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A BILINGUAL PUBLICATION

Prospero Año Nuevo

Klinker Brick Winery - All in the Family

By Julia Barnes

It is all in the family at Klinker Brink Winery. For six generations, the Felten family has devoted their lives to farming and the art and craft of winemaking, transforming a modest patch of land in Lodi, California, into a legacy vineyard admired across the region. There, nestled in the heart of the Zinfandel capitol of the world, stands Klinker Brick Winery, a family-owned business whose story is woven into the very fabric of the community.

Continuing their ancestor's tradition of cultivating "Old Vine" Zinfandel vineyards planted back in the early 1900's, owners, Steve and Lori Felten, fifth-generation grape growers, launched the first vintage of Old Vine Zinfandel and founded Klinker Brink Winery. Now celebrating 25 years, Klinker Brink has grown into a cherished local institu-

tion, a symbol of endurance, generosity, and the steady passing of tradition from one generation to the next.

Klinker Brick Winery was named after the highly prized Klinker Bricks that adorn many of Lodi's historic buildings. The wine has a distinctive rich deep color and enormous density just like the Klinker Bricks.

Klinker Brick Winery has built a reputation for producing world-class wines with relentless attention to detail that provide exceptional flavor, balance, and authenticity. The winery's flagship Old Vine Zinfandel and other varietals like Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon showcase the richness of these unique vintages, making them favorites among wine enthusiasts.

Another reason customers remain loyal is the unique story and heritage

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Left to Right: Steve Felten-Owner, Lori Felten, Owner - Stephan Jolley, Director of Operations - Farrah Felten-Jolley, VP of Marketing & Sales

Klinker Brink Winery Todo En La Familia

Por Julia Barnes

Todo es de familia en Klinker Brink Winery. Durante seis generaciones, la familia Felten ha dedicado su vida a la agricultura y al arte y oficio de la elaboración del vino, transformando un modesto terreno en Lodi, California, en un viñedo legado admirado en toda la región. Allí, en el corazón de la capital mundial de Zinfandel, se encuentra Klinker Brick Winery, un negocio familiar cuya historia está entrelazada en el propio tejido de la comunidad.

Continuando la tradición de sus antepasados de cultivar viñedos de Zinfandel "Old Vine" plantados a principios del siglo XX, los propietarios, Steve y Lori Felten, productores de uva de quinta generación, lanzaron la primera cosecha de Old Vine Zinfandel y fundaron Klinker Brink Winery. Ahora, celebrando 25 años, Klinker Brink se ha convertido en una institución local muy apreciada, símbolo de resistencia, generosidad y la constante transmisión de la tradición de una generación a otra.

Klinker Brick Winery recibió su nombre de los muy preciados Klinker Bricks, ladrillos que adornan muchos de los edificios históricos de Lodi. El vino tiene un color profundo y una densidad enorme, igual que los Klinker Bricks.

Klinker Brick Winery se ha forjado una reputación por producir vinos de clase mundial con una atención implacable al detalle que aportan sabor, equilibrio y autenticidad excepcionales. El Old Vine

Zinfandel insignia de la bodega y otras variedades como Syrah y Cabernet Sauvignon muestran la riqueza de estas añadas únicas, convirtiéndolas en favoritas entre los aficionados al vino.

Otra razón por la que los clientes siguen siendo leales es la historia única y el legado que hay detrás de la marca. El legado agrícola de la familia Felten en Lodi resuena entre compradores que valoran la autenticidad. Sus vinos no son solo bebidas: son la continuación de una tradición familiar que abarca más de un siglo. Este legado, combinado con el papel de la bodega en la formación de la cultura Zinfandel de Lodi, transmite a los clientes una sensación de conexión y orgullo cuando compran Klinker Brick Wines. Y hay algo en lo que los clientes siempre pueden confiar de Klinker Brick Wines, y es la calidad.

Steve atribuye el éxito del vinario continuo a varios factores, mientras relata: "Ponemos la calidad de nuestro vino en primer lugar. Todo empieza con las uvas. Cultivamos la cantidad justa de uvas Old Vine Zinfandel. Si el volumen es demasiado alto, la calidad baja. Una de las claves es no 'sobrecultivar' y controlar el número de uvas en cada viña."

La elaboración de vino es un proceso meticuloso, y los componentes clave son esenciales: los ingredientes adecuados, la receta adecuada y el equipo adecuado. Klinker Brick tiene los tres.

Ver **KLINKER** Page 4



¿Tienes metas financieras para 2026? Consejos para mantenerte en el camino

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A medida que nos acercamos al final de 2025, es posible que ya estés trazando metas financieras para el nuevo año: ahorrar más, gastar de manera más inteligente o ajustarte a un presupuesto. Ya sea que hagas resoluciones de Año Nuevo, pegues imágenes en un tablero de visión o analices cifras en un balance, probablemente ya estés pensando en comenzar el próximo año con grandes esperanzas y planes ambiciosos.

Así que, mientras celebras las fiestas este mes y empiezas a pensar en dar el paso hacia 2026, ahora es el momento perfecto

para consolidar tus planes y tomar medidas que te ayuden a alcanzar esos objetivos. Empezar temprano y con fuerza puede marcar la pauta para todo el año.

Nos sentamos con JPMorganChase, y ellos ofrecen seis recomendaciones sobre lo que se debe y no se debe hacer en la planificación y gestión financiera que pueden ayudarte a comenzar el 2026 con éxito y acercarte a tus metas.

1) Haga un presupuesto

Un error financiero común es no tener ningún presupuesto. Permanecer en la

Ver **FINANCIERAS** Page 6

“Lo que pensé que era un trabajo de medio tiempo se convirtió en una carrera.”



Jeffrey S.
Business Banking Market Executive
 17 años en BofA

Comencé como cajero y tuve la oportunidad de asumir varios cargos de liderazgo y de mudarme por trabajo. El poder adquirir experiencia en diferentes regiones y puestos ha definido mi carrera, donde mi mayor logro ha sido dirigir a otras personas y verlas crecer.

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Latino Times

Publisher & Founder
Andrew Ysiano
andrew@latinotimes.org

Vice President
Judy Quintana
judy@latinotimes.org

Contributing Writers
Julia Barnes
Daniel Gonzalez
Sharon Balmer Cartagena
Andrea Valadez
JPMorganChase

Design & Layout
www.JimOliverDesigner.com

Photography
Monica Andeola

Marketing/Advertising
Andrew Ysiano
Judy Quintana
Armando Salgado
Julia Barnes
Rev. Dwight Williams
Andres C. Ysiano

(209) 469-2407
latinotimes@latinotimes.org

Spanish Translator
Lorena Becerra M.B.A.

Distribution
Damian Corona
Andres C. Ysiano
www.latinotimes.org



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Andrew Ysiano
Publisher/Founder



Judy Quintana
Vice President
Editor

CRP to Host Clean Air Training Graduation Ceremony

Sacramento, CA) Community Resource Project, Inc. (CRP) is proud to announce the graduation ceremony for over 30 individuals who have dedicated themselves in the Green Skills Job Training Program that CRP offered through a grant from the California Air Resources Board for their CLEAN Air project. The graduation will take place on Tuesday, December 9, at 10:30 am at the CRP main office located at 250 Harris Avenue, Sacramento 95838. The program, which is called 'CLEAN Air' (Community Learning Employment & Awareness Network for Air), is aimed at job training and workforce development for HVAC, Home Electrical Systems, EV Charger Installation Weatherization, and Solar Panel Installation. The job training will provide graduates with the skills necessary to secure the positions in the growing clean energy sector. The program was funded by a \$300,000 grant from the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

"This is such an exciting time for CRP and our graduates of this grant program," said Wilfredo Cruz, Executive Director of Community Resource Project. "We are proud of the instructional program created by CRP's staff and in collaboration with AURA Planning and The Ortiz Group, has provided these soon to be graduates with the training, knowledge and skills to find much needed jobs in the green careers sector."

This is but one component of our project through the California Air Re-

sources Board's Community Air Grant to increase household air monitoring, reduce unemployment, and empower community members to improve local air quality in the South Sacramento-Florin Assembly Bill 617 community. Graduates of the program received instruction in installation and importance of air filters, monitoring air quality, knowledge in pollution sources and health impacts, and steps for reducing emissions.

The event will take place at Community Resource Project's Administrative Office located at 250 Harris Avenue, Sacramento, from 10:30am-11:30am. The event is sponsored by: AURA Planning, The Ortiz Group & Sacramento Public Library. For more information contact Veronica Herrera at veronicah@communityresourceproject.org

CRP has been serving the region well into our 53rd year. Community Resource Project, Inc. (CRP, Inc.) is a non-profit 501 c (3) organization based in Sacramento. Community Resource Project, Inc. focuses on Energy Efficiency, Health, and Education. Assistance in these three strategic areas is fundamental to families' progress from dependence to self-sufficiency. Community Resource Project, Inc. has a major impact on the families in Northern California, with service to Sacramento, Sutter, Yuba and San Joaquin Counties. For more information call (916) 567-5220 or visit us on the web at www.communityresourceproject.org.

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Winery

continued from Front Page

behind the brand. The Felten family's legacy of farming in Lodi, resonates with buyers who value authenticity. Their wines are not just beverages—they are a continuation of a family tradition spanning more than a century. This heritage, combined with the winery's role in shaping Lodi's Zinfandel culture, gives customers a sense of connection and pride when they purchase Klinker Brick Wines. And there is one thing that customers can always rely on from Klinker Brick Wines, and that is quality.

Steve attributes the winery's continued success to several factors as he relays, "We put the quality of our wine first. It starts with the grapes. We grow just the right amount of Old Vine Zinfandel grapes. If the volume is too big, the quality goes down. One of the keys is

not to 'over crop' and control the number of grapes on each vine."

Winemaking is a meticulous process, and key components are essential, namely, the right ingredients, the right recipe and the right team. Klinker Brick has all three.

Klinker Brick's right ingredients start with "Old Vines", also known as Ancient Vines, Old World Vines or Twisted Vines, that are at least fifty years old. These Ancient Gnarly Vines which produce the most rich, intense and multi-dimensional Zinfandel, have fewer clusters of grapes, but yield more intense sugars, color and concentration of flavors that produce a better, balanced vintage.

The Klinker Brick team are masters at picking these succulent grapes at exactly the right sugar level, and utilizing

their award-winning recipe, the grapes are crushed, fermented, stored, and then bottled to perfection.

For Steve, the legacy is more than a business—it is a living story of resilience, craftsmanship, community trust, and first and foremost, "passion", as he relates, "One thing is that you do have to be passionate about your product. You can have a good product, but if you are not passionate about it, you might as well not go into business." Steve's excitement about the winery is also evident in his daily actions with the customers, as he explains, "I make it a point every single day to go out and greet the customers who come to the winery. I believe that people want to meet the owners. When they see how excited you are about your product, they become excited as well."

What fills Steve with the greatest pride, however, is seeing his daughter,

Farah Felten-Jolley, VP of Sales and Marketing's exceptional leadership at Klinker Brick Winery. As a sixth-generation steward of the family craft, Farrah brings both reverence for tradition and an eye toward the future. One of Farrah's first projects was launching Klinker Bricks' Tasting Room, which has become a regional standout in the area.

Farah along with husband, Stefan Jolley, VP of Operations, are also focused on the evolving world of wine culture, as they honor the past, while shaping the future and leveraging technology to connect with younger wine enthusiasts and expand the brand. Yet at the core of everything they do remains the heart of the family legacy: a belief that wine is more than a product—it is a story, a memory, and a connection that is all in the family, passed lovingly from one generation to the next.

Klinker

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Los ingredientes adecuados de Klinker Brick empiezan con las "Old Vines", también conocidas como Cepas Centenarias, Viñedos del Viejo Mundo o Parras Torcidas, que tienen al menos cincuenta años. Estas vides antiguas y nudosas, que producen el Zinfandel más rico, intenso y multidimensional, tienen menos racimos de uvas, pero ofrecen azúcares, color y concentración de sabores más intensos, lo que produce una añada mejor y equilibrada.

El equipo de Klinker Brick es un maestro en seleccionar estas uvas jugosas con el nivel de azúcar exacto y, utilizando

su receta galardonada, las uvas se trituran, fermentan, almacenan y luego embotellan a la perfección.

Para Steve, el legado es más que un negocio: es una historia viva de resiliencia, artesanía, confianza comunitaria y, ante todo, "pasión", como él relata: "Una cosa es que tienes que sentir pasión por tu producto. Puedes tener un buen producto, pero si no te apasiona, mejor no te metas en el negocio."

La emoción de Steve por el vinario también se refleja en sus acciones diarias con los clientes, ya que explica: "Cada día

me esfuerzo en salir a saludar a los clientes que vienen a la bodega. Creo que la gente quiere conocer a los dueños. Cuando ven lo entusiasmado que estás con tu producto, también se emocionan."

Sin embargo, lo que llena a Steve de mayor orgullo es ver a su hija, Farrah Felten-Jolley, vicepresidenta de Ventas y Marketing en Klinker Brink Winery, el liderazgo excepcional. Como mayor ordena de sexta generación del oficio familiar, Farrah aporta tanto reverencia por la tradición como una mirada hacia el futuro. Uno de los primeros proyectos de Farrah fue lanzar la Sala de Catas de Klinker Bricks, que se ha convertido en

un referente regional en la zona.

Farah, junto con su marido, Stefan Jolley, vicepresidente de operaciones, también están centrados en el mundo en evolución de la cultura del vino, ya que honran el pasado, mientras moldean el futuro y aprovechan la tecnología para conectar con los jóvenes entusiastas del vino y expandir la marca.

Sin embargo, en el núcleo de todo lo que hacen sigue siendo el corazón del legado familiar: la creencia de que el vino es más que un producto: es una historia, un recuerdo y una conexión que todo está en la familia, transmitida con cariño de una generación a otra.



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Financieras

continúa en pág. 1

oscuridad sobre sus gastos puede limitar su capacidad de ahorrar para metas importantes como un automóvil, una casa o su jubilación. Si no sabe qué está gastando, es muy probable que esté gastando demasiado.

2) NO dejes tu presupuesto al azar. Usar conjeturas al intentar asignar su presupuesto mensual puede llevar a sobrestimar o subestimar cuánto asignar a cada categoría de presupuesto. Esto puede prepararle para el fracaso. Tomarse un mes para evaluar e identificar sus patrones de gasto puede ayudar a establecer una referencia a medida que establece su presupuesto.

3) Lleve un registro de sus gastos. Conozca sus gastos creando un registro de presupuesto mensual. Luego puede revisar sus gastos y llevar un registro de ellos en una hoja de trabajo de presupuesto mensual. Con el tiempo, puede ajustar qué categorías de presupuesto reducir el gasto. Los gastos pueden fluctuar mes a

mes, así que esté preparado para cambiar de marcha cuando sea necesario.

4) NO ponga deseos y necesidades en la misma categoría

Un error común que los presu-estadores principiantes pueden cometer es engañar “deseos” por “necesidades”. Las necesidades son elementos esenciales, como cuentas de servicios públicos, pagos de alquiler o hipotecas y comestibles. Estas son cosas que necesitas vivir. Los deseos, por otro lado, son gastos no esenciales como salir a cenar o entretenimiento. Es posible que aún encuentre espacio en su presupuesto para acomodar algunos lujos, pero ser honesto con usted mismo sobre lo que realmente es necesario puede ayudarle a evitar este contratiempo presupuestario.

5) Mantenga la facilidad. La idea de enumerar todos los gastos durante un mes puede parecer abrumadora, pero no tienes que ir tan lejos. Puede ser útil crear un presupuesto que funcione

para usted, lo que incluye hacerlo lo suficientemente manejable como para asumirlo en primer lugar. Si acabas de empezar, crea solo un puñado de categorías de presupuesto para ayudar a que las cosas sean sencillas.

6) NO se salte el fondo de emergencia

La vida es impredecible y tener un fondo de emergencia para pagar gastos imprevistos puede ayudarle durante ese tiempo. Sin ella, es posible que tenga que invertir en ahorros a largo plazo o utilizar una tarjeta de crédito si surge algo inesperado. Crear un fondo de emergencia no tiene por qué ser intimidante. Cuando haga su presupuesto, incluya una partida individual mensual para las contribuciones al fondo de emergencia. Esto puede ayudar a aumentar sus reservas con el tiempo. Muchas cuentas bancarias incluso le permiten automatizar estos depósitos de fondos de emergencia.

El resultado final

Comenzar el nuevo año con un plan claro puede prepararle para el éxito, y el presupuesto es una herramienta poderosa

para ayudarte a alcanzar sus metas financieras.

Comience a llevar un registro de sus gastos ahora para establecer su presupuesto para el año y estar al tanto de los errores comunes en el presupuesto. Nunca es demasiado pronto, o demasiado tarde, para volver a la libertad financiera.

+++
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MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE RECEIVES \$400,000 NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT

(MODESTO, CA) — Modesto Junior College (MJC) has been awarded \$400,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation (EPIIC) grant program. The NSF EPIIC program is designed to strengthen the ability of two-year colleges, minority-serving institutions, and emerging research institutions to participate in the national innovation

ecosystem.

MJC's award is part of a multi-institutional collaborative proposal titled A-SPARK: Agriculture and Science Practice and Access for Research-Driven Knowledge. The collaborative included Louisiana State University Eunice, and the State University of New York College of Agriculture and Technology at Cobleskill.

Led by Principal Investigator Dr.

Laura Weiss Maki, with faculty Co-Principal Investigators Jennifer Richmond, Dr. Erynn Lucas, Elizabeth McInnes, and Rebecca Mendoza, the initiative will support transformative work within thin MJC's School of Science, Engineering, Math and School of Agriculture.

This investment positions MJC as a key contributor to the growing Circular Bioeconomy ecosystem

throughout the North San Joaquin Valley. This will create opportunities for students and faculty, within education, professional development, applied research, and industry collaboration and workforce opportunities with regional employers.

To learn more about the EPIIC Grant contact: Dr. Laura Weiss Maki (209) 575-6173 or Timea Ewing (209) 575-6073

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San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency Shares Community Support and Resources Following Mass Shooting

To never be forgotten in our hearts, minds and souls from your community. Many blessings and heartfelt prayers to the families during these difficult times.
Stockton Strong – Latino Times

Stockton, CA – San Joaquin County Health Care Services Agency mourns with the community following the heartbreaking loss of young lives to the recent acts of gun violence that occurred on November 29, 2025.

“The entire community has been impacted by the traumatic and senseless killings that occurred last weekend,” said Genevieve Valentine, Director of Health Care Services Agency (HCSA). “Processing exposure to such events can lead to lasting emotional, psychological, and physical scars and Health Care Services Agency is committed to supporting Stockton residents during this time of grief, processing, and healing.”

HCSA Immediate Response:
Counseling and Crisis Support:
 Our Behavioral Health Department offers a 24/7 Warmline for those in need of a friendly and supportive voice. Our trauma-informed services are available for families, children, and community members affected.



Community Healing Events: Behavioral Health and Public Health will be partnering with local faith organizations, nonprofits, and community-based organizations to host safe spaces for collective healing.

Public Resources and Information: Public Health will provide resource information from the Office of Violence Prevention and plans to work on evidence-based community prevention activities detailed in the California Roadmap for Firearm Pre-

vention Report

HCSA Available Resources:

24/7 Crisis Line: 209-468-8686

Walk-in: 1212 N. California Street, Stockton, CA

Non-urgent behavioral health services: 209-468-9370

N. Aurora St., Stockton CA

1212 N. California St., Stockton, CA

PHS Injury & Violence Prevention

or PHS Media Inquiry: 209-468-8584

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HCSA Call to Action:

The community is urged to come together in solidarity. Violence is never the answer, and protecting our children must remain our highest priority. Residents are asked to:

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Border Patrol accused of illegal warrantless raid

By Daniel Gonzalez

PHOENIX – The humanitarian group No More Deaths is accusing the Border Patrol of illegally entering an aid station without a warrant in a remote desert area of southern Arizona and arresting three migrants.

Border Patrol agents forced their way into the aid station, known to No More Deaths volunteers as Byrd Camp, on Nov. 23, without a warrant and arrested three male migrants who were resting in one of the trailers, said Monica Ruiz House, media coordinator for No More Deaths.

The humanitarian aid station has provided water, food and shelter to migrants trekking through the desert since 2004, Ruiz House said.

Ruiz House said the warrantless Border Patrol raid at Byrd Camp is an example of the increasingly aggressive and 'unlawful' tactics Border Patrol agents are using to apprehend people throughout the United States as part of the Trump administration's mass deportation agenda.

The Border Patrol did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The agents arrived at Byrd Camp around 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 23 and requested entry from volunteers who were at the aid station, Ruiz House said. Volunteers denied entry and told them they could not enter without a warrant, Ruiz House said.

The agents returned about an hour later and told the volunteers they didn't need a warrant because they were in 'hot pursuit,' Ruiz House said.

'It was an illegal raid because there was no warrant and because 'hot pursuit' doesn't apply here,' Ruiz House said. 'Hot pursuit only applies in cases like let's say you're chasing someone from point A to point B, and they run out of a public area from outside into a building and you just like barge in and follow them.'

In this case, Ruiz House said, 'where you're actually staking it out, you're scoping it out, you're not actively pursuing someone, it does fail legal justification. So in this case you would need a warrant.'

The Border Patrol previously entered Byrd Camp without a warrant, but never any of the camp's structures, which carry additional Fourth Amendment protections, Ruiz House said.

Agents entered structures at Byrd Camp during three previous raids, once in 2017 and twice in 2020, but only after obtaining a federal search warrant, Ruiz House said. Those previous raids were carried out by a tactical unit, known as BORTAC, she said. In contrast, the Nov. 23 raid was carried out by Border Patrol agents without a warrant, she said.

No More Deaths was founded in



response to the high number of migrants who have died in the Arizona desert, she said.

'We do not encourage anyone to make the journey,' Ruiz House said. 'We simply make sure those who decide to make the journey do not die in transit.'

She said the group is concerned that stepped-up border enforcement

is pushing migrants to take more remote and deadly routes to evade Border Patrol agents.

Since 2000, at least 4,425 migrants have died in Arizona, according to data compiled by a separate group, Humane Borders.

No More Deaths was founded in response to the high number of migrants who have died in the Arizona desert.



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Los indocumentados que son padres deben actuar ahora por el futuro de sus hijos

Por Sharon Balmer Cartagena

Si usted es padre o madre de una de las millones de familias de estatus migratorio mixto en California, planifique con anticipación. Por doloroso que sea, existe la posibilidad de ser deportado, y es fundamental que tome medidas para sus hijos y así evitar que terminen separados más tiempo del absolutamente necesario. Durante casi 20 años, he trabajado en la intersección del derecho de familia, el derecho de tutela y el bienestar infantil, y veo demasiadas familias que no están tomando las mejores medidas posibles para planificar una posible separación. Algunas son víctimas de abuso, y otras reciben consejos erróneos.

Hace varios años, trabajé con una madre que fue separada de su hijo menor en la frontera al ser deportada durante la primera administración de Trump. Cuando el presidente Biden permitió el regreso de algunos padres que habían sido separados de sus hijos, ella aprovechó del programa. Sin embargo, debido a que los abogados que asistían a su hija no comprendían plenamente las consecuencias a largo plazo de su trabajo legal, le tomó años y miles de dólares para reunirse con su hija, a pesar de que los padres de acogida y los abogados estaban de acuerdo de que era una madre apta para recuperar a su hija.

Si toma medidas de protección importantes ahora, puede ayudar a evitar que su familia se encuentre en una situ-

ación similar.

Lo primero y más importante es asegurarse de trabajar con un abogado colegiado e informado con experiencia en derecho de familia de California.

Algunos estafadores que son o dicen ser notarios públicos intentan convencer a los inmigrantes vulnerables de que son abogados. En muchos países, un notario público puede ejercer como abogado, pero aquí no.

También debe asegurarse de que su abogado comprenda esta área del la ley. Algunos padres recurren a abogados y obtienen un poder notarial pero en California, un poder notarial no puede utilizarse para transferir la patria potestad ni la custodia. En muchos casos, los abogados no engañan intencionalmente a sus clientes; desafortunadamente, simplemente desconocen o no comprenden la ley.

En este caso, solo hay dos opciones viables: transferir la custodia a otra persona o completar una Declaración Jurada del Cuidador.

En la mayoría de los casos, recomiendo comenzar con una Declaración Jurada del Cuidador. Este formulario permite a un familiar tomar las medidas necesarias para el cuidado diario de su hijo. Pueden inscribir a su hijo en la escuela, firmar formularios escolares y llevarlo al médico para recibir atención médica de rutina. Lo principal que no pueden hacer es sacar a sus hijos del país, obtener un pasaporte para ellos y dar su consentimiento para



recibir atención médica importante.

La otra opción legal es transferir la custodia a otra persona mediante una tutela. Esto le otorga a la persona todos los derechos de un padre, pero también suspende sus derechos parentales. Puede ser muy difícil recuperar la custodia de su hijo más adelante. Hacerlo requiere la terminación de la tutela en una audiencia judicial, incluso con el consentimiento del tutor e incluso cuando todos estén de acuerdo en que la transferencia original debía ser por un corto período. Incluso en los casos de abuelos, tías y tíos de cuales confea uno, como cuidadores, he visto padres que no han podido recuperar la custodia. Así que por favor, ejerza esta opción con cautela.

Lo peor que puede hacer es no hacer nada. Si no hace nada y es deportado sin un plan, es posible que los servicios de protección infantil intervengan y colo-

quen a su hijo en un hogar de acogida, lo que eventualmente podría resultar en la terminación permanente de sus derechos parentales. Aunque, el objetivo del hogar de acogida es la reunificación familiar, los casos judiciales de acogida avanzan con mayor rapidez y requieren que los padres asuman un papel activo, lo cual puede ser difícil para los padres que podrían ser detenidos indefinidamente o expulsados de EE. UU.

Si usted es un padre o madre que podría estar en riesgo de deportación, no permita que esto le suceda a su familia. Planifique con anticipación. Hable con su comunidad sobre quién podría hacerse cargo del cuidado de sus hijos si usted no puede. Prepare una Declaración Jurada del Cuidador o, si es más apropiado, hable con él sobre un cambio de custodia. Sé que es un momento aterrador, pero haga todo lo posible por proteger a su familia.



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New Trump rules threaten big pay cuts for immigrant farmworkers

By Andrea Valadez

New rules for immigrant and temporary farmworkers not only threaten to cut their wages, but also to make it more difficult for these workers to have their legal work authorization approved.

The Departments of Labor and Homeland Security are in the final stages of implementing rules that will lead to significant pay cuts for H2-A workers and will eliminate the automatic extension of work authorization documents, which allows individuals to continue their work while their applications are being processed. California Attorney General Rob Bonta joined two multi-state coalitions this week opposing the new rules.

“Immigrant workers help fuel California’s economic engine,” said Bonta in a statement regarding the new authorization rule. “Let’s be clear: Jamming up employment authorizations for workers who have already been vetted doesn’t make us any safer, and it doesn’t benefit anyone. It’s just another tool for the President to exploit as part of his callous and unrestricted mass deportation agenda.”

Work authorizations

The rule, opposed by Bonta and an 18-state coalition, is led by DHS and eliminates the current 540-day automatic extension of Employment Authorization Documents (EADs).

In 2016, DHS implemented a 180-day extension so workers could continue their jobs while the lengthy authorization process took place. It takes DHS more than six months to process and approve EAD renewals for asylum seekers, according to Bonta.

In 2020, in response to a hiring freeze and lack of workers due to COVID-19, the extension was expanded to 540 days. According to DHS, between 306,00 and 468,000 employment authorizations would have lapsed without the automatic renewals.

“As the golden door of opportunity, California has an obligation to stand with and uphold the humanitarian interests of immigrant workers and refugees - and we will continue to do so,” said Bonta.

The coalition formally opposed the rule in a letter on Monday, arguing that DHS did not properly abide by the Administrative Procedure Act, and that it is “procedurally deficient.” The letter also states the rule will harm immigrant workers’ physical and mental health and financial security, as well as their housing and health insurance.

The states also argue the rule will financially harm them by decreasing tax revenue and spending power of its residents, increasing health care costs and increasing the burden on non-profits in the state.

Wage scale

The Department of Labor (DOL) first issued the work authorization rule in October. Under the new rule, the Adverse Effect Wage Rate (AEWR), effectively a wage scale, will lower wages for H2-A workers. Under the H2-A program, agricultural employers can bring in temporary foreign workers under these visas to fill workforce needs.

The employers have always been responsible for providing housing and transportation as well as paying their workers a minimum wage, which is set by the AEWR. The new rule will now allow employers to charge for housing.

The new wage scale will see the entry-level minimum wage as low as \$13.45 and the rate for “experienced” workers as low as \$15.71; the new rates are lower than California’s \$16.50 minimum wage. As a result of these changes, over \$2.4 billion will be transferred from the workers’ wages to the employers.

The overall majority of these workers here under these visas are from Mexico and Central America. In 2023, 95% of all H2-A visa holders in the country were from Mexico, according to data from DHS.

Last year, California had over 40,000 H2-A farmworkers, among the highest of any other state in the country, according to the DOL. H2-A farmworkers, and the work they do,

contributed nearly \$56 billion in agricultural sales in California in 2022.

In a letter addressed to the DOL, Bonta and a separate 17-state coalition argue the new rule ignores reliable farm-specific data, which has been used in the past to establish the AEWR. The coalition also argues that, like DHS, the DOL did not properly abide by the Administrative Procedure Act and that the rule will result in farmworkers being paid less than or close to the federal poverty line and will lead to financial injuries to the states.

In the letter, the states say the new rule is “arbitrary and runs antithetical to the DOL’s statutory mission to promote and develop the welfare of wage earners.”

Looking back

The targeting of temporary farmworkers is reminiscent of the hardship that braceros underwent decades ago.

The Bracero Program ran from 1942 until 1964 and was created to fill labor shortages in the agriculture and railroad industries as a result of World War II. The agreement between the U.S. and Mexico brought over four million Mexican men to be temporary workers, according to the Library of Congress. The program, while economically beneficial to the U.S., resulted in severe exploitation and hardship to the workers themselves.

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Supporting Families Through Free, Trusted Tax Assistance

Health Plan of San Joaquin is back for a second year to serve as an active partner in the San Joaquin County VITA Coalition alongside United Way of San Joaquin County and California State University, Stanislaus. Together, we are working to ensure that hardworking families—especially those in underserved and marginalized communities—have access to free, reliable tax preparation services.



friends, and neighbors. “It’s a very good program for low-income families who can’t afford to pay a lot for tax services,” Rosa said.

Health Plan remains committed to strengthening financial stability for the communities it serves. When families have access to trusted support and receive the refunds they qualify for, the entire region benefits. As a proud partner in the VITA coalition, Health Plan is honored to help bring these vital services to San Joaquin County with our local partners.

Community members can access VITA tax services February 7 – April 11, 2026, every Saturday from 9 AM to 3 PM. To schedule an appointment, call 2-1-1. For a full checklist of documents to bring, visit hpsj.com/taxhelp.

The VITA program helps remove barriers that often make tax filing confusing or costly. By offering clear guidance, bilingual support, and free services, VITA ensures residents can keep every dollar they’ve earned and use the savings to help pay for food, childcare and other necessities.

For more than a decade, San Joaquin County residents, Rosa and Raul Ibarra, have trusted the VITA program to help their family file their taxes.

“We’ve been using VITA services for over 10 years and know everything will be done right,” they shared. “When we come here, we don’t feel stressed — we feel confident.”

The Ibarra family recommends the VITA program to their children,

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