

ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB LA ROTARIANA

Septiembre, 2017



Bilingual educators were honored by the Rochester Latino Rotary Club on September 20, 2017 at Caoba Restaurant. The honorees received flowers and a certificate of appreciation for their dedication. School administrators submitted the names upon petition from the club. They were selected based on their dedication to the betterment of their students.

Bilingual education is essential

The Rochester City School District has been offering bilingual education for many years. Given the large number of Spanish-speaking students in the district it is essential that they receive education in their language as they become English speakers. Without this service, students will fall behind in their grades. This may contribute to a high rate of students abandoning school before they obtain a high school diploma. The frustration accompanying their lack of understanding of the English language and the struggle to keep up with their peers may prove to be too difficult to face.

The educators who provide this education make a huge contribution to the students' success in school. The schools contacted seeking candidates for the honor were Schools 22, 33, 35, 9, 12, 17, 20, Monroe, & Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School. The petition indicated that the administrators should nominate teachers who exemplified the values we hold dear as what bilingual education teachers should have.

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Magaly Rosario is newest club member



Magaly Rosario became the newest club member in September. She has already demonstrated her commitment to the club by helping with the club's service projects. The club is extremely pleased by having this young woman be part of its membership. Great things are expected from her with new ideas and great enthusiasm.

A short biography of newest member

Magaly was born in Chicago, obtained her Bachelor's degree in Education from Turabo University in Puerto Rico, and now lives in Rochester where she is pursuing an Executive MBA degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Magaly is currently the Program Manager at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Rochester. She is responsible for enrolling children, analyzing program data, developing relationships and partnerships with clients and stakeholders, and writing reports for funders. Through her work, she is helping the organization provide children facing adversity with a mentoring relationship and expand its program to the Hispanic/Latino community.

Prior to joining Big Brothers Big Sisters, Magaly had a twenty-year career as an Educator in the school, college, and adult education systems. Over the years, she has also worked as an interpreter for various healthcare, education, and law enforcement organizations.

Magaly is an active member of several community organizations. She is involved with Rochester Latino Rotary Club as Secretary for the Foundation Board and the Rochester Hispanic Business Association as Co-Chair of the Special Events Committee. She is a member of Latinas Unidas, La Cumbre, and the Hispanic/Latino Heritage advisory committee for the Memorial Art Gallery. She is a single parent to her twenty three-year-old son Joshua. Magaly has a passion for travel, cooking, baking, dancing, entertaining and spending time with family and friends.

Julio Vázquez writes for El Mensajero

El Mensajero Católico is a monthly publication of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester. In it there is a section titled El Mural de la Comunidad dedicated to the Hispanic Community. Different community leaders write on topics such as education, business, government, health, etc. that have an impact on the community.

Julio wrote about civil engagement, particularly as it relates to voting rights and duties. Julio is particularly concerned with the low rate of Hispanic voters who are registered but do not vote, particularly in the midterm elections. He is equally concerned with the lack of Hispanic representation in the different elected positions. These factors have a great impact on the Hispanic community inasmuch as Hispanics are not at the table when public policies are enacted.

In his article, Julio mentioned that in the past there were elected members to the Rochester City School District as well as in the County legislature. As it stands now, there is only one elected official to the City Council.

There are many Hispanics highly qualified who could contribute their talents to the different governmental entities, if only people would take the time to participate in the elections process.

Hurricanes Irma & María impacted PR

September hit hard the island of Puerto Rico. The Hurricanes Irma and María devastated the island and brought unimanigable hardship for the more than 3.5 millions inhabitants. The magnitude of the destruction of roads, bridges, power towers, water systems, hospitals, schools, crops, houses was never seen in Puerto Rico before.

Particularly María hitting the island as a category four hurricane added to the losses suffered after Irma hit the island two weeks before María. Continue on page three

Hurricanes, continued from page 2

Luisa Baars had contacted the San Juan Rotary Club after Irma to find out how the RLRC and the SJC could join forces to help those affected by the hurricane. Then, María came, and this was even more devastating than Irma. The RLRC decided to start a relief fund for Puerto Rico. Several club members as well as family and friends have been donating to the fund.

There is still time to contribute to the fund. Donations should be directed to: Foundation of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club; P.O. Box 12562; Rochester, NY 14612 with PR Relief Fund on the subject line.



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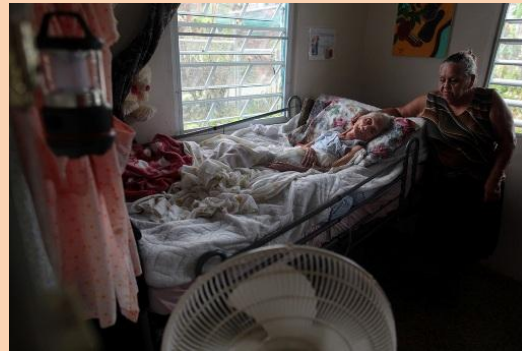
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These photos illustrate part of the devastation that affected Puerto Ricans after María.

1. Man trying to salvage house belongings after flood.
2. The Puerto de Tierra sector of San Juan had many buildings that were destroyed.
3. The power grid was wiped out by María. Darkness covered the island even before the storm hit with its full force.
4. Older ladies pray for relief after the hurricane.
5. Residents of the town of San Lorenzo had no way of getting out because the bridge was destroyed. The only hope for the sick woman in bed is to be airlifted to a hospital.

Bilingual educator's photos



Left – Luisa Baars, Norma Méndez, and Miriam Vázquez
 Right – Partial view of attendees to the event on 9/20. The Caoba Restaurant was filled to capacity with honorees, school administrators, and relatives

Board of Directors

President – Miriam Vázquez
 Immediate Past President – Julio Vázquez
 President Elect – Dr. Jasmin Ruiz
 Treasurer – Idalia Chang
 Secretaries – Wim Baars
 Luisa Baars
 Club Service Co-Chairs - Aida Veras
 Charol Ríos-Davis
 Vocational Service Chair - Dr. Constantino Fernández,
 Dr. Timothy Malia
 International Service Chair – Luisa Baars
 Membership Chair – Orlando Rivera
 Foundation Chair – Julio Vázquez
 Literacy Co-Chairs – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
 Julio Vázquez
 Club Webmaster – Orlando Rivera
 Tera Rivera
 Bulletin Editor - Luisa Baars
 Program Chair – Orlando Rivera
 Dr. Miriam Vázquez
 Fund Raising – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
 Sergeant-At-Arms - To rotate among directors

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.