

La Prensa de Mi Pueblo

Vo. XXVII, No. 2 The Newsletter of Mi Pueblo, the Culture Camp of Concern for Children, Inc. 11 de Junio 2023

Notas del Director

Director's Notes
By: Bill Gruber

Welcome back to Mi Pueblo for another exciting, fun and educational Camp week.

We are a Camp staffed by volunteers, many of whom are former Campers. We are a family, and the Camp's approach is relaxed. We try to accommodate all abilities. However, we are not trained as school personnel, and we ask everyone to work with us so that your children have a wonderful, fun Camp experience.

Our fabulous curriculum coordinator, Ana Burpee, as well as all of our teachers, are Latino, and they have been working very hard for many months to create a curriculum that allows our Campers to learn about their heritage. All teachers and Camp volunteers have undergone background checks.

(Continued on page 4)

Questions?

If you have any questions at any time about Mi Pueblo or just want to talk to someone contact:

Director Bill Gruber
216-870-2429

gruberWL@aol.com
Volunteer Coordinator
Liz Dessoffy
216-370-8347

dessoffylizabeth@gmail.com
Contact **Peg LeRoy** to join the Mi Pueblo FACEBOOK community.
920-680-8837
Peg.leroy@yahoo.com

The History of Mesoamerica: Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends

The theme for the 31st *Mi Pueblo* Camp is "Ancient Civilizations" of Central America, as we celebrate our 31st year of Mi Pueblo exploration.

The Camp Welcome Center opens at 9:00 am on Monday morning, June 19th, and everyone must be at Camp by 9:15 a.m. so that Camp can begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.

After our traditional opening ceremony, Campers will begin to explore the ancient empires and indigenous legends of Latin America.

The week is full of special activities and wonderful classes in Spanish, Culture, Games, Music, dance and Art (Crafts). And this is the second year of our exciting and expanding Teen Program, with 24 teens now registered!

On Friday evening starting at 6:30 p.m. (all Campers and volunteers need to be back at Camp by 6 p.m.) we will gather for our traditional evening Fiesta at Forest Hill Church.

Of course, *Mi Pueblo* can't get started without being **set up**---we have very limited time to put all in place for Monday morning. Homerooms and classrooms need to be set up and decorated. The supplies and food must be unloaded and put in place. Signs and maps must be posted.

So PLEASE come and help---the more volunteers ---the faster we can be finished. Come for at least an hour or more on **Saturday, June 17th** from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon, and on **Sunday, June 18th** from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Children are welcome. New families can see the Camp facilities. Teens have a chance to show their dedication to keeping Mi Pueblo alive.

Then we will have our annual **Volunteer Orientation** once again at **Embassy Suites Hotel at 6 p.m.** until about 7:30 p.m. We'll have a pizza party, with cookies and beverages. Campers can meet their counselors and everyone can learn about the week's activities.

Be sure to read the separate **Instructions** for EVERYONE coming to Camp. Remember that ALL volunteers must read and sign the Volunteer Form, and either mail or hand-in at Camp.

We need lots of help to clean up the Church AFTER Camp Friday afternoon, AND after the Fiesta on Friday evening. Please help.

Finally, you can also help by donating items and baskets to, and participating in, the Fiesta raffle and silent auction to raise funds for *Mi Pueblo*. This has always been the Camp's largest (and only) fundraiser of the year.

Mi Pueblo '23
June 19-23, 2023

Looking Ahead!

Friday, June 16 – 6 p.m. – Help for one hour at Palus' Home – 11525 Kader Drive, Parma to load the truck with Camp supplies.

Saturday, June 17 – Camp Set-up
9:00 a.m. – 21 Noon (Come help for part or the whole time.)

Sunday, June 18 – Camp Set up –
our ONLY chance to set up Fiesta Hall – 12 noon to 2 p.m. (We really need help for these brief hours!)

Sunday, June 18 – Orientation Meeting - 6:00 p.m. at Embassy Suites Beachwood – Pizza party and social.

Monday – Friday, June 19 – 23 - Mi Pueblo '23 - 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Early release on Friday at 3 p.m.)

Friday, June 23- Mi Pueblo Fiesta
6:30 p.m. – at Forest Hill Church

Camp cleanup on Friday, including after the Fiesta.

Volunteers Make Mi Pueblo Happen!!

Administrative Staff

Mi Pueblo is staffed almost entirely by dedicated volunteers. To the right is a list of the Planning Committee members for this Year's Camp, as well as the main coordinators for Camp.

Along with this newsletter is a complete Staffing List for Camp as of June 11th. Those serving as counselors with Camper Homerooms are listed with the Camp Roster in the accompanying material.

Thanks to all who volunteer! And thanks to our wonderful Instructors!!

Planning Committee

David Brooks
Ana Burpee
Hope Carroll
Brian Collins
Dave Dessofoy
Liz Dessofoy
Bill Gruber
Peg LeRoy
Cindy Palus
Andrew Pockrandt

Curriculum Coordinator

Ana Burpee - 734-730-5908

Treasurer - Claudia Madden

Kitchen Coordinators -

Donna Strok and Pat Burns

Desserts Coord. - Bill Gruber

Preschool Coordinator -

Carmela Rause

Teen Coordinator -

Andy Brooks -330-962-6166

Camp Coordinators

Camp Director

Bill Gruber - 216-870-2429

Human Resources Coordinator

Peg LeRoy - 920-680-8837

Volunteer Coordinator

Liz Dessofoy - 216-370-8347

Operations Coordinator

Cindy Palus

Camp Instructors

Spanish - Luz Elena Klopp

Dance - Monica Olivera Cerpa

Music - Patricia Bussert

Crafts - Mariela Silberberg

Games - Dave Dessofoy

Doug Palus

Culture - Elia de la Garza

See the full Staff list accompanying this newsletter.

Mi Pueblo Contest!!

To get everyone thinking about our 30th Camp theme, *Mi Pueblo* is again having a contest. This year we will celebrate "**The History of Mesoamerica - Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends.**" We will explore the ancient civilizations of Central America and delve into the world of Talokan (Black Panther 2).

THINK & RESEARCH about the characters from the film Black Panther 2 from the undersea world of Talokan, or about the history of peoples living in Central America at the height of the Mayan, Olmec, Zapotec, Aztec and other peoples and their great cities.

Draw a picture or write a short story about your favorite Encanto character, about your own power or talent, how you help your family or hometown, or about the magic of Mi Pueblo.

Fill out the form below and attach it to your work so we know who you are and submit by **Wednesday, June 21st.**

Two prizes—one for stories and one for art work—will be awarded in eight age categories. The contest is open to all *Mi Pueblo* Camp families and volunteers. Prizes include tote bags, hats, books and other surprises. Written essays need to be limited to no more than 100 words. All entries will be judged by a panel of *Mi Pueblo* teachers. Winners will be announced Friday, June 23.

Mi Pueblo

The History of Mesoamerica - Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends

La Historia de MesoAmerica - Civilizaciones Antiguas y Leyendas Indigenas

Contest Entry Form

Please include this information with every entry to the *Mi Pueblo* "**The History of Mesoamerica - Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends**" Contest. If your entry is an essay, make it **no more than 100 words**. Be sure to include the full name of the entrant.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Grade (entering Fall 2023) _____ Preschool ___ K-1 ___ 2-3 ___ 4-5-6 ___ 7-8-9 ___ Teen ___ Adult

Write a short story/essay or create a picture that depicts one of our daily themes (see the list on pg. 4). This entry represents: _____

Mail your entry to: Bill Gruber, 2714 Leighton Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120, email to GruberWL@aol.com, or hand it in to the Camp Office by **noon, June 21st**, the third day of Camp.

Key Facts About *Mi Pueblo* Culture Camp '23

Name: *Mi Pueblo* – Means “My People, My Village or My Nation.”

Camp Location: Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 3031 Monticello Blvd. (corner of Monticello Blvd. and Lee Rd.), Cleveland Hts., OH (Mi Pueblo has rented the Church's facilities for 28 years.)

Dates: Monday through Friday, June 19 - 23, 2023.

Times: 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (early dismissal on Friday at 3:00 p.m.) Campers and Volunteers must be at Camp by 9:15 a.m. each day to be ready to start Camp on time

Friday Night Fiesta: June 23rd - 6:30 - 10 p.m. at Forest Hill Church. Campers and volunteers must be back at the Church by 6:00 p.m.

Camp Homerooms –

Child Care – There is no day or childcare for infants/toddlers up to age 2. An adult must be responsible for any infant/toddler not in the Preschool at Camp. There will be space in the Crib Room for infants/toddlers not in Preschool.

Preschool – See instructions accompanying this newsletter for Campers ages 2 and 3. The Preschool will have a limited number of classes and will follow their own schedule as determined by the Coordinator and counselors, and as needed by the children.

Homerooms – Grades K-1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5-6, Grades 7-8 and Volunteers in Training (VITs) attend all classes (i.e. games, crafts, Spanish, music, dance and culture).

Teen Program: Teens registered for this program will have daily activities, volunteer time, and social time. They will be going off-site on Tuesday to the award-winning Pivot Center, 2937 West 25th Street, in Cleveland (<http://www.pivotartcenter.com/>) for an art activity with Future Ink Graphics (FIG).

Sponsor: *Mi Pueblo*, a summer Culture Camp for children of Latino heritage and those wanting to learn about Latino culture, is sponsored by **Concern for Children, Inc.**, an Ohio not-for-profit corporation, which is a parent support group for adoptive families. Visit www.mipuebloccamp.org for more information. **ALL CAMP FAMILIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO BECOME MEMBERS OF CONCERN FOR CHILDREN, INC.**

First Day of Camp – Getting Ready for the Fun!

THINGS TO KNOW:

Dress: Camp T-shirts will be provided on the first day to EVERYONE at Camp. T-shirts MUST be worn by ALL every day at Camp. There is no air conditioning, so all Campers and volunteers should dress casually and cool. Campers play games and have some classes outside so appropriate footwear must be worn. NO FLIP FLOPS ALLOWED.

Food: Morning or afternoon snack, a Latin American lunch, and beverages will be provided for ALL Campers, Childcare children, Senior Campers, volunteers and teachers. **Bring a lunch for you and/or your child(ren) ONLY if there are special needs. There are always several vegetarian options each day. But this year we will NOT be able to accommodate other special dietary restrictions or needs.**

THINGS TO BRING TO CAMP:

Fans: Bring a fan(s), and put your name on your fan(s) and drop it/them off at the Camp Office.

Sneakers/tennis shoes: ALL Campers, including Senior Campers AND Teens, must either wear sneakers or tennis shoes, or closed-toed/heeled Keens or similar every day, OR bring them on Monday -- labeled, in a plastic bag--and leave them in the homeroom at the end of each day. NO FLIP FLOPS OR CROCS WITHOUT BACKS!!

Cloth bag or carrier – Bring or buy a bag at Camp for your Camper to carry home daily gifts, dirty clothes, etc.

Water bottle – Campers may bring these, but please label CLEARLY with Camper's name.

Donation Items - are needed for the Fiesta raffle and silent auction.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP!!

Here are several ways you can help make this year's *Mi Pueblo* Camp a success:

- **Bake desserts for Camp lunches and Fiesta!** – The Camp kitchen relies on volunteers to bake Latin American desserts at home and bring them in during the week of Camp. Recipes are provided; you can choose which one(s) you make, and the quantity. Contact **Bill Gruber** at 216-870-2429, or gruberWL@aol.com.
- **Solicit donations.** It's easy to ask your local restaurant chain, shop, grocery, or theater to donate a gift certificate or items for sale, auction or raffle at Camp; or donate sporting event tickets, use of a cottage or ask for a donation of a hotel room.

Mi Pueblo Camp Song – Time to Practice

This will be sung at Camp at the Opening Ceremony and at the closing of the Fiesta by designated signers (Campers and Volunteers may be asked to hold signs for the song this year rather than singing)

1. Unidos en la familia, no nos moveran.
Unidos en la familia, no nos moveran.
Como un arbol firme junto al rio, no nos moveran.

Chorus:

No, no, no nos moveran.
No, no, no nos moveran.
Como un arbol firme junto al rio, no nos moveran.

2. Unidos en el pueblo, no nos moveran.
Unidos en el pueblo, no nos moveran.
Como un arbol firme junto al rio, no nos moveran.

Chorus:

3. Unidos en el mundo, no nos moveran
Unidos en el mundo, no nos moveran
Como un arbol firme junto al rio, no nos moveran.

Chorus:

Translation: United in the family (in the village, in the world), we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree planted firmly by the river side, we shall not be moved.

To find the tune of this old folk song go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKopB66ujuQ> -- or -- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_jnOXhDF6c -- or -- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgSUI_BeITc

Camp Theme: 2023 Camp Theme

The History of Mesoamerica - Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends La Historia de MesoAmerica - Civilizaciones Antiguas y Leyendas Indigenas

Each year we have a new theme at Camp to keep the curriculum fresh and bring excitement to the week. This year's Camp theme is "The History of Mesoamerica - Ancient Empires and Indigenous Legends." As the week progresses, we will explore the ancient civilizations of Central America. The daily themes are listed below.

Daily Themes:

Monday - Water – Talokan (Black Panther)
Tuesday – Astronomy, Sun gods, summer solstice
Wednesday - Foods
Thursday - Then and now - influences that we see today
Friday - Ancient Peoples

Notas del Director: Director's Notes (continued from pg. 1)

Also, please remember that our kitchen staff are all volunteers, and they prepare a daily Latin American lunch. We try to accommodate most special needs, and vegetarian options are available. But we cannot accommodate all special dietary requests. Families and volunteers are welcome and encouraged to check recipes for potential allergies.

Mi Pueblo is operated entirely by volunteers. We gather each year just for this one special week, and because many families and volunteers come from outside the area, we have little time for training or working out problems that naturally arise in any large group. That is why we have developed various rules, and why we require all volunteers to sign a Volunteer Agreement. We are always tweaking how we manage the Camp, and your input is critical. While we cannot please everyone all of the time, we do strive to listen to everyone's comments and concerns.

YOU are Mi Pueblo, and there is no Camp without all of us working together!

Nos vemos pronto! See you soon!

Mi Pueblo Day Camp
Sponsored by Concern for Children, Inc.
www.mipueblcamp.org
Bill Gruber, Director, 2714 Leighton Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120