am not a woman and I believe that men are incompetent to write correctly about women's experiences'. But we all have a mother, and my mother specifically believed that she should teach us unconditional love. We all know there are people that "only a mother could love" but most importantly is the need for our civilization to honor the women. Without a balanced perspective of roles and having one sex dominate another, there will always be disrespect for the earth and conflict in the domestic realm. Cuauhtlatoatzin knew this.

Let's begin researching our native beliefs by requesting the voice of our women to be lifted. Never forget that our mothers' guidance has most closely retained the essence of our original ancestral teachings. Next week, we will discuss how some of those lessons have developed into modern day cultural traits that need to be explained again. Chicanos have had a poor self-image for too long but we're getting better. *iSí Se Puede!*

*Daniel Strange is the Grant Manager with Sisters of Color United for Education in Denver, Colorado. Read the third edition of *Cuentos De Mi Chante Chicano* [here](#).*

**Read More Commentary:  
[ELSEMANARIO.US](#)**

Waldman, Blazer

sanctuary and lack a public health rationale.

In early March, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit court issued a unanimous *ruling* in a case brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and partners challenging Title 42 expulsions. The filings detail horrific experiences suffered by people seeking protection, including the account of a Honduran woman who was expelled with her young daughter by border officials at night. After she exited the international bridge into Reynosa, several armed men grabbed her and covered her face with a black hat and forced her into a car. While being held, she was raped multiple times as she begged her captors not to harm her daughter. Tragically, their experience mirrors those of countless other people expelled under Title 42.

The D.C. Appeals Court recognized the grave dangers faced by

those subject to Title 42, and ruled that it is unlawful for the government to expel people without first ensuring they will not be returned to torture or persecution. The court also questioned the policy's public health justification, noting that it "looks in certain respects like a relic from an era with no vaccines, scarce testing, few therapeutics, and little certainty."

Though Title 42 has been misused as a border enforcement tool, it actually falls under the authority of the CDC. Senior Trump officials reportedly pushed the agency to implement the policy, and Biden White House officials are thought to be far more involved in decisions over its continuation than they let on.

To date, no career CDC scientist has publicly expressed public support for the use of Title 42 — we have heard only from political appointees.

The CDC recently issued an order terminating Title 42 as it applies to children who arrive at the border alone. CDC Director Rochelle Walensky correctly found no public health justification for expelling unaccompanied children from the U.S.

Dr. Walensky said the CDC will complete a new review of Title 42 by March 30 to decide whether to end it entirely. Public health experts have demanded it does so. Indeed, the core of Dr. Walensky's analysis — that we have entered a "different phase" of the pandemic — applies equally to unaccompanied children, families, and adults. She cited widespread vaccination and infection-induced immunity, the availability of other mitigation tools (such as testing and treatments), dramatically higher vaccination rates around the world, and new plans to detect and quickly combat future variants. Accordingly, COVID-related restrictions have been lifted

in most U.S. jurisdictions, including border communities.

Keeping this extraordinary policy in place as so many other restrictions are eliminated would lay bare the truth of Title 42: It was always a way to illegally restrict access to asylum, and not about public health.

Our government has the tools it needs to safely screen people at the border, as our laws require, to determine whether they qualify for asylum or other humanitarian protections. The CDC should resist any political interference from the White House and end Title 42 in its entirety.

If the agency continues a policy that lacks a public health rationale,

it will signal to the American public that the CDC cannot maintain scientific integrity and independence in the face of political pressure and further erode trust in the agency. It also risks that its legacy will be sending vulnerable people into danger, rather than saving lives as it was created to do.

**Ronald Waldman, MD, MPH**  
is President of Doctors of the World – USA. **Jonathan Blazer**, Director of Border Strategies with the American Civil Liberties Union.

**Read More Commentary:**  
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## Malintzin

a one-of-a-kind corn husk dress to reexamine Malintzin through an elaborate garment made out of organic versatile material. As with much of his creative undertakings, this couture dress, a work of art fit for the runway, is inspired by powerful women, most importantly his grandmother who taught him the value of tradition and family.

"I was born from corn. It brings memories of my ancestors, of my grandmother, especially - from planting in the fields, times of harvest and sharing meals," explained Mojardin. "A dress made from corn, inspires a sense of pride, inspiration, and removes the stigma that Malintzin was a traitor and instead a bridge that united all cultures by honoring Mother Earth."

**Malintzin:** *Unraveled and Rewoven* is the curatorial debut of Lilian Lara, who will have several of her own textile works on display. Lara's theatrical art pieces, created with found, recycled, and reused objects, create the dramatic jungle that engulfs visitors who will likely not just view, but experience, the exhibition that is steeped in design and culture.

Lara describes her maker style as "Rasquachismo," which the Smithsonian describes as an "underdog aesthetic in Chicano art" that brings forth traditional Mexican motifs in a brilliant show of outrageous pageantry. Many materials were sourced from The Arc Thrift of Colorado, who helped make this exhibition possible through their generosity.

"I found it important to call this show *Malintzin*, to use the honorific

ic given to her by her own people as a sign of respect and in recognition of the importance of her role as translator and acting dignitary," said Lara. "My goal is to reintroduce people to her story without 500 years of bias. For young Latina women to see this powerful woman who took a horrible situation and through sheer wit and determination, became an immortal figure in Mexican history."

Exploring the historical significance of Malintzin, Bryan Lester and CAM students have created a digital, interactive app that includes a digitized viewing of Tillet's Tapestry "The Conquest of México", offering a modern interpretation of Cortez's 36-month long campaign in Mexico between 1519 and 1521.

This 100-foot long depiction shows Malintzin's vital role during this his-

torical epoch. On view and commissioned by the Denver Art Museum, the interactive touch-screen can be experienced at the DAM's *Traitor, Survivor, Icon, the Legacy of La Malinche*, through May 8.

This exhibition is presented as a partnership among the Latino Culture Arts Center (LCAC), CU Denver's College of Arts & Media (CAM), the Denver Art Museum and with a generous donation from Arc Thrift; this exhibition is free and open to the public through May 1.

The *CU Denver Experience Gallery* (formerly Next Stage Gallery) is located at 1025 13th St, Denver, CO 80202 (in the Denver Performing Arts Complex, across the Buell Theatre).

**For More Colorado News:**  
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## Denver/Esp

Durante las últimas dos décadas, el comité ha trabajado con el Departamento de Parques y Recreación de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para reconstruir el Parque César E. Chávez en el noroeste de Denver, lo que en 2015 incluyó la inauguración de un busto con el nombre del parque. El parque se reconstruyó para aumentar el acceso e incluir iconos culturales importantes para la lucha por la igualdad de derechos de todas las personas.

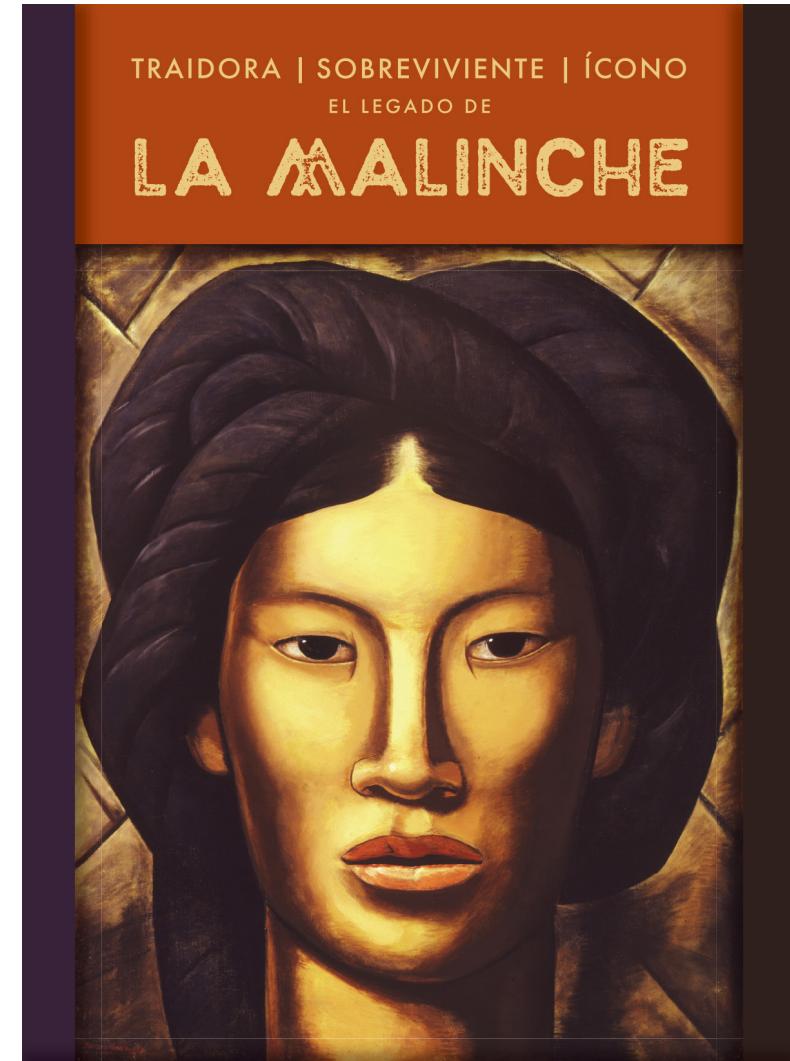
Los patrocinadores de este año son la Universidad Regis, el Comité de Paz y Justicia César E. Chávez de Denver, Teocalli Sagrado Corazón de la Montaña, UFCW

Local 7, la concejala Amanda P. Sandoval, The Weekly Issue/El Semanario, Metropolitan State University of Denver Chicana/o Studies CHS/JTOH, Denver Classroom Teachers Association-DCTA y Lily's Cocina.

Para más información visite la página de [facebook](#) del Comité de Paz y Justicia César Chávez de Denver.

**Traducido por Juan Carlos Uribe-The Weekly Issue/El Semanario.**

**Para Noticias de Colorado:**  
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**Del 6 de febrero al 8 de mayo de 2022**

Explore el legado perdurable de una de las figuras más enigmáticas y fascinantes de la historia de México.

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Imagen: Alfredo Ramos Martínez, *La Malinche (Muchacha de Yalala, Oaxaca)*, 1940. Óleo sobre lienzo; 50 x 401/2 in. Phoenix Art Museum: Adquisición del museo con fondos proporcionados por Amigos del Arte Mexicano, 1979.86. ©Proyecto de Investigación Alfredo Ramos Martínez, reproducida con autorización.

*Traidor, sobreviviente, ícono: El legado de la Malinche* ha sido organizada por el Denver Art Museum. La exposición ha sido posible en parte gracias a una subvención del National Endowment for the Humanities: La democracia exige sabiduría. Asimismo, recibe el apoyo de Furthermore, un programa del fondo J. M. Kaplan Fund, University of Denver: College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, así como de los donantes a la campaña benéfica Annual Fund Leadership Campaign de los residentes que brindan su apoyo al Distrito de Organizaciones Científicas y Culturales (SCFD), por sus siglas en inglés). Apoyo promocional proporcionado por *S280 Magazine* y CBS4. Un agradecimiento especial al Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia y a la Secretaría de Cultura de México.

Cualquier opinión, resultado, conclusión o recomendación expresados en esta exposición no representan necesariamente los del National Endowment for the Humanities.



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SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA



drop-offs in neighborhood- and community-level infections can appear in sludge several days before they show up in tests.

Other health issues leave their mark in poop as well. Recent research has found that wastewater surveillance is a reliable method for monitoring flu and the common respiratory illness RSV. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention told KHN it will soon launch pilot studies to see whether sewage can reveal trends in antibiotic-resistant infections, foodborne illnesses, and *candida auris*, a fungal infection.

There are places where sewage may not be a great way to keep

tabs on covid. That includes communities without sewers; areas with industrial sewage, where treatment techniques can mask the virus; and communities with huge fluctuations in population, such as ski towns.

But where available, the data has already proven powerful. During the winter surge caused by omicron, California, Colorado, New York, and Texas first detected the variant via sewage. Central Valley health officials have said that sewage monitoring has assured them that declines in covid cases are real, and not a distorted reflection of declines in reported testing.

In Modesto, wastewater also revealed that the delta variant remained the dominant strain well into January, weeks after omicron had taken over elsewhere. That was important, Vaishampayan said, because some of the available treatments that don't work for omicron are effective against delta. Her department told local doctors to keep using the full range of medicines, even after other areas had narrowed their treatment arsenal.

Having academic researchers get the program up and running made the endeavor possible, said Kristynn Sullivan, chief epidemiolo-

gist for Merced County, where two testing sites are being set up. "We were interested in it theoretically, but absolutely would not have had the resources to pursue it," said Sullivan. "What this allowed us to do is step into something that is cutting-edge, that is exciting, with fairly limited involvement."

For the first time in her public health career, Sullivan said, money is not the department's limitation. What it lacks most is people: In addition to being short-staffed after years of budget cuts, it's hard to recruit workers to the area, Sullivan said, a problem shared by rural health departments around the nation.

And the setup took considerable effort, said Naughton, the engineering professor helping build surveillance programs around the northern Central Valley. It involved coordinating sampling equipment; arranging for refrigerators, coolers, and ice to preserve the samples; navigating paperwork logjams; coordinating couriers; and the complex analyses needed to transform sludge sampling results into population-level infection data.

In a recently published paper, Naughton and colleagues found that urban areas of California are much more likely to have wastewater monitoring than rural communities. Through the surveillance network she is setting up with colleagues at UC-Davis, encompassing eight new Central Valley sites, Naughton hopes to help change that. The collaboration is paid for with funds from state and federal grants, CARES Act money, and philanthropic donations.

Nearly 700 sites in three-quarters of the states are now reporting data to the [National Wastewater Surveillance System](#) set up by the CDC, including more than 30 California sites. In many states, however, the data is sparse and sporadic. And experts worry the CDC's dashboard can be misinterpreted because it reflects percentage changes in virus detection with only limited context.

Still, having that national network will be critical going forward, said health officials, as researchers translate the raw data into usable information and compare trends across regions. But it will take sustained public will and some upgrades to keep it useful, a reality that has kept them from getting too excited about its prospects.

The CDC program is funded through 2025. The Central Valley initiative has one year of funding, though researchers hope to continue the project through at least 2023.

In Modesto, utility workers said they are happy to tap the poop supply for as long as the funding flows. "I love seeing the data used," said Ben Koehler, water quality control superintendent and chief plant operator for the city. "People want to know that their work has purpose."

*Anna Maria Barry-Jester is a Senior Correspondent with Kaiser Health News. This story was produced by Kaiser Health News, which publishes California Healthline, an editorially independent service of the California Health Care Foundation.*

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## Pago

trabajadores agrícolas de Colorado, el derecho a un salario mínimo. sueldo. Los orígenes de estas exclusiones, que se remontan a décadas, son explícitamente racistas, originalmente parte de un esfuerzo por excluir a los trabajadores de color de las protecciones laborales más importantes del New Deal.

El verano pasado, el gobernador Jared Polis firmó el Proyecto de Ley de Derechos de los Trabajadores Agrícolas, que tenía como objetivo extender las protecciones en el lugar de trabajo a los trabajadores agrícolas que se han aplicado durante mucho tiempo a otras industrias. El proyecto de ley se presentó poco después de que los trabajadores agrícolas en Washington impugnarán con éxito una disposición de hace décadas en la ley estatal que eximía a los empleadores de la industria agrícola del pago de horas extras.

La Corte Suprema de Washington anuló la disposición porque violaba la constitución del estado.

Los trabajadores agrícolas son algunos de los trabajadores peor pagados en los EE. UU.: sus ganancias anuales promedio oscilan entre \$20,000 y \$24,999, según la Encuesta Nacional de Trabajadores Agrícolas. "Las leyes laborales, incluidos los estándares de horas extras, son la base de la seguridad económica y la justicia", dijo Jenifer Rodríguez. "Durante generaciones, hemos visto que los estándares laxos relacionados con el lugar de trabajo arraigados en el racismo afectan negativamente la salud y el bienestar económico de los trabajadores. Es profundamente decepcionante que Colorado haya continuado con este legado".

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un problema persistente durante la pandemia, derivada tanto de las deficiencias de la cadena de suministro como de la amplia variación en la respuesta de los gobiernos locales.

Los largos retrasos en los resultados de las pruebas pueden retrasar semanas a los funcionarios de salud en la detección y el seguimiento de las tendencias de la infección.

Más recientemente, han proliferado las pruebas caseras, cuyos resultados rara vez llegan a los departamentos de salud pública. Y para las personas que viven en comunidades de bajos recursos, existen incentivos para no hacerse ninguna prueba, dijo la doctora Julie Vaishampayan, oficial de salud del condado de Stanislaus, donde se encuentra Modesto.

Una prueba positiva puede ser un gran problema para las personas que no pueden ausentarse del trabajo o mantener a sus hijos fuera de la escuela.

Por el contrario, la vigilancia de aguas residuales es una empresa efectiva y de presupuesto relativamente bajo, menos dependiente del capricho humano. Todo el mundo hace caca, y alrededor del 80% de los estadounidenses depositan sus sólidos en un sistema de alcantarillado.

Docenas de proyectos de investigación en todo el país han demostrado que el método se puede usar para rastrear con precisión las tendencias de covid a lo largo del tiempo. Y debido a que las personas arrojan covid en sus heces antes de mostrar síntomas, los aumentos y disminuciones en las infecciones a nivel de vecindario y comunidad pueden aparecer en el lodo varios días antes de que aparezcan en las pruebas.

## Denver

Farm Workers (UFW) union, demanding rights for the people of the fields.

In 2001, former Colorado State Representatives Frana Mace and Rob Hernández sponsored a bill to create a state holiday, and former Denver City Councilwoman Ramona Martinez initiated a City holiday in Denver recognizing Chávez and his accomplishments.

Over the past two decades, the committee has worked with the City and County of Denver Parks and Recreation to rebuild the César E. Chávez Park in northwest Denver, which in 2015 included the unveiling of a bust featuring the parks' namesake. The park was rebuilt to increase access and include cultural icons important to

Otros problemas de salud también dejan su huella en el popó. Investigaciones recientes han encontrado que la vigilancia de aguas residuales es un método confiable para monitorear la gripe y la enfermedad respiratoria común RSV.

Los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) le dijeron a KHN que pronto lanzarán estudios piloto para ver si las aguas residuales pueden revelar tendencias en infecciones resistentes a los antibióticos, enfermedades transmitidas por los alimentos y *candida auris*, una infección por hongos.

Hay lugares donde las aguas residuales pueden no ser una excelente manera de controlar el covid. Eso incluye comunidades sin alcantarillado; áreas con aguas residuales industriales, donde las técnicas de tratamiento pueden "esconder" el virus; y comunidades con grandes fluctuaciones de población, como los centros de esquí.

Pero cuando están disponibles, los datos ya han demostrado ser poderosos. Durante la oleada invernal causada por omicron, California, Colorado, Nueva York y Texas detectaron por primera vez la variante a través de las aguas residuales. Los funcionarios de salud del Valle Central han dicho que el monitoreo de las aguas residuales les ha asegurado que las disminuciones en los casos de covid son reales y no un reflejo distorsionado de las disminuciones en las pruebas informadas.

En Modesto, las aguas residuales también revelaron que la variante delta siguió siendo la cepa dominante hasta bien entrado enero, semanas después de que omicron conquistara otros lugares. Eso fue importante, dijo Vaishampayan, porque algunos de los tratamientos

disponibles que no funcionan para omicron son efectivos contra delta.

Su departamento les dijo a los médicos locales que siguieran usando la gama completa de medicamentos, incluso después de que otras áreas habían reducido su arsenal de tratamientos.

Tener investigadores académicos que pusieran en marcha el programa hizo posible el esfuerzo, dijo Kristynn Sullivan, epidemióloga jefe del condado de Merced, donde se están estableciendo dos sitios de prueba.

"Estábamos interesados en él teóricamente, pero absolutamente no habríamos tenido los recursos para perseguirlo", dijo Sullivan. "Lo que esto nos permitió hacer es entrar en algo que es vanguardista, que es emocionante, con una participación bastante limitada".

Agregó que por primera vez en su carrera de salud pública el dinero no es un impedimento. Lo que más le falta es gente: además de tener poco personal después de años de recortes presupuestarios, es difícil reclutar trabajadores para el área, dijo Sullivan, un problema compartido por los departamentos de salud rurales de todo el país.

Y la configuración requirió un esfuerzo considerable, dijo Naughton, el profesor de ingeniería que ayudó a construir programas de

vigilancia en el norte del Valle Central. Involucró la coordinación del equipo de muestreo; hacer arreglos para refrigeradores, hieleras e hielo para conservar las muestras; navegar por complejo papeleo; coordinar mensajeros; y los análisis complejos necesarios para transformar los resultados del muestreo de lodos en datos de infección a nivel de población.

En un artículo publicado recientemente, Naughton y sus colegas encontraron que las áreas urbanas de California tienen muchas más probabilidades de tener monitoreo de aguas residuales que las comunidades rurales.

A través de la red de vigilancia que está estableciendo con sus colegas en UC-Davis, que abarca ocho nuevos sitios del Valle Central, Naughton espera ayudar a cambiar eso. La colaboración se paga con fondos de subvenciones estatales y federales, dinero de la Ley CARES y donaciones filantrópicas.

Casi 700 sitios en las tres cuartas partes de los estados ahora están informando datos al Sistema Nacional de Vigilancia de Aguas Residuales establecido por los CDC, incluidos más de 30 sitios de California. En muchos estados, sin embargo, los datos son escasos y esporádicos.

Aún así, tener esa red nacional

será fundamental en el futuro, dijeron los funcionarios de salud, ya que los investigadores traducen los datos sin procesar en información utilizable y comparan las tendencias entre regiones. Pero se necesitará una voluntad pública sostenida y algunas actualizaciones para que siga siendo útil.

El programa de los CDC está financiado hasta 2025. La iniciativa del Valle Central tiene un año de financiación, aunque los investigadores esperan continuar con el proyecto hasta al menos 2023.

En Modesto, los trabajadores de servicios públicos dijeron que están felices de aprovechar el suministro de popó mientras haya financiación. "Me encanta ver cómo se utilizan los datos", dijo Ben Koehler, superintendente de control de calidad del agua y operador principal de la planta de la ciudad. "La gente quiere saber que su trabajo tiene un propósito".

*Anna Maria Barry-Jester es corresponsal senior de Kaiser Health News. Esta historia fue producida por Kaiser Health News, que publica California Healthline, un servicio editorialmente independiente de la California Health Care Foundation.*

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Foto/Photo: USCIS

Treinta y un inmigrantes de nueve países juraron como nuevos ciudadanos estadounidenses durante una ceremonia del USCIS en honor a César Chávez. / Thirty-one immigrants from nine countries were sworn in as new U.S. citizens during a USCIS ceremony in honor of César Chávez.

Es el segundo año consecutivo que la primera dama visita una propiedad histórica del movimiento de trabajadores agrícolas en el día del cumpleaños de Chávez o en sus alrededores. El 31 de marzo de 2021, marcó la ocasión participando en una clínica de vacunación masiva de trabajadores agrícolas en los "Cuarenta

Acres" cerca de Delano, California, la sede del movimiento antes de que Chávez la trasladara a Keene, California, en 1971.

También tiene importancia histórica la propiedad de Keene, de 187 acres, situada en las montañas de Tehachapi, al este de Bakersfield, en el condado de Kern. En sus tres acres se encuentra el

Monumento Nacional César E. Chávez, la unidad 398 del Servicio de Parques Nacionales, administrada en colaboración por el servicio de parques y el Centro Nacional Chávez, que forma parte de la fundación Chávez.

Miles de trabajadores agrícolas y simpatizantes pasaron por lo que Chávez denominó La Paz

durante décadas para planificar y realizar su trabajo diario, desde la organización y el boicot hasta la negociación de contratos, la administración y la gestión financiera. La Paz fue el lugar donde se idearon, planificaron y, a menudo, se coordinaron muchas de las campañas más importantes de la UFW, desde principios de la década de 1970. También fue donde Chávez construyó una comunidad de compañeros sindicalistas y voluntarios que trabajaron con él a tiempo completo por la justicia social. Fue donde Chávez y sus compañeros vivieron los principios que apreciaban, como la no

violencia, la sencillez de estilo de vida y el servicio a los demás.

La ceremonia de naturalización del lunes se celebró en la estructura de 17.000 pies cuadrados de estilo misionero que ahora se llama Villa La Paz. Fue el lugar donde generaciones de líderes campesinos aprendieron a dirigir su propio sindicato organizando, negociando y administrando contratos sindicales, y resolviendo diferencias con los productores.

*Traducido por Juan Carlos Uribe-The Weekly Issue/El Semanario.*

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#### Recuerda/Esp

lucha por los derechos laborales y civiles no se detuvo cuando llegó la pandemia y es tan crítica hoy como siempre. Estamos agradecidos a nuestros socios y a los defensores de Albuquerque que mantienen viva la lucha y hacen que se produzcan avances."

En consonancia con el espíritu de servicio a la comunidad establecido por César Chávez y Dolores Huerta, el RCCC también está organizando el 13º Día Anual de Servicio y Aprendizaje Dolores Huerta el viernes 1 de abril. El día virtual de aprendizaje de servicio con los estudiantes de las escuelas públicas de Albuquerque incluirá una reunión de Zoom con Dolores Huerta para discutir sus proyectos.

El RCCC también estará recopilando donaciones de guantes de trabajo para los trabajadores agrícolas de Nuevo México. El público puede dejar donaciones el sábado 2 de abril de 9am a 11am en el estacionamiento del NHCC, 1701 4th Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Entre los invitados especiales estarán el alcalde de Albuquerque, Tim Keller, la directora ejecutiva del NHCC, Dra. Margie Huerta, la cónsul general de México, Norma Ang Sánchez, la congresista Melanie Stansbury y la oradora principal, Dolores Huerta.

Los 17º Premios Anuales "Si Puede" del RCCC, serán entregados a dos individuos que han servido a su comunidad en el espíritu de César Chávez y Dolores Huerta. El entretenimiento del evento cuenta

con dos bandas, Nosotros, una de las bandas latinas más reconocidas en el suroeste y que ha compartido el escenario con algunos de los nombres más grandes de la música; y Lasotras es un grupo con sede en Albuquerque que interpreta música folclórica estadounidense y latinoamericana.

La celebración está patrocinada por la ciudad de Albuquerque y cuenta con el apoyo del Centro Nacional de Cultura Hispana (NHCC) y del Condado de Bernalillo. Todo el evento será transmitido en vivo en el sitio web del Comité Recuerda a César Chávez y en la página de Facebook para que el público pueda observar con seguridad todas las actividades. La celebración virtual incluirá un evento privado con líderes clave, dignatarios locales y la oradora principal, Dolores Huerta, que honrará a los trabajadores esenciales de primera línea con los que tenemos una gran deuda. También habrá una exhibición de coches, una campaña de donación de sangre y exámenes médicos.

Para más información, visite el [sitio web](#) y la página de Facebook de Recuerda a César Chávez. Se requiere una prueba de vacunación y una cubrebocas para todos los asistentes.

*Traducido por Juan Carlos Uribe-The Weekly Issue/El Semanario.*

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Photo/Foto: UFW

Teresa Romero (left), United Farm Workers, is the first Latina and first immigrant woman to become president of a national union in the U.S. / Teresa Romero (izq), United Farm Workers, es la primera mujer latina e inmigrante que llega a la presidencia de un sindicato nacional en Estados Unidos.

It is the second year in a row the first lady is visiting a farm worker movement historical property on or around Chávez's birthday. On March 31, 2021, she marked the occasion by participating in a mass farm worker vaccination clinic at the "Forty Acres" near Delano, California, the movement's headquarters before Chávez moved it to Keene, California in 1971.

Also historically significant is the 187-acre Keene property in the Tehachapi Mountains east of Bakersfield in Kern County. Comprising three acres of it is the César E. Chávez National Monument, the 398th unit of the National Park Service administered in a partnership by the park service and the National Chávez Center, part of the Chávez foundation.

Thousands of farm workers and supporters flowed through

what Chávez named *La Paz* over the decades to plan and do their daily work—from organizing and

**“**

"My respect for the UFW and the farm workers—and my understanding of their struggles—hails from the fact that when I came to América, I did not speak or understand English."

Teresa Romero, United Farm Workers

boycotting to contract bargaining, administration, and financial management. *La Paz* was where many of the most important UFW

campaigns—from the early 1970s onward—were devised, planned, and often coordinated. It was also where Chávez built a community of fellow union members and volunteers who worked with him full time for social justice. It was where Chávez and his colleagues lived out the principles they cherished, including nonviolence, simplicity of lifestyle and service to others.

Monday's naturalization ceremony was held in the 17,000 square foot Mission style structure now called Villa La Paz. It was where generations of farm worker leaders learned to run their own union by organizing, negotiating and administering union contracts, and resolving differences with growers.

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## Vacunas

a todos. Los alentamos asimismo a invertir en vacunas específicas para cada variante o en una 'vacuna pan-COVID' que proteja contra un abanico de variantes en caso de que los datos científicos demuestren que esta es necesaria".

Por otra parte, los CDC también han aprobado una segunda dosis de Pfizer o Moderna para los adultos que recibieron una dosis inicial y una de refuerzo de la vacuna de Johnson & Johnson hace al menos cuatro meses. Lea más sobre las dosis de refuerzo y criterios de elegibilidad en [covid19.colorado.gov/espanol/tercera-dosis-de-refuerzo](https://covid19.colorado.gov/espanol/tercera-dosis-de-refuerzo).

Las vacunas constituyen la herramienta más segura y eficaz para frenar la propagación del COVID-19 y sus variantes, así como para ayudar a que los infectados no sufran los peores desenlaces posibles que el virus es capaz de provocar: cuadro de enfermedad grave, hospitalización o muerte. Para obtener más información sobre las vacunas, así como asistencia para programar una cita, visite [covid19.colorado.gov/espanol/vacuna](https://covid19.colorado.gov/espanol/vacuna). También puede comunicarse con la línea directa de las vacunas en Colorado para solicitar ayuda sobre dónde aplicársela. Llame al 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926).

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## Afghans

### Kamran

Kamran Maswhani, 14, is the third-youngest of seven siblings. He lives in a four-bedroom, one-bathroom apartment with them and his parents, including his dad, who said he fought with Afghan Special Forces against the Taliban.

The burden of navigating New Mexico has fallen almost entirely on Kamran, the teen said. He said he's applied directly to the state's Human Services Department for cash assistance for his family and does all the translating, despite attending a local public school. He learned English through private lessons in Afghanistan, he said.

He said the \$1,200 each member of his family received is going quickly, and they have been unable to find work so far. He is also the point of contact for his uncle, Noorullah, who is severely disabled. Noorullah lost his legs in an explosion when fighting against the Taliban, he said.

"Why am I caseworker?" Kamran asked angrily outside the Las Cruces Islamic Center recently. "What does caseworker mean for us?

The family's "welcome money," as they call it, is soon running out. He described being frustrated with the way their resettling agency, Lutheran Family Services, pays it out on their behalf. They've so far been paid in gift cards for groceries and for a transportation card that Kamran said they won't use.

The family arrived in early February, he said. The teen is worried what will happen when they've been here 90 days and they have to make do largely on their own. It was spring break recently, he said, which has made it easier for Kamran to help his family sort through state and local bureaucracy and get a medical appointment for his mother.

They hoped to go to San Antonio, Texas, where they have relatives, Kamran said. But Maswhani, like the other refugees who spoke to Source New Mexico, were instead directed to Las Cruces.

"This was not our first choice to come here," Kamran said. "...We cannot see any changes here. No one here can help us."

### Mohammad

Mohammad Sabir said he feels lost in a bureaucratic limbo, unable to work, drive or fend for himself. This is his third month in Las Cruces, he said.

As he speaks outside a Las Cruces mosque through an interpreter, he points to wounds on his body and describes the sacrifices he said he made for his country while fighting for Afghan Special Forces.

First, he lifts the sleeve on his right arm and pokes at a bullet still lodged in his wrist.

Then he places a hand on his chest. He has only one lung due to being shot, he said, and struggles to breathe at night.

He walks with a limp after being shot, he said, in the left leg. Then he traces his hand along a four-inch scar on his neck, a shrapnel wound.

He is still waiting to get a Social Security card and work authorization, he said. He knows how to drive, but speaks little English and therefore can't pass the state's Motor Vehicle Division written test. He and other refugees have said the MVD has no interpreter for Pashto or Dari — two common languages spoken in Afghanistan.

"I was a very proud and high-ranking person in Afghanistan," he said. "But right now I am feeling a little bit sad because the people are looking at me kind of lower. I don't have anything right now."

### Noori

Like his fellow Afghans, Abdul Rab Noori did not ask to come to Las Cruces. Instead, he asked to live in Georgia, where a friend lived.

A former military interpreter, Noori, 35, had plans to attend college and study information technology. But he decided to put that plan on the back burner for now, saying he needs to find meaningful work to "stand on my own two feet."

Lutheran Family Services hooked him up with a job at a local chile factory, but he thought it would be for translation services. Instead, it was just menial labor, he said.

Recently, he left Las Cruces to live with his brother, an American citizen, in Iowa. There, he hopes he can find work.

"Very sad," he said, about putting off his education. Going to college was one of the silver linings about coming to the United States, he said.

He misses his family and wakes up each day to see new horrors from Afghanistan on his social media feed. He's reluctant to weigh in on America's invasion and, 20 years later, the abrupt withdrawal. He hates politics, he said.

But his voice rose as he described trying to find a future in the country that occupied his home for so long.

"How many people have lost their lives in 20 years in Afghanistan?" he said. "And what happened in the end?"

*Patrick Lohmann is a reporter with Source New Mexico.*

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