

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Representative Erik Paulsen, Chair of the Redistricting Committee, called the fifteenth meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 10, 2001, in the Basement hearing room of the State Office Building.

The Clerk noted the roll.

Members present:

PAULSEN, Erik, Chair
RIFENBERG, Michelle, Vice Chair
ABRAMS, Ron
ANDERSON, Irv
BOUDREAU, Lynda
GRAY, Gregory
KNOBLACH, Jim

LUTHER, Darlene
MARIANI, Carlos
PELOWSKI, Gene
SEIFERT, Marty
TINGELSTAD, Kathy

Members excused:

A quorum was present.

Rep. Rifenberg moved the minutes from May 10, 2001. **The motion prevailed.**

Rep. Seifert moved that HF 2505 be recommended to pass and placed on the General Register.

Rep. Seifert and Sen. Kleis explained SF 2355/HF 2505 and answered questions from the committee.

Bob Cardinal, Mayor of Maplewood, testified in favor of SF 2355/HF 2505 and answered questions from the committee.

Rick Aguilar (602 Smith Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55107) testified about Minnesota's Hispanic community, why he favors SF 2355/HF 2505 and answered questions from the committee.

Ricardo Vallejos (4215 Winnetka Avenue North, #255, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407) testified about the Hispanic community in Minneapolis and St. Paul and answered questions from the committee.

Pat Norby, New Hope City Council, spoke about New Hope's similarities with its suburban neighbors, that she supported the plan because it had New Hope in a suburban congressional district and answered questions from the committee.

Dave Meissinger, Mayor of West St. Paul, spoke about West St. Paul's desire to be part of a different Congressional district than St. Paul.

Marlaine Szurek, Columbia Heights City Council, spoke about Columbia Heights' similarities with its suburban neighbors, her desire that it not be paired with Minneapolis, and answered questions from the committee.

Frank Taylor (4601 Ewing Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440) testified in favor of SF 2355/HF 2505 and answered questions from the committee.

Pat Awada, Mayor of Eagan, testified about why she believes it necessary Eagan remain in a

separate district from St. Paul and answered questions from the committee.

The committee was recessed at 9:30 A. M. to reconvene after session.

The committee reconvened at 4:15 P.M.

Rep. Gray inquired about additions to the committee record.

Rep. Seifert answered questions from the committee about SF 2355/HF 2505.

Rep. Paulsen laid over HF 2505.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M..



REP. ERIK PAULSEN, CHAIR



Erik Holmstrom
Committee Legislative Assistant

HOUSE COMMITTEE TAPE LOG

TAPE: 1
START TIME: 4:23

COMMITTEE: Redistricting
DIVISION/SUBC: _____
CHAIR: Erik Paulsen

SIDE: A/B
PAGE: 1

DATE: 5/10/01

REVOLUTIONS:

LOG:

4:23

Call to order

4:27

Rep Grey HF 2505

4:34

Rep Siefert begins presentation

Rep Grey comments

4:40

Rep Siefert

5:00

Discussion

5:20

Rep Mariani

5:28

Side B Discussion cont.

Chair lays over HF 2505

5:31

Rep Grey Q

Adjourned

COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING
REP. ERIK PAULSEN, CHAIR

MEETING: Thursday, May 10, 2001
8:00 A.M.
Basement Hearing Room, State Office Building

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Roll Call.
- III. Approval of Minutes: April 26, 2001.
- IV. SF 2355/HF 2505 (Kleis/Seifert) congressional redistricting plan.
Bob Cardinal - Mayor of Maplewood
Rick Aguilar - President and CEO of Aguilar Productions
Ricardo Vallejos - President, International and Ethnic Communications
Rich Sonterre - Mayor of Mounds View
Pat Norby - New Hope City Council
Frank Taylor - Retired teacher and former candidate for Congress
Dave Meissinger - Mayor of West St. Paul
Marlaine Szurek - Columbia Heights City Council
Patti Awada - Mayor of Eagen
- V. Adjournment.

Next meeting: To be announced

1 A bill for an act

2 relating to redistricting; adopting a congressional
3 redistricting plan for use in 2002 and thereafter;
4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 2.031,
5 subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2000,
6 sections 2.742; 2.752; 2.762; 2.772; 2.782; 2.792;
7 2.802; 2.812.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 2.031,
10 subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11 Subd. 2. [DEFINITION.] The terms "county," "town,"
12 "township," "city," "~~ward,~~" "~~precinct,~~" "~~census-tract,~~" "~~block,~~"
13 and "unorganized territory" when used in a description of a
14 legislative or congressional district in ~~sections-2.043-to-2.703~~
15 this chapter, mean a geographical area established as such by
16 law and as it existed ~~for-purposes-of-the-1990-federal-census~~ in
17 the geographic database of the geographic information systems
18 office of the legislative coordinating commission on April 1,
19 2001.

20 Sec. 2. [PLAN ADOPTED.]

21 Congressional redistricting plan C0001-1, on file with the
22 geographic information systems office of the legislative
23 coordinating commission and published on its Web site on April
24 23, 2001, is adopted as the congressional redistricting plan for
25 this state.

26 Sec. 3. [METES AND BOUNDS DESCRIPTION.]

1 Within 90 days after enactment of this act and in
2 accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 2.91, the revisor of
3 statutes shall prepare a metes and bounds description of the
4 congressional districts in a form suitable for publication in
5 Minnesota Statutes and file it with the secretary of state. The
6 secretary of state shall immediately provide a copy of the metes
7 and bounds description to each county auditor.

8 Sec. 4. [REPEALER.]

9 Minnesota Statutes 2000, sections 2.742; 2.752; 2.762;
10 2.772; 2.782; 2.792; 2.802; and 2.812, are repealed.

11 Sec. 5. [EFFECTIVE DATE.]

12 This act is effective for the state primary election in
13 2002 and thereafter.

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes for 01-4288

2.742 FIRST DISTRICT.

The first congressional district consists of:

(1) the counties of Blue Earth, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona;

(2) that portion of Dakota county consisting of the cities of Hampton, Miesville, New Trier, Northfield, and Randolph; the townships of Castle Rock, Douglas, Eureka, Greenvale, Hampton, Randolph, Sciota, and Waterford; and that portion of Ravenna township lying south of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the western boundary of Ravenna township and County Road 68, easterly along County Road 68 to Orluck Way, southerly and easterly along Orluck Way to Orono Trail, southeasterly along Orono Trail to Otero Avenue, northerly along Otero Avenue to County Road 68, easterly along County Road 68 to Ravenna Trail, southerly along Ravenna Trail to 205th Street East, easterly along 205th Street East to Rowan Avenue, northerly along Rowan Avenue to 202nd Street East, and easterly along 202nd Street East to the eastern boundary of Ravenna township;

(3) that portion of Le Sueur county consisting of the cities of Cleveland, Elysian, Kasota, Kilkenny, Le Center, Montgomery, and Waterville; the townships of Cleveland, Cordova, Elysian, Kasota, Kilkenny, Lexington, Montgomery, Sharon, Washington, and Waterville; and that portion of Lanesburgh township lying east and south of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the southern boundary of Lanesburgh township and County Road 30, northerly along County Road 30 to County Road 28, easterly along County Road 28 to the Chicago and Northwestern railroad tracks, northerly along the Chicago and Northwestern railroad tracks to County Road 145, and easterly along County Road 145 to the eastern boundary of Lanesburgh township;

(4) that portion of Nicollet county consisting of the cities of Mankato and North Mankato and Belgrade township; and

(5) that portion of Scott county consisting of the cities of Elko and New Market and New Market township.

2.752 SECOND DISTRICT.

The second congressional district consists of:

(1) the counties of Big Stone, Brown, Carver, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Martin, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Swift, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine;

(2) that portion of Hennepin county consisting of the city of Chanhassen;

(3) that portion of Le Sueur county not included in the first congressional district;

(4) that portion of Nicollet county not included in the first congressional district;

(5) that portion of Scott county consisting of the cities of Belle Plaine, Jordan, New Prague, Prior Lake, and Shakopee; and the townships of Belle Plaine, Blakeley, Cedar Lake, Credit River, Helena, Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, Sand Creek, and Spring Lake;

(6) that portion of Stearns county consisting of the cities of Eden Valley and Paynesville and Paynesville township; and that portion of Eden Lake township lying west and south of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the southern boundary of Eden Lake township and the Soo Line

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes for 01-4288

railroad tracks, northwesterly along the Soo Line railroad tracks to 150th Street, westerly along 150th Street to 248th Avenue, northerly along 248th Avenue to 153rd Street, and westerly along 153rd Street and its extension to the western boundary of Eden Lake township; and

(7) that portion of Wright county consisting of the cities of Albertville, Annandale, Buffalo, Clearwater, Cokato, Delano, Howard Lake, Maple Lake, Monticello, Montrose, St. Michael, South Haven, and Waverly; and the townships of Albion, Buffalo, Chatham, Clearwater, Cokato, Corinna, Frankfort, Franklin, French Lake, Maple Lake, Marysville, Middleville, Monticello, Otsego, Rockford, Silver Creek, Southside, Stockholm, Victor, and Woodland.

2.762 THIRD DISTRICT.

The third congressional district consists of:

(1) that portion of Dakota county consisting of the city of Burnsville and that portion of the city of Lakeville lying north and west of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the western boundary of the city of Lakeville and 185th Street West, easterly along 185th Street West to Kenyon Avenue, northerly along Kenyon Avenue to Steven Lane, northwesterly along Steven Lane to 172nd Street West, easterly along 172nd Street West to Kenwood Trail, southeasterly along Kenwood Trail to Interstate Highway 35, northerly along Interstate Highway 35 to an extension of 165th Street West, easterly along the extension and 165th Street West to Jaguar Avenue, northerly along Jaguar Avenue to 162nd Street West, easterly along 162nd Street West to Isleton Trail, and northeasterly along Isleton Trail to the northern boundary of the city of Lakeville;

(2) that portion of Hennepin county consisting of the cities of Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Corcoran, Dayton, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Greenfield, Greenwood, Hanover, Hopkins, Independence, Long Lake, Loretto, Maple Grove, Maple Plain, Medicine Lake, Medina, Minnetonka, Minnetonka Beach, Minnetrista, Mound, Orono, Osseo, Plymouth, Rockford, Rogers, St. Bonifacius, Shorewood, Spring Park, Tonka Bay, Wayzata, and Woodland; Hassan township; and that portion of the city of Edina lying south and west of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the eastern boundary of the city of Edina and West 66th Street, westerly along West 66th Street to France Avenue, northerly along France Avenue to State Highway 62, westerly along State Highway 62 to State Highway 100, northerly along State Highway 100 to an extension of Valley View Road, westerly along the extension and Valley View Road to Clover Ridge, northerly and westerly along Clover Ridge to Tingdale Avenue, northerly along Tingdale Avenue to West 60th Street, westerly along West 60th Street to Hansen Road, northerly along Hansen Road to Benton Avenue, westerly along Benton Avenue to the Soo Line railroad tracks, northeasterly along the Soo Line railroad tracks to Hansen Road, northerly along Hansen Road to the NSP power transmission line, northerly along the NSP power transmission line to a line at right angles to the southern end of Oxford Avenue, easterly along the line to Oxford Avenue, northerly along Oxford Avenue to Division Street, westerly along Division Street to the NSP power transmission line, and northerly along the NSP power transmission line to the northern border of the city of Edina;

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes for 01-4288

(3) that portion of Scott county consisting of the city of Savage; and

(4) that portion of Wright county not included in the second congressional district.

2.772 FOURTH DISTRICT.

The fourth congressional district consists of:

(1) Ramsey county;

(2) that portion of Dakota county consisting of the cities of Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul; and that portion of the city of Inver Grove Heights lying north of a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the western boundary of the city of Inver Grove Heights and Upper 55th Street East, easterly along Upper 55th Street East to Babcock Trail, southerly along Babcock Trail to 70th Street East, easterly along 70th Street East to Blaine Avenue, northerly along Blaine Avenue to 65th Street East, easterly along 65th Street East to Buckley Way, easterly along Buckley Way to Cahill Avenue, southerly along Cahill Avenue to 70th Street East, easterly along 70th Street East to Carleda Avenue, northerly along Carleda Avenue to 69th Street East, easterly along 69th Street East to Carmen Avenue, northerly along Carmen Avenue to 68th Street East, easterly along 68th Street to Cloman Avenue, southerly along Cloman Avenue to 69th Street East, westerly along 69th Street East to Cleve Avenue, southerly along Cleve Avenue to 70th Street East, and easterly along 70th Street East to the northern boundary of the city of Inver Grove Heights; and

(3) that portion of Hennepin county consisting of the city of St. Anthony.

2.782 FIFTH DISTRICT.

The fifth congressional district consists of that portion of Hennepin county not included in the second, third, or fourth congressional district.

2.792 SIXTH DISTRICT.

The sixth congressional district consists of:

(1) the counties of Anoka and Washington; and

(2) that portion of Dakota county not included in the first, third, or fourth congressional district.

2.802 SEVENTH DISTRICT.

The seventh congressional district consists of:

(1) the counties of Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater, Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomon, Marshall, Norman, Otter Tail, Pennington, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Roseau, Stevens, Todd, Traverse, Wadena, and Wilkin;

(2) that portion of Benton county consisting of the cities of Rice, St. Cloud, Sartell, and Sauk Rapids; and the townships of Graham, Langola, Mayhew Lake, Minden, Sauk Rapids, and Watab;

(3) that portion of Morrison county consisting of the cities of Bowlus, Elmdale, Flensburg, Motley, Randall, Sobieski, Swanville, and Upsala; and the townships of Culdrum, Cushing, Darling, Elmdale, Green Prairie, Motley, Parker, Pike Creek, Rail Prairie, Rosing, Scandia Valley, Swan River, Swanville, and Two Rivers;

(4) that portion of Sherburne county consisting of the city of St. Cloud, Haven township, and that portion of Palmer township lying within a line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the southern boundary of Palmer township and 115th Avenue, northerly along 115th Avenue to 57th Street, westerly along 57th Street to 98th Avenue, northerly along 98th

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes for 01-4288

Avenue to 50th Street, easterly and northeasterly along 50th Street to 105th Avenue, northeasterly along 105th Avenue to County Road 48, easterly along County Road 48 to the eastern boundary of Palmer township, and northerly, westerly, southerly, and easterly along the boundary of Palmer township to the point of origin; and

(5) that portion of Stearns county not included in the second congressional district.

2.812 EIGHTH DISTRICT.

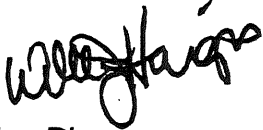
The eighth congressional district consists of the counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Chisago, Cook, Crow Wing, Isanti, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Mille Lacs, Pine, and St. Louis, and those portions of Benton, Morrison, and Sherburne counties not included in the seventh congressional district.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregg Peppin
Redistricting Analyst-Minnesota House of Representatives
Fax: 651-296-5071

FROM: Mayor William J. Hargis 

RE: Congressional Redistricting Plans

DATE: May 10, 2001

I received your fax on May 9 regarding the above issue and would like to state that the City of Woodbury supports this bill. This increases the opportunity for minorities to elect a candidate of their choice, as required by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965. The proposal also unites suburban communities with similar transportation, taxation, education, housing and human services needs.

cc: Senator Dave Kleis

Draft Resolution for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Whereas, data from the 2000 Census enables the Minnesota Legislature to re-draw Congressional boundaries into eight districts with each district's population equal to 614,935 residents;

Whereas, Ramsey County, with a population determined by the 2000 Census to be 511,035 residents, is Minnesota's second largest county and is the center of economic development and regional transportation for the East Metropolitan area;

Whereas, Ramsey County has been in the Fourth Congressional District and represented with its own voice in the United States Congress since 1891;

Whereas, Ramsey County desires continued representation in Congress with the county boundaries entirely in the Fourth Congressional District;

Whereas, Ramsey County opposes any efforts to join portions of Ramsey and Hennepin counties into in a single Congressional District;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Ramsey County Board requests the State Legislature and the Governor to formulate a minimum change redistricting plan that does not divide Ramsey County into multiple Congressional Districts; and

Be it further resolved, that the Ramsey County Board requests all municipalities and school boards within Ramsey County to oppose any efforts by the State Legislature to divide Ramsey County into multiple Congressional Districts.

RESOLUTION

CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

Presented by

Referred To

Committee Date

- 1 WHEREAS, data from the 2000 Census enables the Minnesota Legislature to re-draw Congressional boundaries into
 2 eight districts with each district's population equal to 614,935 residents; and
- 3 WHEREAS, the City of St. Paul, with a population determined by the 2000 Census to be 287,151 residents is
 4 Minnesota's second largest city and, as Minnesota's capital city, is a community with unique history, culture and
 5 economic interests that places it at the center of the East Metropolitan area; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the City of St. Paul has been represented in its entirety in the United States Congress by the Fourth
 7 District representative since 1891; and
- 8 WHEREAS, City of St. Paul and the City of Minneapolis are both large urban centers each with unique needs and
 9 distinct visions for the future as well as a combined population that exceeds the size of a congressional district and
 10 are presently served in the United States Congress by two Members of the House of Representatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Paul City Council requests the State Legislature and the
 12 Governor to formulate a minimum change redistricting plan that allows for St. Paul and Minneapolis to continue to
 13 be in separate Congressional Districts; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Norm Coleman, consistent with his earlier position opposing St. Paul
 15 being included in the Minneapolis Metropolitan Reporting District, join the St. Paul City Council in requesting the
 16 State Legislature and the Governor to approve a Congressional redistricting plan that allows St. Paul and Minneapolis
 17 to be in separate Congressional Districts.

	Yeas	Nays	Absent
Benanav	✓		
Blakey	✓		
Bostrom	✓		
Coleman	✓		
Harris	✓		
Lantry	✓		
Reiter	✓		

Requested by Department of:

By: _____

Form Approved by City Attorney

By: _____

Approved by Mayor for Submission to Council

By: _____

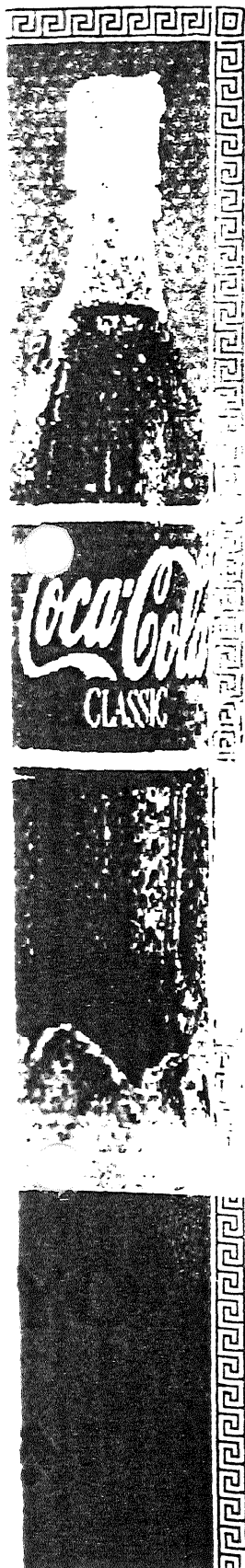
Adopted by Council: Date May 2, 2001
 Adoption Certified by Council Secretary

By: _____

Approved by Mayor: Date _____

By: _____

holula, Cuetzalan, Atlixco, entre otras.
Pavonado: Importante se utiliza para la de espuelas, sillas de otros implementos de



Hispanics in Minneapolis and Saint Paul United by Language, Culture and Commerce

By Maria Vega Carreras

With the release of the 2000 U.S. Census figures, Minnesota has seen its Hispanic population grow 166 percent to 143,000, the largest percentage jump for a minority group in Minnesota. The Census Bureau defines someone as Hispanic if the person can trace their ancestry

to a country where Spanish is spoken, including Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Spain or other nations in Central or South America. Minnesota's Hispanics are contributing their language, music, food, culture and buying power to the state.

Minnesota Hispanics - who trace their backgrounds to several Latin American

countries - are united by language, culture and commerce.

Many Hispanic families in Minnesota speak Spanish and are tied by other common cultural elements, such as religion. Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, founded on Wabasha Street in 1931 as a mission, has a congregation of over 1,500 families from St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Tito Ortiz, a staff person at the church, noted that Hispanic families come from all over the Twin Cities to attend mass.

Continued on page A19

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA 2001

FRIDAY, MAY 4

5pm - 5:45pm Opening Ceremony
 Cuauhtémoc Aztec Dancers
 Cherokee School Dancers

5pm - 10pm
 Low Rider Car Show

6pm - 7:30pm
 Showdown Competition
 Sounds by DJ Francisco and DJ Fresco

8pm - 9pm
 Los Nativos

9pm - 10pm
 Tejano 2000

SATURDAY, MAY 5

VIVA MEXICO! STAGE

12:30pm - 1pm
 Tarymbare Show

1pm - 3:30pm
 Banda Carreño and "Quebradita" Contest

3:30pm - 4pm
 "Grito" Contest

4pm - 5pm
 Mariachi Flor y Canto

5pm - 5:30pm
 Ballet Folklórico México de Los Hermanos Avila

6pm - 8pm
 Grupo Corvo

VIVA EL RIO! STAGE

1pm - 3pm
 Orquesta Sabor Tropical

3:30pm - 5pm
 Ecuador Manta

5:15pm - 6:30pm
 Fuego Flamenco

6:45pm - 8pm
 Grupazo

PARQUE CASTILLO STAGE

1pm - 1:45pm
 Los Alegres Bailadores

2pm - 2:45pm
 Rincón Flamenco

2:45pm - 3:30pm
 Ballet Folklórico México de Los Hermanos Avila

3:30pm - 4:15pm
 Baile Workshop by Los Hermanos Avila

4:30pm - 5pm
 Susy Molina (Cantante de Mariachi)

5:15pm - 6:15pm
 México Unido Ballet Folklórico

6:30pm - 7pm
 Noel Alvarez Pérez (Cantante de Mariachi)

KEY

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La Prensa
 April 26, 2001

VO...

Hispanics in Minneapolis and St. Paul...

Continued from page A6

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Our Lady hosts three masses: one on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. in English one on Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in English and Spanish, and one on Sunday at 11 a.m. that is entirely in Spanish. "St. Stevens in Minneapolis also has a Spanish mass on Sundays, but its later in the day, so a lot of families come to Our Lady," Ortiz said.

He also noted that Our Lady is a National Church, and that many Hispanic families from St. Paul and Minneapolis have attended the church for several generations.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is very involved in the Hispanic community - the church always participates in the neighborhood's Cinco de Mayo festivities, which every year draws crowds of over 74,000 from both St. Paul and Minneapolis, according to the Saint Paul Riverview Economic Development Association. "The Society of Guadalupe always has a booth where they sell tacos and other food at the parade", said Ortiz.

CLUES (Chicanos Latinos Unidos en Servicios) has an elder wellness program that is based at Our Lady. Jesse Bethke, Executive Director of **CLUES**, says the non-profit organization is the largest Latino human service agency in the state of Minnesota.

"The elder wellness facility at Our Lady provides services to Latinos from St. Paul, Minneapolis, and the seven-county metro area," Bethke remarked.

CLUES, which has two offices in St. Paul, one in Minneapolis, and is about to open a site in Mankato - provides linguistically and culturally appropriate human

services, ranging from mental and chemical health, to elder wellness, to employment, to citizenship training, to English as a Second Language classes.

"Latinos in St. Paul and Minneapolis have a great sense of community," said Bethke, a third-generation Minnesotan whose grandparents immigrated to the state in 1923. "We may not all live in the same neighborhood, but we have extended relationships that are strengthened by our language and culture."

Hispanics in Minnesota tend to worship together and they utilize similar services, they also tend to shop in similar places.

Fury Motors, for example, located at the intersection of Interstate 494 and Concord Street, has seen a significant jump in business from Hispanic customers over the last year. "We have started marketing more to the Hispanic community in the Twin Cities by advertising in *La Voz Latina*," said Fury Motors employee Isaac Contreras.

Contreras noted that the new magazine *Carros Minnesota* recently featured the business as its Dealer of the Month in its first issue. He commented that due to the exposure Fury Motors has received in publications geared toward the Hispanic population in St. Paul and Minneapolis, more Hispanics have visited the auto dealer from throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

"We have Hispanic customers that come from all over St. Paul and Minneapolis," said Contreras.

El Burrito Mercado located on Concord Street in St. Paul, draws customers from

throughout the Twin Cities area. "El Burrito Mercado especially draws customers from Minneapolis and the suburbs on the weekends," noted Bernie Purdy, store manager, "the store has a loyal customer base in St. Paul". Purdy remarked that the store carries a wide variety and selection of products native to Hispanic culture that are typically not available elsewhere.

El Burrito - which features a restaurant, grocery store, and gift area - has seen such an increase in sales to the Hispanic population in Minneapolis and St. Paul over the past few years, that it is expanding to meet its growing customer base.

The Hispanic community in Minnesota - united by language, culture and commerce - is thriving. Many Twin Cities news outlets have recently profiled the emergence and success of Mercado Central, a building housing more than 40 businesses offering everything from clothes to videos to furniture. Newspapers and radio stations such as *La Voz Latina*, *La Prensa de Minnesota*, *Latino Midwest*, *Nuestra Gente*, and *Radio Rey* draw Hispanic consumers and advertising from throughout the Twin Cities area.

"The Hispanic market is an expanding and growing segment of the St. Paul-Minneapolis economy," said Richard Aguilar, President of Aguilar Productions. "Language, culture and commerce unite Hispanics in the Twin Cities creating a vibrant and thriving community".