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January/enero 2, 2009 Spanglish Weekly/Semanal 16 Páginas Vol. 44, No. 17

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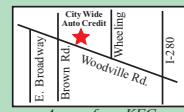
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LAZO CULTURAL

Lazo Cultural
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Bush withdraws 1 of 19 pardons

By JENNIFER LOVEN, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 2008 (AP): President George W. Bush on Wednesday revoked a pardon he had granted only a day before—a step unheard of in recent memory—after learning in news reports of political contributions to Republicans by the man's father and other information.

Bush pardoned 19 people on Tuesday, including Isaac Robert Toussie of Brooklyn, New York, who had been convicted of making false statements to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and of mail fraud. On Wednesday, the White House issued an extraordinary statement saying the president was reversing his decision in Toussie's case.

White House press secretary Dana Perino said the new decision was "based on information that has subsequently come to light," including on the extent and nature of Toussie's prior criminal offenses. She also said that neither the White House counsel's office nor the president had been aware of a political contribution by Toussie's father that "might create an appearance of impropriety."

"Given that, this was the prudent thing to do," she said. The new information came to the White House's attention from news reports, Perino said.

A story in the New York Daily News said Toussie's father, Robert, donated \$28,500 to the national Republican Party in April. It

came just months before Toussie's pardon petition, the newspaper said.

The counsel's office generally doesn't include vetting of political contributions in its reviews on such matters, as that would be "highly inappropriate on many levels," she said. The White House decision on Toussie had come without a recommendation from the pardon attorney, Ronald L. Rodgers, as Toussie's request for a pardon came less than five years after completion of his sentence, so that eliminated another step in the review process.

The Justice Department advises the president on who qualifies for pardons. Only people who have waited five years after their conviction or release from prison can apply for a pardon under the department's guidelines. Criminals are required to begin serving time, or otherwise exhaust any appeals, before they can be considered for sentence commutation.

But the president can forgive people outside that process if he chooses. Under the Constitution, the president's power to issue pardons is absolute and cannot be overruled — meaning he can forgive anyone he wants, at any time.

Perino said she did not know of another instance of a pardon reversal in "recent memory," but that the White House couldn't say for sure it never had happened before.

"The counsel to the president reviewed the applica-



tion and believed, based on the information known to him at the time, that it was a meritorious application," she said. Bush now believes the case should rest with the pardon attorney.

The Daily News story on Wednesday, and another in Newsday and on blogs, shed light on Toussie's record. He pleaded guilty for lying to HUD and mail fraud, admitting that he falsified finances of prospective homebuyers seeking HUD mortgages. He was sentenced to five months in prison and five months' house arrest, a \$10,000 fine and no restitution, the Daily News reported.

In another case, Toussie pleaded guilty to having a friend send his local county a letter that falsely inflated property values.

The Daily News also located a lawyer representing hundreds of ex-customers who have sued Toussie in federal court, accusing him of luring poor, minority homebuyers into buying overpriced homes with mortgages that had hidden costs.

The attorney, Peter E. Seidman, said Wednesday that news of the pardon was "gut wrenching for his clients" and left him "baffled." "I am glad somebody at the White House woke up,"

Diplomático de EEUU viaja a Moscú para hablar de Latinoamérica

Por LYNN BERRY

MOSCU, el 22 de diciembre del 2008 (AP): El interés ruso por Latinoamérica obligó al Departamento de Estado estadounidense a enviar a un diplomático a Moscú el lunes para que ambos rivales de la Guerra Fría puedan cooperar en la región emergente.

"Ambos países son demasiado importantes para no hablar el uno con el otro y no encontrar maneras de trabajar conjuntamente en temas importantes en la región", señaló Thomas Shannon, subsecretario de Estado para Latinoamérica, durante una entrevista.

En las últimas semanas, barcos de guerra rusos han navegado a través del Caribe y el presidente Dmitry Medvedev acaba de visitar países como Brasil, Cuba, Perú y Venezuela.

Pero aunque Rusia ha intentado ampliar su influencia política y militar en la región, Shannon argumenta que los intereses de Moscú en la zona parecen ser comerciales.

"Lo interesante para nosotros sobre la forma en que Rusia está participando en la región es que no se trata de la Unión Soviética", dijo. "No trae consigo un

propósito ideológico a su participación en la zona. Se trata de una relación basada en intereses y gran parte de esos intereses son comerciales".

Rusia quiere establecer una serie de acuerdos comerciales en Latinoamérica, y sus lazos más estrechos en ese aspecto son con Venezuela, que ha comprado armas por valor de 4,000 millones de dólares, incluyendo 100,000 fusiles Kalashnikov, helicópteros y cazas Sukhoi.

El Departamento de Relaciones Exteriores ruso emitió tan sólo un breve comunicado sobre la reunión entre Shannon y el viceministro de Relaciones Exteriores Sergei Ryabkov. El documento señaló que Rusia reafirma su interés de ampliar las relaciones e impulsar el comercio con Latinoamérica.

Aunque el presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez claramente se opone a la dominación estadounidense de la región, Shannon dijo que a Washington no le preocupan tanto las armas que facilita Rusia, sino las que descarta Venezuela a medida que moderniza su ejército.

"En otras palabras, ¿estas armas están siendo

destruidas o acaban en el mercado negro donde serán vendidas a los traficantes y a los carteles de drogas?", se preguntó el diplomático.

Shannon reiteró que Estados Unidos y Rusia deberían ser capaces de trabajar juntos en la región para luchar contra el crimen organizado y el tráfico de drogas. Ambos países, dijo, comparten su preocupación por un creciente tráfico de cocaína desde Latinoamérica a Europa.

Añadió además que los barcos de guerra rusos en el Caribe no suponen una amenaza para Estados Unidos, que mantiene su poder militar en la región.

Shannon dijo que las intenciones rusas en el Caribe quedarán claras con el tiempo.

"Si el propósito de estos barcos es sólo mostrar hasta dónde llega la influencia rusa, si el propósito es demostrar su posición respecto a Georgia, entonces probablemente no les volveremos a ver" dijo. "Pero si los rusos pretenden forjar una relación a largo plazo en la región, entonces buscarán maneras de mantener su presencia".

he said in an interview.

Maxine D. Wilson, 42, bought one of Toussie's homes on Long Island in 1996. She later sued Toussie, claiming the house started to fall apart after she moved in in 1997. She said she was shocked when she learned Bush was going to pardon Toussie.

"I was angry at how money, power and influence seemed to trump justice," she said. But on Wednesday, she

said, "I feel today that somebody paid attention. Somebody stepped back and made us feel equal."

Federal Election Commission records show a number of donations to Republicans this year by Robert Toussie and by a Laura Toussie who lists the same address. Between them, they gave \$4,600 to Minnesota Republican Sen. Norm Coleman and another \$4,600 to Oregon Republican Sen. Gordon Smith,

all on Oct. 15. Coleman is locked in a still-undecided race against Democrat Al Franken, and Smith lost in November to Democrat Jeff Merkley.

On Oct. 30, Robert Toussie also gave \$2,300 to Republican Congressman Eric Cantor of Virginia.

His contribution to the Republican National Committee came as part of a fundraiser in March for presi
(Continued on Page 14)



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ICE detention system criticized as cruel by human rights groups

By HELEN O'NEILL, AP Special Correspondent

Dec. 22, 2008: U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement defends its sprawling system of detention centers as a necessary part of its homeland security mission "to ensure a safer, more secure America."

"We are a country that cares about people but first we care about our own people and that they know who is here and why," said ICE spokeswoman Pat Reilly.

But a broad coalition of human rights groups criticize a system that indefinitely incarcerates people who have committed no crimes, and the groups argue, inflicts lasting psychological damage on top of traumas many have already experienced. They also raise questions about the legality of some ICE policies and the accountability of programs that cost billions of taxpayer dollars and affect millions of lives.

"It really is the dark side of American justice," said David Leopold of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. "We have managed to dehumanize our non-citizens in a way that reminds me of how the Nuremberg laws demonized Jews."

Nonetheless, there are

many who support the system. "Detention is not for the convenience of the detainee, so it's too bad if it's not what they had in mind," said Steven Camarota of the Federation for American Immigration Reform. "Most in detention are not legitimately in this country and have no right, under our rules and laws, to remain here."

According to ICE, the average length of detention is five or six weeks, but many immigrants spend months or years in detention centers and county jails, with few of the resources—of regular inmates. They are not entitled to a lawyer or a jury trial, there is no date set for release and many are not entitled to bond.

"We are supposed to be the beacon of freedom for the world," said Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif. "And yet the first thing that happens to people fleeing persecution is that we further traumatize them by shackling them and putting them in jail. It's shameful and wrong."

Lofgren, an immigration lawyer, chairs the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law. Last summer she

chaired congressional hearings on the medical care of detainees and said she was horrified at what she heard.

"There are some instances in which I think ICE is acting in violation of the law," Lofgren said, "not to mention in violation of basic humanity, commonsense and common decency."

Lofgren cited some highly publicized cases of detainees dying in custody and the difficulties of their families in obtaining information. Just this month, immigration officials removed 153 detainees from a Rhode Island detention center following the late-stage cancer death of a 34-year-old Chinese computer engineer who was being held for overstaying a visa.

Lofgren also criticized the sudden transfer of detainees from one facility to another—often to other states—without notifying families or attorneys. "I have had lawyers wringing their hands in my office because they couldn't find their clients," she said.

"People just disappear in the system all the time," said Andrea Black of Detention Watch Network, a coalition of about 100 organizations that focus on immigration detention and deportation issues. "And they are the ones we know about, with lawyers."

At the 300-bed detention center in Elizabeth, N.J., ICE Field Office Director Scott Weber said transfers are purely a matter of available bed space and are not done for punitive reasons. He pointed out that detainees themselves can call family and friends to tell them of their whereabouts.

Weber refused to directly answer questions about other policies at Elizabeth—such as why spouses are allowed no physical contact, why detainees must wear prison uniforms and why they receive no access to fresh air other than an hour a day in a room with an open skylight.

Instead, like other ICE officials in Washington and New Jersey, Weber consistently referred to a series of national detention "standards" adopted in 2000 in response to widespread criticism and legal challenges concerning conditions. Those standards are not legally binding or enforceable.

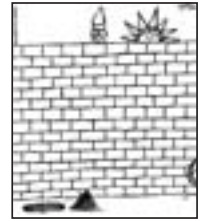
On a recent tour of Elizabeth, members of the media saw some women detainees at a handful of computer terminals and some men reading in a small room marked "library." But ICE refused permission to talk with the detainees. Some former detainees say access

to books and computers was haphazard, and is not offered on a daily basis, as ICE stated.

ICE has an annual budget of nearly \$5 billion a year. ICE officials in Washington and New Jersey refused repeated requests to say how much goes to Corrections Corporation of America, the private prison contractor that runs many detention centers, including Elizabeth. All Weber would disclose was that it costs \$175 a day per detainee at Elizabeth. In contrast, it costs about \$12 a day to monitor a detainee on parole.

CCA spokeswoman Louise Grant referred all queries back to ICE, saying "We follow ICE standards. They are our customer."

In March 2008 Jorge Bustamante, the United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Human Rights of Migrants, issued a stinging report on U.S. immigration policies, saying they violated human rights and international law. The report—written after Bustamante was turned away from two of the three detention facilities he attempted to visit—called for an end to mandatory detention, greater detainee access to legal counsel and codifying detention standards into law. Bustamante also de-



plored what he called the worsening xenophobia and racism towards immigrants since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Those attacks ushered in the most recent crackdown on immigrants by giving immigration authorities new powers to detain people indefinitely, and by encouraging an aggressive new enforcement strategy—Operation Endgame—which calls for the removal of all deportable aliens by 2012. The program targets, among others, people who have been living in the U.S. for years, often with jobs, families and community ties. Swept up in raids for visa violations and other administrative wrongdoings, they wind up in detention before being deported.

In Elizabeth, ICE Field Director Weber said his agency didn't have a lot of options. "We are not heartless or without compassion," he said. "We are enforcing the laws on the books."



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Job training expanded for Michigan workers

LANSING, Dec. 23, 2008: Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed new legislation that will expand job training opportunities in high demand fields for Michigan workers.

The two bill package allows a community college to enter into an agreement with an employer to provide training for new jobs. The job training costs will be paid to the community college from income taxes withheld by employers on the new jobs created; in the same manner the income tax withholding would be paid to the Department of Treasury.

PA 360 (HB 6185) was sponsored by State Representative Richard Hammel (D-Mt. Morris Township); PA 359 (SB 1342), was sponsored by State Senator Mark Jansen (R-Gaines Township).

In 2007, Granholm unveiled *No Worker Left Behind* plan, to help more

than 100,000 displaced workers receive training for new jobs over the next three years. The program provides up to two years free tuition for displaced workers at any Michigan community college or other approved training program to gain needed training in high demand skills.

In its first 16 months of operation, the program has helped more than 50,000 workers prepare for new careers by enrolling in training.

Granholm also recently announced a new feature on the state website that connects citizens with information on available jobs in their area. The feature - www.michigan.gov/jobs - provides job seekers with vital career information and is part of the governor's continued efforts to stand up for Michigan workers.

Michigan Roundtable hosts conference addressing racial inequity

The *Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion* holds a conference titled "*Opportunity for All: Inequity, Linked Fate and Social Justice in Michigan*" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 30, 2009 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 East Warren Ave., in Detroit.

Opportunity for All examines the recently completed report of *Dr. John A. Powell*, executive director of the Kirwan Institute for The Study of Race and Ethnicity at *The Ohio State University*. Powell's report reviews the historic discrepancies in the opportunities offered to whites and people of color in metro Detroit and offers insight

into how the region can recognize and reconcile that past.

Local personalities will be featured as speakers including: *Heaster Wheeler*, Executive Director of the Detroit Branch - NAACP and *Judge Linda V. Parker* of the Wayne County Circuit Court.

This conference seeks to develop a community-based network to establish an action plan to promote equity for all, build relationships for social justice and create sustainable communities vital to the region's economic future.

For more information or to register visit www.mroundtable.org or call *Freda G. Sampson*, 313-870-1500, ext. 113.

Granholm signs bills advancing Renewable Fuels

LANSING, Dec. 26, 2008: Governor Jennifer M. Granholm has signed legislation that will advance the state's efforts to expand the production and use of renewable fuels in Michigan. The eleven bills were part of a series of recommendations from the state's Renewable Fuels Commission, established in 2006.

The legislation includes five additional renewable energy renaissance zones, creation of a Renewable Fuels Fund to promote the production and use of alternative fuels, and new tax incentives for the purchase of equipment capable of harvesting biomass and the conversion of existing gasoline pumps to pumps capable of delivering ethanol, biodiesel or other forms of renewable fuels.

Public Act 329 of 2008, sponsored by Representative Frank Accavitti (D-Eastpointe), adds five additional renewable fuels renaissance zones in Michigan, bringing the total to fifteen. Renaissance zones are specific geographic areas designated as tax exempt to encourage economic development. Additionally, the new law requires that five of the state's renewable fuels renaissance zones be designated for facilities that focus primarily on cellulose biofuel production.

Public Acts 314, 332 and 334 of 2008 create tax incentives for the use of agricultural machinery that can harvest both grain and biomass. These bills

en-cour-a g e farm-ers to invest i n equip-ment that will allow them to harvest their crops while also collecting biomass residue from the crop or grain that can be used in alternative fuel production. The bills were sponsored by Representative Paul Condino (D-Southfield), Senator Patty Birkholz (R-Saugatuck) and Representative Gary McDowell (D-Rudyard), respectively.

"The next generation of alternative fuel will be produced from non-food sources like wood waste, switchgrass, algae or other waste products," said Granholm. "Creating incentives to help ensure that the research and production of these next generation fuels are done here in Michigan will help ensure that the jobs created are here, too."

Public Acts 321 and 322 of 2008, sponsored by Senators Cameron Brown (R-Fawn River Township) and Michael Switalski (D-Roseville), respectively, create a new *Renewable Fuels Fund* to promote the production and use of alternative fuels in Michigan. Citizens will have the option to contribute to the fund through a new check off on the state income tax form.

For more information on the *Renewable Fuels Commission*, visit: www.michigan.gov/ffc



Jennifer Granholm

Sixteenth Annual Día de la Mujer Conference—“La Mujer Maravilla”

The 16th Annual *Día de la Mujer* (DDL M) Conference, celebrating the lives of Latinas, is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2009. The one-day conference hosts workshops for over 300 Latinas from.

The title of the 2009 conference is "La Mujer Maravilla." The phrase reflects the multi-faceted lives and accomplishments of Latinas—these are women who work to balance their roles as professionals, educators, artists, students, athletes, and others with their familial roles as sisters, daughters, mothers, care-givers, and life partners. The Conference honors these "wonder women."

This annual conference has provided a much needed space for Latinas in Michigan to affect social change and to highlight their accomplishments. Keynote presenters, forums and workshops, facilitated by Latinas, provide conference participants with networking opportunities for employment, education and sharing life experiences.

Topics to be addressed include: education, health, politics, community, family, history, culture, and career and personal development. Over two-dozen workshops will be offered for participants of all ages and life phases, including adults, college students, and K-12 students.

In a press release, *Dr. Sheila Contreras*, Director of Chicano/Latino Studies at MSU, expressed that: "My first experience at *Día de la Mujer* was stunning. I marveled at the sight of generations of women, bisabuelas, abuelas, mamás, hijas y nietas, striding through Kellogg Center, taking ownership of it, even if just for a day.

"As a recently-arrived Tejana longing for home, I was comforted by the presence of so many Chicanas

and Latinas. Now, almost ten years later, the model of *Día de la Mujer*, a community-based and woman-centered conference held at a university campus, continues to remind me of the relevance and the potential of Chicana/Latina Studies."

DDL M will be held at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, on the campus of Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

Nominations sought for the Maria Zavala Founder's Award

The conference planning committee of DDL M invites nominations for candidates for the "Maria Zavala Founder's Award". Every year, this honor is bestowed on a Latina, who has consistently and unselfishly contributed to the Latina/o community.

Submit your nomination by logging on to: www.ddlm.ocat.msu.edu and providing a one-page letter of support.

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BGSU Financial Aid Workshop Jan. 10

Students who have applied to *Bowling Green State University* or are considering the University for the 2009-10 academic year can get a jumpstart on financial aid at two workshops on campus Jan. 10, 2009.

The informational sessions will help families understand the financial aid application process. BGSU financial aid staff will review how to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students must complete a FAFSA each year in order to receive

financial aid. They will also provide an overview of the types of aid available and information on how and when to apply.

The day's other discussions will focus on such topics as scholarship opportunities, other types of aid—including grants and loans—and payment processes.

Registration is required for the workshops, which will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1-4 p.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom of BGSU's Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Financial aid staff and ad-



missions counselors will be available to take questions after each session, at noon and 4 p.m., and campus tours will be offered at 12:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. Door prizes will be awarded, with grand prizes of two \$250 book scholarships at each session.

Students and their families can register online at: <https://sfa.bgsu.edu/sa/workshop/> or by calling the Office of Student Financial Aid at 419-372-2651.

Library receives Toledo Legacy CDs

Dec. 30, 2008: Toledo's musical heritage will be preserved in historical fashion with a 36-song, 2-CD set being donated to all Toledo-Lucas County Public Library branch locations. At 3 p.m. Dec. 30 in the Main Library Audio/Visual department, 325 Michigan St., copies of "Legacy: Songs in the Key of Toledo" were presented.

A year in the making, the CDs cull never-before-on-CD tracks from seven decades of Toledo history. Highlights include a med-

ley of several mayors singing "Strong for Toledo," a monologue from Randy Sparks about the writing of "Saturday Night in Toledo" and dozens of cuts and clips from local bands, from obscure garage groups to national hit-makers.

K-100 personalities *Gary Shores* and *Harvey Steele* recorded introductions for each song, as contributed by local music historians. Many of the tracks were obtained from 78 and 33 rpm discs from private collections.

Lucas County Commissioner *Ben Konop* issued a proclamation honoring the project, which was funded by Columbia Gas of Ohio and researched by the staff of Toledo Free Press. The disc will not be commercially available; copies kept in the libraries will be available for check out.

For more details, please call 419.259.5207.



Black Swamp Conservancy matches grant

Dec. 22, 2008: *Black Swamp Conservancy*, a Perrysburg, Ohio-based land conservation organization, has announced that it has matched a challenge grant the conservancy received from Toledo Community Foundation.

The conservancy was awarded a \$50,000 grant from Toledo Community Foundation earlier this year. The grant allowed Black Swamp Conservancy to hire a stewardship manager.

\$30,000 of the grant

was awarded outright. The remaining \$20,000 was a challenge grant, with the funds being released once the conservancy raised an additional \$20,000.

Black Swamp Conservancy hired *Rob Krain* of Perrysburg as stewardship manager. Krain is a 2006 graduate of Bowling Green State University, with a bachelor's degree in environmental policy and analysis.

Black Swamp Conservancy is a

non-profit corporation with a service area in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. The organization has permanently protected over 7,100 acres of agricultural land and natural areas through 56 land conservation agreements and ownership of 11 wooded parcels.

More information about the conservancy is available online at www.blackswamp.org



Hope Lutheran Church offers Healing Service

Hope Lutheran Church is hosting a Healing Service on Sunday, January 4, 2009, beginning at 4 p.m. The service includes: praying, anointing and laying on hands, as well as Holy Communion. Jim Oedy, founder of New Hope Christian Community Foundation, is the guest speaker.

According to organiz-

ers, for 30 years, Oedy "has shown a gifting for building up successful new businesses, ministries and people; and nurturing a team that insures long-term success. He has been an active member of Calvary Assembly of God since 1991 and counts his personal prayer time and Bible studies as his favorite endeavors. Jim's life focus is be-



ing a servant leader as the Lord directs him."

Hope Lutheran Church is located at the corner of Secor and Bancroft, Toledo. For more information, contact the church office, 419/536-8383.

Got Cereal?

That's what youth will be asking when they check out Sanger Branch Library's newest book club, *The Serial Readers and Cereal Eaters!* - open to school-age youth in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades.

Bring your favorite cereal bowl to Sanger Branch, 3030 W. Central Ave., Toledo, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday beginning January 13 - May 26, 2009.



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Toledo Lighthouse, Lake Erie featured in Lourdes College lecture

On Tuesday, January 13, 2009, Lourdes College hosts a S.A.V.E. (Science Alliance for Valuing the Environment) lecture titled "*Maumee Western Lake Erie Water is Very Special.*" Hosted by Sandy Bihn, President of the Western Lake Erie Association and Toledo Lighthouse Society, the lecture will be held in the

Franciscan Theatre and Conference Center from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

This S.A.V.E. lecture discusses the Maumee Bay and Western Lake Erie and the Toledo Lighthouse that serves as a connecting point between these two bodies of water. During the lecture, audience members will learn about the aquatic life contained in these waters, fun

facts and challenges surrounding the Great Lakes as well as a history of the Toledo Lighthouse.

Free and open to the public. For more information about the lecture and S.A.V.E., contact Sr. Rosine Sobczak, OSF, at 419-824-3691.



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Horoscopes

ARIES: MARCH 21 - APRIL 20
 Too much time has passed for you to be harboring this grudge. No matter what your feelings are you can't keep dwelling on what's over and done with. Let it go and use the experience to strengthen yourself.

TAURUS: APRIL 21 - MAY 20
 Too much of your Self has been lost to outer things. None of your plans will work out if you exclude your spiritual needs. Everything comes from within. Take time to reflect upon where you stand with your inner life.

GEMINI: MAY 21 - JUNE 20
 The thorn in your side may be a pain but it's there to remind you something needs to change. Don't be afraid to drop this. Whoever or whatever you're attached to is no longer serving your best interests.

CANCER: JUNE 21 - JULY 20
 You've fallen for someone who doesn't deserve you. This is a repetitive pattern. Go for it if you have to, but don't expect it to be more than just another chance to review the extent to which you devalue yourself.

LEO: JULY 21 - AUGUST 20
 Family stuff is a big item. Don't get too involved. You didn't come here to fix what appears to be someone else's problem. Taking care of your own needs is far more important than wasting time on this.

VIRGO: AUGUST 21 - SEPTEMBER 20
 In the midst of a major transition you are aware of the need to stay focused. Keep your eye on the prize and don't let anything undermine your desire to pull your life together and stop fooling around.

LIBRA: SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 20
 Being pulled back into someone else's dysfunction is the last thing you need. You've been here enough times to know better. Maybe this time you'll have the wisdom to see that it's their issue, not yours.

SCORPIO: OCTOBER 21 - NOVEMBER 20
 You don't need to make this decision right now. Others are putting the pressure on, but this is your choice. Before you cave in to their demands make sure that you want this as much as they do.

SAGITTARIUS: NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 20
 The futility of your situation isn't what it appears to be. Hanging in there may seem foolish but if you stick around you'll be so glad that you had the patience to keep the faith when the going got tough.

CAPRICORN: DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 20
 Watching your loved ones go through the mill is only painful until you realize it's their Karma. You can't fix this. All you can do is be there for them and trust their ability to handle it themselves.

AQUARIUS: JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 20
 The process of give and take is always an issue. What you don't seem to see is that others are giving as much as they can. You wouldn't be so Hell bent on making them do more if you actually appreciated their efforts.

PISCES: FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 20
 Don't try to push this. More pressure will only make things worse. It would be better to cut your losses and back off. Your efforts to make your self right are a waste of time and will only prove you wrong in the long run.



Movie Review: *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*

By Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic

It's the damndest thing. You look into the elderly man's blue eyes behind a pair of old-fashioned spectacles, look at the sweet smile ringed by wrinkles, and you know that's Brad Pitt under there. But the special effects are so dazzling, and Pitt's performance is so gracefully convincing, that you can't help but be repeatedly wowed.

Director David Fincher has always proven himself a virtuoso visual stylist—to the point of seeming like a shameless showoff at times—with films like "Fight Club," "Panic Room" and "Zodiac."

But here, he's truly outdone himself: He's made a grand, old-fashioned epic that takes mind-boggling advantage of the most modern moviemaking technology. Fincher's film, based on an F. Scott Fitzgerald short story about a man

who ages in reverse, is rambling and gorgeous—perhaps a bit overlong and gooey in the midsection—but still, one that leaves you with a lingering wistfulness.

Pitt, as the title character, travels the world and lives a life that's adventurous and full, but he can never truly be with the woman he loves, Daisy (Cate Blanchett), whom he met when she was just a little girl and he was a boy trapped in an old man's body.

Eric Roth's script may seem naggingly similar to that of "Forrest Gump"—which he also happened to write—but it seems more concerned with the transformational power of true love than the gimmickry of an unusual existence.

PG-13 for brief war violence, sexual content, language and smoking. 167 min. Three and a half stars out of four.



Dora and Clyde López at a concert in Corpus Christi on Dec. 9, 2008, hosted by Freddie Martinez Records.



Waite High School's Mary Morales with Jaime—a student from Spain, currently attending Waite High School—assisting The Spanish American Organization (SAO) at its annual Christmas drive. SAO delivered Holiday food/gifts to needy families in the Toledo area. For more information on the SAO visit: www.saotoledo.com



Jim Duran of City Wide Auto Credit at Skyway Place

Detienen a Miss Sinaloa en camión lleno de armas

GUADALAJARA, el 23 de diciembre del 2008 (AP): Una reina de belleza del estado de Sinaloa fue arrestada mientras viajaba con miembros de una pandilla en un camión lleno de armas.

El jefe de la policía de Jalisco Francisco Alejandro Solorio dijo que Laura Zúñiga y siete hombres fueron detenidos en un control militar en Zapopán, a las afueras de Guadalajara.

Solorio indicó que Zúñiga iba en uno de dos camiones en los que soldados hallaron rifles de asalto AR-15, pistolas, municiones y 53,300 dólares.

La modelo de 23 años ganó el título Nuestra Belleza Sinaloa en julio y pronunció un discurso exhortando a la sociedad a valorar más a la mujer. También ganó recientemente el certamen Reina Hispanoamericana, en el que participaron aspirantes de distintos países de Latinoamérica.



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Carla's Corner

Por Carla Soto, Editora Asociada de La Prensa
www.laprensa1.com

Tina Fey es la Artista del Año de la AP

Por JAKE COYLE

NUEVA YORK, el 23 de diciembre del 2008 (AP): Tina Fey fue seleccionada Artista del Año de The Associated Press, honor anual que eligen por votación editores de periódicos y productores de televisión de todo Estados Unidos.

Fey fue seleccionada por miembros de la AP como la artista que tuvo el

mayor impacto en la cultura y el mundo del espectáculo en el 2008.

La comediante de 38 años superó a Robert Downey Jr., quien quedó en segundo lugar por su espectacular regreso a la pantalla con la taquillera "Iron Man", mientras que en tercer puesto quedó Heath Ledger, quien cautivó al público póstumamente como el Guasón (Joker) en la cinta



Tina Fey

de Batman "The Dark Knight" (El caballero de la noche).

Pero fue Fey quien más impresionó a los votantes, en gran medida por su indeleble interpretación de la gobernadora Sarah Palin en "Saturday Night Live" (SNL). Sus apariciones especiales en su otrora programa (del que fue escritora hasta el 2006) impulsaron el índice de audiencia del show a niveles récord y atrajeron a la propia Palin al programa.

"Tina Fey es una opción tan obvia", dijo Sharon Ebersson, editora de espectáculos del Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "Nos divertió cuando realmente lo necesitábamos y, en un año en el que las mujeres en la política daban pasos agigantados, Fey sobresalió en el mundo del espectáculo".

El 2008 fue un año pleno para Fey, quien también debutó en la gran pantalla con "Baby Mama" (que recaudó 60 millones de dólares en taquilla) y ganó tres premios Emmy—a la mejor actriz de comedia, mejor guionista y mejor serie de comedia—por "30 Rock" de NBC, que creó, protagoniza y escribe.

"Nos entretuvo simultáneamente con su inteligencia, puso un espejo frente a la nación durante las elecciones y nos hizo pensar sobre lo que estaba

pasando", dijo Scott Shive, editor asistente de reportajes para el Lexington Herald-Leader. "Es la personificación del chico inteligente que por una vez termina primero".

Tan pronto Palin fue seleccionada compañera de fórmula del candidato presidencial John McCain, surgieron conjeturas de que Fey, quien se parece físicamente a Palin, volvería a "SNL" para interpretarla.

En una entrevista a principios de otoño, Fey recordó ver la cobertura televisiva inicial de Palin: "Esa fue la primera vez que pensé, 'bueno, sí me parece un poco a ella. Será mejor que escuche bien cómo habla esta mujer'".

Fey presentó su imitación en el primer episodio de la nueva temporada de "SNL" y se convirtió de inmediato en una sensación. Realizó otras cuatro



Carla Soto

personificaciones de Palin en el programa previo a las elecciones.

"Desde los guiños hasta los movimientos de cabeza y el acento, ella dio en el clavo", dijo Marc Bona, editor asistente de entretenimiento del Plain Dealer en Cleveland. "Y lo hizo en un momento en que todo el país parecía estar viendo, tanto la contienda presidencial como 'Saturday Night Live'".

Su interpretación de Palin también ha beneficiado a "30 Rock". El programa debutó en su cuarta temporada con 8,5 millones de televidentes, un

millón más que el año pasado.

Recientemente también fue nominada a un Globo de Oro a la mejor actriz en una serie de comedia o musical así como a un premio del Sindicato de Actores de la Pantalla (SAG, según sus siglas en inglés).

"Lo de 'SNL' ciertamente ha cambiado las cosas para mí", dijo Fey en octubre. "Mucha más gente parece saber quién soy".

El Artista del Año de la AP en el 2007 fue Stephen Colbert, otro comediante que fusionó sátira con política.

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Project Coqui Youth Leadership Development

A youth intervention and leadership development program. The objective of this initiative is to develop tomorrow's leaders.

- Youth participants engage in monthly educational seminars, which are designed to develop leadership, social-cultural development, and address youth interests and concerns.
- Engage in different forms of activities such as talk sessions, workshops, community tours, speakers, movies, study groups, team building, etc.
- The youth acquire experience in planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating the following activities of the Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center:

Fiesta Latina - I-X Indoor Amusement Park;

Educational and Cultural Activities throughout the year;

Youth Stage - Puerto Rican Parade & Latino Fest; and

Puerto Rican Parade Float Building Committee.



Puerto Rican Parade's Mr. & Miss Puerto Rican Image selection will be made from Project Coqui participants

Youth Cultural Art Sessions are provided on an on-going basis and are free of charge for all inner-city youth. To register, please contact the Center at (216) 961-2970.

- * Folkloric Dance
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- * Piano
- * Plastic Arts
- * Stilt Walking
- * Theater/Drama

Class Schedule

Folkloric Dance - Tues 4:00 - 6:00 & Thurs 6:00-7:00

Guitar - Tues & Thurs 6:00 - 8:00

Latin Percussion - Mon 6:00 - 8:00

Piano - seasonal

Plastic Arts - summer

Stilt Walking - summer

Theater/Drama - Wed 6:00 - 7:00

The Puerto Rican Parade & Latino Fest

This event is organized by the Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center to showcase the culture and folklore of Hispanics in the Northeast Ohio region. It is a three-day celebration that usually kicks off the third weekend in July and is the single most important summer event highlighting the Latino culture.

The festival and Parade is colorful, festive, and full of splendor. A mixture of exquisite Caribbean food, traditional native art, hot rhythmic live music, souvenirs, novelty items, and a very tropical, friendly atmosphere for the entire family to enjoy. The parade takes of the last day of the event.

The Latino Fest is free to the public; however, as a way to generate funds, Julia De Burgos sells booths to those interested. Financial assistance from the City of Cleveland, private sponsors, and support of non-profit agencies assists our agency to put together a safe, educational, and entertaining event.

If your organization or company is interested in sponsoring our event, please contact the Center for a sponsorship package.

Parade and Fest organizational meetings are open to the public, please contact the Center for further information.

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México del Norte: *Perdónalo Señor..*

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NOTICIAS RELEVANTES 2008

ENERO

Liberan las FARC a Clara Rojas y Consuelo González

Tras semanas de angustia por las negociaciones del presidente Hugo Chávez y militantes de las FARC, Clara Rojas y Consuelo González fueron puestas en libertad. El reencuentro entre Rojas y su pequeño hijo Emmanuel acaparó todos los medios.

FEBRERO

Mueren los 46 ocupantes de avión siniestrado en Venezuela

Los 46 ocupantes que viajaban en un avión comercial venezolano murieron luego de que la aeronave se estrelló contra una montaña en una escarpada zona en el suroeste del país, informó el jefe de Protección Civil.

Gobierno de EEUU aprueba primera barda 'virtual' en frontera

El gobierno de Estados Unidos aprobó la primera barda "virtual" a lo largo de la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos en Arizona, un tramo de 45 kilómetros (28 millas) de tecnología que utilizará radares y cámaras de vigilancia para detectar a las personas que pretendan cruzar la frontera de manera ilegal.

Aumentan a 52 los muertos por tornados en el sur de EEUU

El balance de muertes por una serie de tornados y tormentas en el centro y el sur de Estados Unidos asciende a 52, informaron las autoridades de emergencia.

MARZO

Cuba levanta restricciones para telefonía móvil

Cuba anunció que por primera vez permitirá el uso sin restricciones de la telefonía móvil entre sus ciudadanos, en la última medida del nuevo presidente, Raúl Castro, para facilitar el acceso a bienes de consumo.

Missouri paralizada por inundaciones y tormentas

Residentes de Missouri, Arkansas y Ohio hacían lo imposible por salvar sus casas y pertenencias de las inundaciones y tormentas que han sacudido la zona.

Obtiene su libertad Francisco Rafael Arellano Félix en EEUU

Autoridades estadounidenses dejaron en libertad a Francisco Rafael Arellano Félix, luego de que cumplió la pena impuesta en ese país y un día después ingresó a México por el Puente Santa Fe, en Ciudad Juárez, sin que ninguna autoridad lo requiriera.

ABRIL

Evacuan al menos 550 casas por incendio forestal en California

Los bomberos avanzaron en el combate de un incendio forestal que obligó a más de 1.000 personas a dejar sus casas en las colinas cercanas a Los Ángeles.

Niños de secta de polígamos tendrán dura adaptación

Los centenares de niños que vivían en la hacienda de una sexta de polígamos comenzaron a ser colocados en hogares provisionales, centros juveniles y de acogida de menores, aunque especialistas y abogados temen que su transición quizá sea mucho más difícil que en el caso de otros niños adoptados.

México protesta en carta a EEUU por caso de condenado a muerte

México protestó a Washington por un reciente fallo de la Corte Suprema de Estados Unidos en el que rechazó reabrir el caso de un mexicano condenado a muerte por acusaciones de doble asesinato.

MAYO

Tornados mortales en Estados Unidos

Decenas de personas murieron en Missouri y Oklahoma después de que varios tornados atravesaron el área. Los ciclones dejaron gran destrucción material a su paso.

Pánico en Chile por erupción de volcán Chaitén

El volcán Chaitén hizo erupción por primera vez en 9000 años, lo que causó la evacuación de todo el poblado.

Casi 70,000 muertos por terremoto en China

El sismo del 12 de mayo en el suroeste de China dejó 67.183 muertos confirmados y 20.790 desaparecidos, según el último balance provisional anunciado el martes a la prensa por el portavoz gubernamental.

JUNIO

Se retira Hillary Clinton de la contienda

Hillary Clinton dijo que Barack Obama tiene los delegados para asegurar la nominación Demócrata.

Inundaciones en Estados Unidos dejan varios muertos

Las aguas sucias y oscuras que inundaron la segunda ciudad más grande del estado de Iowa comenzaron finalmente a bajar, luego de obligar a 24.000 personas a evacuar sus hogares, mientras las autoridades creen que la población permanecerá inundada durante varios días más.

Gasolina alcanza cifras récord

Impulsados por la debilidad de la moneda estadounidense y por las tensiones entre Israel e Irán, los precios de la gasolina volvieron a subir una vez más a un promedio nacional de \$4.086 por el galón, señala un reporte por la organización de motoristas AAA.

JULIO

John McCain realiza viaje histórico a Colombia y México

El senador John McCain concluyó su viaje a América Latina con una visita al Centro de Mando de la Policía Federal en la delegación de Iztapalapa, donde habló de dos temas fundamentales para la relación de Estados Unidos y México: la lucha conjunta contra el tráfico de drogas y la seguridad en la frontera.

Liberan a Ingrid Betancourt y otros 14 rehenes

Ingrid Betancourt llegó al hospital militar de Val-de-Grâce de París para ser sometida a un exhaustivo chequeo médico, tras pasar en la selva casi seis años y medio secuestrada por la guerrilla de las FARC.

Barack Obama desata locura en Alemania

Más de 200,000 personas acudieron en Berlín al discurso del entonces candidato virtual demócrata a la presidencia del país Barack Obama.

AGOSTO

Huracán Gustav amenaza a New Orleans y a los republicanos

El huracán Gustav, "la madre de todas las tormentas", avanzaba a través del Golfo de México hacia New Orleans, cuyos residentes huían de la ciudad mientras la guardia nacional patrullaba una zona que todavía se está recuperando de la devastación causada hace tres años por el huracán Katrina.

Demócratas nominan a Barack Obama

En una histórica Convención Nacional Demócrata, realizada en Denver, delegados y superdelegados hicieron oficial la candidatura a la presidencia de Barack Obama de Joe Biden a la vicepresidencia.

John McCain elige a desconocida gobernadora de Alaska, Sarah Palin, como compañera de fórmula

Los últimos reportes indican que la Gobernadora del estado de Alaska, Sarah Palin, será la candidata a la vicepresidencia junto al virtual candidato presidencial republicano John McCain.

España de luto por el peor accidente aéreo en los últimos 25 años

Las investigaciones para determinar las causas y las responsabilidades del accidente del avión Spanair, que causó 153 muertos en Madrid, comenzaron en una España consternada por la catástrofe aérea más letal de los últimos 25 años en el país.

SEPTIEMBRE

Huracán Ike azota con fuerza Texas

Un huracán del tamaño del mismo estado de Texas, dejó bajo el agua y sin servicios a miles de personas en

Texas, especialmente a Galveston, que quedó destruida tras el ciclón.

Republicanos eligen a John McCain como candidato oficial

Los republicanos celebraron su Convención Nacional en medio de tropiezos y nominaron oficialmente al senador de Arizona y a Sarah Palin.

Se desata la crisis financiera

El rescate del grupo de seguros estadounidense AIG por parte de la Reserva Federal es el último capítulo de la crisis de los créditos hipotecarios de riesgo ("subprime"), que se extendió a todo el sistema financiero mundial.

Candidatos presidenciales realizan su primer debate

Después de que el republicano John McCain se negara a debatir por la situación económica y de que su rival demócrata Barack Obama anunciara su asistencia al debate 'con o sin McCain', se realizó finalmente el primer debate presidencial.

OCTUBRE

Aprueban y convierten en ley el plan de rescate financiero

El presidente de Estados Unidos, George W. Bush, convirtió en ley el plan de rescate financiero, por un total de 700 mil millones de dólares en fondos federales.

Sarah Palin en el ojo del huracán

Alaska investiga a su gobernadora por gastos realizados, mientras sale a la luz pública el tremendo gasto de 150,000 dólares en su vestuario.

Miles de bebés intoxicados en China por leche adulterada

Un total de 10.666 bebés chinos, ocho de ellos en estado grave, siguen hospitalizados con problemas renales debido al consumo de leche contaminada con melamina, informó el Ministerio de Salud chino en su web oficial.

NOVIEMBRE

Barack Obama gana la presidencia de Estados Unidos

Obama se convirtió en el primer presidente electo negro en el país con un triunfo abrumador.

Muere secretario de Gobierno de México en accidente aéreo

Juan Camilo Mouriño, secretario de Gobernación, murió en un misterioso accidente aéreo en la ciudad de México el mismo día que Estados Unidos realizaba su elección presidencial.

Incendios devastadores en California

Los vientos secos provocaron que llamas fuertes arrasaran parte de los montes del sur de California, destruyendo cientos de casas y forzando a miles de personas a evacuar la región.

DICIEMBRE

Zapatazos a Bush

El presidente George W. Bush tuvo en pleno suelo iraquí un recordatorio de la oposición ferviente a sus políticas, cuando un hombre le arrojó dos zapatos -uno después del otro- durante una conferencia de prensa a lado del primer ministro de Irak.

Hillary Clinton secretaria de Estado

El presidente electo Barack Obama, eligió a su ex rival Hillary Clinton para que ocupe el cargo de secretaria de Estado en su gabinete.

EEUU anuncia recesión

Por alrededor de un año, Estados Unidos ha estado sumergido en una debilitadora recesión, confirmó la Comisión Nacional de la Investigación Económica (NBER).

Bill Richardson nominado a secretario de Comercio

El presidente electo Barack Obama designó al gobernador de Nuevo México, Bill Richardson, como secretario de Comercio, con lo cual agregará a su gabinete a otro ex rival de campaña.

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MÉXICO del Norte

Perdónalo Señor...



Por: Jorge Mújica Murias

Llega el fin de año pero, desafortunadamente, no todavía el fin del régimen de un tal George W. que vive en una casa blanca en Washington D.C. Para nuestra desgracia, nos quedan todavía como tres semanas de bushismo, y por lo tanto tres semanas de posibles desatinos.

Entre ellos, George se dedicó el día antes de la Navidad a "perdonar" a una serie de individuos. Son los últimos que le tocan, y obedecen a una larga tradición y autoridad garantizada por la Constitución, Artículo II, Sección 2, para alivianar gente que ha cometido crímenes federales en contra de las leyes de Estados Unidos. Con su última acción perdonadora, Bush llegó a casi 200 perdonados o presos a los que les conmuta la sentencia.

Para que un presidente perdone a una persona (digamos claramente a un criminal), se le debe hacer una solicitud y legalmente hay que "aceptar el perdón", lo que legalmente implica que hay que aceptar la culpa.

Por supuesto, la petición no implica el perdón automático. Además, hay una vieja controversia que dice que estos perdones se usan más como herramienta política que para remediar errores de la justicia, lo cual debía ser la aplicación correcta.

La historia de los perdones está llena de burradas, como el concedido por el entonces presidente Gerald Ford a ex presidente Richard Nixon por el escándalo

de Watergate, que propició su juicio político y renuncia. Dicen los que saben que esa fue una burrada presidencial porque Nixon no había sido ni sentenciado ni siquiera judicialmente acusado de un crimen federal. Pero los perdones presidenciales pueden emitirse en cualquier momento.

Otra controversia fue la del papi de Bush, quien perdonó a 75 personas (entre ellos varios funcionarios de la administración de Ronald Reagan), que participaron en el famoso caso Irán-Contra, una venta ilegal de armas israelíes a un grupo guerrillero en Irán y donde el excedente monetario se le dio a los "contras" en Nicaragua.

Porque No sabe a Quién Perdona...

Entre los perdones de Bush del 2008 están un gringo comerciante, Charles Winters, que violó la Ley Nacionalidad de Neutralidad y le vendió aviones de guerra a Israel en 1948, con los cuales bombardearon las poblaciones civiles palestinas para establecer su estado. Si Winters lo hubiera hecho ahora, estaría en Guantánamo.

Hay otro montón de perdonados, entre otras cosas, por posesión ilegal de armas, distribución de cocaína, importación y distribución de marihuana y anfetaminas, narcos todos, pues,

otros por fraude y uno por venta de productos piratas.

Como están de moda la crisis económica y los bancos, Bush perdonó a Eduviges Duví González-Matsumura, californiana, por ayudar en un fraude de fondos bancarios, y a Richard Harold Miller, de Florida, por conspiración para defraudar a Estados Unidos.

Pero destacan John Allen Aregood, tejano acusado de Conspiración para Albergar y Transportar marcanos ilegales o "Illegal Aliens", Eric Charles Blanke, acusado de falsificación de documentos, y John Overholt, de Dakota del Sur, acusado de ocultar información que afecta los beneficios del Seguro Social.

Estos tres casos son importantes, porque están directamente ligados a "crímenes" normalmente asociados con la inmigración. Por decirlo de otra forma, los primeros dos perdonados son un coyote y un miquero. El tercero, pues cometió "fraude" contra el Seguro Social.

Los tres son incluso más que importantes, importantísimos, porque entre otros perdones históricos ha habido por lo menos dos "amnistías", esa palabrita que tanto odian los enemigos de la inmigración cada vez que nosotros la decimos. Primero, el presidente Andrew Johnson perdonó a miles de oficiales confederados al fin

de la Guerra Civil. Segundo, Jimmy Carter perdonó a miles de jóvenes desertores o que se negaron a unirse al ejército durante la guerra de Vietnam. Los dos perdones incluían a miles de personas que habían cometido crímenes federales.

Y ahí es donde estamos nosotros. Aunque los anti inmigrantistas nunca han logrado su sueño dorado de convertir en crimen federal el hecho de estar en Estados Unidos sin papeles, en las últimas redadas y arrestos de la Migra hemos visto a más y más ciudadanos de México del Norte convertirse en criminales de hecho, por las acusaciones que les hacen: uso de documentos falsos y robos de identidad.

Todo inmigrante indocumentado que trabaje, o sea la absolutísima mayoría, usa o ha usado documentos falsos, y ha usado o tenido contacto con un miquero o un coyote o los dos.

La propuesta entonces, para los primeros perdones del "cambio", los que conceda Barack Obama dentro de un año, es que perdone a los 12 millones de indocumentados, a los coyotes y a los miqueros.

Los tradicionales perdones a los narcos y los defraudadores de bancos los dejamos a su discreción; nos conformamos con los 12 millones...



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Del baño aparece el joven, muy apuesto, y antes que la ex-anciana se arroje a su brazos él le dice:

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Obituaries



MARTIN GARCÍA JR.

Martin García Jr., 75, of Toledo, OH, died on Thursday, December 25, 2008, at his home. He was born on May 31, 1933, in Houston, TX to the now deceased Martin Sr. and Janie (Martinez) García. Martin was a leader welding instructor for Jeep Corporation. He was active with the Union Local 12 and the Jeep Retirees Association. Martin was a former member of St. Michael Catholic Church, Gibsonburg. He enjoyed fishing and spending time with his grandchildren. Surviving is his significant other, Mary C. Thompson of Toledo; children, Alice (Hector) Cisneros of Toledo, Gloria (Manuel) Salazar of Gibsonburg, Albert (Kathy) García of Toledo, Dora Padilla of Denver, CO, Martin (Jane) García III of Maumee and Diane Ramírez of Oregon, OH; siblings, Angie Sánchez, Steve García, Helen Cardosa all of Toledo, Hank García of San Antonio, TX, Manuel García of Clyde, Jim García of Toledo, Abel García of TN, Janet García, Genevieve Vásquez both of Toledo and Gilbert García of Houston Texas; 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, and many primos.

ROSE GARCÍA

Rose García, age 96, formerly of Adrian, MI and Metamora, OH, passed away on December 27, 2008. She was born to John and Elizabeth (Rendon) García on November 13, 1912. She spent her career working as an Assembler for Hoover Ball and Bearing for 27 years, retiring in 1973. Rose was an avid lover of household painting and refinishing furniture. She was also a member of Immaculate Conception Church for 35 years. She had a great devotion to her family, especially her nieces and nephews. Rose was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Louis, Frank, Theodore and Fred García; sisters, Sarah Bush, Pauline Rojas, Juanita Miller, Sally Vargas and Stella García. She is survived by her sister, Lola Tomecek; brother, Thatcher García; nieces and nephews, Ron García, Isabel Rojas Dailey, Ruth Ann (Terry) Mohler, Alice Sutton, Ray (Cheryl) García, Fred (Linda) García Jr., John García and special nephews, Hank García and Joseph Vargas.

SERGIO ORTIZ

Sergio "Joe" Ortiz, age 67, of Toledo, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 22, 2008, at St. Charles Mercy Hospital. Joe was born in Brownsville, Texas, the third of the ten children of Esteban and Teresa Ortiz. The Ortiz family moved to Ohio in 1957. Joe grew up in the Toledo area and graduated from Whitmer High School in 1962. Joe joined the United States Marine Corps in 1963 and served 4 years, achieving a rank of Sergeant. Upon his discharge, he joined the Port Clinton Police Department, serving with them for fifteen years. Joe then worked for L.O.F. and then Davis Besse in the security departments, retiring in 2002. While in the service, Joe married Anita Montano, his long time sweetheart. They raised their family in Oregon and were proud grandparents. Joe is preceded in death by his brothers, Antonio and Alberto, as well as his parents Esteban and Teresa. He is survived by his children, Randall (Jeanne) Ortiz, Melissa (Bob) Tonkel; his brothers and sisters, Esteban Jr. (Grace), Armando (Dorothy), María (Silvero) Castillo, Ida (Armando) González, Izzy (Celia), Homero, and Elida (Jerome) Bechstein. He will be greatly missed by his grandchildren, Kelsey, Allison, and Megan Ortiz; Ariel and Ethan Tonkel.

ANNA ROSE ROSARIO

Anna Rose Rosario (née Mosley), age 56, of Lorain, OH, passed away on Friday, December 19, 2008, following a lengthy illness. She was born January 11, 1952, in Martin, Kentucky and later moved to Ashtabula, Ohio. She had been a resident of Lorain for the past 38 years. She was a homemaker who enjoyed being with family, especially her grandchildren. She also enjoyed walking at Lakeview Park, reading and listening to country western music. Anna will be sadly missed by her husband of 38 years, Isaias "Cecilia" Rosario; her children Felicita Anderson of Elyria, Isaias Rosario, Jr. and Diana Soto, both of Lorain and Jose Rosario of Tampa, Florida; brothers Roy Mosley of Cherry Valley, Ohio and James Mosley of Oklahoma; sisters Lee Mosley and Venda Pendelton, both of Lorain; 10 grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents Tharp and Tessie Mosley; a brother, Tharp Mosley Jr.; a grandson, Ted Anderson; and a nephew, James Mosley.

RUBEN ZAMORA-GARZA

Rubén Zamora-Garza, 58, of Lorain, OH, died Saturday, December 20, 2008, in the Cleveland Clinic following a brief illness. He was born July 3, 1950 in Lorain. He was a life-long resident, with the exception in 1969 he spent in Seaside, Calif. Mr. Zamora retired this year from Norfolk and Southern Rail Road as a foreman, where he worked as a track patrolman and safety committeeman. He worked there for 38 years. He was a co-owner of Zamora's Crossing in South Lorain. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War. Mr. Zamora was a member of Sacred Heart Chapel, Lorain. He enjoyed playing pool, bowling, trimming his bonsai tree, oldies music, and children. He was an avid Browns fan. He was also a member of the Mexican Mutual Society and the Puerto Rican Home. Among the survivors are his wife of 37 years Judith "Judy" Zamora (née Davila); and a son Rubén G. Zamora, Jr. of Lorain; his mother Consuelo Garza (née Rios) of Lorain; sisters Mary Montanez and Catherine Martínez both of Lorain; brothers Santiago "Jimmy" Zamora of Lorain and a grandson Dominic E. Jones Zamora of Lorain. He was preceded in death by his father Miguel Garza; Grandmother Brijida Vara; and Uncles Frank Rios and Larry Rios.

Bush withdraws 1 of 19 pardons

(Continued from Page 2)
dential candidate John McCain. Out of a total donation of \$30,800 by Toussie, \$2,300 went to McCain's campaign and \$28,500 went to the RNC.

Doug Berman, a law professor at Ohio State University and a close follower of presidential clemency decisions, said the White House decision strikes him as unprecedented, but he said it's not inconceivable that it had happened in the past.

"It's, at best, embarrassing. At worst, it's an extraordinary example of this White House's ability to bollox up one bit of presidential authority that he clearly has," Berman said.

Bradford Berenson, an associate White House counsel during Bush's first term and Isaac Toussie's lawyer, said in a statement that his client remained confident the pardon attorney would grant his request.

"Isaac Toussie is deeply grateful that both the counsel to the president and the president himself found Mr. Toussie's pardon application to have sufficient merit to be granted," Berenson said. "Mr. Toussie looks forward to the pardon attorney's expeditious review of the application."

Berenson declined to elaborate further on the case and its developments.

With the Toussie reversal, Bush has granted a total of 189 pardons and nine commutations. That's fewer than half as many as Presidents Bill Clinton or Ronald Reagan issued during their two-term tenures.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann in Washington and Adam Goldman in New York contributed to this story.

Editor's Note: The 19 pardons and one commutation that President George W. Bush granted on Tuesday before leaving the White House to spend the holidays at Camp David included:

- William Alvis III of Flushing, Ohio. Possession of an unregistered firearm and cocaine distribution.

- John Allen Aregood of Riviera, Texas. Conspiracy to harbor and transport illegal aliens.

- Eric Charles Blanke of Parker, Colo. Counterfeiting.

- Steve Doyle Cavender of The Villages, Fla. Conspiring to import, possess, distribute and dispense marijuana.

- Marie Elena Eppens of Lynden, Wash. Conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute marijuana.

- Lydia Lee Ferguson of Sun City, Ariz. Aiding and abetting possession of stolen mail.

- Eduviges Duvi Gonzalez-Matsumura of Clovis, Calif. Aiding and abetting embezzlement of bank funds.

- George Clarence Greene Jr. of Gray, Ga. Mail fraud.

- James Won Hee Kang of South Barrington, Ill. Trafficking in counterfeit goods.

- Alan Stephen Maiss of Reno, Nev. Concealing knowledge of a crime.

- Richard Harold Miller of Tallahassee, Fla. Conspiracy to defraud the United States.
- Delano Abraham Nixon

of Neosho Rapids, Kan. Forging the endorsement on a U.S. Treasury check.

- John H. Overholt of Black Hawk, S.D. Concealment of information affecting Social Security benefits.

- Charles Winters of Miami. Conspiracy to export, and exportation, of a military aircraft to a foreign country in violation of the Neutrality Act of 1939. (Pardon granted posthumously.)

- Morris Keith Parker of Georgetown, S.C. Concealing knowledge of a crime.

- Robert Truman Reece of Redondo Beach, Calif. Unauthorized absence and missing the movement of a U.S. Navy ship.

- Donald Edward Roessler of Harrison, Ohio. Embezzlement of mail matter.

- Issac Robert Toussie of Brooklyn, N.Y. False statements to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and mail fraud.

- David Lane Woolsey of St. George, Utah. Aiding and abetting violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

Bush commuted the prison sentence of Reed Raymond Prior of Des Moines, Iowa. Prior was convicted of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. He was sentenced in 1996 in the Southern District of Iowa to life in prison with 10 years of supervised release. His prison sentence is now set to expire on Feb. 23, 2009, but the terms of the commutation leave intact and in effect the 10 years of supervised release with all its conditions.

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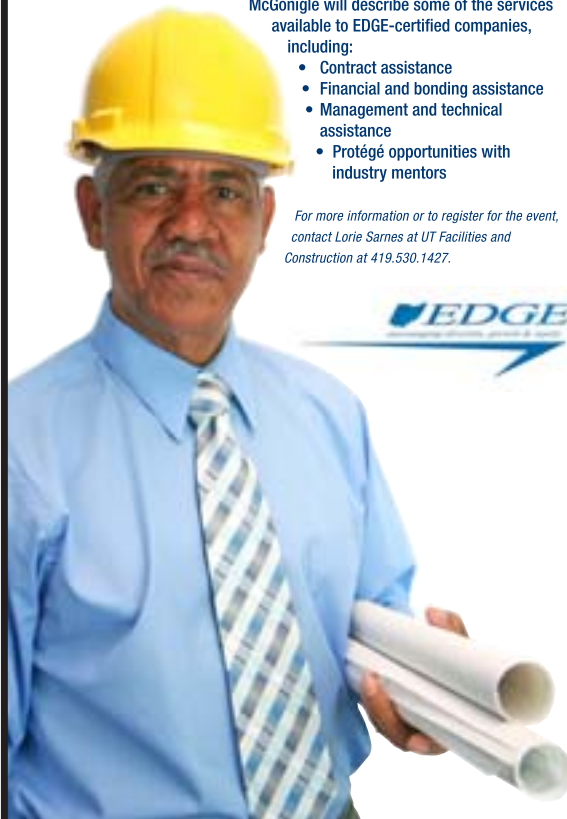
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As part of this commitment, UT is hosting the event, which features Todd McGonigle, EEO Program Manager for the state of Ohio's EDGE program, will talk about how to become EDGE-certified and how EDGE-certified companies can pursue work with the University.

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