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## Learn Spanish

Practice these Greetings & Phrases

Welcome > Bienvenidos

Hello > Hola

Thank you > Gracias

How are you? > Como estas?

Good Morning > Buenos días

Have a nice day > Tenga on buen día

Translated by Jose Nesselhuf, interpreter and translator at MCC. If you are in need of our interpreter services, contact us at 605-367-7401.

## Stay Connected



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## After School Programs Begin

Froggy Reads is back



Lesson Plans have been finalized and the After-School Programs have begun. Studies show that if by third grade, a student is not up to reading level, they will struggle throughout the rest of their school career. According to the Children's Reading Foundation, "Up until the end of third grade, most children are learning to read. Beginning in the fourth grade, however, they are reading to learn, using their skills to gain more information in the subjects such as math and science, to solve problems, to think critically about learning, and to act upon and share that knowledge in the world around them.

The need for after-school programming is clear when the overall average of 76.63% reading proficiency at the elementary level, compared to the average score of 37.7% reading

proficiency for English Language Learners.

By partnering with five Sioux Falls elementary schools, Jane Addams, Hawthorne, Susan B Anthony, Lowell, and Terry Redlin, the MCC is able to assist students who are struggling with reading. School teachers refer children that need additional assistance based on individual academic performance to Froggy Reads.

MCC has a certified teacher providing instruction and trained assistants helping the teacher and students. The teacher uses a curriculum model that fosters an engaging and encouraging environment to children new to the United States and the English language. A variety of literature is used, including stories from around the world to reflect the students' culture.

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# Rent the Coliseum

Unique Historic Event Venue

### Rent the Coliseum for:

- ✓ Weddings
- ✓ Seminars & Luncheons
- ✓ Fundraising Events
- ✓ Reunions & Anniversaries
- ✓ Plays or Musicals
- ✓ Corporate Retreats & Events
- ✓ Graduations
- ✓ Dances
- + More

The Coliseum is more popular than ever before. The commercial kitchen is a big draw for many events and is included in the rental price. The Coliseum is larger than most banquet facilities in the area boasting 9,400 sq. ft. of space on the main floor: enough for 1000+ theater seating and 400+ banquet seating!

Contact [rentals@sfmcc.org](mailto:rentals@sfmcc.org) for pricing & availability

(605) 367-7401



### Froggy Reads continued

A respect for traditional languages is maintained while teaching the English skills necessary to succeed in school.

This is great for the community because we work on bringing cultures together in a positive manner. We also work on

homework and reading skills. If we can assist students in becoming proficient in reading, we can help them become more productive in society, which benefits the student, family and community.

**For more information, visit [www.sfmcc.org](http://www.sfmcc.org) or call 605-367-7401**

## Day of Celebrating the Torah SIMCHAT TORAH

Beginning on the evening of October 5<sup>th</sup> and ending on the evening of October 6<sup>th</sup>, The Simchat Torah was celebrated.

Simchat Torah means "Rejoicing in the Torah." This holiday marks the completion of the annual cycle of weekly Torah readings. According to Judaism 101 "Each week in synagogue we publicly read a few chapters from the Torah, starting with Genesis Ch. 1 and working our way around to Deuteronomy 34. On Simchat Torah, we read the last Torah portion, then proceed immediately to the first chapter of Genesis, reminding us that the Torah is a circle, and never ends". This completion of the readings is a time of great celebration. There are processions around the synagogue carrying Torah scrolls and plenty of high-spirited singing and dancing in the synagogue with the Torahs.

As many people as possible are given the honor of an aliyah (reciting a blessing over the Torah reading); in fact, even children are called for an aliyah blessing on Simchat Torah. Simchat Torah is a celebration of having completed the year's reading of the Torah. Torahs are taken from the ark, carried by members, and held while people dance with them.

Photos by Richard Quinn/Special to the Star



## Meet the Staff

Gene Palmer



Meet our new bus driver, Gene! We're so excited to have Gene as a part of the MCC team. Gene will transport children from the five Sioux Falls schools we partner with to the MCC Monday through Friday for our after school program. At the end of the day Gene will transport the children home. What does Gene like best about transporting the children: "I like visiting with the kids when they get on the bus because they are so full of energy". Transportation is vital for our afterschool programming to eliminate any attendance barriers.

# Job Skills Program

## Training & Work Connections

- ✓ Training in Basic Job Skills
- ✓ Get Help Searching For Jobs
- ✓ Learn How to Fill Out a Job Application
- ✓ Practice Interview Techniques
- ✓ Understand U.S. Work Rules & Culture

Schedule Your Appointment to Register

Call (605) 367-7401



# Photos: Native American Day



# Career Closet

## Dress to Impress

The Career Closet at the Multi-Cultural Center offers career and work wear free-of-charge to anyone in need.

### Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9:00am – 1:00pm  
 Tue, Thur: 9:00am – 12:00pm

*\*The Career Closet relies on the community for donations of clothing. Please consider donating clean, gently-worn mens' and womens' clothing and accessories.*

# Home is Home

Claudia A. Brianzoli Sagness

Claudia comes to us from Italy. She has been so kind as to write for us some of the many challenges so many face when coming to a new country.

It seems like yesterday that I closed the door of my studio of Psychotherapy In the heart of Milan.

It's been five years since my leave from my hometown, from the educated middle class in which I grew up, and mainly from my profession- my authentic passion as well- practiced so sheltered and comfortably in a

Country that I knew even too deeply: Italy.

There was to learn about this new world, the Midwest and its own meanings, before being able to work in it.

The learning process has been slow, laborious, sometimes frustrating, at times exhilarating, but always acquired by experiential way, firsthand, immersing myself in a versatile way, like it or not, in different environments.

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Home is Home continued

Certainly my solid body of knowledge and insights gained previously supported me, but most of all it was my natural inclination for adventure and discovery to support me in the darkest moments, when nothing in my new life seemed to work: not my new family burdened with conflicts, costs and practical difficulties, not the low paid jobs or under-qualified to which I was obliged, not social relations hampered by language barriers that sometimes seemed insurmountable.

The inter-cultural encounter is highly seductive and potentially rich in opportunities, both in private –family, both in the public- social and professional, but it is never free from misunderstandings and misconceptions, of mutual distrust and reticence. Easily the cultural biases creep in, marring the clearer perception of things.

Before we can dock the “Unity” it must come to terms with our differences, recognizing and accepting them, to be able to guarantee a benign influence each other.

This process of *co-construction* of a common reality that may harbor different identities, but ultimately compatible and capable of mutual dialogue, requires *time* for a gradual mutual assimilation, and *moral force* to support the

clash, inevitable in the knowledge process, and the frustration involved in it. Lastly, *intelligence*, as cognitive flexibility and readiness to adopt more creative viewpoints and perspectives

After 5 years of ill-matched experiences or vain attempts, sometimes almost humiliating, I am finally returning to work as Educator in a coherent framework to that in which I have invested so much effort and resources in the past: The Psychology

Although the absence of an American license still doesn't permit the full exercise of my profession here, and with it the full recognition of my qualifications as Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist, it makes me happy to know that my recent hiring in a Division Of Behavioral Health in Sioux Falls - however humble it may be my new starting position- is the first decisive and revitalizing step in U.S. on that professional and existential journey towards *Home*, that unlike what is commonly believed, it does not coincide with the family home of the Ego, but with the spiritual one of the *Self*.



This is the lovely Gwen Jones in her beautiful handmade dress (made by her) with the names of every African Country listed. Thank you Gwen for sharing with us, your pride and your creativity.



Diversity Holidays

- Oct 6: Simchat Torah
- Oct 11: National Coming Out Day
- Oct 12: Native American Day
- Oct 20: The Birth of the Bab
- Oct 22: Beginning of Dussehra
- Oct 23: Ashura