

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News celebrates publishing OVER 32 Years

We thank God and our loyal readership who have supported us

Detroit yard waste collection resumed April 19

- Residents can set out bagged or bundled leaves and brush for curbside pickup
- Collection will continue for 36 weeks
- Residents asked not to set out collection prior to collection date



The City of Detroit Department of Public Works is set to resume curbside yard waste collection began Monday, April 19. Yard waste collection will continue for 36 weeks. Residents are asked not to set out yard waste bags prior to the scheduled collection day.

Residents can place grass clippings, leaves, and small twigs that are no more than two inches in diameter in biodegradable paper bags on their bi-weekly scheduled bulk collection day. Branches and twigs that are up to four feet in length and no more than four inches in diameter, should be bundled and tied securely and placed at the curbline. Please note, individual bundles should not weigh more than 60 pounds.

When placing bagged yard waste at the curb, we ask that it be at least six feet from the city garbage container or in a personal garbage container that is clearly labeled "yard waste" on two sides of the container. The City's

contractors, Advanced Disposal and GFL Environmental, will not collect yard waste in plastic bags. If yard waste must be disposed of immediately, residents are encouraged to take their yard waste to any of the free drop-off locations below:

LOCATION/ HOURS OF OPERATION

Southfield Yard, 12255 Southfield Service Drive/ Monday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Davison Yard, 8221 W. Davison/ Monday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

J. Fons Transfer Station, 6451 E. McNichols/ Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Residents can find out their next yard waste collection date by visiting detroitmi.gov and typing their address into the "My Home Info" search field.

For additional information about collection schedules or to report concerns, residents should call their assigned contractor:

East and Southwest Detroit residents should call GFL Environmental at (844) 464-3587.

Westside residents should call Advanced Disposal at (844) 233-8764.

Additionally, residents can sign up to receive weekly reminders about trash, bulk and recycling collection by subscribing to the free DPW text messaging service. Residents can text their street address to 313-800-7905 to enroll.



By: Ozzie Rivera

PENSAMIENTOS Y RECUERDOS
The Center for Latino and Latin American Studies Celebrates 50 years in October!

It was almost 50 years ago that a major change occurred in my life. I was to start college in the fall of 1971. I had already been selected by Wayne State University to come in as part of its freshman class but I caught wind, through my mentor Ricardo Guzman, of a special program that was being set up there called Latino En Marcha. You may recognize this program by its current name the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies. For a number of decades it was known as Chicano Boricua Studies at Wayne. Latino En Marcha (LEM) was co-sponsored by New Detroit and LaSed, southwest Detroit's community based service organization. New Detroit had only been established a few years earlier as a result of the 1967 uprising and LaSed, the oldest human service organization in Southwest Detroit serving Latinos, was founded in 1969.

I had just graduated from Saint Vincent High School located on 14th St. just south of Michigan. It was the last year St. Vincent celebrated a high school graduating class given that throughout the 60s and the 70s the Archdiocese of Detroit had slowly but surely been closing most of its schools located within Detroit's city limits.

I was attracted to this program given its leadership development focus and in-depth Latino studies orientation. I already have been somewhat involved as a student activist. My decision to enroll in Latino En Marcha (LEM) set my life onto a path that still affects my major career and artistic decisions to date. It was during the very faithful year (71-72) that I really started to understand the history and culture of the Puerto Rican and other Latin communities, from an academic and intellectual perspective. During my high school years I had been an avid reader of cultural and political works such as Autobiography of Malcolm X, Wretched of the Earth

among others but this was the first time that I had access to real significant literature, beyond reading national "movement" newspapers, about Latinos. An added plus was that our program was housed in Monteith College where courses dealt with a wide range of social and humanist literature. Our professors Guemencindo Salas and Carlos Arce along with the strong student support work of Isabel Salas took the 40 or so students, mostly Mexican Americans but with a few Puerto Ricans and Native Americans, on a year-long trip that would develop our leadership skills while imbuing us with a thirst for academic knowledge. Our LEM instructors were "heavy duty" leaders. Gumencindo Salas would go on to occupy key educational positions at the state level and later become the Vice President for Governmental Affairs at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), an international body for educational Hispanic Serving Institutions. Carlos Arce, already well known nationally, would establish a number of nationally recognized research organizations focusing on Latino issues.

We were truly motivated by what we learned that year. Academic studies was combined with community projects that further enhanced and connected our studies with real world experiences. After such a gratifying year how could we let this program end? We wanted future student cohorts to have this same experience. Thus during the last few months of that academic year students, along with community supporters and a number of professors at Monteith college and Wayne State, organized and demonstrated to get Wayne State to continue the program. We were successful in getting the university to set up a permanent program and it was then renamed Chicano Boricua Studies. For a number of decades it retained that title till when it was renamed as the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (CLAS) in 2011.

Over the years it maintained a rather unique character. It is not a typical academic department as one usually sees in higher education. In fact technically it is not even an "academic department" but rather a center which has never deviated from combining classes in Latino history and culture, in short ethnic studies, with leadership development, a strong student support component and a community engagement focus. Though Latino En Marcha was not one of the nation's first ethnic studies programs, it has become one of the nation's longest lasting programs. This is due to its strong community support and the center's commitment to student retention over the years. And it continues to go strong! This is especially important given that in the past few decades ethnic studies have been under attack and in some cases like in Arizona, when in 2010 ethnic studies were briefly "outlawed". That lasted till 2017 when a federal judge overturned it due to its racist nature.

The program has trained and educated literally hundreds of leaders and professionals who have gone on in careers as lawyers, businessman, agency directors, scientists, doctors, politicians, magazine editors and even college instructors. I am proud to say that I have been teaching for CLAS for a number of years with a course entitled Afro Latino History and Culture.

So here we are fifty years later!!! October 1st we will celebrate this historic landmark at the Kiosko Hall (Dix near Central). In the upcoming months I will be writing a number of articles which will highlight some of the program's illustrious alumni, current faculty and staff and others who have been greatly affected by the program and whom in turn have also impacted it. So "stay tuned" as I am sure you will be impressed by the fantastic stories of many who have come out of Latino En Marcha, Chicano Boricua Studies and now the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies.

Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López Statement on Not Seeking Re-Election

Dear District 6,

It is with a deep love and sorrow that I announce that I will not be seeking re-election to Detroit City Council. Serving my City and my home for the past seven years has been one of the greatest joys and highest honors of my life. But I know this: the movement for social justice and in inclusive democracy was never about me. It is not just about one person or one politician- it is about the we.

Over the next eight months, we will continue to work alongside

you on neighborhood studies, more rezonings and hopefully more new parks! Before my term ends, I am committed to passing the Detroit River Protection Ordinance and environmental justice legislation related to regulating trucks, industrial development design standards, and buffering.

Thank you to the District 6 residents who gave me the incredible honor of serving them on Detroit City Council. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity and remain a steadfast servant to my city and my home.

U.S. Rep. Lawrence Announces Michigan Veterans to Receive \$1,400 Payments from American Rescue Plan Beginning this Week

Cont'd from pg. 1

"Help is here, and we want to make sure that Michigan veterans get the money that is rightfully theirs," said Rep. Lawrence. "Whether it's paying rent or putting food on the table, too many of our veterans are struggling to make ends meet. This pandemic has taken a huge toll on our nation's heroes, and the stimulus checks and other veteran resources included in the American Rescue Plan ensures they are not left behind."

Many Michiganders have already received their payments. In total, 89% percent of Michigan adults are expected to receive Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 per person through the American Rescue Plan that Rep. Lawrence

helped to pass.

• **How to Check the Status of your Payment:** Rep. Lawrence is encouraging Michiganders to go online and check the status of their payment using the "Get My Payment" tool at: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>.

• **How Many Michiganders Will Get Payments:** According to the White House, more than 6,378,000 adults and 2,402,000 children are eligible to receive payments of up to \$1,400 per person through the American Rescue Plan. That means 89% of all adults in the state and 87% of all children in the state are set to receive payments.

• **Who is Eligible for Payments:** The American

Rescue Plan that Rep. Lawrence helped pass into law included Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 per person. Combined with the \$600 down payments enacted in December, these additional checks will finish the job on Democrats' promise to put \$2,000 in Americans' pockets. Individuals earning up to \$75,000 annually, heads of household earning up to \$112,500 annually, and couples earning up to \$150,000 annually will receive the full \$1,400 per person, for themselves and their dependents. After that, the checks begin to phase out, with payments stopping at individuals earning \$80,000 in annual income, heads of household earning \$120,000 in annual income and married couples earning \$160,000 in annual income.

Diles que lo Viste en EL CENTRAL **Tell them you saw it in EL CENTRAL**