

Forty Years of Giving Back



Cynthia Gongora

By: Celia Martinez

A sense of humbling gratitude and appreciation filled the performing arts center of the Benito Juarez Community Academy as community members, scholarship recipients, sponsors and supporters gathered for the Opening Reception and Scholarship Award Ceremony in celebration of Fiesta del Sol's 40th anniversary in the very place that began it all. "This is an opportunity to kick off the festival and to celebrate with the community," said Alma Campos, communications coordinator for the Pilsen Neighbors Community Council (PNCC). The evening, hosted by PNCC, consisted of a lineup of speakers and capped off with the presentation of the scholarships and the unveiling of Fiesta del Sol's annual commemorative poster by Alejandro Romero, the festival's designated

artist for the last 20 years. Fiesta del Sol was first organized in 1972 in celebration of PNCC's effort to get the city of Chicago to build the Benito Juarez Community Academy. And what began as a block party ascended into the largest Latino festival in the Midwest, with over 1 million attendees in the four-day celebration. Fiesta del Sol has undoubtedly become a staple in Chicago's Latino community not only because it brings in business and revenue to local businesses, but also because it does so much for Latino youth who volunteer at the fiesta as they learn about teambuilding and gain leadership skills. And continuing with that same desire to give back to the community as it did when it first started, Fiesta del Sol awards scholarships of \$1500 to deserving Latino students from the Chicago land area to help with their college expenses. One of this year's

scholarship recipients happened to be the very first Señorita Fiesta del Sol, 23-year old Cynthia Gongora. "It is a huge honor to have won," said Gongora, "I know this is something that is going to

go down in the history [of Fiesta del Sol]." is a "brains and beauty" 25 and is something that pageant for young Latina Campos said had been in Señorita Fiesta del Sol women under the age of *Continued on page 6*

Notice of Public Meeting

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

United Neighborhood Organization (UNO) will be hosting a public meeting on July 30, 2012 on UNO's request to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Monies to be utilized for the remediation of hazardous materials [Identify time and the location of the meeting.] The total amount of the loan from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will be up to \$1,000,000 and will be utilized over several months until remediation and demolition activities are complete.

Anyone wishing to review the previous environmental investigations conducted, the Scope of Work, or the winning bid for the remediation and related demolition activities at the site and any other documents required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency may stop by UNO's offices and review the document repository on July 27, 2012 during regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Comments received by UNO will be submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency at the end of the public meeting as part of UNO's application for Stipulated Loan Funding.

Please direct all comments to the following address:

Andrew Alt
c/o UNO
954 W. Washington Blvd., 3rd Fl.
Chicago, IL 60607

For more information, please contact Andrew Alt at 312-432-6301.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS: Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, until the time and date specified below for:

Removal of Two City of Berwyn Underground Fuel Storage Tanks Located at Public Works

RFP packets are available to be picked up at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 6700 W. 26th Street, Berwyn, IL 60402 for a **non-refundable fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00)**.

ADDRESS PROPOSALS TO: Attention of the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 6700 W. 26th Street, Berwyn, IL 60402, on or before 10:00 a.m. on August 14, 2012. Proposals shall be sealed and clearly marked on the front "**Proposal for UST Removal at Public Works Facility.**" **FAXED PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

PROPOSALS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN: 10:00 a.m. on August 14, 2012. These proposals will be opened and read aloud at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room located on the second floor at City Hall. Proposers shall submit four (4) copies of their proposal.

QUESTIONS: All questions and clarifications regarding this Request for Proposal must be submitted no later than 3pm, August 9, 2012 by e-mailing the following City Representative:

Robert Schiller
Public Works Director
rschiller@ci.berwyn.il.us

July 26, 2012