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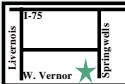
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Dec/diciembre 31, 2003

Spanglish Weekly/Semanal

Vol. 34, No. 16

SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S EDITION**Three Kings Day Baile at DeLucas will scorch Lorain con sabor y ritmo**

By Roberta M. Rosa

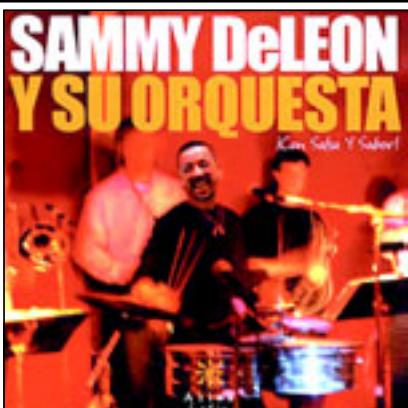
Special to La Prensa

Email:

rican_rosa@yahoo.com

Let me set up a scenario: the gifts have been open, the coquito is gone, it's two days after New Years, and it's a Saturday, what else can you do to kick off 2004 in style? Well allow me to answer that question for you.

La Prensa is presenting the "1st Annual Three Kings Day Dance" with Azica recording artist Sammy DeLeón Y Su Orquesta and



Roberto Ocasio and his Latin Jazz Project on January 3rd, 2004, at the elegant DeLucas Place in the Park, 6075 Middle Ridge Road, in Lorain.

This five-hour event will showcase an eclectic variety

of Latin music from past to present. You will hear such classics such as "Baila que Baila" by Tipica 73; and "Ausencia" by Willie Colón and Hector Lavoe, progress (Continued on Page 8)

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Breves

EE.UU.: Wal-Mart ayudó a investigar presuntos indocumentados

LITTLE ROCK, EE.UU. (AP), dic. 19: La cadena de comercios al por menor Wal-Mart Stores Inc., la más grande del mundo, dijo que había cooperado de manera activa con investigadores federales durante tres años hasta que agentes arrestaron en una incursión a unos 250 presuntos indocumentados que realizaban labores de limpieza en negocios de 21 estados.

Wal-Mart dijo el viernes que había demorado un plan para ahorrar dinero a fin de entregar su división de limpieza a contratistas privados. De esa manera, señaló, podría ayudar al gobierno a investigar el uso de presuntos trabajadores ilegales por parte de los contratistas.

Mona Williams, vocera de Wal-Mart, dijo el viernes a The Associated Press que la compañía había colaborado durante tres años con

(Continued on Page 8)

Club Mystique opens

Highway, at the former Atrium.

According to Cordero-Carter, "The community needed such a place. I look forward to serving the public every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday."

"We also hope that salsa lovers will come to our New Year's Eve special on December 31. Cover is only \$5."

Cordero-Carter is a life-long resident of Toledo and has been an instructor at Professional Skills Institute for over fifteen years. She and fellow instruc-

tor/husband Jason Carter decided to follow their love of music by this venture.

A variety of DJs, such as Joe Cardenas and Tony Rios, will spin the CDs.

The Salsa Toledo Dance Company will provide free salsa dance lessons, starting at 9:00PM on the days it is open, namely Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. A salsa competition is scheduled for January 24th.

Shown above or Irma and Jason (center) with various guests.

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Mixed messages for migrants

Editorial by La Prensa

Below is a sampling of recent articles and editorial relative to the legal treatment of undocumented individuals. These samplings illustrate the mixed messages and inconsistent applications within the United States as to how to deal with this conundrum.

True, legally, undocumented immigrants are probably violating federal laws, but the application of existing laws has been contradictory.

Some measure of uniformity is necessary.

To illustrate, in Monroe, Michigan recently, dozens of undocumented human beings have been incarcerated, while in Bentleville, Pennsylvania, INS officials told local police authority to release 13 detained undocumented workers.

280 miles separates these two cities and yet we have two different, diametrically opposed, results.

Many believe that all undocumented workers should be given some kind of legal status. U.S. president George W. Bush promised this when he visited Toledo with Mexican president Vicente Fox in September of 2001, but Bush reneged several days later after the tragic episodes of 9/11, despite México not being involved.

This reversal by Bush has caused major problems for Fox in México.

The majority of the undocumented workers have been an essential and integral part of the U.S. economy, working in positions unpopular by the U.S. populace. The retail costs

of produce, for example, would most certainly skyrocket if these undocumented workers were removed from the work force.

With the introduction of *The Freedom Act*, the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), based in Toledo, has offered prudent suggestions as to why and how these undocumented workers should be given some sort of legal status in the United States.

To make matters worse, annually, over 11,000 Mexican Nationals are indicted in federal court for illegal re-entry after a previous deportation—this number is over 6 per cent of the total federal prison population. The average sentence is five years, costing taxpayers an average of \$125,000 per individual for such incarceration.

While these Nationals may have been born in México, the majority have been raised in the United States. Moreover, as often commented on by Baldemar Velásquez, president of FLOC, "These people can trace their roots in this land by over 15,000 years. These people, or their ancestors, did not change...only the political borders."

Moreover, let us not forget that the United States forcibly seized these lands from México in 1846, with meager compensation several years later.

Yet the undisputed fact remains that approximately 8 to 12 million illegal, or undocumented, immigrants are in the United States, the majority of which hail from México.

La Prensa encourages federal officials to adopt FLOC's *Freedom Act*. In the meantime, *La Prensa* encourages state and local officials to be fair, consistent, and humane.

Successful crackdown ends

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP), Dec. 20: A U.S. Border Patrol spokesperson said a crackdown on the smuggling of illegal immigrants in southern Arizona ended successfully last week.

During *Operation Pipeline*, a total of 3,028 illegal immigrants were detained in Cochise and eastern Santa Cruz counties, said Andy Adame, a spokesman for the Border Patrol's Tucson sector.

The operation began Nov. 17 and targeted areas along Arizona 90 near Huachuca City and Whetstone.

At the start of the operation, 320 illegal immigrants were being detained daily.

By Thursday, when the operation ended, such detentions had dropped to about 25 daily.

Adame called the crackdown, which also included patrols on horseback and in all-terrain vehicles, a success.

"The numbers kept dropping, so the operation was terminated," Adame said.

Houston Chronicle Editorial on illegal immigration (Dec. 20)

At a recent town hall meeting in Miami, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge acknowledged a situation that cannot be reasonably denied: The United States has between

8 million and 12 million immigrants living illegally within its borders, and the nation must come to grips with that circumstance.

Ridge, alluding to a Bush administration initiative that ended on 9/11, suggested the one-time granting of some sort of legal status to illegal immigrants who have established residence here. That could not help but encourage future illegal entry, but Ridge is correct that the status quo is unsatisfactory.

Illegal immigrants—most but not all from México—often are afraid to contact police, get their children vaccinated and educated, and otherwise participate responsibly in community affairs. Their illegal status makes them more vulnerable to exploitation by employers and criminals, and frequently the victims of misunderstandings involving police and other authorities.

Having millions of people living without documents leaves the government unable to determine who is in the country and which people might commit acts of terrorism.

Even with some sort of amnesty or resident worker program, U.S. borders would be left porous and vulnerable. However, as Ridge suggests, there must be a way to improve national security while

regularizing the relationship the government has with millions of undocumented immigrants.

Honduras man twice deported faces new immigration charges

MINNEAPOLIS (AP), Dec. 18: A 29-year-old Honduras man previously deported from the country twice faces new charges that he illegally re-entered the United States.

This time, Oscar Tome González was initially arrested at a Bemidji convenience

store after a store employee alleged he touched her inappropriately.

According to the criminal complaint, Bemidji police officers arrested González after a call from the store.

It was later determined that he was in the country illegally, according to the complaint.

González has been deported twice following sentences for assault convictions in Kentucky and Ohio, the indictment says.

If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Immigration official says no reason to detain carload of men

BENTLEYVILLE, Pa. (AP), Dec. 23: Thirteen men who were detained by a police

officer after they couldn't show proof they were legally in the country were let go after immigration officials intervened.

Lt. Mark Kavakich was investigating an unrelated accident Sunday when he said the men drove up in the van, saw the officer and suddenly turned around. Kavakich said he asked them for identification but the men could not produce any so he called the immigration office in Pittsburgh and asked for guidance.

Immigration officials told Kavakich to let the men go, since they weren't breaking any laws. Kavakich released the men, but said he was dumbfounded at the decision.

"Obviously, the federal government feels these guys are legal illegal aliens," Kavakich said.

A spokesman for the Washington, D.C.-based Immigration and Customs Enforcement said the Pittsburgh office is not equipped to issue detainers. Garrison Courtenay said those detainers allow local police to hold suspected illegal aliens until a federal officer can investigate.

Courtenay said immigration officials have been vigilant in their efforts to identify people who are in the country illegally.

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Award of \$200,000 to immigrant called victory for workers' rights

By DEBORAH KONG
AP Minority Issues Writer

SANFRANCISCO (AP): Macan Singh left a small village in India and came to the United States to work for an employer he says promised him an education and his own business one day.

Instead, Singh says he ended up working 12-hour shifts, seven days a week for three years—for pay. After Singh, an undocumented immigrant, filed a claim for unpaid wages, his employer reported him to federal immigration officials, and Singh was detained. It was a nightmare made even worse by the fact that Singh's employer was his own uncle, his attorneys say.

A federal court jury on Thursday ordered Singh's uncle and aunt, Charanjit and Davinder Jutla, to pay \$200,000 in compensatory and punitive damages for reporting him to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, where he was detained for almost 15 months.

"I've waited a long time for this day," Singh, 33, said in Punjabi through a translator. "I thought that I would have a good life here."

Jutla's attorney, Sandra McNabb, said her clients were "shocked and disappointed" by the verdict.

But Singh's attorneys called the verdict by a U.S. District Court jury in San Francisco an important victory for undocumented workers.

decision Thursday shows workers are entitled to compensatory and punitive damages if they've been wrongfully retaliated against, she said.

Singh, whose thick, black hair turned thin and gray while he was detained, said he's planning to use some of the award to seek medical treatment for headaches and backaches he suffered while there. His eyes filled with tears as he talked about his experience.

"I had a lot of problems there mentally because my own uncle did this to me," Singh said.

It's a far cry from what he expected when he first came to the United States in 1995. After he arrived, Singh was forced to work long hours at his uncle's Union City and Albany gas stations, he alleges in court documents. McNabb said her client Jutla denies that claim.

After three years, Singh alleged he asked to be paid, but was fired. He filed a wage claim with the California Labor Commissioner, winning an award of almost \$70,000. The case was appealed and settled out of court. But after Singh signed the agreement, Jutla reported him to the INS, said Christopher Ho, another of Singh's lawyers.

For now, Singh's future is in limbo. He's working at a Bay Area convenience store under a temporary work permit and is in deportation proceedings, though he's applied for a visa for victims of human trafficking.

New version of Proposition 187 launched to deny public services to "illegal immigrants"

By ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

of voters but never took effect because of court challenges.

This time supporters have designed the measure so it can survive legal challenges, Prince said. One difference is that the new proposal would allow illegal immigrants to attend public school.

The Proposition 187 campaign angered many Latino groups, who accused its supporters of racism.

Nativo López, president of the Mexican American Political Association and national director of the immigrant rights group *Hermandad Mexicana Latinoamericana*, called the new effort "symptomatic of the worst of what we saw of the 1990s anti-immigrant movement."

"We don't think it's right to give welfare to illegal aliens," campaign organizer Ron Prince said Saturday. "If you don't do something about illegal immigration, you will never cure your deficit."

The campaign has collected hundreds of signatures and several thousand dollars since it began less than two weeks ago, Prince said. Backers need 500,000 valid signatures by April to put the measure on the November ballot.

The measure is similar to 1994's Proposition 187, which was approved by 60 percent.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger repealed the law after taking office. He voted for Proposition 187 but has not taken a position on the proposed new initiative.

The state Republican Party also endorsed Proposition 187, but no major GOP organization has yet endorsed the new campaign.

Backers say the new initiative is necessary because providing services to illegals is costing cash-strapped California millions of dollars.

A summary of the measure prepared by the attorney general's office says it could cost the government tens of millions of dollars to verify citizenship but could save more than \$100 million a year through reduced costs of providing public services.

Prince disputes some studies that indicate illegal immigrants pay more in taxes than they use in government services.

"If that were true, California would be awash in extra cash instead of having the worst deficit in the nation and in our history," he said.

On the Net: "Save Our State" initiative: <http://www.save187.com>; *Hermandad Mexicana Latinoamerica:* <http://www.hermidadmexicana.com/>

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Shown above are Ofelia Salcedo, Felicia Obregon, and Anna Obregon showing their Navidad-best at El Aguila Bakery on West State Street in Fremont, Ohio.

Southern México rebels celebrate 10th anniversary with triumphs but much to be done

By JOHN RICE
Associated Press Writer

OVENTIC, México (AP): A band of impoverished Indian farmers from a forgotten corner of México shook the country to its roots 10 years ago and became heroes to millions around the world.

Today the Zapatista struggle is much lower-key but far from over. Army posts watch their settlements, their neighbors are edgy and their diet is meager. A key demand — an Indian rights law to their liking — remains unanswered.

On Jan. 1, 1994, the masked rebels burst into view by seizing six towns in Chiapas, México's southernmost state, and issuing a bold declaration: "Today we say, ENOUGH!"

Rooted in Maoist theory

and indigenous discontent, the Zapatistas sought to transform México. They demanded the resignation of the president and vowed to "advance toward the country's capital, defeating the Mexican federal army."

Instead, they were quickly on the run back into the jungle — a territory so obscure and ignored that they had managed to train thousands of fighters before 1994 without anybody in authority taking much notice.

Disguised in kerchiefs or ski masks, most were armed with old rifles. A few killed in a battle at Ocosingo were even found to be carrying sticks carved to look like guns.

Yet that very weakness became their strength. Few guerrillas have achieved so much with so little fighting.

As it became clear the rebels were largely impoverished, illiterate Indian farmers, public sympathy grew. Fearing a possible televised bloodbath, the government declared a ceasefire after 12 days. Fewer than 150 people had died.

The most famed Zapatista, Subcomandante Marcos, put it this way in a recent communiqué: "Entire years preparing to shoot a weapon, and it turns out that what we have to shoot are words."

Few shot them better than Marcos, the non-Indian son of a furniture storeowner from northwestern México. Artists and writers from around the world journeyed to the jungle to meet the pipe-smoking author of witty, eloquent rebel communiqués.

(Continued on Page 8)

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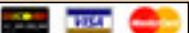
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Crystal You

Latino Student Union's scholarship baile, scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2004 at UT's Student Union.

The date was moved from February to March with the expectation that the weather would be more cooperative.

You is part of a committee that is addressing the entertainment for this event. Other members include *Elisea O'Donnell* and *Cristina Alvarado*. The committee reports to LSU at large every Monday.

The headliner selected for this year is *Grupo Vida*, with a selection to be made for an additional band.

Vida was the former band behind the sound of *Eddie González*, who has been nominated for a Grammy. *Vida* is an exciting band with original songs and arrangements, and tremendous stage execution.

You, *O'Donnell*, and *Alvarado* have all been active in LSU.



Elisea O'Donnell

You, who spent seven months on a sabbatical in Costa Rica in her senior year intends on traveling to México for three weeks and then decide what her post-graduation options are.

O'Donnell and *Alvarado* are sophomores, the latter majoring in nursing.

All look forward to a worthwhile event.

Photos by Arturo Quintero, Esq.

U.S. post office in Puerto Rico named after Roberto Clemente

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP): The main U.S. post office in Roberto Clemente's hometown was named for him last weekend.

The U.S. Postal Service held a dedication ceremony Sunday in the 00983 ZIP code of Carolina, where the Hall of Fame outfielder was born on Aug. 18, 1934.

Anibal Acevedo Vila, the U.S. Caribbean possession's

nonvoting delegate to U.S. Congress, presented a bill in July to rename the post office in honor of Clemente. The President signed the bill Oct. 10.

Clemente, who has also been remembered on U.S. postage stamps, played for the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1955 to 1972.

He had 3,000 hits and 13 seasons in which he hit .300 or better. He also starred on

Pittsburgh's 1960 and 1971 World Series-winning teams and earned 12 consecutive Gold Glove Awards.

On New Year's Eve 1972, Clemente died at age 38 in a plane crash off Puerto Rico as he set out on a trip to take aid to Nicaraguan earthquake victims. The following year, he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in New York in a special election.



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Weekly Horoscope

BY SEÑORITA ANA

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Tact and foresight will further your career goals. Hard work will pay off sooner than you think. Your family life is changing, a bit more rapidly than you are comfortable with, but the change will be for the good. Express your ideas.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

If you've been feeling depressed, ride it out and the feeling will be replaced with the urgency to accomplish tasks you've been putting off for some time. You are full of energy, even aggression, don't overdue it though.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

Try to stay centered, because all those around you are in quite a funk. Coworkers are grumpy and your mate wants to squabble. This tension will continue to drain your energy until you take time out for you—pamper yourself and buy something special.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

It's a pretty uneventful week; don't expect much from those close to you. Resolve financial questions for long and short-term investments, easing a loved one's mind. You will accomplish more than expected, despite opposition from a foe.

LEO: (July 24- August 23)

You are on top of the world both emotionally and physically. Take advantage of the high energy to convince those around you about an idea you've been toying with for sometime. You are surrounded by love, so show you appreciate it. The pace at work is hectic.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

Many demands will be made on your time. Watch out just where you spend your energies and with whom. Share any dreams with your mate—you are able to read each other's mind. Your evenings are made for romance. Expect a battle of wills in the workplace.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

A few authoritarian types may get in your way, so pursue independent projects. Your financial outlook is on the upswing. Pressures at work will probably ease up, and your cheerful mood contagious. Share the passion and romance with your lover.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Be sure to think before you speak, or you may come off sounding like an opinionated pain in the neck. Take it easy if you're feeling washed out, the flu may be coming on. There's nothing happening at work that can't wait until tomorrow.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

This may not be the best time to interact with others. You and your sweetheart experience a clash of egos, so play it cool. If confused about your motives, wait until you are seeing things more clearly to sort out the situation. A vacation is a great idea.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

The people around you need your help just when you want to hide out and get your own act together, try to at least listen to their problems. Play it cool with colleagues who may demand a confrontation. Any tensions from earlier in the week seem to be gone for good.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

A friend with problems may need to talk. Laughter in this situation will be the best medicine. A coworker is looking for a fight, so try to keep a low profile and don't be a target. Make sure to think before you speak, your bluntness may land you in trouble.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

This week promises to be full of fun, laughter and friendship. All you need to do is be yourself. You may be feeling that everything is against you at work—the obstacles are only temporary. If you accept a new challenge, you can increase your income.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You prosper in your home life while cementing your closest bonds. You learn from the past and have great hopes for the future, even though you tend to be indecisive and somewhat insecure at times. You have very real dreams which help you understand what is presently happening.

Resolutions

FOR 2004

It is resolution time. Below are some of our reader's resolutions for 2004. What are yours?

To attend *La Prensa*'s 3 Kings Day baile on January 3rd in Lorain. I know it will be a hoot.

This year I resolve to work on my 365-day list, but doing one item per day. I won't lose all my weight in one day, but I can take my dog's photo and have it framed while munching celery.

To do better in school and stop procrastinating.

My new years resolution us to sit on my arse and play the computer more. Watch more T.V. Make fun of people everyday...Just kidding..My REAL New Year's Resolutions:

1. To not let opportunities slip out of my hands.
2. Eat breakfast every school morning.
3. Draw better.
4. Exercise,...or ExtraSize.
5. Be myself completely.
6. Do better in school.
7. Become more independent.
8. Control my anger.

I have a lot of resolutions and I'm gonna keep them. I plan on making at least twelve resolutions and keeping at least three.

Read 20 books. I just completed *Catch 22* so I have 21 left...or is it 19?

I would like to see the world peace in 2003, 2004, and so forth. War seems to get everyone's attention but to what purpose? In the short run, someone seems to win and someone seems to lose, but in the long run everyone loses.

Hi, my name is Dolores. My resolution for the New Year is to find 1 hairstyle, and stick with it. Peace and GoodWill to All!

I'm determined to lose 20 pounds in order to reach 345 pounds and stay that weight. For health reasons I feel it's mandatory for me to eat better, look better, and fell better, or... is it feel better?

My wish for 2001 is that we would all get over the hanging chads and dimpled ballots.

I had to retire this fall, several years earlier than I expected so I hadn't taken time to prepare myself for this lifestyle. Now that I can do whatever it is that I want with my life I feel a bit lost. I realize I've always done what I should, could, ought do...never what I wanted. Make sense? It does to me. My resolution for 2004 is to get to know myself better, to discover my wants, and then to pursue them!

I resolve to quit smoking but keep drinking—is this possible? Maybe, if I move to Toledo and go to the smoke-free bars.

I resolve to quit drinking but keep smoking. I enjoy going outside in the middle of the winter to catch a smoke. I am, after all, an outdoors freak. But I must still avoid second-hand smoke because the first is the best.

I resolve to continue to drink and smoke, but in Toledo I must adopt the drink invented in Florida,...the Nicotini,...a martini laced with nicotine.

I resolve to avoid doing moves on the dance floor when I *baile* that are best left to professionals. Some people shouldn't be allowed near a circuit board with a soldering iron, and some people just should not dance at the office Christmas party.

I resolve to keep my *gato* en la casa. Millions of cats suffer and die annually because their owners allow them to roam. One survey indicates that only 35% of the U.S.'s 66 million domesticated cats live indoors full-time. Imagine how much suffering could be alleviated, both to the felines and to the wildlife they often stalk, by reversing those numbers.

I resolve to approach people that get a telephone call (and then on top of that answer it and start talking) during a movie and asking these *idiotas* for the price of my ticket. I'm tired of working hard for my money and having some moron who thinks he/she is a rock star or captain of industry ruining my movie-going experience. I resolve to make sure these poor misguided soles realize that they aren't that important—in a world of 6 billion, what's one more cell phone subscriber? So next time your phone rings (moron, why isn't it on vibrate mode) simply answer it as you make your way out of the theater—that's why they are called mobile phones too. Or get ready to pay me the 7 or 8 bucks.

Carla's Krazy Korner

By Carla Soto

Famosos que murieron este año

ENERO
Maurice Gibb, murió a los 53 años y era integrante de los BeeGees.

FEBRERO
Alberto Sodi, de 82 años era un actor y comediante italiano.

ABRIL
Adalberto Martínez, mejor conocido como "Resortes" fue un gran comediante actor que estuvo en muchísimas películas y murió a los 87 años de enfisema pulmonar.

MAYO
Robert Stack, de 84 años, actor ganador de un Grammy fue encontrado muerto en su casa de Beverly Hills.

JUNIO
Buddy Hackett de 79 años, gran comediante en Hollywood falleció en Malibu California.

AGOSTO
Charles Bronson, actor de películas de acción falleció a los 82 años de neumonía.

SEPTIEMBRE
Eulogio González "Piporro", actor y cantante regiomontano murió a los 81 años de un paro cardíaco.

OCTUBRE
Franco Corelli, murió a los 82 años, Franco fue uno de los principales astros de opera del siglo XX.

NOVIEMBRE
Eduardo Palomo, actor famoso mexicano de 41 años, murió cuando estaba cenando con su esposa y amigos en un restaurante en la ciudad de Los Angeles California.

DICIEMBRE
Raúl Vale de 59 años, actor comediante y músico, falleció en Houston Texas como víctima de cancer.

Lo mejor de el año 2003
¿Quién fue la cantante del 2003?

Un 33% de los votantes proclamaron a **Thalía** como la cantante del año. Su disco homónimo en inglés se ganó el respeto de los usuarios.

Christina Aguilera, con 22% de los votos por su disco *Stripped*

Beyoncé con 19% de los votos por su disco *Dangerously in Love*

JLO con 10% de los votos por su disco *This is Me...Then*

Gloria Estefan con el 9% de los votos por su disco *Unwrapped*

Britney con 5% de los votos por su disco *In The Zone*

Madonna con 2% de los votos por su disco *American Life*

los votos por su disco *American Life*

¿Quién fue el cantante del 2003?

Ricky Martin ganó la mayoría de los votos con un 34%. Su disco *Almas del Silencio* le ha dado otro giro y más credibilidad a su carrera.

Chayanne sigue con 26% por su disco *Sincero*

Luis Miguel con 12% por su disco *33*

Enrique con 8% por su disco, *Seven*

Pepe Aguilar con 7% por su disco *Y Tenerte Otra Vez*

Alejandro Sanz con 7% por su disco *No Es Lo Mismo*

Ricardo Arjona con 6% por su disco *Santo Pecado*

Quién fue el artista revelación del año?

David Bisbal fue el más votado con un 58% por corazón Latino

Mia 33% por *Tentación*

Akwid 9% por Proyecto Akwid

¿Cuál fue la canción del año en español?

Ric, **Llorá-Celia Cruz** 30%

Fotografía-Juanes y Nelly Furtado 26%

Un Siglo Sin Ti-Chayanne

25%

Te Necesito-Luis Miguel

11%

El Problema-Arjona 8%

¿Cuál fue la canción del año en inglés?

Crazy in Love-Beyoncé

34%

Bring Me To Life-Evans-

cence 27%

In Da Club-50 cent 22%

Where is the Love?-Black

Eyed Peas 17%

Dieron la nota en el 2003

El Beso de **Britney y Ma-**

donna 48%

Thalía con su disco en

inglés 33%

Luis Miguel con su disco

33 8%

Christian con la portada de

su disco 6%

Enrique sin pena, **Luismi**

sin separación dental 6%

Momento más emotivo...

Entierro de **Celia Cruz** 67%

Michael Jackson es

arrestado 20%

Juanes es papá de la Luna

7%

Lucero pide perdón a la

prensa 6%

Comediante Lenny Bruce....

Lenny Bruce, fué uno de los mejores comediantes en los

Estados Unidos, y en 1964 fue

encarcelado por decir mas de

100 palabras obscenas en sus

chistes.

Ahora en el 2003 vemos

cientos de comediantes que

dicen millones de groceries en

sus chistes. ¿Que opinas de los

comediantes de ahora? ¿Crees

que fue injusto que metieran a

Lenny Bruce a la cárcel? ¿O

pensias que los comediantes de

ahora deberian de ser

encarcelados por decir grocer-

ies y por dar mal ejemplo? Mandanos tus comentarios a LaPrensaNewspaper, 616 Adams Toledo Ohio 43604. O mandanos un email a laprensa1@yahoo.com

atado en la cabeza;enseguida se le acerca un amigo:

"¿Qué te pasa?"

"¡Que se ha muerto mi

suegra!"

"¡Y ahí llevas el luto?"

"¡No, qué va! es para no

réírme."

Un tipo le dice a otro:

"Ayeribayo caminando con misuegra yaparecieron 2 tipos, se le fuerón encima y la golpearon como animales."

"¿Y tú que hiciste?"

"Pues me aparté, ¿qué más iba a hacer?"

"¿Y por qué no te metiste?"

"¡Ahhh no! ¡Sería un abuso pegarle entre los tres!"

En una ocasión había

muchas personas reunidas en una casa y pasó por aquel lugar un conocido de la familia y preguntó:

"¿Qué pasó compadre?... ¿murió alguien?"

"Si, mi burro mató a mi suegra de una patada."

"¿Y toda esa gente conocía

a tu suegra?"

"No... ¡Vvinieron a comprar el burro!"

Dos yernos se encuentran y uno de ellos llora desmedidamente:

"Por qué lloras?", pregunta el otro.

"Llevé a mi suegra al medico, tiene cancer y dice que sólo le quedan 30 días de vida..."

"yotrollerno le dice: tomalo con calma conciuno, treintadías pasan pronto."

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2003: Brasil corona un ciclo espectacular, Boca reina en clubes

Por VICENTE L. PANETTA/AP

Brasil pasó a la historia en 2003 como el primer país en reunir los tres títulos mundiales de selecciones, dejando para la Argentina el principal reinado entre los clubes y a Perú con su primer título a nivel internacional.

Ganador del Sub17 en Finlandia y del Sub20 en Emiratos Árabes, el fútbol de Brasil se hizo amo y señor del balompié, ya que esos dos laureles se sumaron al que conserva entre los mayores desde hace un año y medio cuando se retiró victorioso de Corea-Japón.

Boca Juniors le dio a la Argentina las copas Libertadores e Intercontinental y Cienciano hizo disfrutar a Perú de su primera conquista con la obtención de la Copa Sudamericana.

En la Libertadores, Boca venció a Santos de Brasil en la final (2-0 en Buenos Aires y 3-1 en San Pablo) y en la Intercontinental despidió sobre el filo del año al Milan de Italia 3-1 en los penales, luego de que el partido terminase 1-1 en la ciudad japonesa de Yokohama.

Cienciano de Cusco se quedó con la Copa Sudamericana relegando a River Plate de Argentina (3-3 en Buenos Aires y 1-0 en Arequipa). Esa derrota selló el alejamiento de River de su técnico chileno Manuel Pellegrini.

Pero el gran año fue para el fútbol del Brasil, dominador absoluto entre los seleccionados del mundo.

En el Sub17 y en el Sub20 hubo una notable presencia sudamericana entre los cuatro primeros, con España como escolta de Brasil en ambos casos. En el Sub17, Argentina fue tercera y Colombia cuarto, y los roles se invirtieron en el Sub20 cuando los colombianos

quedaron adelante de los argentinos.

Tan solo como consuelo, Argentina ganó el sudamericano Sub20 en enero en Uruguay y el Sub17 en Bolivia, con Brasil a sus espaldas en los dos campeonatos.

Brasil, según el ranking de la FIFA, también cerró el año como el mejor seleccionado de mayores, aventajando a Francia y España, en ese orden.

Entre los principales seleccionados de América figuran Argentina (5), México (7), Estados Unidos (17), Costa Rica (17), Uruguay (21), Paraguay (22), Ecuador (37) y Colombia (39).

El año marcó el arranque en Sudamérica de las eliminatorias para la Copa Mundial de Alemania en 2006:

los cuatro primeros se clasificarán en forma directa y el quinto deberá ir a un repechaje contra un representante de Asia.

Catorce países, incluyendo Costa Rica, EEUU y México, debutarán directamente en la segunda ronda.

Con cuatro fechas jugadas, Paraguay tomó la delantera con nueve puntos, seguido por Argentina y Brasil con ocho

cada uno. Luego se escalonan Uruguay (7), Venezuela (6), Perú (5), Ecuador (4), Chile (4), Bolivia (3) y Colombia (1).

En Colombia, Francisco Maturana pagó los platos rotos por ese solo punto en la cosecha y dejó de ser su técnico de Colombia. Poco después, anunció su vinculación con el club argentino Colón de Santa Fé.

El área de la CONCACAF está en los umbras de las eliminatorias para Alemania y durante el año dejó en claro sus reglas: un largo proceso de dos años para las 34 selecciones que dirimirán las tres plazas directas al mundial y otro para un repechaje contra un representante de Asia.

Catorce países, incluyendo Costa Rica, EEUU y México, debutarán directamente en la segunda ronda.

Los otros 20 en la zona del Norte, Centroamérica y el Caribe deberán primero disputar una fase con partidos a visita

recíproca, a partir de febrero.

México ganó la Copa de Oro al vencer en la final 1-0 a Brasil, que en verdad jugó con una Sub23. Estados Unidos quedó tercero y Costa Rica cuarto.

A mediados de año en Los Angeles, Olimpia de Paraguay le ganó a San Lorenzo de Argentina para llevarse la Recopa Sudamericana y darle más brillo a su bien abultada vitrina.

El título se dirimió entre los dos mejores equipos de la región en el 2002. Olimpia fue campeón ese año de la Copa Libertadores, mientras que San Lorenzo se adjudicó la Copa Sudamericana.

Un gran arquero y un tremendo goleador dejaron el fútbol durante el año: el paraguayo José Luis Chilavert y el chileno Iván Zamorano.

Chilavert anunció su retiro poco después de haberse consagrado campeón con Peñarol de Uruguay por segunda vez en apenas cinco meses. También atajó en Paraguay, Argentina y Francia.

Zamorano paseó sus goles por el fútbol de Chile, Suiza, España, Italia y México.

En la región, la violencia dentro y fuera de las canchas se hizo notar otra vez, y como es usual la Argentina se llevó las palmas en ese rubro.

Pero un juez federal, Mariano Bergés, tomó el toro por las astas y el fútbol estuvo paralizado más de un mes y el chileno Iván Zamorano.



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Three Kings Day Baile at DeLucas will scorch Lorain con sabor y ritmo

(Continued from Page 1)

ing on through newer songs by Sammy DeLeon's current album released this year entitled "Con Salsa Y Sabor."

Let's not overlook the art of an eight-piece orchestra combining sounds from African, Spanish, Indian, and Caribbean origins that bring forth such a succulent resonance for the ear that it would make the sound of silence unbearable to hear ever again.

Roberto Ocasio brings a musical mixture of funk, fusion, salsa, mambo, and rhythm & blues. With over 30 years of experience, both bands are guaranteed to entertain the most conservative and liberal of listeners.

La Prensa has brought this event to you with support from 89.1FM *La Onda Cultural Latina* and "Kool Kat" Oldies 1380AM.

Latin food will be available for purchase, arranged by *La Onda Cultural Latina*. Additional entertainment is sched-

uled along with a silent auction to help raise funds for *La Onda Cultural Latina* to relocate its station to Lorain.

A Three Kings Day play is scheduled to be performed by members of *Club Taino* of Toledo. According to *Maria Gonzalez* and *Roberto Colon*, officers of the Club, "We look forward to being part of this event. We welcome the guests to attend Club Taino's Three Kings Day dance in Toledo on January 10th.

The first 100 guests will receive art reproductions created by Cleveland artist *Bruno Casiano*. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 at the door, formal dress attire please. The doors open from 7:00 PM and the party stops at midnight.

The Holiday Inn in Elyria will have special room rates for this spectacular event, so plan to stay the evening.

Who would've guessed for Lorain to have so much heat in January?

Breve

(Continued from Page 1)

investigadores del departamento de seguridad de los servicios de inmigración y aduana, y que no creía que Wal-Mart fuese el objetivo final. Pero, luego de los allanamientos, el gobierno dijó a la empresa que los agentes no se sentían satisfechos con el nivel de cooperación de Wal-Mart.

«Incluso algunos de los gerentes de nuestra cadena grabaron conversaciones con los contratistas ... para ver si les podían hacer decir algo comprometedor», dijo Williams.

Las grabaciones fueron hechas a solicitud de agentes federales, pero no condujeron a evidencia alguna contra los contratistas. Williams dijo que eso hizo creer a Wal-Mart que los contratistas estaban empleando trabajadores con residencia legal.

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Southern México rebels celebrate 10th anniversary with triumphs but much to be done

(Continued from Page 4)

gross was the Zapatista Indian rights bill. The rebels rallied hundreds of thousands of supporters during a dramatic caravan to México City to support the measure.

A year later, in the town of San Andres Larrainzar, it signed an agreement so broad that the normally skeptical rebels quickly accepted it. The government had second thoughts and backed away, saying it could weaken lawful authority and violate the rights of local minorities. The Zapatistas cried betrayal.

The standoff has been interrupted by occasional outbreaks of violence.

The worst occurred in December 1997. Paramilitaries with close ties to government figures attacked a prayer meeting of Roman Catholic activists who sympathize with many Zapatista goals but not their methods.

Over several hours, the killers chased down and massacred 45 people, including children as young as 2 months old, even though police and army posts were at the edge of the tiny settlement, Acteal.

In 2000, President Vicente Fox's election toppled the long-ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, which the Zapatistas called the "evil government." He vowed to seek dialogue with the rebels.

"This government recognizes that the banners they raised 10 years ago were just," says Luis H. Alvarez, Fox's envoy to the Zapatistas.

Fox's first proposal to Con-

gress was the Zapatista Indian rights bill. The rebels rallied hundreds of thousands of supporters during a dramatic caravan to México City to support the measure.

But Congress passed a weakened version, and Fox accepted it. The Zapatistas felt betrayed again, and insist they won't negotiate until the original bill is approved.

While many of their goals remain dreams, the insurgents have helped transform what it means to be Indian in México.

"The principal thing that has changed is that instead of having an inferiority complex about being Indian, people have pride in being Indian," says historian Andres Aubry.

The rebels have inspired anti-globalization activists, anarchists and socialists around the world. In places, Marcos' masked image is almost as famous as Che Guevara's face. A Zapatista souvenir shop in Oventic sells Comandante Tacho ashtrays and collections of Comandante David's songs.

The Zapatistas have seized tens of thousands of acres of pasture in Chiapas, infuriating wealthy ranchers frustrated by a government wary of responding and igniting new conflict.

And the rebels' efforts at building local collectives societies with their own laws have led to friction with neighbors in a region already ripe with conflicts over land, religion and local authority.

In early December, hundreds of angry Indian farmers gathered in the town plaza of

Altamirano vowing to travel to a Zapatista settlement to present their demands. They complained of Zapatista land seizures and called for rebels stop applying their own laws to outsiders.

State officials kept the crowd arguing until the growing darkness made a trip through the jungle—and a confrontation—impossible.

A few miles down a dirt road to the south, hundreds of Zapatistas carrying poles for defense were waiting on a hillside. As the chance of a clash faded with the light, the crowd relaxed. Dozens of men and women in masks cheered a foreign sympathizer playing an Australian didgeridoo.

Fox at first eased tension with the Zapatistas by releasing about 100 prisoners and dismantling key military bases, but the region is dotted with dozens of army posts, many alongside Zapatista areas.

Most analysts say the Zapatistas remain a minority, if a large one, in the region. But it's difficult to tell who controls which area. In some places, largely non-Zapatista populations live behind signs proclaiming Zapatista territory.

"We now have 20 years—10 years in war and 10 years in hiding—and here we are," Comandante Omar said in a recent message from the rebels. "They have not been able to handle us, and we will remain here even if they don't like it."

On the Net: Zapatistas: <http://www.zapatistas.org>

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Lino Tagliapietra (Italian, b. 1934), *Angel Tear*, 1995, glass, blown; with filigrana, 35 1/8 x 11 x 4 3/4 in. (89.22 x 27.94 x 12.07 cm). Promised gift to Toledo Museum of Art

Toledo Museum of Art

Children of Latino immigrants suffered in economic downturn

By DEBORAH KONG

They're generally more educated and speak better English than immigrants, but second-generation Latinos had a tougher time in the economic downturn than their first-generation counterparts, a new analysis by the Pew Hispanic Center found.

A surge of young, U.S.-born Latinos—the start of a wave of workers who will eventually replace retiring baby boomers—joined the working world just as the economy turned sour. That made things difficult as they competed for jobs against others with longer work records, including blue-collar immigrants.

"What we're seeing here is the leading edge of this big population moving into the labor force," said Roberto Suro, director of the Washington-based Pew Hispanic Center. "It's a very tough market for young Latinos. It's much tougher for the young, native-born than it is for immigrants."

Second-generation Latinos, the U.S.-born children of people who emigrated to this country, wrestled with more than bad timing. With their higher levels of education, many have more ambitious career aspirations than immigrants, Suro said. But some lack the connections that could help propel them into good jobs.

"They come from immigrant families where there is a limited knowledge of the U.S. and a limited knowledge of the labor force," he said.

In all, there were about 10 million second-generation Latinos in the United States in 2000, according to an earlier report by the center.

Unemployment rates for the second generation rose to 10 percent at the end of 2002—higher than the rate for both immigrants and for third-generation Latinos, which were at 7.2 and 6.6 percent, respectively, according to the center.

The research organization analyzed Bureau of Labor Statistics data from the end of 2000 to late 2002, a period spanning the end of

the last economic boom through the downturn.

Francisco Flamenco, an El Salvadoran immigrant's son, recalls his father "always had something" in the way of construction work.

But Flamenco, who was born in the United States, hasn't had the same luck. At 27, Flamenco has been searching for six months for a part-time job to support himself while he works toward a teaching credential and pays his \$500 rent and \$315 monthly car payments.

"Getting a degree, you think you're going to be able to have all these doors open, but it's not true," said Flamenco, whose California State University, Hayward, diploma hangs over the computer in his Oakland, Calif., home.

Flamenco said his father brags about his college-educated son. But sometimes his father complains *"All that studying for nothing."* It's frustrating. In my culture, it's kind of like the guy has to be the breadwinner and it's not really happening lately..."

Between the end of 2000 and 2002, the number of unemployed 25-to-34-year-old, second-generation Latinos more than doubled, according to the Pew analysis; 16- to 24-year-olds also saw a big increase.

Like others, Maribel Rubalcaba settled for a job that simply pays the bills. Rubalcaba, a substitute teacher in Ripon, Calif., has been applying for positions in human resources and at banks for the past six months.

"They're going to pick someone that has the experience," said Rubalcaba, the 28-year-old child of farmworkers. Sometimes her Mexican immigrant parents tell the University of California, Berkeley graduate, "You speak English, you have an education. How come you can't find a job?" she said.

But "somebody whose parents are educated and they have a good job, they're going to be able to help out their kids. ... They've got the connections," she said. "We're kind of like trying to swim out in the ocean on our own."

On the Net: Pew Hispanic Center: www.pewhispanic.org



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2003: ALCA entra al 2004 debilitado y con interrogantes

Por NESTOR IKEDA

WASHINGTON (AP): Los 34 protagonistas del Área de Libre Comercio de las Américas entran en el 2004 a su año final de negociaciones con el ideal de integración debilitado e interrogantes acerca de cómo armonizar sus intereses al asociarse en el mayor mercado libre de facilitadores.

En 1994, el proceso del ALCA brotó al plasmarse la idea de "una América, un solo mercado". Una década más tarde, las disputas entre los participantes, agrupados o aislados, han llevado las negociaciones al saldo pírrico de una América dividida: Estados Unidos en un lado y el resto de las naciones en el otro.

Mientras que para Estados Unidos libre comercio significa estabilidad, prosperidad y democracias fuertes, para los otros es un desatino si no hay reciprocidad, acceso a mercados y eliminación de subsidios y tarifas punitivas.

En el 2004, Estados Unidos y Brasil, que comparten la presidencia del ALCA hasta la conclusión de las negociaciones en enero del 2005, tendrán la extraña misión de sacar adelante un proyecto que los ha distanciado y en el cual han surgido como líderes de corrientes opuestas.

«Los dos países tienen una tarea difícil por delante», opina Nick Giordano, asesor comercial del Consejo Nacional de Productores de Porcino de Estados Unidos. «Realmente no se sabe qué va a pasar el próximo año».

No sólo en gran parte del sector privado permea la incertidumbre. De cada seis estadounidenses, tres se oponen a la formación del ALCA, dos lo apoyan y uno no está seguro, según una encuesta de diciembre de Zogby Poll para la Asociación de Política Exterior.

Doce meses antes de la conclusión de las

negociaciones, hay certeza de que habrá un tratado, pero diferente del avizorado en 1994.

El ex presidente de Costa Rica Miguel Ángel Rodríguez tiene un presentimiento. Afirma que sobre la base del acuerdo ministerial de noviembre pasado en Miami, logrado dentro del proceso de negociaciones, comenzó a tomar forma "un ALCA débil" que pone sobre los países americanos de "manera permanente, por muchos años", la carga de seguir negociando el comercio.

Los países americanos, particularmente los medianos y pequeños, se verán entonces

en la necesidad de buscar en la ronda de Doha, la Organización Mundial de Comercio, los foros regionales, los contactos bilaterales e incluso dentro del propio ALCA, procedimientos viables con una gran demanda de recursos, facilidades y facilitadores.

En esa búsqueda, Rodríguez dice que quizás a la vieja Organización de los Estados Americanos, a cuya secretaría general se está postulando, le llegue la oportunidad de expandirse y alzarse como "un generador de recursos y procedimientos que permitan a esos países salir adelante en sus negociaciones".

Al comienzo, Robert Zoellick, el negociador comercial del presidente estadounidense George W. Bush, se ha mantenido firme en no negociar en las Américas acuerdos más allá de los del bloque de cinco países centroamericanos y Chile.

Pero, ante los tumbos del ALCA se vio forzado a abrir esa política preocupado en que la resistencia al ALCA por algunos países pudiera poner a Estados Unidos en el desaire de haber servido la mesa para comensales que no llegaron.

Todos reconocen que el propósito de esa apertura ha sido presionar a Brasil, la economía más poderosa de Sudamérica y capaz de liderar corrientes como la de

Cancún, México, que socavó las metas estadounidense agrícolas en la reunión de seguimiento de Doha.

Zoellick ha movido en semanas recientes sus fichas hacia la República Dominicana, Panamá, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Bolivia, dándoles un turno seguro en la mesa de diálogo de libre comercio en el 2004.

Brasil ha quedado así rodeado por pocos países no invitados—todavía—a la feria del libre comercio: Venezuela, un renegado del ALCA en su flanco norte, y Uruguay, Paraguay y Argentina, sus socios del Mercosur, en el sur. De todos ellos, sólo Venezuela no ha tocado las puertas de Washington para negociar bilateralmente.

«Evidentemente sentimos la presión», dice el ex presidente brasileño Fernando Henrique Cardoso, quien en sus últimos años de gobierno había ya denunciado la estrategia estadounidense. «Pero, Brasil tiene una clara conciencia de lo que quiere en esta materia: el acceso a los mercados».

El empuje de Zoellick de mostrar que todos, excepto Brasil, quieren aliarse a Estados Unidos en la aventura del libre comercio sufrió, sin embargo, «un revés de imagen» en la primera mitad de diciembre. Costa Rica se abstuvo temporalmente de continuar en las negociaciones del Tratado de Libre Comercio para Centroamérica

(CAFTA) alegando que sus intereses nacionales le imponían más tiempo de negociación.

En la ceremonia de anuncio del CAFTA estuvieron solamente Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua y El Salvador. Para una mayor preocupación de Zoellick, incomodado ya por Costa Rica, El Salvador contradijo al Zoellick, en cuando a que no consideraba al libre comercio como «una panacea» del desarrollo.

«Creemos que no ha sido una buena negociación ni para Guatemala ni el resto de países», sostiene el ex canciller guatemalteco Eduardo Stein hablando del CAFTA. «Se nos ha presionado para presionar a alguien más».

?Podrá la imagen del CAFTA en Washington ser un adelanto de lo que se verá en enero del 2005 con el ALCA cuando quizás Brasil se automarginará temporalmente con el mismo argumento de Costa Rica, y otros países, como Venezuela, expresen sus reservas por motivos constitucionales?

El presidente de Nicaragua Enrique Bolaños, ensaya una respuesta: «Comprendo que (la tarea por delante) no es fácil. Llegar a lo que llegamos (los centroamericanos), tratando de homologar todos los intereses de todos los países, son cosas difíciles. Si fueran fáciles hace años que ya se hubieran hecho».

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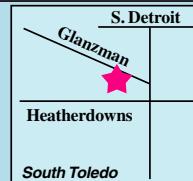
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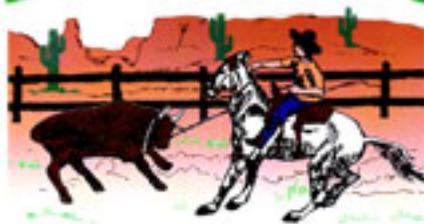
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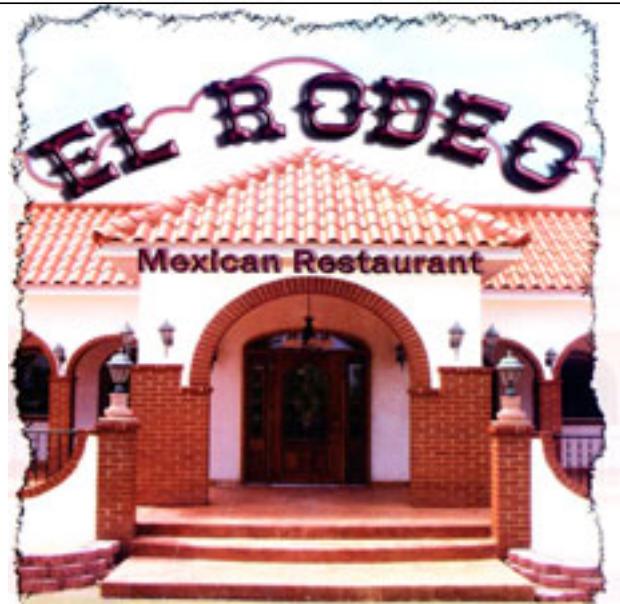
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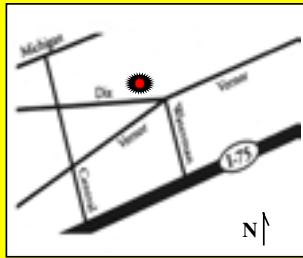
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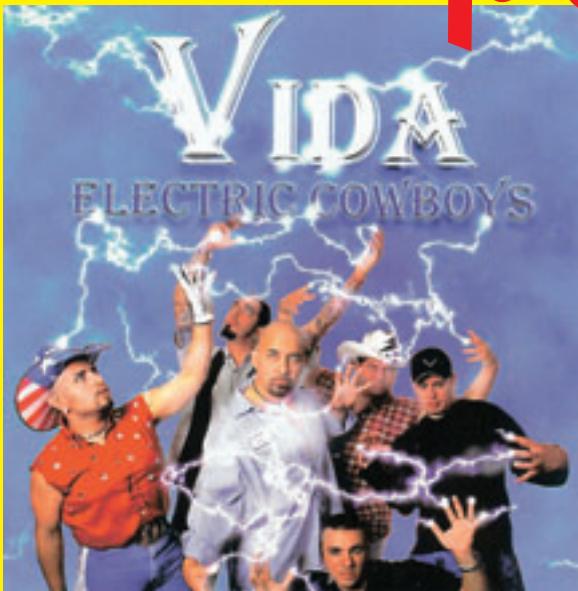
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Adivinanzas

- 1.- En alto vive, en alto mora, en alto teje la tejedora.
- 2.- Tiene dientes y no come, tiene cabeza y no es hombre.
- 3.- Dos cristales transparentes tienen agua y no son fuentes.
- 4.- ¿Quién es el que bebe por los pies?
- 5.- Salgo de la sala, voy a la cocina, moviendo la cola como la gallina.
- 6.- Una señorita muy aseñorada, siempre esta en la casa y siempre está mojada.
- 7.- Grande como un ratón, guarda la casa como un león.
- 8.- Salta que salta y la colita le falta.
- 9.- Tengo cola y no soy animal, y aunque subo muy alto, muy alto, de las alas del ave estoy falso y no puedo a mi antojo volar.
- 10.- Dicen que soy el rey y no tengo reino; dicen que soy rubio y no tengo pelo; afirman que ando y no me meneo; arreglo relojes sin ser relojero.
- 11.- Ayer vinieron y hoy han venido, vendrán mañana con mucho ruido.
- 12.- Cajita chiquita de buen parecer, ningún carpintero la ha podido hacer, solo el Dios del cielo con su gran poder.
- 13.- Un plátano de avellanas que de día se recogen y de noche se desparan.
- 14.- En tus manos estoy limpio, en tus ventanas me ensucio, si sucio, me ponen limpio si limpio, me ponen sucio.
- 15.- Si soy joven, joven quedo, si soy viejo, quedo viejo; tengo boca y no te hago, tengo ojos y no te veo.
- 16.- Dos buenas hermanas son, pero con muy diferente educación.
- 17.- Sube rica, baja pobre.
- 18.- Vuela sin alas , silba sin boca, pega sin manos y ni lo ves ni lo tocas.
- 19.- Verde, muy verde de chico fui y cuando crecí, sin vergüenza, colorado me volví.
- 20.- No soy florista pero trabajo con flores y por más que me resista el hombre arrebata el fruto de mis labores.

Respuestas en página 17



Prospero Año Nuevo 2004

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2003: Lento crecimiento económico en Latinoamérica

Por JAVIER BAENA/AP

Un modesto crecimiento del 1,5% del Producto Interno Bruto (PIB) de la economía produjo en América Latina altas tasas de desocupación, aumento de la pobreza y convulsiones políticas en el 2003.

Argentina, Perú, Chile y Colombia registraron el mejor desempeño económico; Brasil y México, los gigantes de la región, tuvieron un año de estancamiento y de la rica Venezuela petrolera quedó siso el recuerdo, pues se mantiene hundida en la recesión.

Argentina mantuvo la recuperación que comenzó en el segundo semestre del año pasado, tras la peor crisis económica de su historia. El ministro de Economía, Roberto Lavagna, estima que el PIB crecerá este año un 7%, en vez del 4% estimado.

Aunque este crecimiento es el más alto de América Latina, el año de los últimos años de recesión neutralizó los efectos que en una economía sana hubieran sido notables. La contracción neta de la economía es de -14% de su PIB real en el período 1999-2003.

Los argentinos siguen lidiando con el problema de su deuda externa, ya que no ha podido pagar intereses y amortizaciones de los 94.300 millones de dólares que debe a los prestamistas privados. El gobierno ha ofrecido pagar el 25% de la deuda, pero los acreedores no aceptaron.

Perú proyecta un crecimiento del 4,1% del PIB, una cifra buena en un entorno difícil. Su presidente Alejandro Toledo, no obstante, cuenta con escaso respaldo popular.

«En lo macroeconómico vamos bien, pero el presidente Toledo ha cometido muchos errores sin duda y se ha rodeado mal, a veces. Pero me parece injusta esa impopularidad», dijo el escritor Mario Vargas Llosa.

Las proyecciones de la Comisión Económica de las Naciones Unidas para América Latina (CEPAL) sitúan a Chile con un crecimiento del 3,5% de su PIB, favorecido con una baja inflación del 2,8%.

La vocación exportadora que le permite tener una balanza comercial positiva, una baja tasa de desempleo cercana al 9%, los índices de productividad más altos de la región y el riesgo-país más bajo, configuran el cuadro de solidez y confianza en la economía chilena.

«Claramente las expectativas son muy positivas, fundamentalmente por el entorno externo», dijo Guillermo Portillo, economista de la Universidad de Santiago.

El desempeño de la economía colombiana fue tan positivo que sorprendió al gobierno y a los

investigadores privados. El PIB creció durante los primeros nueve meses del año un 3,38% y se espera que termine en esos niveles. El gobierno y la autoridad monetaria habían previsto apenas un 2% de crecimiento.

Para el presidente Alvaro Uribe, el inesperado florecimiento de la economía es una buena noticia, pero insuficiente.

«Colombia no se puede conformar con tasas de crecimiento del 3,5 o 4%. No, aquí hay que buscar tasas de crecimiento del 5 o 6%», dijo Uribe al señalar que el crecimiento económico debe triplicar el aumento de la población (1,9%) para reducir la pobreza que agobia al 58,8% de los 44 millones de colombianos.

Ecuador, tras la euforia de la dolarización, registrará este año un crecimiento de alrededor del 3%, menos del esperado, que era del 5%.

El presidente Lucio Gutiérrez prometió que a partir del año próximo se revertirá la caída del crecimiento para «pagar la deuda social con el pueblo ecuatoriano».

El único éxito de su gestión es haber reducido la inflación acera del 7%, en contraste con el 91% del año 2000, con lo cual espera mantener la dolarización, sobre cuyaerte hay dudas.

Venezuela, el gigante petrolero de la región, a pesar de los buenos precios de los hidrocarburos, completó en septiembre siete trimestres consecutivos de recesión y en los primeros nueve meses sufrió una brutal contracción del 14,7% frente a igual período del año anterior, según informes del Banco Central.

Como consecuencia de la recesión, la tasa de desempleo se ubicó en octubre en el 16,7% y la inflación galopó a un ritmo del 24,8%, índice acumulado hasta noviembre.

El gobierno del presidente Hugo Chávez atribuyó los problemas a un paro que entre diciembre de 2002 y enero de 2003 golpeó la economía, pero no logró su objetivo de forzarlo a renunciar. Sin embargo, está en marcha el proceso de un referendo revocatorio de su mandato.

Brasil se mantiene estancado con un pobre crecimiento estimado oficialmente en 0,3% del PIB, a pesar de que el presidente de extracción obrera Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva ha seguido la política ortodoxa recomendada por los organismos internacionales de crédito.

Casi un año después de haber asumido el poder, el desempleo aumentó al 12,8% (un 1,7% más que un año anterior) y los salarios reales cayeron un 15,2%.

A pesar de esto, Lula prometió que el año próximo «Brasil volverá a crecer, a generar empleos y a generar distribución de la renta».

Méjico tendrá un crecimiento calculado oficialmente en 1,5%, la mitad de lo proyectado por el propio gobierno, lo que se refleja en una tasa de desocupación del

3,96%, la más alta de los últimos seis años.

«Este fue un año muy malo porque es el tercero consecutivo en que el PIB crece mas despacio que la población, que aumenta al 1,8%», dijo el economista y diputado federal Julio Boltink.

La economía boliviana, tras varios años de estancamiento, tendrá este año un crecimiento del PIB de alrededor del 3%, a pesar de un violento paro indígena en octubre que dejó 56 muertos y provocó la caída del presidente Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, abrumado por la crisis económica.

Según la Corporación Andina de Fomento, la crisis boliviana fue desatada por la destrucción de la economía de la coca y del contrabando de los países vecinos, que dejaba ingresos anuales de unos 1.000 millones de dólares, una cifra importante para esa pequeña economía.

El presidente Carlos Mesa afirmó que «el Tesoro General de la Nación está desfondado. Si fuéramos una empresa, hablaríamos de quiebra».

Los países de América Central y República Dominicana crecerán este año alrededor del 2,3% y las perspectivas son mejores para el año próximo con un aumento del 3,2%, según el Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica.

«Estamos atravesando momentos económicos muy dinámicos», dijo Oscar Alfredo Santamaría, Secretario General del Sistema de Integración Centroamericana (SICA), que incluye a Belice, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica y Panamá.

«Los países centroamericanos en su conjunto presentan mayor estabilidad macroeconómica en América Latina y tasas de crecimiento ligeramente superiores a las de América del Sur y el Caribe en los dos últimos años», agregó el economista salvadoreño.

Cuba, la única economía comunista de la región, esperaría crecer más del 2%, por encima del estimativo inicial del gobierno de Fidel Castro, que era del 1,5%.

«Si hace 10 años, en los momentos más críticos tras la desaparición de la Unión Soviética, nadie en el exterior apostaba por la supervivencia de la economía cubana, hoy ésta se encuentra en crecimiento», dijo Osvaldo Martínez, presidente de la Comisión Económica del Parlamento.

Uruguay entró en su segundo año de profunda recesión y durante el primer semestre del 2003 la contracción de la economía llegó a -6,8%, según estadísticas oficiales. Igual condición registró su vecino Paraguay que desde 1995 se encuentra sumido en una severa crisis económica.

2003: Cronología de los hechos más importantes del año

Por The Associated Press

ENERO

1: Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva asume la presidencia de Brasil
5: Ex primer ministro Rolandas Pakšas gana la presidencia de Lituania.

8: Se estrella un avión de las Aerolíneas de Turquía. Mueren 75 personas y cinco resultan heridas.

10: Corea del Norte se retira del Tratado de No Proliferación Nuclear de 1968.

11: Hallan restos de un avión accidentado en las montañas de Perú: 46 muertos.

15: Lucio Gutiérrez toma juramento como presidente de Ecuador.

16: Transbordador espacial Columbia emprende su trayectoria al espacio.

16: El FMI y Argentina anuncian un acuerdo de nuevos préstamos para evitar que el país suspenda sus obligaciones.

20: El expresidente serbio Milan Milutinovic se entrega al tribunal de crímenes de guerra de Yugoslavia.

21: Poderoso terremoto sacude el oeste central de México. Mueren 28 personas y 10.000 quedan sin hogar.

21: Guerrillas colombianas secuestran a un fotógrafo

estadounidense y una reportera británica. Es la primera vez en 40 años que secuestran a periodistas extranjeros.

24: China libera al disidente Fang Jue y lo destierra a Estados Unidos.

24: El FMI aprueba un paquete de 6.600 millones de dólares a Argentina.

24: Ex guerrilleros volcados de lleno a la política salvadoreña ganan espacio en el Congreso y en las alcaldías.

19: Comienza la guerra contra Irak.

19: Seis personas secuestran a un punto de cuchillo un avión cubano y vuelan a Estados Unidos.

19: Mahmoud Abbas acepta su nombramiento como primer ministro palestino.

23: Electores chechenos aprueban una constitución en que confirmán el estado de Chechenia como parte del territorio ruso.

23: Los integrantes de Saddam Fedayín emboscan a un convoy del ejército de Estados Unidos y matan a 11 soldados. Captura a siete, incluyendo a Jessica Lynch.

26: El gobierno chino revela que casi tres docenas de personas murieron y 800 enfermaron por el brote de SARS.

26: Interpol emite orden de arresto del ex presidente peruano Alberto Fujimori. Lo acusan de secuestro y asesinato en Perú. Fujimori está establecido en Japón.

31: Soldados estadounidenses acribillan una camioneta que no paró en un retén y matan a siete mujeres y niños en Irak.

ABRIL

1: Estados Unidos rescata a Jessica Lynch en un hospital de la localidad de Nasiriyá, Irak.

1: Aterriza en Cayo Hueso un avión cubano que fue secuestrado el 31 de marzo con 32 personas a bordo. El secuestrador se rinde a las autoridades.

3: Unas 1.000 personas mueren amanadas e inservitales en el noreste del Congo, país que está sacudido por una guerra civil.

3: Agentes cubanos detienen a los secuestradores de un ferry y rescatan a 50 rehenes.

5: Un motín en una prisión hondureña deja a 68 presos muertos y docenas de heridos.

7: Estados Unidos irrumpen en Bagdad y capturan uno de los palacios de Saddam Hussein.

8: Mueren tres periodistas en un bombardeo estadounidense y ataque con tanques en Bagdad.

8: Dos periodistas mueren cuando fuerzas estadounidenses disparan contra un hotel en Bagdad.

9: Estadounidenses e iraquíes derriban una estatua gigante de Saddam Hussein en Bagdad.

10: Turbas iraquíes comienzan a saquear almacenes y edificios gubernamentales.

11: Cuba ejecuta a tres hombres acusados de secuestrar un ferry el 2 de abril en la Bahía de La Habana.

19: Presidente nigeriano Olusegun Obasanjo gana la reelección.

26: Lanzan cohete hacia la estación espacial internacional con cosmonautas rusos y estadounidenses.

27: Nicanor Duarte gana las elecciones paraguayas.

28: La cápsula espacial Soyuz TMA-2 que fue lanzada el 26 de abril logra engancharse a la estación espacial internacional.

30: Mahmoud Abbas asume su cargo como primer ministro palestino.

MAYO

1: George W. Bush declara el fin de la guerra en Irak.

1: Un terremoto mata a 176 personas en Turquía.

2: India y Pakistán aceptan restablecer lazos diplomáticos.

8: Un avión de carga ruso pierde una puerta en el Congo y provoca la muerte de más de 100 personas.

13: Una semana de combates en el Congo deja al menos 112 muertos.

14: El ex presidente argentino Carlos Menem, que había sido el más votado en la primera vuelta, se abstiene de participar en la segunda ronda, allanando el camino para la elección de Néstor Kirchner como nuevo presidente de Argentina.

16: 31 personas mueren en ataques suicidas en Casablanca.

17: Más de 300 personas mueren en Sri Lanka, en las peores inundaciones en cinco décadas.

21: El peor terremoto que sacude a Argelia en dos décadas mata a al menos 2.217 personas y hiere a otras 9.087.

25: Asume Néstor Kirchner, el primer mandatario electo popularmente desde la crisis financiera del 2001.

26: Se estrella en Turquía avión que transportaba a unidades de paz de España que retornaban de Afganistán a España. Murieron 75 personas.

31: El Concorde de Air France realiza su último vuelo comercial y pone fin a los décadas de viajes supersónicos entre París y Nueva York.

31: Detienen en Carolina del norte a sujeto que habría colocado una bomba durante los Juegos Olímpicos de Atlanta en 1996.

JUNIO

4: Un tribunal de crímenes de guerra acusa al presidente liberiano Charles Taylor de ser el mayor responsable de la guerra civil que duró 10 años en Sierra Leone.

15: El número de muertos por el SARS se dispara a 794 personas.

17: La Organización Mundial de la Salud declara que la epidemia del SARS ha sido contenida.

22: Irak vuelve a participar en el mercado mundial de crudo y envía su primer cargamento desde que empezara la guerra.

22: Sabotean el oleoducto más largo de Irak.

Bailes y La Música

By Rico

OHIO:
Toledo:

Las Palmas Nightclub, 3247 Stickney Ave; Live bands most Saturdays; Now under new management, the Flores family; call 419.726.8469.

Mickey Finn's, 602 Lagrange St., DJ Tony Rios, Thurs, 9:00 p.m. to midnight. Call 419.246.3466.

Rambos, 201 Knapp; DJ Tony Rios every Sat., 9:00PM-2:30AM with salsa, merengue, y más. 419.241.2358.

The Connection, 3126 Lagrange St., live Tejano bands every Fri. & Sat. 419.242.2924.

Sylvania:

Club Frogtown, 3535 N. Holland Sylvania Rd; DJ Dimas every Sat., 10PM-2AM; \$3 cover after 10PM for men; salsa, merengue, bachata; 419.787.3702.

MICHIGAN:
Detroit:

Detour Lounge, 1824 Springwells Street; every Friday night; *Baile Cumbia*; free cumbia lessons; DJ Manolito; cumbia, salsa, ranchera; merengue; 313.849.0900.

Club International, 6060 W. Fort Street; weekly Saturday entertainment; 313.995.4938.

Los Galanes, 3362 Bagley St., every Friday and Saturday, Latino music; 313.554.4444.

Luna Pier: *Luna Pier Ballroom*, most Saturday nights; *El Baile Grande*, 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Call 734.848.4326.

Pontiac: *HEAT*, Pike St. & N. Saginaw St., Fri; at the main level: salsa, merengue, bachata & Latin House music by DJ Cisco & Alfredo; in the Hookah Lounge: flamenco, reggae, & Arabic music. 248.756.4821 or www.salsadetroit.com.

Royal Oak: *Thurs*; *Sky Club*, 401 S. Lafayette; doors open at 8 p.m. with free dance lessons at 8:15 p.m.; 21 and over; proper attire; 586.254.0560.

Utica: *Argentine Tango Detroit*, 7758 Auburn Road; Tango on Fri; 586.254.0560.

Ypsilanti: *Club Towering*, Sat. is salsa & merengue with DJ Miguel, 10PM-2AM. *Club Metro*, 2275 Ellsworth Street; Sun; is Mexican night with DJ Miguel, 10PM-2AM. 734.434.0800.

Have entertainment?
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313.729.4435, or email
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Spanish Church Services:

Evangelical Assemblies of God
705 Lodge
Toledo, Ohio 43609
Pastor Moses Rodríguez
Miér., 7:00 p.m.
Dom., 11:00 a.m.
419-385-6418

First Spanish Church of God
1331 E. Broadway
Toledo, Ohio 43605
Dom., 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Mier. & Vier., 7:00 p.m.
Sab., 6:00 p.m.
419-693-5895

Iglesia Bautista El Buen Pastor
521 Spencer Road
Toledo, Ohio 43609
Rev. Dr. Alberto Martínez
Miér., 6:00 p.m.
Sab., 6:00 p.m.
Dom., 10:15 a.m., 11:20 a.m.,
6:00 p.m.
419-381-2648

La Primera Iglesia Bautista
628 Elm Street
corner of Elm & Erie
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Pastor Titular: J. Truett Fogle
Pastor Asociado: Jesus Segovia
Escuela dominical: 10:00 a.m.
Culto de adoración: 11:00 a.m.
Los cultos son bi-lingües
419-241-1546

SS. Peter & Paul
728 Guadalupe Street
Toledo, Ohio 43609
Fr. Richard Notter
Dom., 12:00 p.m.
419-241-5822

Primera Iglesia Hispana de Monroe
Alianza Cristiana y Misionera
Pastor Jesse Morales
317 E. Front St.
Monroe, Michigan 48161
Dom., 1:30 p.m.
Mar. & Jue., 7:00 p.m.
734-848-4271

Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana
3495 Livermore Street
Detroit, Michigan 48210
Pastor Titular: Carlos Liese
Pastor Asociado: Elí Garza
Estudio Bíblico: Miér., 7:00 p.m.
Escuela Dominical: 10:00 a.m.
Culto de Adoración: Dom.,
11:00 a.m.
313-894-7755

Nueva Creación United Methodist Church
270 Waterman St. Detroit MI
Services: Juev. at 7:00 p.m.
& Dom. at 5:30 p.m.

Editor's Note:
Churches desiring to be included in this directory should e-mail the information to Rico, c/o laprensa1@yahoo.com, or fax to 1-309-214-4165.

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domingo, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
419-372-2826

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4-6 p.m. & con
Sylvester Duran
Domingo, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

WLFC 88.3 FM
Findlay, OH
viernes,
6 to 9 p.m.

WLEN 103.9 FM
Adrian, MI
domingo,
1 to 4:30 p.m.

WQTE 95.3 FM
with Lady Di
Adrian, MI
domingo,
3 to 8 p.m.

WKMK 1440 AM
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lunes a viernes, 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.

WCAR 1090 AM
Detroit, MI
sábado,
noon to 5 p.m.
dom., noon to 4 p.m.

WDTR 90.9 FM
Caribe Serenade
Detroit, MI
Ozzie Rivera
sábado
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

1160 AM
La K Onda
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Luis Hernández
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LA PRENSA'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

December 31, 7:30PM, \$5 cover; New Year's Eve Baile, *Club Mystique*, 3122 Airport Hwy., Toledo; live DJ; salsa lessons at 9:00PM; happy hour 7:30-9:00PM with ½ price drink specials.

December 31, \$25 per person; celebrate New Year's Eve at Las Palmas Dance Club, Toledo, OH; *Tejano Sound Band*; party favors, hats, door prize, raffles, appetizers, y más; 419.726.8469.

December 31, 8:00PM-1:00AM, \$12 per person or \$20 per couple; New Year's Eve Baile at SS. Peter & Paul Parish Hall, Toledo; music by *Andy Trejo y Sus Dinamicos*; food, raffle, y más; Call 419.241.5822.

December 31, 9:00PM-1:00AM, \$20 cover; New Year's Eve Baile, U.A.W. Fellowship Hall, Fostoria OH; *Los Temibles*; 419.837.6492.

December 31, 9:00PM-1:00AM, \$20 cover; New Year's Eve Baile, American Legion Hall, 2000 Buckland Ave., Fremont, OH; *Los Muchachos, Nicolina and the Bad Boys*; 419.837.6492.

January 3, 2004, 7:00PM-Midnight: *Three Kings Baile* with *Sammy DeLeón* and *Roberto Ocacio* orquestas, DeLucas Place in the Park, Lorain, Ohio. \$10 cover in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets on sale at Roman's Groceries, Sunset Market, Nalix Hair Design, & Famous Corner. Call 440.213.7329 or 419.870.6565. Sponsored by *La Prensa* with support of *La Onda Cultural Latina 89.1FM* and *Kool Kat Oldies 1380AM*.

January 3, 8:00PM-1:00AM, fundraiser for singer Mickey Figueroa, Puerto Rican Club, 8050 W. Fort, Detroit MI; bands include *La Inspiración*, *Benny Cruz y La Buena Vida*, and *Grupo Alegre* (merengue).

January 10, 7:30PM-Midnight; Sacred Heart Chapel, 4301 Pearl Ave., Lorain OH, 2nd Annual *Salsa Amateur Dance Competition*; \$7 cover in advance and \$10 at the door; fee for competition is \$5 per couple for adults and \$3 for teens; presented by the Latino Cultural School of Arts, UAW Hispanic Council, 440.233.5072.

January 12, 10:00AM to Noon; *2004 Baby Fiesta*, presented by the Aurora Gonzalez Community & Family Resource Center, Adelante, Inc., and the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, at Aurora Gonzalez. Call Ana Portillo 419.244.8440.

Any listings? Contact Rico at 419-870-6565 or 313-729-4435. Also, always call ahead before going to any event in case of last minute time changes.

Obituaries
SUE GONZÁLEZ

Sue González, age 45, of Toledo, died Tuesday, December 22, 2003, at The Toledo Hospital. She was born March 28, 1958, in Toledo and graduated from Macomber-Whitney High School. She was employed as a therapeutic program worker at Lott Industries and also did foster care.

Survived by her children, Courtney (Salvador Covian) Chu, Dulce González, Armando González Jr. and Brandy González; granddaughter, Alexandria Covian; husband, Armando González; parents, Lorenzo and Joanne Diaz; brothers, Todd Harrison, Lorenzo and James Diaz; sister, Josefina Diaz; stepbrother, Ben Diaz; stepsister, Larrietta Diaz; best friend, Judy, and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Louis and Belle Toth, and brother, James Harrison.

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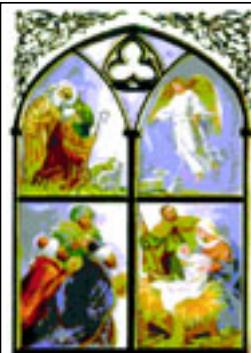
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Sealed bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Lucas County, Ohio, at its office at One Government Center, Suite 800, Toledo, Ohio until 2:00 p.m. on January 7, 2004 and opened immediately thereafter for all labor and materials required to complete the **Lucas County Recreation Center Softball/ Baseball Diamond Fence Replacement, Maumee, Ohio**, according to specifications now on file in the office of Lucas County Facilities Dept., 761 Berdan Ave., Toledo, Ohio between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (419-213-6465).

Prior to 2:00 p.m. on January 7, 2004 each bid upon submission must be stamped with the time and date received by the Commissioners' receptionist. Each bid shall contain the full name of person submitting bid, the name of every person or company interested in same, and be accompanied by a bid bond or Certified Check of Cashier's Check or Money Order drawn on a Solvent Bank or Savings and Loan Association, in the sum of ten percent (10%) of total bid.

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La Prensa

Presents:

Three Kings Day



**January 3, 2004
7:00PM to Midnight**

**Delucas Place in the Park
6075 Middle Ridge Road
Lorain, Ohio 44053**

**\$10 in advance
\$12 at the door**

**Featuring: Sammy DeLeón y Su Orquesta
& Roberto Ocasio & the Latin Jazz Project
& Tropical Jam Orchestra, y más!**

With support from La Onda Cultural Latina 89.1FM & "Kool Kat" Oldies 1380AM

**Tickets on sale at: Roman's Groceries, 2957 Pearl Ave.,
Sunset Market, 2811 Fulton Rd., Nalix Hair Design, 2923 Pearl,
Famous Corner, 2821 Pearl, Lorain. Call 440.213.7329.**

**Don't miss the 3 Kings Day Baile on:
January 3rd.
Tickets are on sale at a variety of venues including Roman's. Art by Bruno Casiano (as depicted on the right) will be on sale. The first 100 baile guests will receive art reproductions created by Bruno Casiano.**



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