



Maduro Se Declara Inocente de Cargos de Drogas y Dice Que Fue “Secuestrado”



NUEVA YORK, 5 hora. ene (Reuters) - El derrocado presidente venezolano Nicolás Maduro se declaró inocente el lunes de los cargos de narcóticos después de que su sorprendente captura por parte del presidente Donald Trump sacudió a los líderes mundiales y dejó a los funcionarios en Caracas luchando por reagruparse.

“Soy inocente. No soy culpable. Soy un hombre decente. Sigo siendo presidente de mi país”, dijo Maduro, de 63 años, a través de un intérprete, antes de ser interrumpido por el juez federal de distrito Alvin Hellerstein en el tribunal federal de Manhattan.

La esposa de Maduro, Cilia Flores, también se declaró inocente. La próxima audiencia judicial se fijó para el 17 de marzo.

Decenas de manifestantes, tanto a favor como en contra de Maduro, se reunieron frente al tribunal antes de la audiencia de media

Dentro, de pie, con grilletes en los tobillos y vestido con uniforme de prisión naranja y beige, Maduro declaró que había sido “secuestrado” y que seguía siendo presidente de Venezuela. Escuchó a un intérprete con auriculares mientras Hellerstein resumía los cargos.

Maduro está acusado de supervisar una red de tráfico de cocaína con cárteles internacionales de la droga y enfrenta cuatro cargos criminales: narcoterrorismo, conspiración para importar cocaína y posesión de ametralladoras y dispositivos destructivos.

Maduro ha negado durante mucho tiempo las acusaciones, diciendo que eran una máscara para los designios imperialistas sobre las ricas reservas petroleras de Venezuela.

El abogado defensor de Maduro, Barry Pollack, dijo que anticipaba un litigio

voluminoso y complejo sobre lo que llamó el “secuestro militar” de su cliente.

SUCESOR JURAMENTADO

Horas más tarde en Caracas, la vicepresidenta de Maduro, Delcy Rodríguez, fue juramentada como presidenta interina de Venezuela con palabras de apoyo a Maduro pero sin ninguna indicación de que lucharía contra la medida estadounidense.

Una reciente evaluación de inteligencia estadounidense determinó que Rodríguez estaría mejor posicionado para liderar un gobierno temporal en ausencia de Maduro, y encontró que figuras de la oposición como la ganadora del Premio Nobel de la Paz María Corina Machado o el ex candidato presidencial Edmundo González tendrían dificultades para ganar legitimidad, informó el Wall Street Journal, citando a personas familiarizadas

con el informe clasificado.

Cuando Reuters le preguntó sobre el informe, la portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Karoline Leavitt, dijo: “El presidente y su equipo de seguridad nacional están tomando decisiones realistas para garantizar finalmente que Venezuela se alinee con los intereses de Estados Unidos”.

Aunque muchos activistas anti-Maduro asumieron que este sería su momento, Trump parece haber dejado de lado a la oposición venezolana por ahora. En cambio, ha sugerido que Rodríguez está dispuesto a colaborar con Washington.

Leavitt dijo a Fox News que el secretario de Estado, Marco Rubio, estaba en “correspondencia constante” con el resto del gobierno de Maduro y que Washington mantenía “influencia” sobre Caracas.

En Caracas, altos funcionarios del gobierno de Maduro, que duró 13 años, siguieron a cargo del productor de petróleo sudamericano de 30 millones de habitantes, alternando entre un desafío airado y una posible cooperación con la administración Trump.

La evaluación de inteligencia concluyó que Rodríguez estaba entre los pocos líderes venezolanos capaces de mantener el orden, junto

con los ministros del Interior y de Defensa, en un gobierno dominado por opositores ideológicos de Estados Unidos, señaló el Wall Street Journal.

Trump dijo a NBC News que Estados Unidos no estaba en guerra con Venezuela sino que “estamos en guerra con la gente que vende drogas”.

Estados Unidos tendría que ayudar a resolver los problemas del país sudamericano antes de cualquier nueva elección, dijo Trump, calificando de poco realista un plazo de 30 días para una votación.

“Primero tenemos que arreglar el país. No se pueden celebrar elecciones. Es imposible que la gente pueda siquiera votar”, declaró Trump a la NBC.

CUESTIÓN DE LEGALIDAD

Estados Unidos ha considerado a Maduro un dictador ilegítimo desde que declaró su victoria en las elecciones de 2018, plagadas de acusaciones de irregularidades masivas. Al mismo tiempo, expertos en derecho internacional han cuestionado la legalidad de la redada y algunos han condenado las acciones de Trump como un repudio a un orden internacional basado en reglas.

El fiscal general adjunto Todd Blanche, quien anteriormente se desempeñó como abogado defensor penal

de Trump mientras ejercía su profesión en el ámbito privado, dijo a NBC News que la administración Trump “hizo todo dentro de la ley” y que Estados Unidos tiene “el derecho legal absoluto de ir y arrestar a personas acusadas de crímenes horribles”.

Mientras los líderes mundiales y los políticos estadounidenses lidiaban con la extraordinaria captura de un jefe de Estado, el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas debatía las implicaciones de la redada, que fue condenada por Rusia, China y los aliados izquierdistas de Venezuela.

El futuro gobierno de Venezuela también permaneció incierto, después de que Trump afirmara el domingo que “estamos al mando”. El subjefe de gabinete de la Casa Blanca, Stephen Miller, reiteró a CNN el lunes que “Estados Unidos gobierna Venezuela”.

“Nosotros fijamos los términos y condiciones. Tenemos un embargo total sobre todo su petróleo. Así que, para que puedan comerciar, necesitan nuestro permiso”, dijo Miller. Rubio, el secretario de Defensa, Pete Hegseth, y otros altos funcionarios de la administración pasaron más de dos horas informando a los

Maduro Court Case

Continued on page 2

Maduro Court Case
Continued from front page

líderes del Congreso y a los jefes de los comités de seguridad nacional sobre la operación en Venezuela el lunes por la noche. El senador Chuck Schumer de Nueva York, líder demócrata del Senado, dijo a los periodistas que la sesión informativa fue extensa pero planteó más preguntas de las que respondió. “Su plan para que Estados Unidos controle Venezuela es vago, se basa en ilusiones y fue insatisfactorio”, dijo Schumer, y agregó que los funcionarios de Trump no descartarían intervenciones similares en otros países. Mientras tanto, Trump no ha ocultado su deseo de compartir las riquezas petroleras de Venezuela, y el domingo dijo a los periodistas en el Air Force One que las compañías petroleras estadounidenses regresarán a Venezuela y reconstruirán la infraestructura del sector. El lunes, dijo a NBC News que Estados Unidos podría subsidiar la reconstrucción de la infraestructura petrolera del país por parte de compañías estadounidenses, un proyecto que, según él, podría completarse en menos de 18 meses. CBS News, citando a dos fuentes anónimas, dijo que los representantes de las grandes petroleras Exxon Mobil (XOM.N), abre una nueva pestañay ConocoPhillips (COP.N), abre una nueva pestañay Chevron Corp (CVX.N), abre una nueva pestañase reuniría con el Secretario de Energía, Chris Wright, el jueves. Información de las oficinas de Reuters en todo el mundo; información adicional de Sheila Dang, Jason Lange, Michelle Nichols, Jarrett Renshaw, Steve Holland, Patricia Zengerle y Maria Tsvetkova; redacción de Andrew Cawthorne, Doina Chiacu y Daniel Trotta; edición de Mark Heinrich, Howard Goller, Cynthia Osterman y Stephen Coates.

Dia De los Tres Reyes

Por Ventura Lopez

Ayer celebramos Reyes Magos y I just want to take a moment to reflect and give thanks.....

As of yesterday, en solo 6 meses, we have been blessed to serve over 1,000 children ...con zapatos, coats, hats, gloves, toys, dinners, gift cards, y días llenos de alegría, risas y comunidad. Y lo voy a decir otra vez, loud and clear: Esto no se trata de religión, holidays, ni fechas comerciales. Esto se trata de changing the community together. This post is about appreciation. Para los volunteers que sacan tiempo de sus vidas ...no son muchos, pero los que están, siempre están. Gracias por su consistency y su corazón.

Para las personas que llegan a nuestros eventos ...some come because they truly need help, some come to support community growth, some come to enjoy the experience... y yes, some come just to take advantage of what's free. I want to remind everyone.... everything we do comes from the heart. We don't sell tickets.

We don't sell food. We don't sell vendor spots. We are not here to make money or personal gain. We do this to create hope, inspiración y motivación for our youth. So when people show up feeling entitled, upset, or angry because they missed out, or because we ran out of food or giftsplease remember this: WE are individuals who wake up every day, work long hours, sacrifice time with OUR own families, and still choose to invest back into the community because WE care. We are not a nonprofit. We are not a large corporation with endless funds. We are not profiting from this. On the flip side, we take our hard-earned money and put it right back into the hands of our childrenporque creemos en ellos y en el futuro. Thank you to everyone who shows up with respect, love, and understanding. This is bigger than an event. This is a movement. Changing the community together.

Photos from the day of the tree king day





La fiscal de Veracruz que acusó de terrorismo a un periodista abandona su cargo

EL PAIS
La carrera de Karla Díaz Hermosilla como fiscal regional en Coatzacoalcos, en Veracruz, ha llegado a su fin. La titular abandona su cargo y será sustituida por Braulio Salvador Conde Rivas al frente de la dependencia. El cambio se produce tras el escándalo que suscitó la acusación que elaboró Díaz contra un periodista de nota roja local, Rafael Lafita León, al que señalaba por terrorismo y otros delitos. Pese a que un juez desechó los cargos de terrorismo, el reportero sigue cumpliendo un año de prisión domiciliaria por las denuncias de encubrimiento y delitos contra las instituciones de seguridad.

Karla Díaz Hermosilla llevaba al frente de la Fiscalía regional de la zona sur de Coatzacoalcos desde marzo de 2024, cuando fue designada en un paquete de cambios que anunció la entonces fiscal estatal, Verónica Hernández Giadáns.

“Estos cambios se realizaron evaluando la capacidad, aptitud, desempeño y responsabilidad de cada servidor público, promoviendo su ascenso de manera escalafonaria, incluyendo a más mujeres que se han destacado por sus resultados, entrega y compromiso”, anunció la dependencia entonces. Antes había sido encargada de la subunidad Integral de Boca del Río de Veracruz y fiscal auxiliar en la misma dependencia.

Sin embargo, su trayectoria quedó truncada por una acusación insólita contra un periodista de nota roja local. Rafael León, más conocido como Lafita, fue detenido en Nochebuena cuando salía de su casa. Pasó seis días en prisión antes de ser trasladado a su domicilio para cumplir con la medida cautelar de un año de prisión. En las

acusaciones, firmadas por Hermosilla, estaban los cargos de terrorismo, encubrimiento y delitos contra las instituciones de seguridad. Un juez desestimó la primera por falta de pruebas, pero mantuvo las demás. “Lo que aquí dicen es que estoy causando un terror en la ciudadanía con los muertos, los cuerpos desmembrados, las narcomantas y que estoy haciendo que se quieran ir de Coatzacoalcos”, explicó Lafita en entrevista telefónica a este periódico. Además, la Fiscalía Regional le acusa de tener relaciones con el crimen organizado y de no reportar a las autoridades cuando le llega el pitazo de una de sus fuentes de algún cadáver o narcomanta, de ahí el delito de encubrimiento. Además, si en el mensaje que dejaban los delincuentes en las lonas aparecían nombres de policías, Lafita lo publica, por lo que las autoridades consideran que esto constituye un delito contra las instituciones



de seguridad. El escándalo de la acusación por terrorismo llegó hasta el Palacio Nacional, donde la presidenta, Claudia Sheinbaum, pidió explicaciones a la Fiscalía Estatal. “[El delito de terrorismo] nunca se ha usado en México”, indicó Sheinbaum, quien insistió en que la libertad de expresión está “por encima de todo”. La gobernadora de Veracruz, Rocío Nahle, respaldó las palabras de la presidenta. “En la mañana la presidenta hizo una declaración, la cual comparto al 100%, y como está en proceso de vinculación, pues no se puede opinar hasta que esto pase y que sea con procesos judiciales abiertos en su contra por su trabajo. La Fiscalía [la que se pronuncie]”, dijo. La fiscal estatal Jiménez Hermosilla será sustituida por Braulio Salvador Conde Rivas, el nuevo fiscal regional de la zona sur de Coatzacoalcos. Anteriormente, Conde Rivas había coordinado la Unidad Especializada de seguridad, sin dar más detalles sobre la denuncia de terrorismo descartada de Hermosilla. Poco después, Sheinbaum instruyó a la Secretaría de Gobernación para que el Mecanismo de

México busca elevar los diques de contención ante la crisis por el ataque a Venezuela

México lleva levantando diques de contención desde el comienzo de la escalada militar estadounidense contra Venezuela. Han sido meses de movimientos diplomáticos:

concesiones, acuerdos, golpes de voz y hasta instancias a Naciones Unidas. Pero una vez materializado el ataque y la captura de Nicolás Maduro, la relación ha entrado en una nueva fase. Las amenazas

de Donald Trump, que se han repetido con distintos destinatarios -Colombia, Cuba, México- desde la captura del presidente venezolano la madrugada del domingo, suenan más inquietantes.

La posibilidad de una intervención contra México es ahora más verosímil que hace tres días. Cualquiera puede ser el próximo en recibir el castigo de Washington, que ha desempolvado a

fuego su visión de América Latina como su patio trasero. Desde el domingo, no ha pasado un día sin que la presidenta Claudia Sheinbaum trate de esquivar los dardos y rebajar la tensión.

La justificación principal de la Casa Blanca para atacar a Venezuela, saltándose todas las convenciones del derecho internacional, es el combate al narcotráfico. El mismo argumento

“Las repudiadas deberán esperar tres menstruaciones. No les es lícito ocultar lo que Alá ha creado en su seno si es que creen en Alá y en el último Día. Durante esta espera, sus esposos tienen pleno derecho a tomarlas de nuevo si desean la reconciliación. Ellas tienen derechos equivalentes a sus obligaciones, conforme al uso, pero los hombres están un grado por encima de ellas. Alá es poderoso, sabio..”

Al Bacara 2:228

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Noticias de México

que ha utilizado Trump desde la campaña electoral para presionar a México en distintos frentes: comercio, migración, seguridad. Sheinbaum se afana en repetir que la relación con el vecino del norte “es muy buena”, a la vez que reafirma su condena a la intervención militar en Caracas, que ha supuesto el asesinato de decenas de agentes del anillo de seguridad de Maduro, además de bombardeos selectivos sobre bases militares venezolanas. “Algo va a tener que hacerse en México”, ha dicho Trump en una de sus muchas entrevistas tras la captura de Maduro, que este lunes se sentó ante un tribunal en Nueva York acusado de varios delitos de narcoterrorismo. Sheinbaum ha enfatizado en sus mensajes de estos días conceptos como “colaboración” y “comunicación”, al mismo tiempo que defendía una “responsabilidad compartida” al apuntar que “ellos deben evitar que lleguen armas a México”. Además de insistir, por vía de un comunicado de la Cancillería, en “el respeto al derecho internacional, así como a los principios y propósitos de la Carta de la ONU”. Desde el inicio de la tensión, México ha optado por una posición prudente, bajó el lema siempre de “no a la injerencia extranjera y el respeto por la soberanía de cada país”, un histórico principio diplomático mexicano.

Hace un par de meses, Sheinbaum, anunció que había llegado a un acuerdo con la Casa Blanca respecto a las presuntas

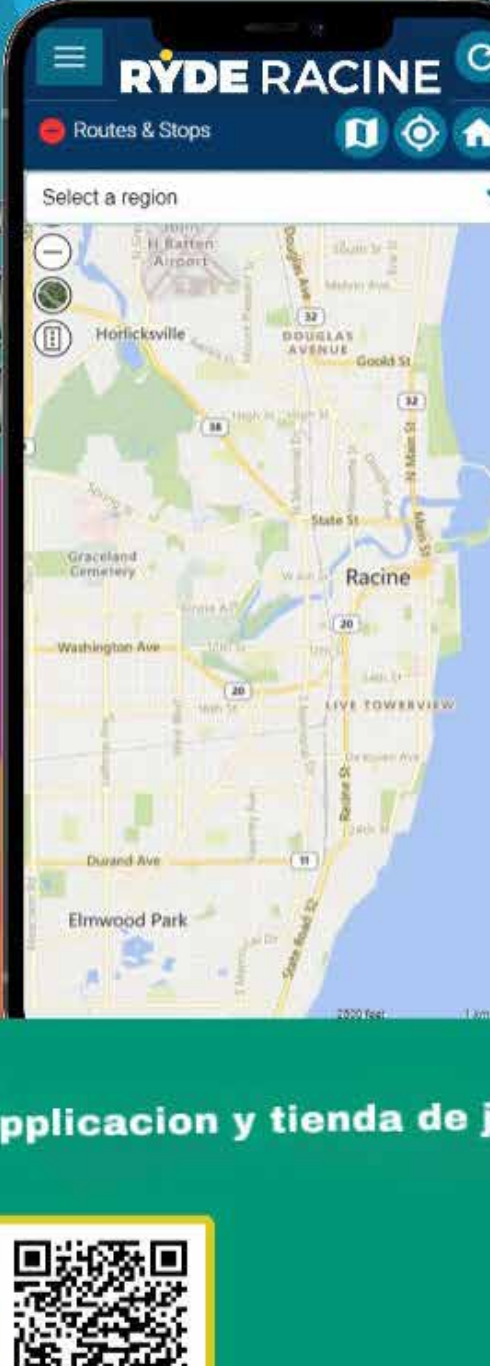
contagiaran a México. Naciones Unidas. El conflicto con Caracas (ONU) para “evitar escaló a toda velocidad un derramamiento de sangre”. El triángulo diplomático formado por Washington en el por Estados Unidos, petróleo venezolano, México y Venezuela materializado en el ha estado muy presente bloqueo de varios de durante los últimos buques cargados del meses, pero nunca de combustible. Algo que de modo tan explícito. ha quedado mucho más Sheinbaum llegó claro tras la captura incluso a ofrecer que de Maduro. Trump ha México fuera la sede defendido sin tapujos de un encuentro entre que las empresas Venezuela y Estados estadounidenses Unidos para tener un volverán a recuperar el diálogo diplomático. control de la industria Nada de eso ha ocurrido. petrolera venezolana. La escalada militar de Estados Unidos movimiento de contra Venezuela ha México antes del agitado la diplomacia ataque a Caracas fue latinoamericana. En la solicitar la mediación reciente cumbre que la de Organización de Comunidad de Estados

Latinoamericanos y colombiano, a quien Caribeños (CELAC) acusa sin pruebas y la Unión Europea de ser miembro del celebraron a principios del narcotráfico. “Me suena de noviembre en bien una operación en Colombia, el documento Colombia”, ha dicho el final definía como magnate republicano “zona de paz” las aguas estos días. La estrategia del Caribe. El texto de presión contra evitó adrede cualquier México no incluye, mención a Estados por ahora, acusaciones Unidos. Entre los tan gruesas contra la presidentes de la región mandataria del que, al que más presionaron fin y al cabo, es el primer por promover una socio comercial de “zona de seguridad Estados Unidos. Ambos marítima” en el Caribe países comparten una sobresalió el anfitrión, de las fronteras más Gustavo Petro, en la grandes del mundo, diana de las amenazas unas economías muy de Trump desde antes interconectadas y una incluso del ataque a maraña de intereses Venezuela. El presidente cruzados, desde estadounidense geopolíticos a culturales, ha escalado estos días que han provocado una el tono contra el presidente larga lista de choques.



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El Distrito T-Mobile estaba abarrotado. Los miles que llegaron no fueron atraídos por algún artista que se presentaría, ni por el ofrecimiento gastronómico que suele magnetizar a turistas; sino que eran los miles de regalos que se le repartirían a familias y sus hijos, para conmemorar el encuentro de Melchor, Gaspar y Baltasar con el niño Jesús.

El evento “Reyes con el Pueblo 2026”, liderado por la Compañía de Turismo de Puerto Rico (CTPR) y que se celebró hoy, Día de Reyes, simultáneamente en Canóvanas, oficialmente comenzaba a las 12:00 del mediodía, pero ya estaba abarrotado pasadas las 11:00 a.m. La kilométrica fila le daba la vuelta al edificio.

Desde infantes de seis meses hasta jóvenes de 18 años recibieron regalos con sonrisas pintadas en sus rostros. Tenían para escoger entre muñecos Funko Pop, teclados para los bebés, audífonos, balones de baloncesto y fútbol, relojes, kits de maquillaje, herramientas para crear huertos, peluches alusivos a los Tres Reyes Magos y bicicletas,

entre otros juguetes. “Ha sido una experiencia gratificante, porque hemos visto el proceso completo, desde el principio, desde recibir los juguetes, las donaciones, el centro de acopio que fue una experiencia extraordinaria”, dijo Robles Cancel. “Tengo que decir que más de doscientos voluntarios de distintas agencias estuvieron ahí. Estamos hablando que esto era de lunes a sábado en horarios desde las 9 de la mañana a las 10 de la noche, o sea que fue algo cansón; el 24, el 25 (de diciembre), en fechas especiales que muchos voluntarios dejaron a sus familias para estar con nosotros...sin ellos no hubiera sucedido”, agregó al explicar que también se impactaron a los jóvenes de San Germán, Vega Alta, Ceiba, Vieques y Culebra, entre otros pueblos. La programación en el Distrito T-Mobile incluyó una tarima principal con animación continua a cargo de Aniel Rosario y Lynette Chico, acompañados de un DJ, y una serie de espectáculos como el show Shabum, de Bluey, de Nino y Brownie,

Reparten más de 40,000 juguetes el Día de Reyes a niños y jóvenes



Se repartieron más de 45,000 juguetes. (Facebook)

la presentación de Trotamundos y un cierre especial con el espectáculo de magia de Jorge Noda. Paralelamente, la Administración para el Cuidado y Desarrollo Integral de la Niñez (ACUDEN) ofreció experiencias educativas STEM. Una vez salían del Coca-Cola Music Hall donde se repartieron los regalos, los pequeños tenían la opción de pintarse los rostros con mariposas y diseños coloridos, mientras que otros posaban con los personajes icónicos de la empresa Disney, como Ana, de la película “Frozen” y Blanca Nieve. Hasta Maripily amenizó a la multitud.

“Estamos muy contentos. Son muchos niños de muchísimas edades. Hay niños también con situaciones especiales y buscamos complacerlos”, sostuvo la secretaria de la Vivienda, Ciary Pérez Peña, al resaltar que “su compromiso” con el pueblo de Puerto Rico es su promesa de Reyes: darle la misma calidad de vida a sus hijas como cada uno del país. “Reyes con el Pueblo 2026” incluyó la colaboración de múltiples agencias y entidades gubernamentales, incluyendo el Departamento de la Vivienda, la Administración de

Vivienda Pública, la Corporación del Fondo del Seguro del Estado, el Negociado del Cuerpo de Bomberos de Puerto Rico, la Policía de Puerto Rico, la Autoridad de Acueductos y Alcantarillados, la Oficina para el Desarrollo Socioeconómico y Comunitario de Puerto Rico, el Departamento de Educación, el Negociado del Sistema de Emergencias 9-1-1, el Departamento de Corrección y Rehabilitación, el Departamento de Recreación y Deportes, ASSMCA, el Departamento de Trabajo y Recursos Humanos, el

Departamento de Agricultura, el Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales, el Departamento de Transportación y Obras Públicas, Autoridad de los Puertos, DACO, y la Autoridad de Edificios Públicos, entre otras. “La satisfacción es inmensa”, resaltó el comisionado del Negociado del Sistema de Emergencias 9-1-1, José Ángel Reyes Cañada. “La satisfacción de ver a estos niños llegar aquí, de llevarse su bicicleta, su patineta a veces hasta una bola de baloncesto es totalmente gratificante para nosotros”, concordó Robles Cancel.

Protestas en la isla contra la operación militar en Venezuela

PRIMERA HORA Cientos de los ciudadanos puertorriqueños se marcharon por gran parte de la Avenida Chardón, donde se ubica una de las dos principales cortes federales de la isla, en oposición a la intervención norteamericana. “Pa fuera, pa fuera, que se vayan los gringos de Venezuela”, coreaban los manifestantes. “Hermanos de Venezuela, sepan, que nosotros no estamos de acuerdo con lo que

están haciendo. Y aquí estamos solidarios. El filo de nuestro machete está bien pendiente de la oportunidad de vengar esta afrenta que están haciendo contra el pueblo de Venezuela”, destacó uno de los participantes en la protesta, el cantante de música popular Emmanuel Santana. Igualmente, consignas como ‘Imperialismo es saqueo’, fueron coreadas entre los presentes, que

incluyeron a Mariano Rodríguez López, un joven estudiante de 22 años y de madre venezolana, y quien al igual que Santana, expresó a EFE su descontento por el acto de Trump contra Maduro, pues a pesar de que no apoya el régimen del presidente venezolano, criticó el operativo militar. “Esté bien o mal lo que haya hecho el régimen de Maduro, no es el tema de hoy,

sino que hubo una invasión estadounidense en Venezuela... Estoy luchando para que se hagan las cosas bien y sacar a Trump y Estados Unidos de ahí”, indicó. Rodríguez relató que la mejor amiga de su madre, que aún vive en Venezuela, fue testigo del bombardeo de hoy. “En principio pensaba que era un terremoto, porque estaba temblando y veía los cristales de su casa moviéndose. Jamás

pensé que iban a llegar a ese nivel”, contó Rodríguez, estudiante de Periodismo de la Universidad de Puerto Rico en Río Piedras. El presidente de Estados Unidos, Donald Trump, confirmó este sábado que su país llevó a cabo “con éxito un ataque a gran escala” en suelo venezolano y que Maduro y su esposa, Cilia Flores, fueron “capturados y sacados del país”.



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During cold and flu season, the youngest kids really are the germiest

Forget colorful Goldman and her leaves. Any caregiver colleagues analyzed knows that the real signs of fall are kids with nasal swabs and symptom reports from coughs, sneezes and sniffles. more than 800 students and staff in a large school district in Kansas City from November 2022 to May 2023.

Autumn marks the start of respiratory virus season, when colds, flu and other bugs start circulating — especially among the very young. They found that overall, more than 85% of all participants had at least one respiratory virus detected during that time and more than 80% had an episode of acute respiratory illness — though not necessarily at the same time.

A recent study confirmed what many families intuitively know: The littlest students harbor the most germs. Children in pre-kindergarten and elementary school showed highest rates of virus detection compared with older students and staff, according to research published in the journal Pediatrics.

“Young children can have up to 10 respiratory viruses a year as their immune systems are introduced to different infections for the first time,” said Dr. Jennifer Goldman, a pediatrician at Children’s Mercy hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, who co-led the study.

Younger kids were more likely to have virus detected

More telling, 92% of pre-K and elementary school kids had a virus detected, compared with about 86% of middle school students, about 77% of high school students and 76% of staff.

The pre-K kids, ages 3 to 5, had the highest rates of actual illness, too, the study found.

Most of the viruses were the kinds that cause the common cold, including rhinovirus, which was found in 65% of participants, and types of seasonal coronavirus detected in about 30%. The virus that causes COVID-19



was found in about 15% of those studied.

Study confirms the experiences of pediatricians who are parents

The new study provides a baseline look at the burden of viruses in school settings, Goldman said.

It also confirms the real-world experience of pediatricians who are parents, like Dr. Nicole Torres of the University of Miami Health System.

“I can say this for my own children, who are now in their teens: They were sicker when they were younger,” she said.

The study also squares with older research that found that young kids play a key role in spreading respiratory viruses at home. Dr. Carrie Byington was co-author of a University of Utah study, published in 2015, that recruited 26 households to take nasal samples from everyone living in a home, every week, for a year.

That study found that children younger than 5 had virus detected for half of the weeks of the year, recalled Byington, who is now with the University of California, San Diego.

“And if you live in a household with multiple children, that proportion just goes higher, so it can appear as if someone is always sick,” she said.

How to prevent illness — or at least try to

Preventing illness in children at school or at home can be tough, experts acknowledge.

Being up to date on vaccinations for COVID-19 and influenza is important, they said. So is frequent handwashing, learning to cover coughs and keeping hands away from the eyes, nose and mouth. Cleaning and sanitizing frequently touched surfaces and objects and optimizing fresh air are also key.

When little ones do get sick, the best treatment is often supportive care like extra fluids and rest. In serious cases, medical providers may recommend medications to reduce fever or antiviral drugs.

It can take a couple weeks, however, for lingering symptoms like coughs to completely resolve. By then, the child may well have another cold.

“I do tell parents of younger children to expect them to be ill once every month, every month and a half,” Torres said. “It’ll seem that way.”

7 WAYS TO STOP THE FLU

You can take these actions to protect yourself and others from flu and help stop the spread of germs.

Get the flu vaccine as soon as you are able.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

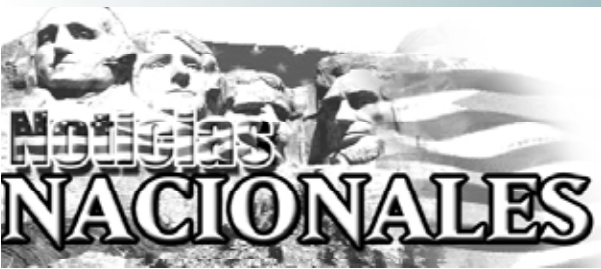
Stay home from work and school when you are sick.

Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

Wash your hands often to protect from germs.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Practice good health habits in your daily life.



Minneapolis mayor says ICE officer’s killing of a motorist was ‘reckless’ and wasn’t self-defense

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — An Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer shot and killed a Minneapolis motorist on Wednesday during the Trump administration’s latest immigration crackdown on a major American city — a shooting that federal officials claimed was an act of self-defense but that the city’s mayor described as “reckless” and unnecessary.

The shooting happened in a residential neighborhood south of downtown Minneapolis, just a few blocks from some of the oldest immigrant markets and about a mile (1.6 kilometers) from where George Floyd was killed by police in 2020. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, during a visit to Texas, described the incident as an “act of domestic terrorism” carried out against ICE officers by a woman who “attempted to run them over and shot and killed a Minneapolis motorist on Wednesday during the Trump administration’s latest immigration crackdown on a major American city — a shooting that federal officials claimed was an act of self-defense but that the city’s mayor described as “reckless” and unnecessary.

terrorism” carried out against ICE officers by a woman who “attempted to run them over and shot and killed a Minneapolis motorist on Wednesday during the Trump administration’s latest immigration crackdown on a major American city — a shooting that federal officials claimed was an act of self-defense but that the city’s mayor described as “reckless” and unnecessary.

But Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey blasted that characterization as “garbage” and sharply criticized the federal deployment of more

than 2,000 officers to the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul as part of the immigration crackdown.

“What they are doing is not to provide safety in America. What they are doing is causing chaos and distrust,” Frey said, calling on the federal agents to leave. “They’re ripping families apart. They’re sowing chaos on our streets, and in this case,



quite literally killing people.”

“They are already trying to spin this as an action of self-defense. Having seen the video myself, I wanna tell everybody directly, that is bullshit,” the mayor said.

The shooting marks a dramatic escalation of the latest in a series of immigration enforcement operations in major American

cities under the Trump administration. The killing of the Minneapolis motorist, whose name wasn’t immediately released, was at least the fifth in a handful of states since 2024.

The Twin Cities have been on edge since DHS announced Tuesday that it had launched the operation, which is at least partly tied to allegations of fraud involving Somali residents.

Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O’Hara briefly described the shooting to reporters but, unlike federal officials, gave no indication that the 37-year-old driver was trying to harm anyone. He said she had been shot in the head.

“This woman was in her vehicle and was blocking the roadway on Portland Avenue. ... At some point a federal law enforcement officer approached her on foot and the vehicle began to drive off,” the chief

said. “At least two shots were fired. The vehicle then crashed on the side of the roadway.”

A large throng of protesters gathered at the scene after the shooting, where they vented their anger at the local and federal officers who were there, including Gregory Bovino, a senior U.S. Customs and Border Patrol official who has been the face of crackdowns in Los Angeles, Chicago and elsewhere.

In a scene that hearkened back to the Los Angeles and Chicago crackdowns, bystanders heckled the officers and blew whistles that have become ubiquitous during the operations.

“Shame! Shame! Shame!” and “ICE out of Minnesota!” they loudly chanted from behind the police tape.

During her Texas visit, Noem confirmed that DHS had deployed more than 2,000 officers to the Twin Cities and

already made “hundreds and hundreds” of arrests.

For nearly a year, migrant rights advocates and neighborhood activists across the Twin Cities have been preparing to mobilize in the event of an immigration enforcement surge. From houses of worship to mobile home parks, they have set up very active online networks, scanned license plates for possible federal vehicles and bought whistles and other noisemaking devices to alert neighborhoods of any enforcement presence.

On Tuesday night, the Immigration Defense Network, a coalition of groups serving immigrants in Minnesota, held a training session for about 100 people who were willing to hit the streets to monitor the federal enforcement operation.



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Peter Feigin departing role as Bucks President



MILWAUKEE (Jan. 5, 2026) – Milwaukee Bucks President Peter Feigin is transitioning away from his role, according to a release from the team. Feigin built something truly special for this city and state. I am incredibly proud of what we’ve accomplished and confident that the organization is in tremendous shape.”

Josh Glessing, who served as the Chief of Strategy & Development of Haslam Sports Group (HSG), will take over as Bucks President and will work with Feigin during the coming months on a transition plan. “Serving as President of the Milwaukee Bucks has been the honor of my professional life,” said Feigin. “Together with our ownership group, partners, players, and an incredible staff, we built something truly special for this city and state. I am incredibly proud of what we’ve accomplished and confident that the organization is in tremendous shape.”

“I am grateful to HSG and the Bucks ownership group for entrusting me with this extraordinary opportunity,” Glessing said. “I was born a Bucks fan and I don’t need to learn what this team means to Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin. I have known it my entire life. The Bucks have an exceptional foundation, and I look forward to continuing to build on our success while staying true to our commitment to winning, providing best-in-class experiences for our fans, and delivering meaningful impact for the community.”

Feigin joined the Bucks in 2014, and did not provide a reason for his departure in a team statement. “We thank Peter for his vision, energy, and relentless commitment that reshaped the Milwaukee Bucks and set a new standard for the NBA in his 12 years,” said Bucks majority owners Wes Edens, Jimmy and Dee Haslam, and Jamie Dinan. “In Josh, we are bringing in a leader who has been an important part of that success, and this transition reflects both continuity and confidence in the future of our organization.”

Glessing is a Manitowoc, Wisconsin native who attended Indiana University. He is also President of Business Operations for the HSG-owned Columbus Crew in Major League Soccer, a position he’s held since October of 2023. “As a lifelong Bucks fan, I can confidently say that Peter’s impact in Milwaukee County will be felt for many years to come,” said Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley, who stood onstage with Feigin and others during the Bucks’ NBA championship celebration in 2021.

Milwaukee alderman Bob Bauman who represents the downtown area said in a statement it was “deeply disappointing” to learn the news of Feigin’s departure. “The old adage seems to apply here: If it ain’t broke don’t fix it,” said Bauman.



New inbound Milwaukee Bucks President Joshua Glessing



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NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani defends tenant official facing backlash for ‘white supremacy’ posts



NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani is standing behind a newly-appointed housing official as she faces backlash for years-old social media posts, including messages that called for the seizure of private property and linked homeownership to white supremacy.

Cea Weaver, a Department of Justice longtime tenant activist, was tapped by the Democrat last week to serve as executive director of the Mayor’s Office to Protect Tenants. The mayor has vowed to expand and empower the office to take “unprecedented” steps against negligent landlords.

But in a sign of the high-level scrutiny on Mamdani’s administration, Weaver’s since-deleted posts have sparked condemnations from officials in the U.S. and the editorial board of The Washington Post.

The posts, which were circulated on social media in recent days by critics of Mamdani, included calls to treat

private property as a “collective good” and to “impoverish the (asterisk)white(asterisk) middle class.” A tweet sent in 2017 described homeownership as “a weapon of white supremacy masquerading as ‘wealth building public policy.’”

Eric Adams, the city’s former mayor and a fellow Democrat, said the remarks showed “extreme privilege and total detachment from reality.”

Asked about the controversy on Wednesday, Mamdani did not address the substance of Weaver’s posts but defended her record of “standing up for tenants across the city and state.”

Weaver said in an interview with a local TV station that some of the messages were

“regretful” and “not something I would say today.”

“I want to make sure that everybody has a safe and affordable place to live, whether they rent or own, and that is something I’m laser-focused on in this new role,” she added.

The discussion comes after Mamdani last month accepted the resignation of another official, Catherine Almonte Da Costa, after the Anti-Defamation League shared social media posts she made over a decade ago that featured antisemitic tropes.

While Mamdani had said he was unaware of Da Costa’s messages, Weaver’s past social media posts were known to the administration, according to a mayoral spokesperson, Dora

Pekec.

Weaver previously led the Housing Justice for All coalition, which was widely credited with helping to convince state lawmakers to pass a sweeping package of tenant protections in 2019.

As leader of the city’s tenant protection office, she would play a key role in achieving one of Mamdani’s most polarizing campaign pledges: identifying negligent landlords and forcing them to negotiate the sale of their properties to the city if they are unable to pay fines for violations.

The “public stewardship” proposal has drawn consternation from landlord groups and skepticism from others in city government.

But the early days

of his administration have brought signs that the new mayor is not backing off on the idea.

In a press conference immediately following his inauguration last week, Mamdani said the city would take “precedent-setting” action against the owner of a Brooklyn apartment building that owed the city money and was currently in bankruptcy proceedings.

He then announced Weaver’s appointment, drawing loud cheers from the members of a tenants union gathered in the building’s lobby.

“It is going to be challenging,” Weaver acknowledged. “New York is home to some of the most valuable real estate in the world. Everything about New York politics is about that fact.”

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Trump dice que EE.UU. recibirá entre 30 y 50 millones de barriles de petróleo de Venezuela a precio de mercado

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) —

El presidente Donald Trump dijo el martes que Venezuela proporcionará entre 30 y 50 millones de barriles de petróleo a Estados Unidos y se comprometió a utilizar las ganancias de la venta de ese petróleo “en beneficio de los pueblos” de ambos países.

La Casa Blanca organiza una reunión el viernes con ejecutivos de compañías petroleras estadounidenses para hablar sobre Venezuela, país al que la administración Trump ha estado presionando para que abra más su vasta, pero con dificultades, industria petrolera a la inversión y el conocimiento estadounidense. Se espera que representantes de Exxon, Chevron y ConocoPhillips asistan a la reunión en la Casa Blanca, según una persona familiarizada con el asunto que solicitó el anonimato para poder hablar sobre los planes.

El martes por la mañana, funcionarios en Caracas anunciaron que al menos 24 agentes de seguridad venezolanos murieron en la operación militar estadounidense, llevada a cabo en la oscuridad de la noche, para capturar a Nicolás Maduro y trasladarlo a Estados Unidos para enfrentar cargos por narcotráfico. La presidenta interina del país, Delcy Rodríguez, refutó a Trump, quien a principios de esta semana advirtió que enfrentaría un resultado peor que el de Maduro si no “hace lo correcto” y transforma a Venezuela en un país que se alinee con los intereses

estadounidenses, incluyendo el acceso a empresas energéticas estadounidenses.

Rodríguez, al pronunciar un discurso el martes ante funcionarios gubernamentales del sector agrícola e industrial, dijo: “Personalmente, a quienes me amenazan: mi destino no lo determinan ellos, sino Dios”.

El fiscal general de Venezuela, Tarek William Saab, afirmó que en total “decenas” de oficiales y civiles murieron en la huelga del fin de semana en Caracas y que la fiscalía investigaría las muertes, lo que describió como un “crimen de guerra”. No especificó si la estimación se refería específicamente a venezolanos.

Además de los funcionarios de seguridad venezolanos, el gobierno cubano había confirmado previamente la muerte de 32 militares y policías cubanos que trabajaban en Venezuela en el ataque. El gobierno cubano afirma que el personal fallecido pertenecía a las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias y al Ministerio del Interior, los dos principales organismos de seguridad del país.

Siete militares estadounidenses también resultaron heridos en la redada, según el Pentágono. Cinco ya se han reincorporado al servicio, mientras que dos aún se recuperan de sus heridas. Las lesiones incluían heridas de bala y de metralla, según un funcionario estadounidense que habló bajo condición de anonimato porque no estaba autorizado a hacer declaraciones públicas sobre el asunto.

Un video homenaje a los funcionarios de seguridad venezolanos

asesinados, publicado en la cuenta de Instagram del ejército, muestra los rostros de los caídos en videos en blanco y negro de soldados, aviones estadounidenses sobrevolando Caracas y vehículos blindados destruidos por las explosiones. Mientras tanto, las calles de Caracas, desiertas durante días tras la captura de Maduro, se llenaron brevemente de multitudes ondeando banderas venezolanas y bailando al ritmo de música patriótica en una manifestación organizada por el estado en apoyo al gobierno.

“Su sangre derramada no clama venganza, sino justicia y fuerza”, escribió el ejército en una publicación de Instagram. “Reafirma nuestro juramento inquebrantable de no descansar hasta rescatar a nuestro presidente legítimo, dismantelar por completo a los grupos terroristas que operan desde el extranjero y garantizar que eventos como estos nunca más mancillen nuestro territorio soberano”.

Preguntas sobre el futuro del petróleo venezolano

Con el petróleo cotizando a aproximadamente 56 dólares por barril, la transacción anunciada por Trump el martes por la noche podría alcanzar los 2.800 millones de dólares. Estados Unidos consume un promedio de unos 20 millones de barriles diarios de petróleo y productos relacionados, por lo que la transferencia de Venezuela equivaldría a hasta dos días y medio de suministro, según la Administración de Información Energética de Estados Unidos.

A pesar de que Venezuela posee las mayores reservas

probadas de petróleo crudo del mundo, sólo produce en promedio alrededor de un millón de barriles diarios, significativamente por debajo de la producción diaria promedio de Estados Unidos de 13,9 millones de barriles diarios durante octubre.

La oficina de prensa del gobierno de Venezuela no respondió de inmediato a una solicitud de comentarios sobre el anuncio de Trump.

ExxonMobil está desarrollando un gigantesco yacimiento petrolífero en aguas costeras frente a Guyana, vecino de Venezuela al este. El importante descubrimiento petrolero de la compañía en 2015 impulsó a Venezuela a reactivar una disputa territorial centenaria con Guyana y a tomar medidas para anexar la remota región conocida como Esequibo, que abarca aproximadamente dos tercios del territorio de Guyana.

Este desarrollo también ha generado amplias acusaciones por parte del gobierno venezolano, incluyendo a Rodríguez, contra los líderes de Guyana y ExxonMobil. Hace dos años, legisladores venezolanos incluso consideraron prohibir cualquier operación futura en Venezuela de compañías petroleras que operen en Guyana.

Más temprano el martes, Trump respondió a las críticas demócratas sobre la operación militar de este fin de semana, señalando que su predecesor demócrata Joe Biden también había pedido el arresto del líder venezolano por cargos de tráfico de drogas.

Trump, en declaraciones realizadas durante un retiro de los republicanos de la Cámara de



Representantes en encuesta realizada en Washington, se quejó de por The Washington Post y SSRS mediante mensajes de texto durante el fin de semana. Aproximadamente 4 de cada 10 aprobaron el envío de militares estadounidenses para capturar a Maduro, mientras que

En 2020, Maduro fue imputado en Estados Unidos, acusado de se opuso. Aproximadamente 2 de cada 10 no estaban seguros.

Casi la mitad de los estadounidenses (45 %) se oponía a que Estados Unidos tomara el control de Venezuela y eligiera un nuevo gobierno para el país. Aproximadamente 9 de cada 10 estadounidenses afirmaron que el pueblo venezolano debería ser quien decida el futuro liderazgo de su país.

Maduro se declaró inocente de los cargos federales de narcotráfico en un tribunal estadounidense el lunes. Las fuerzas estadounidenses

En algún momento deberían decir: ‘Hiciste un gran trabajo. Gracias. Felicidades’. ¿No sería genial? —dijo Trump—. Diría que si hicieran un buen trabajo, sus filosofías serían muy diferentes. Pero si lo hicieran, me alegraría por el país. Llevan años y años persiguiéndolo.

En los días transcurridos desde la salida de Maduro, Trump y altos funcionarios de su administración han generado inquietud en todo el mundo ante la posibilidad de que la operación marque el inicio de una política exterior estadounidense más expansionista en el hemisferio occidental.

Lo que muestran las encuestas de opinión en EE.UU.

Los estadounidenses están divididos sobre la captura de Maduro —y muchos aún se están formando una opinión— según una



How Do I Stay Hungry For God? 7 Things You Need to Know

By Duncan Smith

I knew I had to ask him to pray for me. The preacher, Ken Gott, spoke with fire and passion in his voice. He had clearly experienced God himself, and I didn't want to go home without him praying for me. I was desperate for more of God.

But it was getting late. As the meeting finished, crowds of people poured out of the building. It was raining as I scanned the car park to find him. Ken had reached his car and was saying goodbye to the leader of the movement. I ran over and approached him, just as he was about to get into the car

"Excuse me, I'm ever so sorry to interrupt. But do you have one more prayer?" I asked.

Ken must have been exhausted, and surely ready to go home, but he agreed. He walked over and prayed for me, and I felt the power of God and I fell over in the Holy Spirit. I landed in a puddle in the car park, but I didn't care. I was just so hungry and beyond grateful for this amazing encounter.

That night wasn't a one-off for me. I was in my early 30s at the time, and ever since I had a radical salvation encounter with Jesus at age 20, on a trail in the Rocky Mountains, I was desperately hungry to know Jesus more and more deeply. I'd started a lifetime of tasting and seeing how good God is, knowing that there's nothing in this world that compares to Jesus.

We read in Matthew 5:6, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." (NIV). It's the greatest blessing to be hungry and thirsty for Jesus; to hunger after the bread of life, to thirst for living water.

So how can we develop that hunger for God, and stay hungry for Him?

1. Receive Hunger as a Gift

Hunger for God isn't

something that we conjure up ourselves. It's a gift that we can only receive from Him. A lot of Christians try to coerce themselves into hunger for God, thinking, "I've got to have more faith, I've got to be more hungry, I've got to be more loving."

In Galatians 2:20 we read, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (NIV). In the King James translation, we read "I live by the faith of the Son of God." When we grasp that Christ is alive inside of us, that we are no longer alive in our old ways, then we can understand that all of our ability to live the Christian life comes from Jesus. All our ability to love God comes from Him. Our hunger for God is because of Jesus' passion for the Father and the Holy Spirit.

To ask for that gift of hunger, simply pray,

"Father, give me the heart that you have for your Son. Jesus, please give me the love that you have for your Father. Holy Spirit, give me your love for the Father and the Son."

2. Ground Yourself in the Fear of the Lord

True hunger for God comes from a revelation of the fear of the Lord. When you're grounded in the fear of the Lord, you want your life to bless Him, for His sake, more than for your own gain. Our hunger is fueled knowing that Jesus is the center of our salvation rather than ourselves. It's all by Him, through Him and for Him.

In the Old Testament, the Israelites were chosen as a nation to be priests and kings for God's purposes and His glory.

When they understood this, they were on the right track. When, on the other hand, they focused on themselves, whether they were blessed or not, they lost their way and followed other gods. The fear of the Lord was not at the centre of their hearts.

We develop the fear of the Lord by understanding who He is, and who He has made us to be. When you're grounded in the fear of the Lord, you want God to be glorified in your life. Your entire motivation for your life is to please Him. As you live a life worthy of Jesus Christ, a deep hunger for God overwhelms you.

3. Read the Bible to Develop Lasting Hunger

How do we know that the God we're relating to is the true and living God? I'm so thankful that He's given us His Word. It's by reading and studying His Word that we discover His ways and His character. We can't learn God's ways without knowing His Word.

By reading the Bible every day and soaking in His Presence, we develop a lasting hunger for God. I have read the Bible, cover to cover, every year for the last 31 years. Reading and studying God's Word has absolutely transformed me. It has caused me to be more in love with Him, and to be increasingly more hungry to know Him.

I urge you to develop a disciplined approach to reading God's Word. It will create a broad and wide foundation for your spirituality. Your passion for God will grow, your fear of the Lord will grow and you'll develop discernment about how He's leading you to live your life.

4. Express Your Devotion Through Prayer

As you read the

word, your devotion to God grows, and prayer becomes the way you express that devotion.

Prayer looks different in different people's lives. I pray when I'm riding my motorcycle, or walking. I love nature, and when I'm in the midst of creation, prayer bubbles up inside of me. I look for the sweet kisses of our good Daddy! It might be a butterfly I haven't seen in a long time, or a particular bird's song, or the light dancing through the trees, or a fragrance on the breeze. I can't help but magnify God in worship for all that He's done and created. I reflect on what He's done in my life and ask Him to come crashing in on my city, on Catch The Fire churches, in my family. Prayer is a discipline of our faith, but when our hearts are devoted to Jesus, it doesn't feel like a chore. It's a deep pleasure.

There are so many ways that you can practice prayer. Maybe it's in a House of Prayer setting, maybe in a more liturgical, structured format. Find ways to pray that help you express your devotion to Jesus and inspire a greater hunger for Him, not based necessarily on what everyone else does, but from your heart of pure devotion to Jesus.

5. Let Encounters Fuel Your Hunger

Encounters with God are where our theology becomes a reality. When we encounter God, we meet the person of God. We get to experience Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Father's love, and that brings a fullness to our faith.

Not all encounters with God will be dramatic, but every encounter with God has drawn me into more hunger for Him, as I long to know His heart and hear what He has to say. But it's faith that

truly counts.

Thomas told the other disciples that he wouldn't believe that Jesus had risen from the dead, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side," (John 20:25b NIV). When Thomas eventually met Jesus, Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29 NIV). What's Jesus saying? Faith even beats encounter!

There are many people who are hungry for God that have never experienced God physically, and yet they believe in Him and continue to pray. I believe that they're more blessed than those who have big encounters with God and then end up with an outworking of their faith that goes up and down, depending on when they had their last encounter.

God is present and good, whether we feel Him or not. Encounter is a beautiful part of our journey of developing hunger for God. It fuels our desire, our passion, and our hunger, but it can't determine our faith in who God is.

6. Avoid Hunger-Suppressing Fillers

We're all made with an inbuilt desire for God. We're made to be hungry for Him. But if we snack and fill up in other areas that satisfy for a short amount of time, that hunger for God will grow dull. These "fillers" look different for different people. For some, fillers are numbing habits, for others perhaps a better salary, bigger success, more possessions, or greater status, even

within Christian circles.

The way to figure out if something in your life is a filler is to ask yourself how you're motivated. Love is always self-sacrificing, and the sinful nature is always motivated by selfish gain. Who is the beneficiary of the things you're pursuing? Is it God, others, or you? The things that will develop hunger for God in you will be motivated by your love for God, they'll be things you do as a result of God's love for you. These things will result in God being glorified, rather than your personal gain.

7. Pursue a God-Focused Life

Your top vertebrae, supporting your skull, is your atlas. I've heard it said that if your atlas is correct and in place in your skull, then your entire vertebrae hangs correctly. And if your atlas is out of position, your spine will be out of line. It's like that in our spiritual lives. Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit must be at the centre of our lives. Then our hearts will be filled with the fear of the Lord, and all our motivations will be for His glory. All our affections will be focused on God, and our behaviours will come into line with that.

I pray that your hunger for God will increase. That your Heavenly Daddy will center you in His love and the life of His beloved Son Jesus. I pray that you would experience His wonderful Spirit every day through His Word and His world and that your life will be ever increasingly filled with His joy. May Jesus become your magnificent obsession. May you live a life loving and pleasing Him as you walk in His love and give it away to those He loves.

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Endorses JoCasta Zamarripa for Wisconsin Secretary of State

MILWAUKEE — Today, Milwaukee Alderperson and former State Representative JoCasta Zamarripa announced the major endorsement of U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin in her campaign for Wisconsin Secretary of State. Senator Baldwin, a champion for working families and equality, cited JoCasta’s proven record as a coalition-builder and her commitment to addressing the rising cost of living across the state.

“Electing strong Democrats up and down the ticket in 2026 is vital, and JoCasta Zamarripa is exactly the kind of leader we need,” said U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin. “She is a proven coalition builder and a relentless advocate who never loses sight of the people she serves. She knows what it means to fight for equality—but she also knows that equality includes economic security and stability. She will use the platform of the Secretary of State to drive the conversation on the rising cost of living and the need for fair opportunity for all Wisconsinites.”

This endorsement underscores the strength of JoCasta’s legislative career and public service, demonstrating Senator Baldwin’s profound trust in JoCasta’s ability to take her track record of coalition-building and fierce advocacy to the statewide level.

“I am deeply honored to earn the support of Senator Tammy Baldwin, who has spent her career fighting for what is right, from working families to our LGBTQ+ community,” said JoCasta Zamarripa. “Senator Baldwin understands that the Secretary of State office comes with a powerful platform—and I will use it to demand action on the issues that matter most.”

Zamarripa’s campaign will focus on using the Secretary of State’s platform to uplift the issues working Wisconsinites face every day—from the rising cost of groceries, rent, and child care to the urgent need for statewide school funding reform. As a member of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, the Secretary of State helps manage over \$1.4 billion in public trust funds. Zamarripa views this responsibility as a direct opportunity to make real investments in Wisconsin’s future.

Zamarripa’s Democratic primary candidacy comes at a critical moment for Wisconsin. In 2026, voters will decide control of the Governor’s office, State Legislature, and multiple statewide seats. Her historic run is expected to energize the Democratic coalition and mobilize key communities across the state, ensuring Democrats win up and down the ticket.

The general election for Wisconsin Secretary of State will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, with the Democratic primary scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2026. More information about JoCasta Zamarripa can be found at: www.votejocasta.com

First Stage Collaborate With Local, Best-Selling Author To Stage Lovabye Dragon

MILWAUKEE, Wis (January 5, 2026) – First Stage presents Lovabye Dragon, an enchanting musical adventure based on the Dragon and Girl books by best-selling Wisconsin author Barbara M. Joesse. Running January 24 – February 15, 2026 at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center’s Goodman Mainstage Hall, this show is the perfect introduction to theater for young audiences.

Originally developed by First Stage in 2016, Lovabye Dragon was adapted for the stage by First Stage Executive Artistic Director Jeff Frank in collaboration with author Barbara M. Joesse, featuring infectious music and lyrics by Nathan Meckel and Nashville children’s music group The Happy Racers.

This enchanting musical tells the story of an unexpected friendship between a lonely girl and an even lonelier dragon. Together, they embark on a grand adventure to the farthest far away—only to face their greatest challenge and sparks meaningful conversation. The company has produced more than 70 world premiere plays addressing issues relevant to today’s youth. Its nationally recognized Theater Academy—one of the largest of its kind—serves students ages 3–18, building life skills through stage skills, including the Next Steps Program for neurodivergent students. As Wisconsin’s leader in arts-integrated education, First Stage’s Theater in Education Programs reach more than 10,000 students each year by blending theater with classroom yet. Brought to life with an impressive 14-foot dragon puppet designed by Brandon Kirkham, Lovabye Dragon is sure to lift spirits and have audiences smiling, singing, and dancing along

“I started working on the musical with Jeff Frank a number of years ago, and it was the most exciting thing I’ve ever done in my whole career,” shared author Barbara Joesse. “I’ve written 58 books for children—a lot over my lifetime—and these are my favorites. They are full of magic and magic gives you hope that something can happen in the future, especially if you have a dragon for a best friend.”

All performances will feature interactive, hands-on lobby activities starting one hour before showtime. Led by First Stage teaching artists, these family-friendly experiences will include literacy adventures, STEM challenges, and sensory play—all designed to spark creativity and connection.

Directed by Marion Frank, the production features adult performers Christopher Feiereisen* as Troubadour, Bree Beelow* as Mother / Bad Hat, and Jesse Winberg as Father / Dragon. They will be joined by 10 young performers in two alternating five-person casts, continuing First Stage’s tradition of youth-focused theater. Full cast and creative team listed here.

“First Stage has always been my second home,” said Marion Frank. “I am delighted to be making my professional directing debut with Lovabye Dragon.”

Recommended for music for kids and families alike. Known for catchy songs and joyful performances, the trio—Nathan Meckel, Mark Niemiec, and Layne Ihde—blend strong musicianship with a healthy dose of goofball fun. Their debut album Ready Set Go featured the fan-favorite “Lovabye Dragon,” which received national airplay on SiriusXM’s Kids Place Live and later inspired the creation of the musical. From albums and festivals to film, theater, and stages across the country, The Happy Racers deliver music fueled by heart, humor, and fun for all ages.

About First Stage
Founded in 1987, First Stage is one of the nation’s leading theaters for young people and families, and a driving force behind the creation of the best and most innovative plays for family audiences, theater training programs for young people, and education initiatives for its schools and community. First Stage ensures that all programming is not only accessible to its community but that it is reflective of the community it serves.

First Stage creates theater that honors young people’s perspectives

About Jeff Frank
Recognized as one of the top directors in the field with an expertise in developing new work, Jeff holds a BFA in Theater from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater and an MFA in Child Drama from the University of Utah. Jeff served as First Stage’s Education and Academy Director from 1996-2003, followed by a long tenure as Artistic Director before becoming Executive Artistic Director in March of 2024. As Jeff enters his 30th season, he remains committed to the power of theater to transform lives.

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A tribute to veterans and the remarkable service of George Banda



In November we honor all our veterans.

For this community, we are so proud that so many of our community have served this nation-2023 nearly 1.5 million Latinos are recorded as veterans.

There is no better example of this service, courage and continued dedication than George Banda here in our Milwaukee community. George is a U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam from 1969 - 1970 and was awarded the Silver Star and Bronze Star.

His other military commendations include: The Purple Heart, Air Medal, and five other commendations. Recently he continued to represent veterans and Latinos.

It is through AARP's work with veterans I met George. We know we AARP members need to give back because these veterans have given their time and energy to protect our country. The organization believes veterans deserve health care, housing, respect, support, and opportunities to live well after their service. We value the continued work in the community.

AARP offers many programs and resources made just for veterans and their families. They help veterans learn about their benefits, find good jobs, and manage their money.

AARP shares information about health care, housing, and ways to stay active and connected. They have special discounts for veterans on things like travel and insurance.

If you are a veteran or have a veteran in your family, go to [AARP.org/veterans/](https://www.aarp.org/veterans/) and look for the veterans' services.

Un tributo a los veteranos y al notable servicio de George Banda



En noviembre rendimos homenaje a todos nuestros veteranos. En esta comunidad, nos sentimos muy orgullosos

de que tantos de nuestros miembros hayan servido a esta nación: en 2023, casi 1,5 millones de latinos figuran como veteranos.

No hay mejor ejemplo de este servicio, valentía y dedicación continua que George Banda, aquí en nuestra comunidad de Milwaukee. George es un veterano del Ejército de los Estados Unidos que sirvió en Vietnam de 1969 a 1970 y fue galardonado con la Estrella de Plata y la Estrella de Bronce. Otras condecoraciones militares que ha recibido son: el Corazón Púrpura, la Medalla Aérea y otras cinco condecoraciones.

Recientemente, ha seguido representando a los veteranos y a los latinos.

Conocí a George a través del trabajo de AARP con los veteranos. Sabemos que los miembros de AARP debemos retribuirles, ya que estos veteranos han dedicado su tiempo y energía a proteger nuestro país. La organización cree que los veteranos merecen respeto, apoyo y oportunidades para vivir bien después de su servicio.

Valoramos el trabajo continuo en la comunidad.

La AARP ofrece muchos programas y recursos creados especialmente para los veteranos y sus familias. Ayudan a los veteranos a conocer sus beneficios, encontrar buenos trabajos y administrar su dinero. La AARP comparte información sobre atención médica, vivienda y formas de mantenerse activo y conectado. Ofrecen descuentos especiales para veteranos en cosas como viajes y seguros.

Si usted es veterano o tiene un veterano en su familia, visite [AARP.org/veterans/](https://www.aarp.org/veterans/) y busque los servicios para veteranos.

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Subcontractors & Suppliers

Pepper Construction is requesting bids/quotes from subcontractors and suppliers for the following project:

Bucks Block Five Mixed Use Development
1225 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53212.
Construction of a 7-story, mixed-use, 269-unit multifamily building with precast parking structure, gymnasium & commercial spaces.

PRE-BID QUESTIONS DUE: 11/25/2025

BID DUE DATE: 12/04/2025 at 12:00 pm via
email to Brandon Applebee at
bapplebee@pepperconstruction.com

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE: April 2026 – April 2028

OWNER / DEVELOPER:
J. Jeffers & Company

PROJECT CONTACT:
Brandon Applebee
Project Executive, Operations
bapplebee@pepperconstruction.com
T: 414-635-3028

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For Bid Schedule and Documents
please contact Seth Coronado at:
seth.coronado@greenfire.com

Greenfire Management Services
3215 W. State St., Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53208
Ph: 414.290.9400

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NOTICE

Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) is requesting proposals for Fire Alarm System & Component Testing & Inspection Services. Project scope, proposal requirements and guidelines may be obtained online at: <https://mps.aegraphics.com/>, **THEN:**

1. Click on "All Public Jobs".
2. Search for the project listed above.
3. **OR** paper copies may be obtains from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; Monday through Friday from A/E Graphics, Inc.; 4075 North 124th Street, Brookfield, WI 53005; phone (262) 781-7744; fax (262) 781- 4250. Call A/E Graphics, Inc. for availability of proposal documents.

MPS HUB and Student Employment / Participation requirements are as stated within the proposal documents.

A virtual pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Attendance at the pre-proposal conference is strongly encouraged. A written response of the questions asked at this conference will be issued by way of an addendum to all firms registered at receiving a copy of this RFP.

All questions should be submitted in writing prior to 12:00 PM on Tuesday, December 30, 2025 to DFMSProcurement@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. No questions will be answered after that date and time. No questions will be answered verbally. No verbal information from any source is to be relied upon by any respondent in the development of their response to the RFP. Written questions and responses will be documented by way of addenda, which will be forwarded to all bidders.

Submit all proposals, as stated within the proposal document instructions, no later than 3:00 PM on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.

12-08-25

Dr. Brenda Cassellius.
Superintendent of Schools

CONSTRUCTION BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

Milwaukee Area Technical College is seeking bids for the following:
BID REFERENCE NO. 2025-017

DUE: 2:00 PM, Tuesday, January 13, 2026, followed by the public bid opening

DMC – H-T Skywalk Cafe
PROJECT 2025522

Single Prime Contract including: General Construction, Demolition, Carpentry, Painting, HVAC, DDC Controls, Electrical, Fire Protection, Fire Alarm & Plumbing

- *****
1. Bids are due on the public matc.aegraphics.com portal at the time & date shown.
 2. Plans and Specifications can be viewed and purchased online in the A/E Graphics Public Jobs Plan room at matc.aegraphics.com or follow the Online Plan room link on the home page. **Plans and Specifications can be viewed at no cost.** Contact Steve Wellman, Project Administrator, at 262-781-7744 or stevew@aegraphics.com if you need assistance.
 3. A **mandatory tour** of the project sites will be conducted. See Instructions to Bidders for details.
 4. A goal of 20% for the participation of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) is included in the specifications and is strongly recommended.

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Trump Administration Has Abandoned Local Governments

After reading (cooperation with numerous “end of year recaps” on what exactly has happened to government and our politics in 2025, I find myself at a loss. Not a single one captures the reality that the federal government has abandoned its local partners, or what this means for communities like Milwaukee.

The traditional relationship of federal, state, and local governments since roughly FDR’s new deal can be aptly seen during a natural disaster. Once a disaster is declared, the federal government devotes funding, national infrastructure, and expertise; the state government coordinates everyone from agencies to municipalities, and local government executes with first responders and other boots on the ground.

The policies the Trump administration has passed do not restructure this relationship as much as they abandon it wholesale (including housing, food assistance, healthcare, and infrastructure) with rare and toxic exceptions

What does this mean in 2026 for communities across the country like Milwaukee? It means that where life has been hard it will get harder, and necessities that were previously unaffordable will now simply be out of reach for working families, the middle class, and everyone but the most privileged. There is no place like Wisconsin, and no place like Milwaukee, to start forming coalitions and consensus around the solutions, but first we must acknowledge the scope of the problem. The full scope is impossible in one article, so let’s focus on three issues critical to quality of life in Milwaukee County: healthcare, housing, and food security.

Healthcare Expiration of health care subsidies that 22 million citizens currently receive will render healthcare immediately unaffordable for millions of Americans. This will be devastating for Milwaukee County. According to Urban Milwaukee’s own Food reporting, in Milwaukee County, a 26-year-old

should now expect to pay \$1,437 more per year for health insurance, a family of four with a household income of \$130,000 would pay \$17,247 more per year, and a 60-year-old couple can expect a \$25,203/year increase in their health insurance. In 2024, 65% of all bankruptcies nationwide cited medical bills as causes for bankruptcy. And that was with the subsidies in effect.

Housing The Trump administration has proposed abandoning ‘Housing First’ policies that have proven effective at battling social ills as diverse as drug addiction, childhood hunger, and mental health crisis. The shocking premise of these policies is that it is exponentially harder – if not impossible – to solve societal issues if individuals do not have basic shelter. Trump’s cuts will make housing more difficult or impossible for an estimated 7,360 people in Wisconsin. Guess where most of those folks live?

Food Roughly 25% of Milwaukee County Residents, 234,000 faces rent increases that will resurrect a federal government committed to quality of life by taxing the highest income brackets the way that commitment requires. We need state leaders that will advocate for local, quality-of-life priorities instead of isolating Madison from those who fill its coffers, and we need local leaders prepared to advocate for us and execute with creativity and efficiency. We need a diverse, focused coalition to hold existing leaders accountable, and elect new ones to replace the ones who got us into this mess. We may not be able to stem the immediate pain, but there is no time like the present to start, and no place like Milwaukee to start doing it. For 2026: forward.

And, as neighbors, we have to be unified in our message to leaders. Federally: we need a Jack Eckblad, Milwaukee County Supervisor already

Re-Tooling for the Earthquake \$17,247 more per year in health insurance for a family of 4 — that’s after taxes and with higher premiums; 7,360 souls in Wisconsin at risk of losing shelter as Milwaukee already

County Executive David Crowley (and 241,000 according to the latest 2022 data from the St. Louis Federal Reserve), rely on SNAP Benefits (Food Stamps). As SNAP benefits expired, the federal government arbitrarily refused to release the contingency funds it had committed to using to help fund food security while Congress negotiated. A ground-shaking abdication of basic responsibility the federal government has acknowledged for generations.



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Tony Award-winning Epic The Lehman Trilogy begins January 13 at Milwaukee Repertory Theater



December 16, With three 2025 [Milwaukee] – extraordinary actors Milwaukee Repertory Theater continues its record-breaking season in the new Associated Bank Theater Center with the upcoming production of The Lehman Trilogy running January 13 – February 8, 2026, in the Ellen & Joe Checota Powerhouse Theater. Winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Play, The Lehman Trilogy is a riveting tour-de-force tale of one family’s passionate pursuit of the American Dream and the piercing cost of greed, excess and unbridled power.

conceivable way. You dare not miss it” by the New York Post, and “a triumph. Exhilarating and sublime” by the Washington Post, The Lehman Trilogy is a universally acclaimed play that tests the bounds of the American dream and the limits of epic theatricality with a one-of-a-kind event. The three person cast of The Lehman Trilogy includes: Edward Gero as Henry Lehman the eldest brother, resourceful and tenacious; also plays Philip Lehman, Pete Peterson, and other. Edward is a Lunt-Fontanne Ten Chimneys Fellow and a 16-time nominee and four-time Helen Hayes Award winner for acting in the DC area where he is the George Mason University School of Theater head of performance professor.

William Sturdivant as Emanuel Lehman the middle brother, hot-headed and decisive; also plays Herbert Lehman, Lewis Glucksman, and others. William earned his BFA in acting from the University of Minnesota/ Guthrie Theater and has performed in over 40 Shakespeare productions across the country. Max Wolkowitz as Mayer Lehman the youngest brother, level-headed and a charming mediator; also plays Bobby Lehman and others. Max got his start with an MFA from Brown University’s Trinity Rep acting program. He’s performed in classics such as Indecent, Waiting for Godot, The Chosen, My Name is Asher Lev and Cabaret in many renowned regional theaters.

The Lehman Trilogy by Stefano Massini and adapted by Ben Power with original direction by Arin Arbus is a transfer from Guthrie Theater (Minneapolis, MN) in association with Shakespeare Theatre Company (Washington, DC). This production is directed by Dan Hasse who assistant directed the original production with set design by Marsha Ginsberg (Primary Trust, Broadway), lighting design by Yi Zhao (Purple Rain, Broadway bound), costume design by Anita Yavich (Floyd Collins, Broadway), sound design by Michael Costagliola (The Reservoir, Geffen Playhouse), projection design by Hannah Wasileski (John Proctor is the Villian, Broadway), voice and dialect coach Jill Walmsley-Zager and

stage managed by Kira Neighbors. The Lehman Trilogy has been translated into 24 languages and has received international acclaim from both critics and audiences. This Tony Award-winning play first premiered in France in 2013 and in Italy in 2015, before the English adaptation debuted at London’s National Theatre in 2018, then played the New York Park Avenue Armory in spring of 2019. After pandemic delays, the National Theatre production had a limited run on Broadway (Sept 2021 – Jan 2022) where it won 5 Tony Awards including Best Play. Stefano Massini also adapted the play into a novel which was translated into English by Richard Dixon and published in 2020.

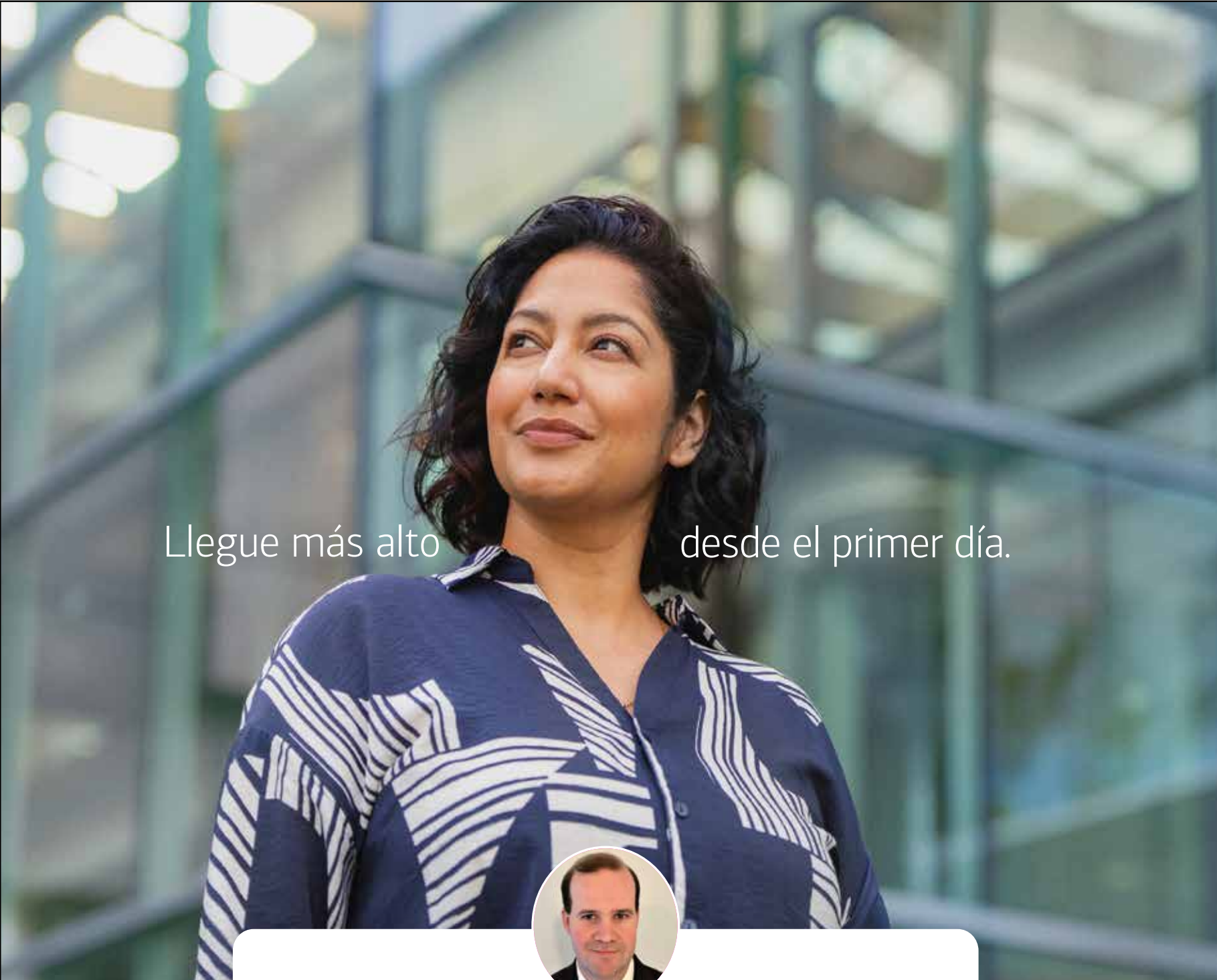
Conduzca sobrio,
o lo harán detenerse.



Cuando lo arresten por conducir alcoholizado, se dará cuenta de que no vale la pena tener que hacer frente a las molestias, los costos y las consecuencias para poder tomar un poco de más. El año pasado, más de 500 personas fallecieron en las rutas de Wisconsin, muchas debido a conductores alcoholizados. Conduzca por favor sobrio y ayude a reducir los accidentes mortales en las rutas de Wisconsin.

ZeroInWisconsin.gov





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Drew Slocum
Presidente de Bank of America en Wisconsin

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Obtenga más información en [BankofAmerica.com/25](https://www.bankofamerica.com/25)

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