

February 2019 Issue 378
**Latino
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Today**
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ST. PAUL *Winter Carnival* 2019

El Carnaval de Invierno 2019 en St. Paul, Minnesota

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Latino American Today at the Winter Carnival Coronation

Latino American Today publisher Rick Aguilar and Lifestyle Reporter Christy Ana attended the St. Paul Winter Carnival Coronation at the St. Paul RiverCentre. Over 1,000 people attended the event.



Christy with Snow Queen Royalty



Rick and Christy at the Royal Park



Christy with Royal Guard



Christy with Royalty from Florida Festival



Rick Aguilar and Natalia Hemingway, Klondike Kate



Kimberl a member of the Royal Order of Klondike Kates



Rick at Ice Sculptures at Kellogg Park



On The Cover
St. Paul
Winter Carnival 2019

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Today

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Sobre el amor y la amistad



Por Saúl Carranza

Una de las maravillas de la humanidad es su necesidad de relacionarse y de hacer amigos. Los humanos somos seres sociales. Desde la creación misma Dios nos diseñó así. “No es bueno que el hombre esté solo” dijo en Gen. 2:18. Nos movemos en círculos concéntricos de confianza que conforman nuestra vida social.

El círculo de nuestra vida está rodeado de las personas a las que les profesamos

especial afecto. Padres y hermanos, Familia cercana, amigos, compañeros, etc. Lo normal es que una persona se mueva en armonía con otros seres humanos, y que estos círculos crezcan y se desarrollen de acuerdo a nuestras necesidades, intereses y movilidad.

La biblia dice: “El amigo siempre es amigo, y en los tiempos difíciles es más que un hermano” Prov.17:17. Podemos ser amigos y tener amigos, podemos amar y ser amados. Ayudamos a otros y ellos nos ayudan a nosotros. Casi todos reconocemos a ese amigo o amiga que ha ocupado u ocupa un lugar especial en nuestra vida y a quien siempre buscamos cuando tenemos oportunidad.

El siguiente círculo más cercano a nosotros es el de la familia. Aquellos que llevan nuestra sangre o con quienes hemos emparentado por un matrimonio. Personas a las que sabemos que nos unen nexos muy fuertes y a quienes debemos honrar, principalmente a nuestros padres. Ellos son a los que con cariño y respeto llamamos “Mi familia”. Y les amamos de manera especial.

Pero el último círculo, el más pequeño, el más cercano es el que solo componemos la persona amada y yo. El hombre y su mujer. La importancia del verdadero amor es que no deja lugar a dudas de quién debe ser la persona más importante en mi vida. La Biblia afirma esto cuando el Señor Jesús repite las palabras del Génesis diciendo: “dejará el hombre a su padre y a su madre y se unirá a su mujer” y continúa, “lo que Dios unió no lo separe el hombre”. Eso no significa que se desprecie o abandone a los padres, ese es un amor diferente. Solo estipula que a partir del matrimonio será la relación más importante para cada uno y en la que debemos invertir más tiempo y esfuerzo. Es una relación única que no debe admitir competencias.

La importancia de la amistad y del amor es que son la negación del egoísmo. Es el aprender a compartir e interesarnos por alguien fuera de nosotros mismos. Las relaciones humanas que no se desarrollan por amor solo buscan utilizar a la otra persona y son egoístas y vacías y por el contrario una relación basada en el amor busca primero el bien del otro antes que la suyo propio. “Nadie tiene mayor amor que este, que uno ponga su vida por sus amigos.” (Juan 15:13)

Vale la pena honrar a los que amamos. Buscar la manera de manifestar nuestro respeto y cariño a quienes nos dan amor y amistad. Tal vez este antiguo poema nos de algunas ideas de como hacerlo.

El Rev. Saúl Carranza es el Pastor de la Iglesia Cristo Para Todas las Naciones en Crystal MN. Por favor contáctelo por email a pastorcarranza@gmail.com o llámelo al 763-245-2378.

AYUNA Y LLÉNATE DEL AMOR DE DIOS

Ayuna de juzgar a otros; descubre a Cristo que vive en ellos.

Ayuna de palabras hirientes; llénate de frases sanadoras.

Ayuna de descontento; llénate de gratitud.

Ayuna de enojos; llénate de paciencia.

Ayuna de pesimismo; llénate de esperanza cristiana.

Ayuna de preocupaciones; llénate de confianza en Dios.

Ayuna de quejarte; llénate de aprecio por la maravilla que es la vida.

Ayuna de las presiones que no cesan; llénate de una oración que no cesa.

Ayuna de amargura; llénate de perdón.

Ayuna de darte importancia a ti mismo; llénate de compasión por los demás.

Ayuna de ansiedad sobre tus cosas; comprométete en la propagación del Reino.

Ayuna de desaliento; llénate del entusiasmo de la fe.

Ayuna de pensamientos mundanos; llénate de las verdades que fundamentan la santidad.

Ayuna de todo lo que te separe de Jesús; llénate de todo lo que te acerque a Él.

Felicidades en este mes del amor y la amistad les desea su amigo el Pastor Saúl Carranza.

About Love and Friendship

One of the wonders of humanity is its need to relate and make friends. Humans are social beings. From the very beginning God designed us like this. “It is not good for the man to be alone,” he said in Gen. 2:18. We move in circles of trust that make up our social life.

The circle of our life is surrounded by the people to whom we profess special affection. Parents and siblings, extended family, friends, classmates, etc. The normal thing is that a person moves in harmony with other human beings, and that these circles grow and develop according to our needs, interests and mobility.

The Bible says: “The friend is always a friend, and in difficult times he is more than a brother” Prov.17: 17. We can be friends and have friends, we can love and be loved. We help others and they help us. Almost all of us recognize that friend who has occupied or occupies a special place in our life and whom we always look for when we have the opportunity.

The next circle closest to us is that of the family. Those who carry our blood or with whom we have been related by a marriage. People to whom we know that we are linked by very strong links and to whom we must honor, mainly our parents. They are the ones we call “My family” with affection and respect. And we love them in a special way.

But the last circle, the smallest, the closest is the one that only the beloved and me make up. The man and his wife. The importance of true love is that it leaves no doubt as to who should be the most important person in my life. The Bible affirms this when the Lord Jesus repeats the words of Genesis saying: “the man will leave his father and his mother and will join his wife” and continues, “what God joined man will not separate him.” That does not mean that you despise or abandon parents, that is a different love. Only stipulates that from the marriage onwards will be the most important relationship for each and in which we must invest more time and effort. It is a unique relationship that should not have competition.

The importance of friendship and love is that they are the denial of selfishness. It is learning to share and be interested in someone outside of ourselves. Human relationships that do not develop out of love only seek to use the other person and are selfish and empty and on the contrary a relationship based on love first seeks the good of the other rather than their own. “No one has greater love than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.” (John 15:13)

It is worth to honor those we love. Find the way to show our respect and affection to those who give us love and friendship. Maybe this old poem gives us some ideas on how to do it.

Minnesota Energy Policy Summit

The Minnesota Energy Policy Forum was held on January 14, 2019 at the State Capitol Building. Leaders from the Minnesota Energy sector and Latino community met to create a sustainable network to be able to exchange information on an ongoing basis about energy policies, programs, business and job opportunities in Minnesota. José Pérez, Chairman and CEO of Hispanics in Energy and Anita Grace, Hispanic marketing specialist were key organizers of the forum. Attendees included political and energy business leaders who discussed strategies to enhance greater integration of Latinos and other minority groups in the energy sectors. **Photos by Gustavo Rosso.**



L to R: Christopher Clark, President of Xcel Energy, Commissioner Sadiz, Martha Oliva, Illinois Commerce Commission, and José Pérez, Chairman & CEO Hispanics in Energy.



L to R: Rick Aguilar, Latino American Today, José Pérez and Anita Grace



Susie Wong, President & CEO, Asians in Energy and Rick Aguilar



Nelson Diaz, PECO Board of Directors in Pennsylvania and Katie Sieben, Minnesota Public Utilities Commissioner



Left: Attendees at the conference

Latino American Today

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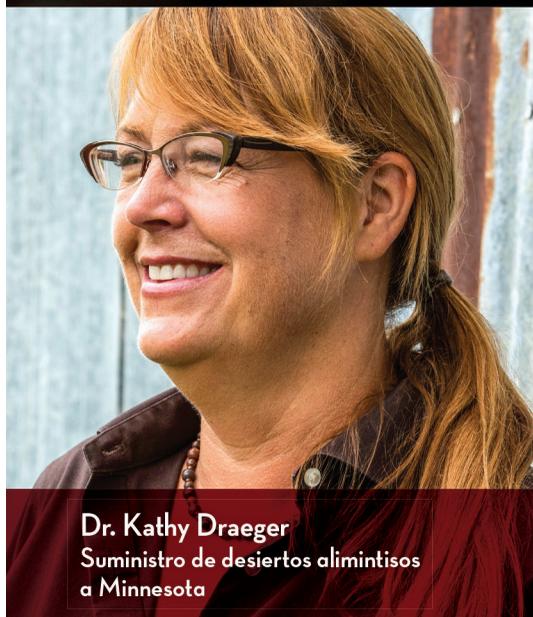
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¿Sabes lo que la hace por ti?

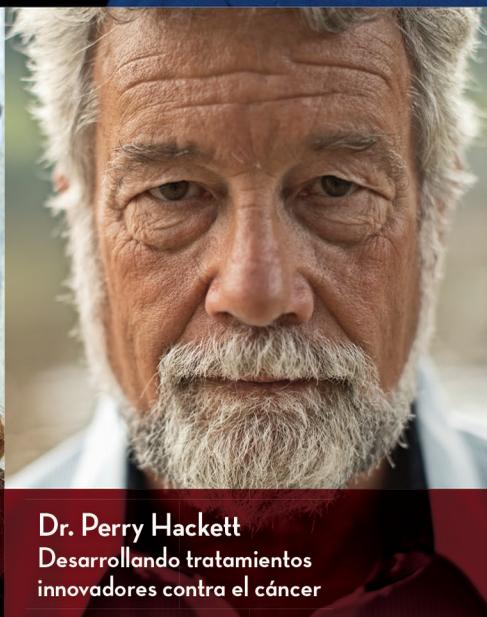
Conoces la U de M. ¿Pero realmente sabes lo que la U hace por ti? Desde la lucha contra la crisis de los opioides hasta la detección temprana del autismo, compartiremos historias que impulsan a descubrir el hogar a las puertas de Minnesota. Lleve el descubrimiento a otro nivel en discover.umn.edu.

Dr. Lucien Gonzalez

Luchando contra la crisis de los opioides



Dr. Kathy Draeger
Suministro de desiertos alimentarios a Minnesota



Dr. Perry Hackett
Desarrollando tratamientos innovadores contra el cáncer



Jake Overgaard
Educar a los agricultores con nuevas herramientas



Dr. Maria Gini
Detectando el autismo con anticipación

¿QUÉ ES IMPORTANTE PARA USTED?

¿AMIGOS? ¿FAMILIA?
¿EDUCACIÓN?

Sí la familia y los estudios son una prioridad para usted, en la Guardia Nacional de Minnesota usted puede servir a la comunidad y al país desde aquí, cerca de su familia y amigos.

Es más, usted puede servir mientras estudia tiempo completo y obtener colegiatura gratuita.

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THANK YOU MINNESOTA VIKINGS - SKOL!



Latino American Today was in the press box at U.S. Bank Stadium for all the Vikings home games in 2018.

Thanks to the Vikings organization from all our readers and supporters, we look forward to the 2019 season.

Rick Aguilar
Founder and Publisher, *Latino American Today*



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Valleyfair to Hire 2,000 New Associates for the 2019 Season



Valleyfair is looking to hire 2,000 new associates for the 2019 season. A diverse range of job opportunities are available in all areas of park operation. Whether it's rides, food & beverage, security, admissions, EMTs and lifeguards, retail or other positions, Valleyfair has a spot for all job-seekers.

2019 brings an increase in wages, with select positions starting at \$12.00 an hour, and a more modernized dress code that allows originality while working. Benefits include free admission to Valleyfair and all Cedar Fair parks and waterparks, scholarship opportunities, discounts on food and merchandise, employee-only ride nights, and more.

Valleyfair offers 'choose-your-own-hours' scheduling allowing employees to work as many or as few hours as desired. In choosing to make Valleyfair their employer of choice, Minnesotans can develop essential and transferable skills including communication, work ethic, and leadership. Most of the park's seasonal positions are available to applicants who are 16 years and older. A limited number of jobs require a minimum age of 14 years.

Valleyfair will hold open interviews from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on February 2, 16, and 23. Feel free to drop by and make this your best summer ever at Valleyfair!

A limited number of positions are available in all departments, and those positions can fill up quickly. Visit Valleyfair.com/jobs to apply for open positions. Valleyfair opens for the 2019 season on Saturday, May, 11, 2019 and the full operating calendar can be found online at Valleyfair.com.

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Business People in America Need God Too



Marci Malzahn

By Marci Malzahn

We often think that because we live in America—considered by many, the strongest country in the world—that we, as individuals, cannot show a sign of weakness. We somehow believe that we should be strong enough to withstand the trials from life that come our way—*alone*. But we're wrong. Hardship comes to all of us—the weak and the strong—at some point in our lives. Why? Simply because we live in this world where evil is real and bad things do happen to good people and to bad people alike—no exceptions. For decades, Americans have supported the mission fields in distant lands like Africa, Asia, and Latin America forgetting that we, in the United States of America, need God too.

You may believe that sharing your troubles with others in the workplace is a sign of weakness. Additionally, you may have shared something personal with another person only to find out that person shared it with others. Because of these past experiences, you now choose to stay quiet, keep your troubles to ourselves, and deal with your problems—*alone*.

In 1999, I left my banking career to work for a church for five years. Besides learning a lot about nonprofits and ministry, I thought I would remain there for the rest of my working life. But God had other plans. He called me back to the business world—this time to start a bank. When I left the church, I told the senior pastor, my boss, “Just as God calls people to distant lands to be the light and that is their mission field, God has called me to the business world in America—that is *my* mission field where God needs me so I can minister to the business people.” And that's also why I left my executive job at the community bank I co-founded... to pursue my calling which is *to help working people in America be successful in every area of their lives—and that includes their spiritual life*. So, in a way, I'm back in ministry. This time in the right mission field and with all of you—the working people, in America.

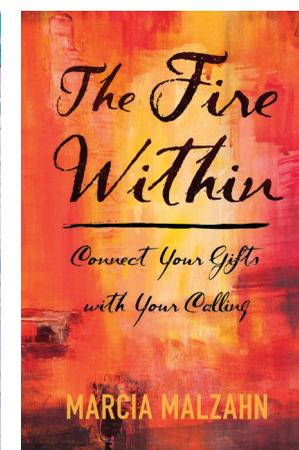
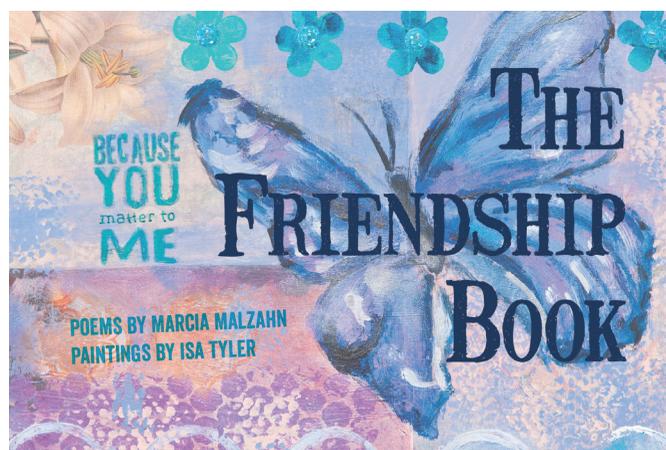
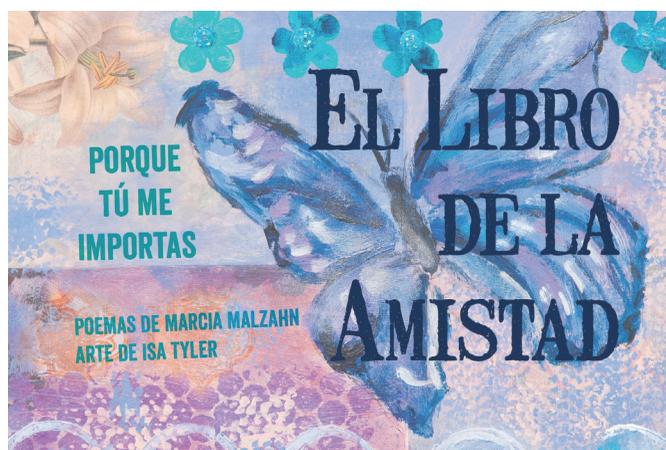
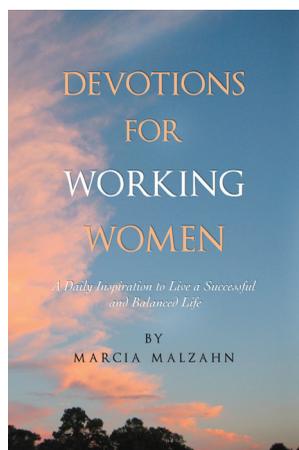
But my job is only to share the Gospel of Good News with all of you. I currently have business colleagues and friends who are hurting. Some have asked me to pray for a job, others are fighting cancer, while others are going through a painful divorce. Some are suffering because their kids have gone the wrong way and yet others have broken relationships. And I'm not exempt from pain either, I have lived with migraines for over 30 years and lately I've been very worried about my parents living in Nicaragua during these times of civil unrest.

Business people in America need God too! If you need prayer in any area of your life, send me a private message and I will be happy to pray for you. I also send a monthly “Inspiration from Marci” email to remind us about the love of God for us.

But I'm just a messenger to the business world and God deserves all the credit, not me at all! So, I want to leave you with a Scripture from Paul to the church of Corinth:

1 Corinthians 3:6 (NLT) “My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God, not we, who made it grow.”

Marci Malzahn is president and founder of Malzahn Strategic (www.malzahnstrategic.com), a community financial institution consultancy focused on strategic planning, enterprise risk management, cash management, and talent management. Marci is also a professional speaker and published author of three books. You can contact Marci for speaking engagements through her website at www.marciamalzahn.com or email her at marcia@marciamalzahn.com. You can purchase Marci's books at www.Amazon.com.



New Office for Linking Latino Families to Catholic Schools Launches on Lake Street

In 2017, Lorena Trejo heard a radio spot pitching Catholic schools on a secular Spanish radio station. It piqued her interest, and she reached out to the source, the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence, which focuses on Catholic elementary school excellence and advancement in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Now her two children attend St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Savage.

The Edina-based CSCOE is hoping to reach more families like the Trejos by expanding its outreach to the Latino Catholic community with a new satellite office in a popular Latino shopping center along Lake Street in Minneapolis.

Leading the office is Maricruz Hernandez, CSCOE Latino enrollment coordinator. It was her voice Trejo heard on the air, and she helped Trejo connect with St. John the Baptist and secure tuition assistance.

Hernandez has been on a mission to close the gap between the vast number of young Latino Catholics and the small Latino presence in Catholic schools. After enrolling her children at Community of Saints Regional Catholic School in West St. Paul, Hernandez connected with CSCOE first as a volunteer. Then, in 2017, she took the newly established enrollment coordinator position and helped 54 families enroll nearly 100 students for the 2018-2019 school year — a 9 percent increase in Latino Catholic student enrollment at the 79 Catholic elementary schools in the archdiocese.

After her successful first year, CSCOE opened a satellite office for Latino enrollment Jan. 4 at Plaza Mexico, 417 E. Lake Street. It received a blessing from Father James Peterson, parochial administrator of Immaculate Conception in Columbia Heights who previously ministered for three years in Venezuela.

CSCOE chose to locate its satellite office in Plaza Mexico on Lake Street to be in the middle of a Latino community. The office is situated overlooking a food court, and a banner promoting Catholic schools hangs over the railing for guests to see.

“It’s almost like Our Lady of Guadalupe: She could have gone and appeared to the rich, but she went where the poor were because she wanted to raise [up] those people,” Hernandez said. “So if you want to reach Latinos, you need to be where Latinos are.”

In order to staff the new office site, Hernandez moved from part-time to full-time hours, and CSCOE added three part-time employees to help. Staff members visit parishes and Latino communities to meet potential Catholic school families. Their work includes going to festivals and street fairs to meet Latino Catholics, Hernandez said. After connecting with families, they help them find the right school and secure financial assistance, which CSCOE leaders say is the largest perceived obstacle for Latino families seeking Catholic education.

“Most of them, at least with anyone who came from another country, have the idea that it’s very, very

expensive,” Hernandez said. “It’s only for the rich, and so they won’t even step in one [Catholic] school just because they don’t feel that it’s possible for their family.”

A 2015 Boston College report showed that nationally more than half of Catholics under 18 are Latino but only 17 percent attend a Catholic school.

The Latinos population in Minnesota has increased by nearly 20 percent from 2010 through 2018, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Seventy-one percent of them are Catholic.

With its expanded efforts, CSCOE’s Latino enrollment office has a goal of 300 new Latino students for the next school year.



Maricruz Hernandez

Minnesota Capitol Rally Shines a Light on School Choice



their shared desire for increased awareness about school choice.

This event was planned to coincide with the history-making celebration of National School Choice Week 2019, which featured more than 40,000 school choice events across all 50 states.

“When parents actively choose schools and educational opportunities for their children, students are more likely to succeed,” said Chas Anderson, executive director of Opportunity for All Kids. “During National School Choice Week, we are proud to highlight Minnesota student successes and commit to giving parents and students greater educational choice, regardless of their zip code or their family’s financial situation.”

Several hundred Minnesotans, including students, educators, and parents, celebrated Minnesota School Choice Week at a rally in the Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday, Jan. 23.

The rally, which was held at 1:15 p.m., united families and educational leaders from a variety of school backgrounds in

This event was organized by Opportunity for All Kids, a statewide advocacy organization focusing on building grassroots support for education choice for students.



As a nonpartisan, nonpolitical public awareness effort, National School Choice Week shines a positive spotlight on effective education options for students, families, and communities around the country. From January 20 through 26, 2019, more than 40,000 independently-planned events will be held in celebration of the Week. For more information, visit www.schoolchoiceweek.com.

National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals Open Chapter in Minnesota



By *Claud Santiago*

Twin Cities Hispanic real estate professionals recently launched the Twin Cities chapter of NAHREP with an event at the Profile Event Center in Minneapolis. Hundreds of Latino and Twin Cities realtors enjoyed networking and engaged in planning for the new chapter. Welcome remarks were presented by E Guille Garza of Keller Williams Integrity Realty who is the incoming President of NAHREP Twin Cities.

ABOUT NAHREP

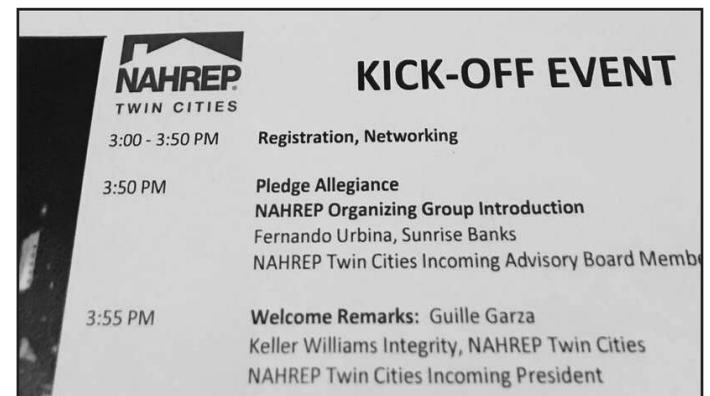
Nosotros somos the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals®. We are The Voice for Hispanic Real Estate® and proud champions of homeownership for the Hispanic community. Homeownership is the symbol of the American Dream, the cornerstone of wealth creation and a stabilizing force for working families. Our role as trusted advisors and passionate advocates is to help more Hispanic families achieve the American Dream in a sustainable way that empowers them for generations to come.

MISSION STATEMENT

NAHREP is a purpose-driven organization that is propelled by a passionate combination of entrepreneurial spirit, cultural heritage and the advocacy of its members.

Our mission is to advance sustainable Hispanic homeownership. NAHREP accomplishes its mission by:

- Educating and empowering the real estate professionals who serve Hispanic home buyers & sellers
- Advocating for public policy that supports the trade association's mission
- Facilitating relationships among industry stakeholders, real estate practitioners and other housing industry professionals



Attendees at the launch of NAHREP Twin Cities.



Sponsors of the event

ABOUT LOCAL CHAPTERS

NAHREP chapters embody the organization's mission by creating and hosting events to showcase the importance of the Hispanic market in the real estate industry. Chapters are located throughout the United States and meet during the year to host educational seminars, networking events and galas. These events feature topics surrounding key issues in the industry and specifically focused on Hispanics. The chapters bring to life both the business and advocacy component of NAHREP, making the association one powerful force for any agent, industry professional or corporation to be part of.

When Nature Gives You Ice, Go Ice Fishing!



Ice fishing in Lake Bemidji State Park

By Ray Ruiz, Minnesota DNR

Ice fishing is one of the coolest things you can do during the winter months in Minnesota. It's like having a huge boat made of ice, which allows you to access every single part of the lake (without the expense or hassle of an actual boat). Way cool, if you ask me!

Even if you've never tried it before, it's easy to start ice fishing. All you need are a few simple tools and pieces of equipment. You'll need an auger for drilling holes in the ice, an ice fishing rod, wax worms and a bucket. An ice chisel also can come in handy. This basic, inexpensive equipment can get you started ice fishing.

Safety is critical when you're planning to take your family ice fishing. Always make sure to check on the thickness and condition of the ice. You need at least four inches of solid, clear ice for walking on, and more if you're driving a vehicle. Check out www.mndnr.gov for more guidelines.

You can use a basic hand auger to make holes in the ice, both for checking thickness and for fishing through. Sometimes you can find a cheap used auger at a second-hand store or a garage sale. You can also use a simple ice chisel to break open old used holes made by others.

Outdoor conditions are always changing, so it's a good idea to be prepared for any change in the weather. It's important to dress in layers to stay warm while you and your family are ice fishing. Not having the proper winter clothing can make ice fishing cold, uncomfortable and even dangerous. So make sure to wear a warm base layer, and don't forget the warm hat, gloves, and boots in order to avoid frost-bite.

I frequently get asked, "What's the best lake to go ice fishing?" My response is always, "The lake that's closest to your house or apartment." If you live in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area, you're surrounded by lakes and ponds. The DNR also has a great family fishing program called FiN (Fishing in the Neighborhood). FiN stocks small lakes with lots of fish that are fun to catch—like bluegills, crappies, perch, northern pike and largemouth bass. With more than 60 FiN lakes around the Twin Cities, there's probably one near you. Learn more at www.mndnr.gov/fin.

Another recommendation when planning your ice fishing trip is to contact your local bait shops. Local bait shops have the most up-to-date fishing reports and they can give you recommendations on where to fish, and advice on the newest and hottest baits. They also may be able to tell you about local ice conditions.

Winter Fun

Want to get out and have some real winter fun? Here are some upcoming ice fishing events that you and your family can enjoy. Please make sure to call or go online for more information.

Phalen Freeze Fest - Saturday, Feb. 23, 1 to 4 p.m., at the Phalen Lakeside Activities Center, 1530 Phalen Dr., St. Paul. The Phalen Freeze Fest is an annual celebration of winter, featuring a variety of winter activities including ice fishing, fire building, cooking over a fire, kicksleds, and more! Free and open to all. More info: tinyurl.com/FreezeFest2019

Ham Lake Snowbowl - Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Ham Lake Park, 1843 153rd Ave. NE, Ham Lake. Ice fishing, broomball, fat tire bike races, kids' sledding hill, snow sculpting and more.

So get on out there and give it a try. When life gives you lemons, it's said, you're supposed to make lemonade. And when Nature gives you ice, go ice fishing! You'll be glad you did.



Ray Ruiz (pictured left) is a Fishing and Hunting Skills Liaison for the Minnesota DNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife, focusing on outreach to Minnesota's Latino communities.

An avid outdoorsman and accomplished angler with experience in marketing and education, Ruiz holds a Master of Arts degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Minnesota.

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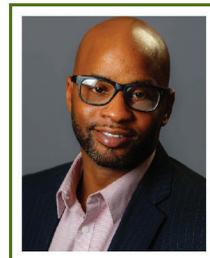
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