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Noviembre 10, 2004 Spanglish Weekly/Semanal 20 Páginas Vol. 36, No. 9

Special Election Issue: Summary of the Results

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Yvonne Ramos, Dina Ramirez, and Rosalinda Sifuentes prior to meeting at FLOC concerning the creation of Union Venceremos and the firings of six employees of Auroral González Outreach Center. The AG Six allege terminations due to unionization.

Clients say vital services are on hold while Aurora González sizzles with firing of 'AG Six'—will it become 'AG Eight'?

By Alan Abrams

La Prensa Senior Correspondent

A client of the Aurora L. González Family and Resource Center has told *La Prensa* that vital services provided by the agency are at risk of non-delivery as the

director and board continue to be caught in the swirling controversy over the firing of six employees within a month, from September 28 to October 27.

Kelly Ressler, a mother of two boys, is a client of the agency. She was formerly serviced by Yvonne Ramos, who was fired on October 26.

Ramos, who has worked for AG for over three years, (Continued on Page 9)

Brown to announce Congressional Service Awards

U.S. Congressman Sherrod Brown (D-OH 13), who was re-elected on Nov. 2, pictured with Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the UFW, at recent bus tour of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus.

Brown will announce this Saturday, Nov. 13, the Congressional Services Award recipients, at the Lorain County Community College at 3:30PM, Stocker Arts Center. Recipients include Eddairis Morales and Raymond A. Hernández.

More Lorain election results on page 3.



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DENTRO:

Los Hermanos Salazar.....2

Impact of Proposition 200.....3

Horoscopes.....5

BURR:
Juanes.....6

Deportes.....7

Lottery Results.....8

Calendar of Events.....12

Mija Magazine.....14

Arrianna needs your help.....17

Classifieds.....16-20

Breves:

México confía reelección Bush impulse temas como migración

MEXICO (AP): El gobierno de México confía que la reelección de George W. Bush como presidente de Estados Unidos dé un nuevo impulso a los temas de la agenda bilateral, en particular el de un posible acuerdo migratorio entre ambas naciones, dijo el secretario de Gobernación, Santiago Creel.

El responsable de la política interna señaló en rueda de prensa que el gobierno mexicano sólo estaba en espera los resultados de los comicios estadounidenses para reanudar de inmediato los trabajos de los temas bilaterales y el momento para hacerlo será la próxima semana.

"En el caso muy particular del presidente Bush y de su equipo, es un equipo que ya viene con la experiencia de cuatro años anteriores; viene con la experiencia de lo que hemos vivido como dos (Continúa en la p. 8)

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'Colorado Kennedys' going to D.C. conjunto

By EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP): They grew up in the wide-open spaces of southern Colorado, tending to a mother they still worship and farmland their family harvested for generations.

Democrats Ken and John Salazar are now going to Congress. Together.

The Salazar brothers won tight races for a pair of seats being surrendered by Republicans and will both head to Washington, D.C. next year—Ken as the state's newest senator and older brother John as the representative of Colorado's 3rd Congressional District.

Both are from tiny Manassa, home of famed heavyweight boxer Jack Dempsey. And both are part

of a venerable Latino family whose parents insisted they get an education.

"It was on the shoulders of my parents and grandparents that all eight of us become college graduates and had a chance to live the American dream," said Ken Salazar, who has six siblings other than John. "That's what we want to do for all of America."

The Salazar brothers were raised in a small, adobe farmhouse in the San Luis Valley. It was there that their family set up roots well before Colorado became a state. They both still call their 82-year-old mother, Emma, at least once a day, and despite the rigors of their political careers, they make a point of heading home often. "I get especially tired when

I don't go home," John Salazar said in an interview earlier this year with The Rocky Mountain News.

Working on the farm—growing potatoes, alfalfa and wheat—imbued in them a deep appreciation of the land—and especially the water—in an area that receives only 5 to 6 inches of rain a year and depends largely on snowmelt from the mountain ranges that surround the valley.

Predictably, water issues were among the most important in John Salazar's race against Republican Greg Walcher. They spent millions, something of an anomaly for the homespun, largely rural areas they represent.

Ken Salazar, the state attorney general, was part of the

state's most expensive race ever, a bitter fight against GOP brewery heir Pete Coors. Salazar played up his rural roots, often appearing in commercials in the same cowboy hat he wore for his acceptance speech.

"I have had the great honor of standing on the shoulders of giants to do what we're doing here today," Salazar said, honoring his late father, a World War II veteran, and his mother, who worked at the Pentagon during the war.

With the win, he became the first Democrat to be elected to a statewide office since 1994 and the first Latino elected to the Senate in 27 years.

It was unclear whether the Salazar brothers are the first siblings elected to Congress on the same day.

Salazar turns populist message into Senate win

By JUDITH KOHLER
Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP): Democrat Ken Salazar, 49, campaigned for Colorado's open Senate seat on what he called a desire to keep alive the U.S. dream of progress through hard work and education.

His dream came true Tuesday night when he grabbed what was once considered a solidly Republican seat by beating Republican beer executive Pete Coors, 58. With 90 percent of precincts reporting, Salazar had 919,375 votes, or 50 percent, to Coors' 871,916, or 48 percent.

Ken Salazar's victory

called a nasty campaign for the seat being vacated by Republican Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell. The race was the most expensive in Colorado history, with the two candidates spending more than \$15 million.

Salazar, a fifth-generation Colorado rancher, crafted a populist theme throughout his campaign, saying he understands the struggles of the working class and would create jobs and boost education funding. He also said he would be the best candidate to improve homeland security after serving two terms as attorney general.

"Tonight is a great victory for the state of Colorado and the United States of America," Salazar told cheering supporters at a downtown Denver hotel.

Coors, whose great-grandfather founded the Golden-based Adolph Coors Co., stressed his business experience and belief in low taxes, small government and a strong defense. He called Salazar to congratulate him shortly before midnight and said he was happy that the Republicans would retain control of the Senate and that President Bush appeared headed to victory.

"I'm going back to the brewery," the multimillionaire said. "I've got a great job and I think I have a lot of things to accomplish."

National parties were watching Colorado closely in part because Democrat John Kerry was hoping to get a boost from Salazar's appeal to fellow Latinos. Both parties backed millions of dollars in advertising, and a string of heavy-hitters, including President Bush, took to the state to lock up voters. In the end, Bush won a relatively comfortable victory.

Summary of nation's propositions on the ballot on November 2

(AP) The voters in 11 U.S. states—every one that had it on the ballot, including Ohio and Michigan—adopted bans on same-sex marriage on November 2, dealing a major setback to the gay-rights movement.

Californians, meanwhile, voted to spend \$3-billion on stem-cell research, putting the state on the cutting edge of a field questioned by U.S. conservatives and the Bush administration. At the same time, they voted to retain the state's controversial three-strikes law.

In Michigan, Ann Arbor passed a law to legalize marijuana for medical purposes—75% in favor—but the city attorney indicated that it could not be implemented since it conflicted with state law. Voters in the college town of Columbia, Missouri, overwhelmingly approved proposals to permit medical use of marijuana and to decriminalize small amounts of the drug. Nearly 70 percent of voters approved allowing medical use of marijuana if authorized by a physician. They also adopted a law that prohibits the arrest of adults for possessing less than 35 grams of pot. Those adults could be charged in municipal court instead, creating a presumption that minor marijuana cases would result in deferred prosecution, suspended sentences and community service or drug counseling. Montana became the 10th state to legalize marijuana for medical purposes, but Alaskans defeated a more ambitious proposal to decriminalize pot altogether. In Oregon, voters rejected a measure that would have dramatically expanded its existing medical marijuana program.

In all, 163 measures were on the ballots in 34 states. Backers of California's Proposition 71, which will support human embryonic-stem-cell research, said the measure was needed because the Bush administration has restricted funding to about \$25-million a year. The campaign became a battle of Hollywood stars after actor-turned-governor Arnold Schwarzenegger broke Republican ranks to line up in support with late Superman actor Christopher Reeve and Family Ties actor Michael J. Fox. Actor/director Mel Gibson was among high-profile foes of the measure.

Californians turned aside a proposition that would have weakened the state's three-strikes law by allowing 25 years-to-life sentences only if third-time felons were convicted of a serious or violent crime rather than the sometimes minor offenses included under the current law. Arizonans approved a crackdown on illegal immigrants. The Arizona immigration

initiative (Proposition 200)—the first of its kind in the United States—was touted by supporters as a way to curtail fraud by requiring people to produce proof of immigration status when obtaining certain government services. It would require proof of citizenship to register to vote and would punish state workers who looked the other way.

Floridians and Nevadans voted to raise their states' minimum wage to \$6.15 an hour, a dollar higher than the federal minimum wage. The new Nevada wage will apply only to employers that do not offer health insurance.

Florida voters also approved a measure limiting the privacy rights of teenage girls seeking abortions, meaning the legislature can now pass a law requiring parents to be notified.

Colorado defeated a measure that would have allocated its electoral votes proportionally, based on the popular vote for president, and would have applied to this year's race between U.S. president George W. Bush and John Kerry.

Voters in Maine and South Dakota both declined opportunities to lower taxes. South Dakotans defeated a bid to scrap the sales tax on groceries, while a measure to cap property taxes lost in Maine after opponents said it would force layoffs of teachers and firefighters.

In Washington, voters rejected a penny-on-the-dollar sales-tax increase to raise money for education, turning down a well-financed appeal for greater investment in the state's young people.

Voters in Colorado, Oklahoma, and Montana approved increases in tobacco taxes, with most of the new revenue earmarked for health care. In Alaska and Maine, voters defeated proposals to ban the use of bait while hunting bears.

A nationwide dispute between doctors and trial lawyers over whether to limit malpractice awards was on the ballot in several states. In Florida, doctors prevailed with an amendment limiting the percentage of malpractice awards that lawyers can claim. But lawyers won amendments to give the public more information about doctors' mistakes and to take away the licenses of doctors who make several medical errors.

In Wyoming, voters rejected a proposed amendment that would have let legislators consider limiting jury awards for pain and suffering, while Nevada voters approved a physician-backed initiative that would impose a \$350,000 cap on non-economic damages in malpractice cases.

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Culturás Publications, Inc., d.b.a. La Prensa Newspaper
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• **DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 11:00AM** •
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Impact of Arizona's anti-immigration initiative, Proposition 200, unknown

By ANANDA SHOREY
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX (AP): Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano said Wednesday that lawyers are analyzing a newly approved measure that aims to keep illegal immigrants from voting and obtaining some government services to determine how it will affect state agencies.

Arizona voters approved Proposition 200 on election day, 56 percent to or 44 percent.

The initiative, which could result in jail time for government workers who don't report illegal immigrants trying to obtain some services, doesn't specify which public benefits it includes, leaving questions regarding the potential impact.

"The voters have spoken, and even though I disagree... we've got to accept the result," Napolitano said at a news conference Wednesday.

The governor, along with many other political leaders, including Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., opposed the measure.

Napolitano plans to issue a proclamation declaring that Proposition 200 is law after a statewide election canvass Nov. 22.

Meanwhile, lawyers will be analyzing its language and intent to determine how state agencies will be affected and then advise them on implementing the provisions, Napolitano

said. "We will do that to the best of our ability," she said.

The governor also is checking to see whether state agencies have money to cover the cost of the initiative. She didn't say whether she will ask the Legislature for extra money to cover the provisions.

Napolitano said she doesn't know how Proposition 200, which also requires residents to provide proof of citizenship to register to vote, will affect voter registration efforts.

After she signs the proclamation, the U.S. Justice Department has to clear the election provisions under the Voting Rights Act.

The provisions need to be approved to ensure minority voters have access to the ballots, said Ashley Adams-Feldman, district elections officer for the U.S. attorney's office.

If the provisions are approved, the measure is still expected to face a flurry of challenges.

"It is definitely going to be tied up in the courts," said Bruce Merrill, a political pollster who followed the proposition. "A lot of people feel how you define public services is pretty vague."

State Rep. Steve Gallardo, a Phoenix Democrat, said government workers will be responsible for determining the definition of public benefits.

"At the end of the day, the folks who are going to get arrested are government em-

ployees," Gallardo said. "Those are the folks who are going to suffer."

Gallardo said court challenges will keep the measure from becoming law soon.

"The bottom line is, we have an immigration problem in the state," Gallardo said. "This initiative makes matters even worse."

Arizona is the busiest illegal entry point along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a nonprofit organization that promotes the rights of Latinos, plans to challenge the measure before it takes effect, said Thomas Saenz, the group's vice president of litigation.

"We are carefully reviewing the poorly written initiative to see how we can challenge it on behalf of those who would be affected," Saenz said.

Opponents have already tried to defeat the measure in court several times. Most recently, they sought an injunction that would have thrown out votes in the race. A judge dismissed that challenge last week, saying it came too late.

Editor's Note: In *January, President Bush promised relief for immigrants and yet nothing was mentioned of this relief by the president last week when he outlined his agenda for the next four years after his victory over challenger John Kerry on November 2.*

Unofficial Selected Election Results for Lorain County, Ohio, Nov. 2, 2004

| FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT* | | COUNT | PERCENT |
|--|--|--------------|----------------|
| MICHAEL BADNARIK/RICHARD CAMPAGNA | | 314 | .23 |
| GEORGE W. BUSH/DICK CHENEY REP | | 59,751 | 43.67 |
| JOHN F. KERRY/JOHN EDWARDS DEM | | 76,512 | 55.93 |
| * (RALPH NADER - DISQUALIFIED) | | | |
| MICHAEL A. PEROUTKA/CHUCK BALDWIN | | 233 | .17 |

| FOR REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS* | | | |
|--|-----|--------|-------|
| 9TH DISTRICT | | | |
| LARRY KACZALA | REP | 12,213 | 36.98 |
| MARCY KAPTUR | DEM | 20,812 | 63.02 |

| FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE* | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| 56TH HOUSE DISTRICT | | | |
| JOSEPH F. KOZIURA | DEM | 34,276 | 73.68 |
| DANIEL JACK WILLIAMSON | REP | 12,243 | 26.32 |

| FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER* | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| FULL TERM COMMENCING 1/2/05 | | | |
| ERIC A. FLYNN | REP | 54,995 | 45.29 |
| LORI KOKOSKI | DEM | 66,429 | 54.71 |

| FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER* | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| FULL TERM COMMENCING 1/3/05 | | | |
| RITA T. CANFIELD | REP | 55,035 | 45.69 |
| TED KALO | DEM | 65,418 | 54.31 |

| FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY* | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| GARY BENNETT | REP | 57,362 | 47.00 |
| DENNIS P. WILL | DEM | 64,682 | 53.00 |

| FOR COUNTY RECORDER* | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| JUDY NEDWICK | DEM | 70,263 | 59.85 |
| BARBARA J. TATE | REP | 47,131 | 40.15 |

| FOR COUNTY ENGINEER* | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------|-------|
| KENNETH P. CARNEY | DEM | 76,059 | 66.22 |
| THOMAS HESMOND | | 38,806 | 33.78 |

| FOR JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS* | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| 9TH DISTRICT/FULL TERM COMMENCING 2/9/05 | | | |
| EDNA J. BOYLE | | 37,090 | 39.11 |
| CARLA D. MOORE | | 39,277 | 41.41 |
| WILLIAM D. WELLEMEYER | | 18,472 | 19.48 |

| FOR JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS* | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| 9TH DISTRICT/FULL TERM COMMENCING 2/10/05 | | | |
| EVE BELFANCE | | 34,992 | 37.98 |
| DONNA J. CARR | | 57,139 | 62.02 |

| FOR JUDGE OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS* | | | |
|--|--|--------|-------|
| FULL TERM COMMENCING 1/1/05 | | | |
| JAMES V. BARILLA | | 33,824 | 34.64 |
| CHRISTOPHER R. ROTHGERY | | 63,811 | 65.36 |

| ISSUE #13 - ELYRIA CITY/INCOME TAX S CORP. | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| YES | | 9,950 | 48.66 |
| NO | | 10,497 | 51.34 |

| ISSUE #14 - ELYRIA CITY/REPEAL TAX CREDIT | | | |
|--|--|--------|-------|
| ORD.#2004-43 | | | |
| YES | | 8,760 | 40.06 |
| NO | | 13,107 | 59.94 |

| ISSUE #17 - LORAIN CITY/INCOME TAX S CORP. | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| YES | | 12,452 | 53.82 |
| NO | | 10,683 | 46.18 |

| ISSUE #43 - ELYRIA CITY SCHOOL DIST. | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| REN'L/4.48M/5YRS/EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| FOR THE TAX LEVY | | 11,074 | 52.55 |
| AGAINST THE TAX LEVY | | 9,999 | 47.45 |

| ISSUE #44 - ELYRIA CITY SCHOOL DIST. | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| ADD'L/6.99M/5YRS/EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| FOR THE TAX LEVY | | 8,142 | 36.57 |
| AGAINST THE TAX LEVY | | 14,123 | 63.43 |

| ISSUE #59 - LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | | | |
|---|--|--------|-------|
| REP'L/1.2M/INCREASE/O.3M/10YRS/UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP | | | |
| FOR THE TAX LEVY | | 70,495 | 54.29 |
| AGAINST THE TAX LEVY | | 59,346 | 45.71 |

| ISSUE #60 - LORAIN COUNTY | | | |
|--|--|--------|-------|
| REP'L/1.2M/5YRS/MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES | | | |
| FOR THE TAX LEVY | | 75,825 | 59.24 |
| AGAINST THE TAX LEVY | | 52,174 | 40.76 |

A message from Roberto Torres, Director of Latino Affairs, City of Toledo

I know that many of you join me in congratulating Anita López, Lucas County recorder-elect and Irma Celestino, Sandusky County treasurer-elect on their successful bids for office. Each of you will represent our community well and you stand as role models for our Latino youth. That pride extends to Danny Contreras for a hard-fought campaign. You, Sir, have served our community valiantly as a Veteran and an officer. I appreciate your offer to serve us once again as a public official. All of you have set the tone for others to follow!



Roberto Torres

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Anita López with judge-elect Denise Cubbon, right.



Irma and Francisco Celestino, 2003

Celestino ahead by 49 votes, López wins—both become first Latinas to win their respective county-wide offices

Unofficial election results from the November 2 elections show that Irma G. Celestino, candidate for Sandusky County treasurer, is ahead of her incumbent opponent, Anna Senior, by 49 votes, with 15,045 votes, or 50.08 percent of the vote, while Senior had 14,996 votes, or 49.92 percent.

There were, however, 760 provisional ballots cast in Sandusky County which remain to be counted. Elections officials will have to determine whether those were valid voters, and if so, the votes will be counted. Overseas absentee ballots that come in during the next few days also need to be counted.

If the race stays close—within a half of 1 percent—there will be an automatic recount under Ohio law. So, it could be two weeks before Celestino knows for sure whether she has won.

If the results hold, Celestino will be the first Latina elected to county-wide office in Sandusky.

Senior, a Democrat, was seeking her third term in

office, while Celestino, a Republican, sought the office after 31 years of county government experience, serving as clerk and fiscal officer for the Sandusky County commissioners. Celestino plans on retiring from the commission at the end of the year.

If the results stand, Celestino will begin a four-year term in September of 2005. Current pay for the position is \$47,000 a year. The treasurer oversees approximately \$130,000 in the county's general fund and an additional \$43,000 in the Delinquent Tax Assessment Collection budget, used to help collect from delinquent taxpayers.

The treasurer also oversees collection of real estate taxes, invests county funds and helps taxpayers with any problems they may encounter.

Celestino informed *La Prensa* that she "left no stone unturned, campaigning door-to-door up to the day before the election."

Celestino is married and

the mother of one daughter, who is a freshman at the University of Cincinnati.

Meanwhile, on November 2, attorney Anita López, a Democrat, became the first Latina elected to county-wide office in Lucas County, when López easily defeated her opponent Melanie Perz, a Republican, for Lucas County recorder, 118,586 to 75,087.

López informed *La Prensa* that she was "elated and ready to serve the public." She would maintain her seat on the Toledo Board of Education until her term as recorder would begin in January of 2005.

The board of education will have 30 days from the time López resigns to fill the vacancy. Under state law, if the board fails to do so, Lucas County Probate Judge Jack Puffenberger would make the appointment. The balance of López's term runs through the end of 2005.

López is married to attorney Roman Arce and the mother of two young sons.



Judge Lanzinger

Sixth District Ohio Appellate Judge Judith Ann Lanzinger won handily on Nov. 2 for a full 6-year term as a Justice on the Ohio Supreme Court.

Lanzinger, who was endorsed by dozens of organizations including the Republican Party, defeated Judge Nancy A. Fuerst.

Lanzinger is from the Toledo area and has been a judge for almost 20 years, sitting as a judge on the Toledo Municipal Court, Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, and the 6th District Appellate benches.

Lanzinger was "highly recommended" by the Ohio State Bar Association's Commission on Judicial Candidates, receiving votes from over 75 percent of the members of the Commission on Judicial Candidates.

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Election results from Ohio and Michigan, at a glance

MICHIGAN:

PRESIDENT (17 electoral votes): Jobs and the economy were top issues for Michigan voters who felt the sting of the state's 6.8 percent unemployment rate and disappearing manufacturing jobs.

HOUSE: Current: 9R, 6D. Former state Sen. John "Joe" Schwarz won a crowded Republican primary to replace outgoing Congressman Nick Smith and was expected to beat his Democratic opponent in the Republican-leaning district, the only open seat.

PROPOSITIONS: Michigan voters approved changing the state's constitution to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman; they also required new gambling venues to get voters' approval.

LATINOS: Democratic incumbent Steve Tobocman, Michigan State Rep for District 12 (southwest Detroit), easily defeats Republican Anita Salazar, 15,461 to 1,749.

EXIT POLL: Voters most concerned about terrorism were going for Bush about 4 to 1, while about seven in 10 voters who said Iraq was the most important campaign issue went for Kerry.

OHIO:

PRESIDENT (20 electoral votes): Bush won by 3.6 points in 2000. Four years later, it was a battleground—both candidates visited often.

SENATE: Republican Sen. George Voinovich claimed second term, easily defeating Democratic state Sen. Eric Fingerhut.

HOUSE: Five-term incumbent Steven LaTourette easily defeated shopping center heiress Capri Cafaro, a 26-year-old Democrat who loaned her own campaign \$1.7 million. 11-term incumbent Marcy Kaptur easily defeated Lucas County auditor, Larry Kaczala.

PROPOSITIONS: Voters bolstered nation's toughest law banning gay marriage with even broader constitutional amendment against civil unions, despite fears from businesses that it would make it more difficult to hire and retain top talent.

LATINOS: Latinas Anita López and Irma Celestino became the first Latinas to win county-wide offices, with López capturing the Lucas County recorder's office and Celestino winning the Sandusky County treasurer's office. Danny Contreras looses bid to become first state Latino sheriff, garnering 15 percent of the vote in a field of three for Lucas County sheriff. Contreras, an unendorsed Democrat, ran as an independent, in his first bid for public office.

EXIT POLL: Nearly all of Ohio's voters made their decision in presidential race more than a month before election, splitting just about evenly between Bush and Kerry.

México unveils new 1,000 peso bill

MEXICOCITY (AP), Nov. 4: México unveiled a new 1,000 peso bill Thursday, the largest denomination available in the currency.

The bill, equivalent to \$87, will begin circulating on Nov. 15. About 50 million will be put into circulation. Central bank officials said they created the new note after noticing increased use of 200-peso and 500-peso bills.

"There's a growing appetite to pay with higher-denominated bills," said Manuel Galan, the Bank of México's director of programming, adding that the new notes will improve "efficiency in doing commercial transactions."

The purple-and-green-hued bill will feature the likeness of Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, who led Mexico's 1810 independence from Spain.

The amount of bills and coins in circulation on a daily basis is currently about 280 billion pesos (\$24.5 billion.)

• Cuba gives another week to change U.S. dollars for Cuban

By ANITA SNOW

Associated Press Writer
HAVANA (AP): Because of the huge demand to dispose of the U.S. dollars that were legal tender in Cuba for a more than a decade, the Central Bank said Thursday that people will have an extra week to exchange their U.S. money for a local currency tied to the dollar.

The need to extend the two-week transition period indicated that economic planners here underestimated how many U.S. dollars had accumulated on the island since they were made legal tender as a temporary measure to capture hard currency after the loss of Soviet aid and trade.

President Fidel Castro has said the move is necessary to protect the country from an increasing U.S. crackdown on foreign banks sending U.S. cash to Cuba.

"The attitude of our people in the face of the most recent economic aggressions by the U.S. government has been an example of patriotism, disci-

pline and confidence in the revolution," the Central Bank said in a note published in *Granma*.

"Considering this exemplary reaction, and taking into account the repeated requests of the people, it has been decided to extend until Sunday Nov. 14 the period stated" to exchange dollars into convertible Cuban pesos without paying a new 10 percent surcharge.

Previously, the last day to change U.S. money without the fee was Sunday.

The Central Bank note said that the rest of the resolution issued Oct. 25 to eliminate U.S. dollars was unchanged. Cuban stores and businesses will still refuse U.S. dollars as legal tender beginning Monday as earlier announced, despite the extension on exchanging the bills.

Banks will open Saturday and the weekend of Nov. 13-14 to help Cubans change their U.S. dollars into convertible pesos before the deadline, it added.

The Cuban currency, like that of many other smaller nations, has no value outside the country. But Cuba relies heavily on imported goods that must be purchased with dollars or other convertible foreign currencies. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, with which Cuba conducted barter trade, Havana's need for hard currency grew.

The currency switch appears aimed at eliminating Cuba's dependence on the U.S. for hard currency reserves, building up new sources of convertible foreign funds, and reasserting centralized control over the economy.

The U.S. has recently moved to restrict the flow of its currency into Cuba, with severe limits on the amount Cuban exiles can send relatives on the island and Federal Reserve fines imposed on international banks sending U.S. dollars here.

Central Bank President Francisco Soberon told The Associated Press earlier this week he has been surprised at

the large amounts of U.S. dollars Cubans are changing to avoid the new surcharge.

"It's been above our expectations," Soberon said of the quantities changed. "A lot of people are opening accounts in important amounts of money. We didn't know how much people were saving under their mattresses."

Soberon did not provide estimates on how much had been changed thus far, but said in the first week there were 700,000 transactions to exchange dollars or open dollar accounts across the island of 11.2 million people.

Some independent analysts have estimated that several hundred million U.S. dollars would be exchanged into convertible pesos before the surcharge takes effect.

Last week, there were numerous reports of smaller money exchange operations in Havana shutting down early after their daily allotment of 50,000 convertible pesos ran out. Nevertheless, Soberon insisted that Cuba has printed enough convertible pesos to meet demand.

Soberon told the AP Monday that after the changing period ends economic planners will have a much better idea of how much cash is circulating on the island.

"To plan our monetary policy, to plan our internal finance, we will know how many convertible pesos are in circulation," said Soberon, adding it was impossible to know previously how many dollars existed in Cuba.

"It gives us much more control over the financial variables in the Cuban economy," Soberon said.

The dollar is not banned and Cubans can still hold the currency, although it will not be of use to buy goods or services until changed into the convertible peso.

The 10 percent surcharge taking effect Nov. 15 for those selling dollars will not apply to other foreign currencies such as the euro or the Canadian dollar. There will be no surcharge to buy dollars.

Weekly Horoscope

BY SEÑORITA ANA

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Don't put all your eggs into one basket this week, especially regarding relationships. Relying too heavily on others will only hurt and disappoint you. Motivation will take hold of you and, with a little blood flowing, your enthusiasm will affect all those around you.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

The blues may be trying to follow you throughout the week. There is truly an abundance of love and affection surrounding you from just about everywhere, so there is no reason to stay withdrawn. Do not jump to conclusions about a co-worker, things aren't always what they seem.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

It may be time to make that commitment to a primary relationship that is long overdue. If you are having second thoughts, it is no doubt time to talk about whether or not it's worth investing more time and energy into something that may not be beneficial to either of you.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

You seem to be easily influenced during the week, which is very uncharacteristic for you. Could it be some sweet face has you in its spell? Try to keep your temper in check when someone in the workplace tries to push your buttons. Not everyone meets your high moral code.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

Communications will be very important during the week. Your significant other may be feeling left out and needs the reassurance that they crave, children may need guidance concerning educational matters, and friends need support regarding a life decision.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

Protect your feelings during the week by keeping them to yourself. If you do something nice for someone else, don't expect to be thanked. There are things that need to be done for their own sake. Take people for what they are, not for what you want them to be.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Your strength and courage will be required during this week to meet a personal challenge...this seems to be an inner struggle of self worth. You may become privy to information concerning a financial matter, don't take any advice lightly.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

You have a lot going for you this week, so try to use that positive energy wisely. Keep your goals ever in mind, and be willing to wait for just the right time. Your self-confidence is renewed and those around you will no doubt benefit. Find approval and love from within.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

It may be time to make a change in a relationship that is eating up your time and energy - it just may not be worth the effort. If you are overloaded at work, let a supervisor know that you need help. Feelings will be expressed which are sincere, so take them to heart.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Stand up for yourself and don't let anyone, friend or family, get away with what is rightfully yours. If you are in the market for Mr. or Mrs. Right, they may be right in front of your eyes, so keep your eyes open. Don't be manipulated by guilt into doing something undesirable.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

Hard work and more hard work will give you an enormous sense of satisfaction this week. Time seems to fly because you are so wrapped up in a current project. This will lay a foundation on which success will surely be built. You will attract positive notice.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

A fresh start this week may be just what you need. Your financial situation seems to be improving steadily, though maybe not as quickly as you would like. This new beginning just may be marred by your inclination to go for glitter instead of substance and quality.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You may be accused of being both elusive and shallow. And you are elusive in order to protect the privacy you consider so very precious. You are not shallow, but have the ability to detach your emotions from your intellect, and tend to just skim the surface of many things.

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RAMIRO BURR'S LATIN MUSIC: Juanes says artistic goals drove CD

By RAMIRO BURR

In recent years, Colombian rocker Juanes has become the fastest-rising and most popular singer-songwriter in Latin music.

His CD "Un Día Normal" was the top-selling Spanish-language album in the United States last year, so naturally there was a considerable amount of pressure to surpass it in the next studio session.

In a recent interview, Juanes conceded there was pressure but said his need for self-expression overshadowed all.

"Yes, I always feel the pressure from one record to the next, of course. In this case, this time it was more personal and stronger," he said in his native Spanish. "I had a certain kind of pressure and torment because it had to be a record that needed to be different from the previous and was not a continuation. So I dug in to work on a record that would be more daring, more musically challenging, to rock harder, but also maintain that romanticism."

Ultimately, Juanes said, the artistic drive outweighed any worries he had

as he forged the 12 songs on his new CD, "Mi Sangre."

"For me, the most important thing is the need for expression. I have always been in music since I was very young, and at the same time it is also an escape, a form to liberate me, to unload myself.

"Positive or negative, the music has always been part of all my reality. It is my main reality, a need of mine to express and keep in contact with the public. It is a way of staying alive in some form. It is like a species of religion for me, and a way of life that I have been with since I was little."

Juanes sang with a rock group called Ekymosis, but in effect he came out of nowhere. His rapid ascent in the Latin field has no parallel, and there are few comparable artists in the American mainstream—John Mayer, maybe, or perhaps Norah Jones if she rocked harder.

Following his debut "Fijate Bien," Juanes stunned the Latin music world in 2001 when he received seven Latin Grammy nominations; he won three, including best new artist.

The follow-up, "Un Día

Normal," won all five Latin Grammys it was nominated for in 2003, and has sold more than a half-million copies. In the interim, Juanes became a mainstay on the national charts and a red-hot celebrity, the focus of dozens of magazine covers and TV shows and a regular target of the paparazzi.

Yet despite the pressures, his focus remains on the music.

"I saw (recording) as a risk," he said. "It is the idea of finding something that sounds distinct, new or different songs, or a new theme that is lyrically different. When I refer to risk, I also mean making a record not exactly like the previous, making it good but not exactly like the same songs."

As hard-core fans know, Juanes (real name: Juan Esteban Aristizabal) has hardly departed from his signature sound. Vallenato and funk rhythms blend with soft rock guitar in the swinging party cumbias and urgent ballads. Again, Fender Rhodes and mini moog keyboards evoke a nostalgic '70s rock feel, and again the production team consisted of Juanes' studio

collaborators, Anibal Kerpel, Thom Russo and Gustavo Santoalalla.

Instant winners include "Lo que Me Gusta a Mí" and "La Camisa Negra," both fueled by ringing guitars, driving percussion and sing-along choruses. The latter sounds wickedly similar to another contagious tune, "La Paga," from "Un Día Normal," thanks to the same guitar and percussive rhythms.

"These songs do have a connection. They are both in the same popular Colombian style of party cumbias that use essentially the same melodies," Juanes said. "Thematically they are also similar. 'La Camisa Negra' is about a guy who fell in love and lost but he uses humor to handle the pain and contempt."

Juanes strikes a humble and honest pose on the affecting romantic ballads "Para Tu Amor," about what true love can inspire, and the Beatlesque "No Siento Penas," about being unashamedly in love. Cellos and acoustic guitars add an elegant soundscape on both.

"Violins and cellos have always been in my music, even in the beginning on 'Fijate Bien,'" Juanes said. "I



have always thought of the violins and what they can do to flesh out the songs. And David Campbell is a great arranger, and he did it again on this album."

Juanes recently married his longtime girlfriend, model Karen Martinez, and the couple have a new baby daughter, Luna, but he says his life has not changed much.

"It is the same. I have already been living with my girlfriend for four years and at the same time now we're not so preoccupied with what is going on in the world," he said.

If anything, Juanes shows a new maturity on the CD with the last track, "Tu Guard-

ian," a lovely acoustic lullaby to his daughter on which he promises he will always watch over her.

Juanes kicks off a world tour in January in Spain, with a U.S. leg scheduled between March and July.

Editor's Note: Ramiro Burr covers the Latin music scene each week. Burr is also the author of "The Billboard Guide to Tejano and Regional Mexican Music," on Billboard Books. For questions or comments call Burr at (800)555-1551, ext. 3429, or e-mail to rburr@express-news.net. Photo courtesy of Universal Records.

Nat'l War Casualties Memorial on tour

Over 1,120 pairs of combat boots representing U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq, plus an exhibit portraying the Iraqi people killed in this war is on display on Nov. 9, 10, and 11 on the Lucas County Courthouse grounds and inside St Paul's Lutheran Church on the Courthouse Square, Toledo.

The exhibit—the project of the American Friends Service Committee, www.afsc.org/eyes/default.htm a Quaker Peace and Humanitarian Aid agency—opened less than a year ago with 500 pairs of boots and began

touring the country. The display, which has been growing as the death toll continues to rise, has visited over twenty cities.

The exhibit is called "Eyes Wide Open: the Human Cost of War."

"The exhibit is a multimedia journey allowing visitors to pause and reflect among the boots, tagged with the name and age of a fallen soldier," stated Mark Anderson, exhibit field coordinator from the American Friends Service Committee. "Visitors also ex-

perience the loss of Iraqi civilian life at the indoor display. The exhibit is called "Eyes Wide Open" because it attempts to show the costs of war in terms of human life. The hope is to open people's eyes to the futility of war."

On Armistice/Veterans day, November 11 at 11:00AM, the names of those who have died, both American and Iraqi will be read at a ceremony on the court house lawn. The local tour will be staffed by volunteers and is sponsored by the NW Ohio Peace Coalition and the Interfaith Justice and Peace Center.

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Atlante de la mano de Vilar empata 0-0 con Chiapas

TUXTLAGUTIERREZ, México (AP): Con una sobresaliente actuación del arquero argentino Federico Vilar, Atlante sacó el jueves un sufrido empate sin goles con los Jaguares de Chiapas, en su partido de la 14ta fecha del torneo de Apertura del fútbol mexicano.

Vilar atajó una media docena de cañonazos de los atacantes del equipo local, que hasta el último minutos buscaron la victoria.

Vilar atajó un primer cañonazo de Carlos Ocho a los 17 minutos. A los 25 el portero le salió a los pies al paraguayo Salvador Cabañas para bloquearle un tiro a corta distancia.

Ocho minutos después Vilar le detuvo un cañonazo enviado desde fuera del área al brasileño Tiba.

Atlante respondió y a los 40 minutos tuvo su mejor opción de gol, cuando el chileno Sebastián "Chamagol" González entró al área y soltó un potente tiro de derecha pero al portero Omar Ortíz lo alcanzó a desviar a un lado de su puerta.

En la segunda parte, el dominio de Jaguares siguió, pero Vilar volvió a atajar todo.

Vilar le atajó a los 55 minutos un cañonazo Víctor Gutiérrez y seis minutos más tarde, el arquero le achicó de rodillas el espacio a Cabañas y le desvió un nuevo remate dentro del área.

Vilar volvió a atajarle un cañonazo a Cabañas a los 81 minutos y cerró su

actuación con "broche de oro" en el último minuto al detenerle un cañonazo al brasileño Lucenilde Pereira.

Chiapas alcanzó al Santos Laguna, en 15 puntos en el Grupo 3, donde son coleros.

Por su parte, Atlante llegó a 20 unidades y es segundo del Grupo 1, donde los Pumas de la UNAM son punteros con dos punto más.

Por la noche, los Pumas visitaron al Monterrey e igualaron 1-1, en el partido que cerró la jornada.

El boliviano Joaquín Botero marcó por Pumas en el primer minuto del encuentro y Diego Ordaz igualó en tiempo de reposición.

Botero cañoneó de derecha desde la media luna para vencer al portero Christian Martínez.

El arquero Sergio Bernal se había convertido en la figura de los Pumas atajando remates, pero cuando se jugaba el tercer minuto de reposición, Ordaz remató de derecha y empató el encuentro. Previo al remate de Ordaz el balón había sido extendido de cabeza por el argentino Guillermo Franco.

Bernal le atajó a Oribe Peralta un tiro a los 37 minutos, cuando el delantero burló a la defensa y encaró al portero. Bernal brilló en los últimos minutos del partido, cuando le atajó par de remates de cabeza a Peralta a los 82 y 83 minutos. Ambos cabezazos fueron a unos cinco metros de la línea final.

Pumas llegó a 22 puntos en la punta del Grupo 1,



mientras que Monterrey arribó a 24 unidades en el Grupo 3.

El grueso de la jornada se jugó el miércoles con siete partidos.

Hasta la fecha, los "Tiburones Rojos" de Veracruz dominan el torneo con 31 puntos en el Grupo 3.

Resultados Apertura 14ta fecha

Puebla 1, Pachuca 1
Toluca 1, Santos 0
Guadalajara 2, Necaxa 1
Morelia 2, Tecos 0
América 1, Veracruz 1
Atlas 3, Cruz Azul 3
Dorados 3, Tigres 3
Chiapas 0, Atlante 0
Pumas 1, Monterrey 1

Posiciones:
Grupo 1: Pumas 22; Atlante 20; Morelia 18; Tecos 15; América 13, Dorados 12.

Grupo 2: Atlas 24; Toluca 23; Guadalajara 22; Puebla, Tigres 20; Cruz Azul 12.

Grupo 3: Veracruz 31; Pachuca 26; Monterrey 23; Necaxa 17; Santos, Chiapas 15.

Próxima fecha: Toluca-Puebla, Cruz Azul-Dorados, Veracruz-Santos, Guadalajara-Morelia, Tigres-América (sábado); Pachuca-Chiapas, Pumas-Necaxa, Atlante-Monterrey, Tecos-Atlas (domingo).

Veracruz asegura su pase a los cuartos de final

VERACRUZ, México (AP): Veracruz se convirtió el sábado en el primer clasificado a los cuartos de final del torneo de Apertura del fútbol mexicano, al superar 3-2 al Santos Laguna, en un partido que perdía 2-0, pero que terminó ganando, para demostrar por qué es el líder del certamen.

Los Tiburones Rojos de Veracruz, luego de haber jugado su partido de la 15ta fecha del torneo, son punteros del Grupo 3 con 34 puntos, la máxima cifra del certamen.

Tras la derrota, Santos Laguna quedó eliminado, con 15 puntos en el fondo del mismo Grupo 3.

El torneo regular concluirá luego de 17 fechas y dará paso a los cuartos de final. Los dos mejores de cada uno de los tres grupos, más los dos mejores terceros, avanzarán a la siguiente fase.

Veracruz perdía por dos goles en el primer tiempo, pero tantos del uruguayo Gustavo Biscayzacú, el argentino Christian Giménez y el brasileño Kléber Pereira, a los 46, 64 y 76 minutos, lo llevaron al triunfo.

Santos Laguna había tomado la delantera con anotaciones del argentino Matías Vuoso y de Rogelio López a los 23 y 44 minutos. Vuoso estuvo cerca de otro gol a los 37 minutos, cuando estrelló un balón un poste luego de un cañonazo de derecha.

Biscayzacú remató de derecha dentro del área luego

de un pase desde un costado de Joaquín Reyes para marcar el primer gol del Veracruz. Giménez igualó 2-2 con un remate de derecha luego de haber burlado la marca de tres defensas, y Pereira cerró la cuenta con un tiro de derecha dentro del área, luego de recibir un pase Cuauhtémoc Blanco quien se había escapado con larga carrera desde la media cancha.

En otro partido del sábado, Toluca se impuso 1-0 al Puebla y tomó de momento la punta del Grupo 2 al llegar 26 puntos. Atlas que juega el domingo ante Tecos de la UAG, le sigue con 24 unidades.

El chileno Fabián Estay marcó el solitario gol del Toluca a los 57 minutos. Estay empujó el balón luego de recibir un pase del uruguayo Vicente Sánchez.

Toluca tuvo a favor dos tiros penales, pero Estay y Uzziel Lozano los fallaron. El arquero Oscar Dautt le atajó el penal a Lozano a los 80 minutos y en tiempo de compensación Estay estrelló el balón en un poste.

Puebla, que sumó su sexta derrota en fila, se quedó con 20 puntos en el mismo Grupo 2.

Por su parte, las "Chivas" de Guadalajara se impusieron 2-1 al Morelia y llegaron a 25 puntos en el Grupo 2. Morelia se quedó con 18 en el Grupo 1.

Salvador Carmona y Francisco Palencia anotaron por las Chivas a los 16 y 33

minutos. Rafael Márquez descontó por Morelia a los 36. En otro encuentro entre los coleros del torneo, Cruz Azul y "Dorados" de Sinaloa empataron 3-3 y quedaron sin ninguna posibilidad de avanzar a la siguiente fase.

Dorados es último del Grupo 1 con 13 puntos, mientras que con la misma cantidad Cruz Azul es colero del Grupo 2.

El argentino Luciano Figueroa, Cesáreo Victorino y Marvin Cabrera anotaron por el Cruz Azul a los 56, 65 y 90 minutos, mientras que el brasileño Paulo de Oliveira hizo dos tantos por los Dorados a los 77 y 85. El otro gol de Sinaloa fue obra de Everaldo Begines los 67.

Por la noche, un gol del argentino Claudio "Piojo" López le aseguró un triunfo de 1-0 al América sobre los Tigres de UANL, que jugaron como locales en la ciudad de Monterrey.

A los 77 minutos, Pável Pardo corrió rumbo al área de los Tigres y antes de llegar a la media luna le cedió el balón a López para que éste, con un tiro certero de izquierda, anotara el gol del triunfo. El arquero de Tigres, Rogelio Rodríguez, quien se había convertido en la figura del partido, alcanzó a tocar el balón pero ello no fue suficiente para evitar el gol.

América llegó a 16 puntos en el Grupo 1, mientras que los Tigres se quedaron con 20 en el Grupo 2.

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El Consulado de México en Detroit los invita a disfrutar del esplendor del Estado de Oaxaca en Michigan, durante una reunion con el Gobernador de Oaxaca, José Murat; el proximo martes 16 de nov. de 5.30pm a 8.30pm en el Restaurante Elite Manor, localizado en el 22681 Newman Ave., Dearborn, MI 48124.

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—Gerardo Macias, Jr.

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Autoridades identifican a mujer asesinada en Ciudad Juárez

MONTERREY, México (AP), 4 nov: La adolescente estrangulada en Ciudad Juárez fue identificada como una estudiante de colegio secundario de 16 años, dijeron el jueves las autoridades.

Martha Hernández caminaba hacia su casa el martes en la noche cuando fue atacada, violada y estrangulada a una cuadra de su vivienda, manifestó Mauro Conde, portavoz de la procuraduría general del estado

de Chihuahua, donde está localizada Ciudad Juárez.

Hernández, cuyo rostro había sido fuertemente golpeado, apareció entre dos automóviles viejos frente a una casa abandonada. Estaba parcialmente vestida, con su sosten y camisola levantados. Sus pantalones y ropa interior fueron encontrados en los alrededores, indicó la policía.

Las autoridades arrestaron al albañil José Luis Montes, de 26 años, cuando abandonaba el lugar del crimen.

Ciudad Juárez, ciudad de 1,3 millón de habitantes ubicada en la frontera con Estados Unidos, ha sido afectada por unos 100 asesinatos similares de mujeres jóvenes.

Conde dijo que los investigadores intentan determinar si Montes participó en otros crímenes similares contra mujeres en Ciudad Juárez.

Manifestó que hasta ahora no se ha encontrado ninguna relación, pero la investigación continúa.

Breves:

(Continued from Page 1)

naciones vecinas, y eso sin duda va a ayudar", dijo Creel.

El 8 y 9 de noviembre los gobiernos de México y de Estados Unidos sostendrán una reunión binacional. Entre otros funcionarios, del lado mexicano participarán Creel y el canciller Luis Ernesto Derbez, mientras que del lado estadounidense acudirán los secretarios de Estado, Colin Powell, y el de Seguridad Interna, Tom Ridge.

"Esperemos que podamos sacarle provecho al tener estos encuentros de manera inmediata a las elecciones, que exista todavía ese ánimo de renovación, ese ánimo de cambio, particularmente en materia del acuerdo migratorio. Ahí vamos a insistir", dijo Creel.

Señaló que en el caso concreto de migración, él sostendrá reuniones con Ridge con quien hablará sobre "cómo podemos encontrar un nuevo camino en el Congreso americano para lograr avances en materia del acuerdo migratorio".

Desde que asumió la presidencia en diciembre de 2000, el presidente Vicente Fox dijo que un objetivo principal de su administración sería lograr un acuerdo migratorio con Estados Unidos.

El gobierno del presidente Bush, sin embargo, modificó sus prioridades a la seguridad interna y la lucha contra el terrorismo después de los ataques del 11 de septiembre del 2001 contra su territorio.

Creel recordó que Bush presentó una propuesta

migratoria a principios de este año que puede ser un punto importante para reanudar las pláticas en busca de un acuerdo en la materia entre México y Estados Unidos.

La propuesta de Bush busca crear un programa de empleo temporal para migrantes indocumentados que viven en Estados Unidos, no sólo mexicanos, y trabajadores no calificados que residen en otros países pero han recibido una oferta de trabajo en el territorio estadounidense.

Los inmigrantes podrán obtener una visa de trabajo de tres años, pero Bush dijo que no recibirán una consideración especial para la residencia permanente o la ciudadanía.

Mujer hispana homosexual gana elección para ser Alguacil
Por BOBBY ROSS JR.

DALLAS (AP): Una mujer que fue trabajadora migrante agrícola, Lupe Valdéz, rescribió la historia esta semana al convertirse en la primera mujer y en la primera hispana en ser elegida al cargo de alguacil del Condado de Dallas, esto sin mencionar que es la primera demócrata en ganar el cargo desde mediados de la década de 1970.

Además, es abiertamente homosexual.

El Fondo de Victoria Lésbico Gay, un comité de acción política que respaldó la candidatura de Valdéz y la entrenó para responder a preguntas relacionadas con su orientación sexual, la alabó como "la primera alguacil lesbiana latina en la historia".

"Me imagino cómo lloraba de gusto mi madre anoche cuando esto ocurrió", dijo Valdéz el miércoles, un día después de que recibió el 51%

de los votos para vencer al candidato republicano, Danny Chandler.

En la visión de Valdéz, su difunta madre miraba desde el cielo cómo su hija, una sus ocho hijos, pasó de recolectar frijoles en un campo a encabezar una organización policial de 1,900 empleados y con un presupuesto anual de 90 millones de dólares.

Su candidatura al cargo comenzó hace varios años cuando la madre de Valdéz la animó a buscar mejores horizontes a través de la educación.

Después de llegar a tener dos y hasta tres empleos a la vez para poderse costear la educación universitaria, Valdéz se convirtió en agente federal.

Trabajó como agente encubierta en operaciones antidrogas, contra el crimen organizado y casos de fraude para el Departamento de Aduanas.

Ahora, asumirá la dirigencia de un departamento del Alguacil manchado por el escándalo.

Varios negocios dudosos del anterior alguacil, Jim Bowles, quien estuvo en el cargo durante 21 años, provocó una investigación ordenada por un jurado de instrucción y a la presentación de cargos que luego fueron desestimados.

Chandler, un veterano de 29 años en Departamento del Alguacil, logró derrotar a Bowles en las elecciones internas republicanas.

Chandler, de 53 años, atacó a su antiguo jefe durante la campaña, con la esperanza de distanciarse de Bowles. Sin embargo, su estrategia fracasó.

Dallas elects first openly gay, Latina sheriff

DALLAS (AP): Lupe Valdez was picking beans in a Texas field, one of eight children in a migrant family, when her mother encouraged her to get a better job by going to school.

Valdez worked two or three jobs at a time to pay for college and became a U.S. Customs agent. On Tuesday, she broke down another barrier, becoming the first Latina elected sheriff of Dallas County. She is also openly gay.

Valdez, 57, captured 51 percent of the vote against Republican Danny Chandler, a 29-year sheriff's department veteran who ousted embattled incumbent Jim Bowles in the GOP primary.

According to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, Valdez is one of two openly gay sheriffs in the country. The other, Margie Frasier, head of the Travis County Sheriff's Department in Austin, is stepping down in December.

There were only 29 women of the 3,086 sheriffs nationally going into Tuesday's elections, the National Sheriffs Association said.

Activists from U.S. and Canada demand justice for slain Juárez

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press Writer

CIUDAD JUÁREZ, México (AP): Caravans carrying activists traveling from as far as Canada arrived Sunday in Ciudad Juárez to demand authorities find the culprits behind a string of unsolved killings committed against women since 1993 in this rough border city.

Mexican authorities say 340 women have been killed over the past decade in Ciudad Juárez, a city of about 1.3 million people across the U.S. border El Paso, Texas.

The activists departed from Toronto, Seattle, Boston, Minneapolis, and Laramie, Wyoming and visited 56 cities in the United States and Canada. Each caravan stopped at churches, universities and community organizations, accompanied by some of the victims' mothers, who gave talks about their daughters' deaths and their struggle for justice.

"For 11 years these killings have been going on and women continue dying," said Tom Hansen, who traveled from Toronto and is the director of the México Solidarity Network, the organizer of the caravans. "Enough is enough."

Mothers and relatives of some of the slain women joined the group of about 60 activists at the Lerdo International Bridge and together they walked to a large wooden crucifix erected in memory of the victims. Orange flowers were placed by the cross—an offering typical of the Day of the Dead. Mexicans honor the dead on Monday, when the souls of dead children are believed to return, and on Tuesday, when adults are believed to arrive.

Hundreds of people came out to meet several cars as they pulled into México. The crowd was joined by a group of former *braceros* seeking unpaid retirement funds from farm work in the United States that just happened to be protesting when the caravan arrived.

Ramona Morales, whose 16-year-old daughter Silvia Elena was killed in Juárez in 1995, said she'd traveled through 12 cities in the United States—including San Francisco and San Diego.

"We're still tired from having been in so many cities," Morales said. "But maybe with all of this we can get the support of the United States to finally find who killed our daughters."

The effort by Morales and her travel companions adds to the international attention focused on this border city, which has been visited by dozens of international organization and foreign officials that came hoping their presence would pressure Mexican authorities to find those behind the killings.

Still, prosecutors appear no closer to solving most of the killings, and families of the victims describe official efforts as futile probes that have been tainted by inept and corrupt police officers.

About 100 of the victims in Juárez have been young and slender women who were sexually assaulted, strangled and dumped in the desert near Ciudad Juárez, across the Rio Grande river from El Paso, Texas.

While there have been dozen of arrests only two men have been convicted for nine of the crimes.

Abdel Latif Sharif, a U.S. resident and Egyptian-born chemist, was found guilty in one of the earliest slayings and sentenced to 20 years in prison.

This month, bus driver Victor Garcia Uribe was sentenced to 50 years for the deaths of eight women whose bodies were found in a vacant lot in Ciudad Juárez in 2001. Garcia Uribe claimed he was tortured into confessing.

Some mothers of slain women point out it was only after international organizations focused on Ciudad Juárez that President Vicente Fox sent in a special prosecutor and appointed a commissioner to work on preventing violence against women in Juárez.

"Before authorities would close the door in our face," said Julia Caldera, whose 16-year-old daughter Maria Elena was killed in 2000. "Now they at least talk to us and treat us with some dignity."

Hansen, who traveled from Toronto, said the group plans to meet with local, state and federal officials and visit the city of Chihuahua, where at least eight young women have been killed in circumstances eerily similar to the killings in Juárez. There they will meet with the newly appointed state prosecutor.

On last Tuesday, members of the caravan celebrated a Day of the Dead mass in memory of the victims in Anapra, a poor, desert neighborhood where many of the slain women lived.

"The international pressure has made the three levels of government recognize we have a problem in this city," said Norma Andrade, an elementary school teacher whose 17-year-old daughter was slain in 2001. "We just hope the international pressure continues and that it helps to find the true culprits."

On the Net: Mexico Solidarity Network: <http://www.mexicosolidarity.org>

Lottery Results for Saturday, November 6, 2004

| OHIO | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Mid-day Pick 3 | 7-4-5 |
| Mid-day Pick 4 | 2-3-3-1 |
| Pick 3 | 8-3-5 |
| Pick 4 | 3-9-1-2 |
| Rolling Cash 5 | 4-13-15-36-38 |
| Super Lotto Plus | 11-19-23-39-42-48 +28 |
| Kicker | 6-9-7-1-1-0 |
| Mega Millions | 3-29-30-41-43 +01 [11-5] |

| MICHIGAN | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| WinFall | 14-15-21-30-46-48 |
| Fantasy 5 | 09-20-25-31-38 |
| Daily 3 Eve | 169 |
| Daily 3 Mid | 654 |
| Daily 4 Eve | 2037 |
| Daily 4 Mid | 2018 [Oct. 31] |

| INDIANA | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Daily 3 Evening | 5-6-0 |
| Daily 4 Evening | 0-3-2-9 |
| Lucky 5 Evening | 2-5-7-20-35 |
| Hoosier Lotto | 1-10-21-25-45-48 |
| Powerball | 18-22-33-38-40 PB:19, M:3 |
| Daily 3 MIDDAY | 9-9-1 |
| Daily 4 MIDDAY | 8-3-3-8 |
| Lucky 5 MIDDAY | 13-15-17-27-31 |

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Members of Union Venceremos pray before commencement of last Friday's union meeting at FLOC Headquarters.

Clients say vital services are on hold while Aurora González sizzles with firing of 'AG Six'—will it become 'AG Eight'?

(By Alan Abrams, La Prensa Senior Correspondent; continued from page 1)

is one of the AG Six—Jim Thompson, Araceli Guerrero, Rubén Ramos, Karen Porter, Dina Ramírez, and Yvonne Ramos—who claim Virginia Ortega, the agency's new director, terminated them without cause and due process and/or for union activity.

Ressler said Ramos was even accompanied by then-supervisor Karen Porter (who is one of the AG Six) on one of her home visits. Said Ressler of Porter: "She came along because she wanted to be sure that I didn't have any questions or problems in filling out all of the paperwork."

Ressler added that Ramos "was very helpful in looking into things for me." Ramos would usually come out every two weeks, but in late October, at about the time she would usually call to schedule an appointment, Ramos phoned Ressler to tell her she wouldn't be coming out because she was no longer at the agency.

Beginning on Oct. 28, Ressler phoned the agency and asked to speak with the director. She was always told that Ortega was in a meeting but would call her back. This continued for more than a week until Ressler decided to call Phil Barbosa, who serves on the Aurora L. González board as its

president.

"I told him I was trying to set up a home visit because it had been almost a month since my last one. He said either he or Virginia would phone me back. When Virginia did call me, she was very curt.

"She asked 'Well, what do you want? What do you need? I'm a busy woman so tell me.' I told her, 'I'm your client,' and she said I was the client of a worker.

"I said, 'Excuse me, but aren't you the director of the agency? Then I am one of your clients.' She also tried to turn my words around to make it sound as if Yvonne had not called me for a month, which was totally untrue," said Ressler.

Barbosa told Ressler he would send someone to come to her home or he would even come himself. Ressler received a visit Monday.

Other mothers were complaining of the lack of services at Aurora González Outreach Center since the discharge of the AG Six, many of whom were at a meeting of Union Venceremos at FLOC Headquarters last Friday.

• Union Venceremos
Ramos claims she was illegally discharged for union activity, in her attempts to es-

tablish Union Venceremos. She and other associate-workers have been guided in this endeavor by Baldemar Velásquez, president of FLOC.

At a recent FLOC victory celebration, Velásquez stated, "We are fighting in Iraq to preserve our democratic principles and, yet, these same principles are being denied these Latinas [at AG and Texas Migrant Council in Fremont, Ohio] in the United States. What a tragedy!"

According to Velásquez, he had agreed to assist Yvonne Ramos and her associate workers after they approached him for assistance in the union process. He agreed to meet with members of the AG Board last Wednesday, including Barbosa and Al Longoria, another member of the board.

Barbosa cancelled the meeting at the last minute, "claiming that the entire board wanted to be involved since a story appeared on the grievances in La Prensa on November 3," said Velásquez.

At last Friday's meeting of Yvonne Ramos and Union Venceremos, Longoria and Barbosa asked Velásquez to call off the intended picketing of the AG Outreach Cen-

ter on South Broadway Street and agreed to meet Sunday, November 7, to attempt to settle the problems.

Barbosa cancelled this second meeting, at the last minute, claiming all of the board could not be there.

Asked about the issue of union representation, Barbosa told La Prensa, "We want the union in. That was never the issue. We welcome the union." However, he claimed he could not address other issues in the controversy because "the attorneys took it over."

• Ortega's position

Stating "Let's talk about some of the facts," Virginia Ortega, who was contacted by this reporter, disputed some of the basic premises.

"They are saying there were six firings. That's not true at all," said Ortega. "One person resigned and two people were laid off because their positions were eliminated. One of them never even had a line-item budget and the other program had ended. All of our programs are funded either by the federal, state, or local government.

"When you run an anti-poverty agency with public monies, they must be budgeted. We are not like a large corporation or business. There was no budget for the salary."

Ortega said the issue surrounding unionization is "the most ludicrous and far-fetched." She cited her long union background as well as the union affiliation of various board members including John Brown, president of the Chemical Worker's union, and Al Longoria of Local 50.

According to Ramos, John Brown has long since resigned from the board, but Ortega responded that she has not seen any documentation about Brown leaving the board.

Brown informed this reporter that he had resigned.

Ortega said the conflict is "diverting attention from the real issues" facing the agency, which includes "getting the Aurora L. González building back before winter so 100 people don't have to stand in the parking lot in bad weather because the hall area is too small."

Ortega refused to answer any questions concerning the Ressler lack-of-service allegations until she obtained a signed release from Ressler.

Ortega defended the quality of service provided by the agency saying it has not diminished. "We are handing out more food baskets than we have in the past.

"We are doing more with less. And when we get the new building—which I believe is imminent—that will guarantee our ability to expand and enhance our services. Our primary objective is to service the entire South End community, and we are there to serve them."

Ortega admitted to this reporter that she hired her sister



Yvonne Ramos and FLOC president, Baldemar Velásquez, reflect at a recent Union Venceremos meeting.



AG client Anita Vallejo claims that Aurora González is not meeting her needs after termination of Yvonne Ramos.

to work at AG after the terminations of the AG Six.

"I hired my sister, Ofelia Vargas, as the receptionist; she has been a longtime volunteer with the agency—the former part-time receptionist was not bilingual," said Ortega.

Ortega defended the hiring of her sister by saying, "Isn't that what a union is supposed to be all about, looking out for your brothers and sisters?" She continued, "At one time Rubén Ramos and two of his daughters were on the Aurora González payroll and no one complained about it."

La Prensa has determined that Rubén Ramos and his two daughters had worked at the Outreach Center but none had positions of power or authority, one of the critical components of the definition of nepotism.

La Prensa has requested of Barbosa and Ortega, in writing, to provide payroll records for the past six months at Aurora González utilizing Ohio's Public Records Act and FOIA, but, to date, this request has not been complied with.

Ortega reiterated and re-informed La Prensa that she was hired by the board to bring about "change" at Aurora González and "some people are always unhappy about change."

• Ramos' Response

Ramos and numerous other participants of the October 26 meeting of Union Venceremos dispute Ortega's assertion that three of the AG Six were not fired.

"Dina Ramírez did 'resign' under coercion on October 26 right after I was fired, but Phil Barbosa told Baldemar Velásquez via conference-

telephone that evening that her resignation was not accepted by the board and that she should report to work on October 27. When Dina reported on October 27, she was fired by Virginia," said Ramos.

Ramos continued, "As to Virginia's assertion that two people were laid off because their positions were eliminated, this is not accurate. The bulk of their work was picked up by remaining staff."

But Ramos feels that Ortega may be concentrating more upon the issue of the building than upon other aspects of her job.

Ramos has no quarrel with Ortega's abilities. "I believe her intentions are right. She is great for the agency in terms of finding new ways to be more accountable. She has good qualities of fighting for what she believes in, but she should not be the director running the agency on a daily basis.

"She doesn't know the ins and outs or where the funding comes from. Her entire focus is on getting the other building, but you have to do billings, work with staff, and be out in the community.

"You have to run a tight ship. And we (the fired staff members) believe we are the ones who can best do this," said Ramos.

Ortega said she could not "discuss personnel issues publicly." But Ramos said part of the issue is the unprofessional manner in which she says Ortega terminated the AG Six, "along with the illegal terminations for lawful union activity."

Meanwhile as La Prensa goes to press, word has reached La Prensa that Ortega is allegedly preparing to fire two more employees for union activity. When will it all end?

Editor's Note: Rico de La Prensa contributed to this report.



Last Friday, multiple mothers claim that Aurora González is not meeting the needs of its clients after termination of the AG Six.

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Ramón Pérez (left) of Lagrange Development Corp. addressing students of the Latino Student Union (LSU) at the University of Toledo concerning involvement in the Lagrange Village Council's Community Organizing Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 20, from 8:00AM to 5:00PM at the Zablocki Senior Center, 3015 Lagrange St., Toledo, for a cost of \$10.00. All interested individuals should call him at 419-255-8406. LSU also discussed its annual scholarship dance, scheduled for March 5, 2005, featuring the Hometown Boys of Texas and an area band. LSU also discussed a Thanksgiving dinner with Adelante, Inc. on Nov. 19 at the Aurora González Center near South and Broadway Streets.



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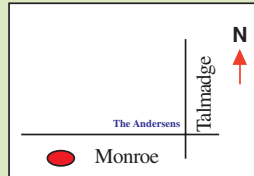
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Kim Delgado, a student at Owens Community College, with her 18-month old daughter, Isabella Rebeke Delgado, at recent meeting of Union Venceremos.



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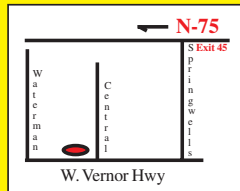
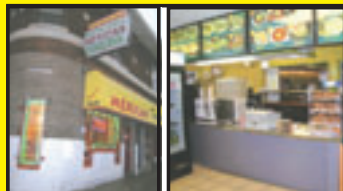
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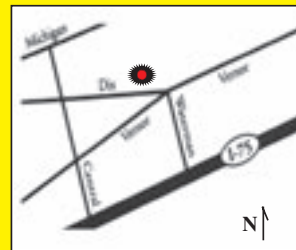


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 419-241-1546

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

Sacred Heart Chapel
 4301 Pearl Ave.
 Lorain OH
 Rev. William A. Thaden
 Sister Theresa Stegman,
 Sister Elisea Bonano
 440-277-7231
 Dom., 8:00AM, 10:00AM,
 & Noon
 Lun., jueves, vier. 9:30AM
 Miér., 6:30PM
 Sab., 6:00PM

House of Praise International Church
 4321 Elyria Ave.
 Lorain OH 44055
 Pastor Gilbert & Eileen Silva
 440-233-6433
 Dom., 9 & 10:30AM [Eng.]
 Dom., 12:30PM [Spanish]
 Dom., 1:30PM
 Mar. & Jue., 7:00PM

La Iglesia de Dios, Inc.
 Rev. Angel L. Rivera
 3115 Elyria Ave.
 Lorain OH 44052
 440-244-3415

Cleveland, OH:

Inglésia Nueva Vida
 3510 W. 41th St.
 Cleveland OH 44109
 Rev. José Reyes
 Dom., 11:00AM
 216-322-0002

Iglesia Pentecostal "La Senda Antigua"
 Pastores Rolando & Lizette Velázquez
 2681 West 14th Street
 Cleveland OH 44113
 216.298.9095
 Orden de Cultos:
 Dom: 10:30AM Esc.
 dominical: noon: Culto Evang., Pro-Templo
 lun: 7PM clase de Nuevos Creyentes
 Mar: 7PM Oración y Est. Biblio
 mier: 7PM Culto de Hogares
 jueves: 7PM Culto Generales
 Vier: 7PM Culto Generales

Sagrada Familia
 Fr. David Fallon
 7719 Detroit Ave.
 Cleveland OH 44102
 Sat. Vigil 5:00PM
 Sun., 9:30AM & Noon
 216-631-6817

St. Francis Parish
 Superior Ave. & 71st St.
 Cleveland OH
 Sat. Rosal 4:00PM
 Sáb., 10:00AM [Español]
 Sat., 11:30AM [Eng.]
 Weekdays, 7:30AM
 216-361-4133

St. Michael the Archangel
 Fr. Jaime McCreight
 3114 Seranton Rd.
 Cleveland OH 44109
 Sat., 5:00PM [English]
 Sáb., 7:00PM [Español]
 Sun., 9:45AM [Eng.]
 Dom., Noon [Esp.]
 216-621-3847
 216-861-6297

Misión Cristiana Nueva Vida
 (Discipulos de Cristo)
 2003 West Blvd.
 Cleveland OH 44102
 Dom. 9:00AM [Español]
 Sociedad de Niños: Vier. 6:30PM
 Pastores Vanessa Rivera y Luis Castellano
 440-220-2368 ó
 440-220-2369

MICHIGAN:

Primera Iglesia Hispana de Monroe
 Alianza Cristiana y Misionera
 Pastor Jesse Morales
 317 E. Front St.
 Monroe, Michigan 48161
 734-848-4271

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

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Spanglish Radio Programs

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 Toledo, OH
 domingo, 8:00PM to 10:00PM
 419-240-1230
 latinomix973@yahoo.com

WNZN 89.1FM
La Onda Cultural Latina
 Lorain, OH
 Lun-vier., 9:00AM-5:00PM

BGU 88.1 FM,
La Única with Freddy Gutiérrez, Andres Alvarez, Maribel, & Geraldo Rosales
 Bowling Green, OH
 dom., 9:00AM to 2:00PM
 419-372-2826

WFOB 1430 AM
 with **Freddy G**
 Fostoria, sábado,
 4-6 p.m. & con **Sylvester Duran**
 Dom., 8:30 to 10:00AM

WLFC 88.3 FM
 Findlay, OH
 viernes, 6:00 to 9:00PM

WCSB 89.3 FM
LA PREFERIDA
 Lilly Corona Moreno
 Cleveland, OH
 Jueves, 7:00-9:00PM
 216-687-3515
 lapreferidawcsb@yahoo.com

Michigan:

WKMK 1440 AM
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 con **Batman y Paquita de la Vernor**
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 lunes a viernes, 5:00AM to 7:00AM

WCAR 1090 AM
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 sábado,
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 dom., noon to 4:00PM

WDTR 90.9 FM
Caribe Serenade
 Detroit, MI
 Ozzie Rivera
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WLEN 103.9 FM
 Adrian, MI
 domingo,
 1:00 to 4:30PM

WQTE 95.3 FM
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 Adrian, MI
 dom., 3:00 to 8:00PM
 517-265-9500

WIBM 1450AM
 Juan M. Rodríguez
 Jackson, MI
 dom., 10:00AM-Noon
 517-787-0020

NOTICE TO RADIO STATIONS:
 This is no charge to be placed in La Prensa's radio list. Just email Rico at laprensa1@yahoo.com.

Editor's Note:

Churches or Radio, with Spanish dialogue, desiring to be included in La Prensa's directories should e-mail the information to Rico, c/o laprensa1@yahoo.com, or fax to 419.241.5774, or call 419.870.6565 or 313.729.4035. Gracias!

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Obituaries WILSON A. RODRIGUEZ

Wilson A. Rodríguez, 25, of Lorain died suddenly Sunday, Oct. 31, 2004, in the emergency room at Community Health Partners Hospital, East. He was born May 22, 1979, in Bronx, N.Y., and moved to Lorain in 2002. Rodríguez was employed as a machinist at Cutting Dynamics in Avon. Survivors include his wife of four years, Kristen Tingle; daughters Destiny Rodríguez and Simone Rodríguez and stepdaughter Amber Gutierrez, all at home, and daughter Alzay Rodríguez of Reading, Pa.; his parents, Wilson and Yvette (nee Rivera) Rodríguez of Reading, Pa.; his grandparents Lydia Roman and Ervin Rivera; stepmother, Donna Rivera of Reading; and sisters in Reading.

Michigan Commission on Spanish-Speaking Affairs to meet Friday, Nov. 12, in Lansing

The Michigan Commission on Spanish-Speaking Affairs will meet in a public session on Friday, November 12, 2004. The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. in the Department of Labor & Economic Growth 4th Floor Training Room located in the Ottawa Bldg., 611 West Ottawa, Lansing, Michigan. For questions please call (517) 373-8339. Anyone who has matters to bring before the commission can contact the commission office at (517) 373-8339. There will be an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. State of Michigan visitor parking is available at the nearby Michigan Library & Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

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LA PRENSA'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Nov. 19: The Latino Student Union (LSU) of the University of Toledo and Adelante, Inc. plan a community *Thanksgiving dinner*. Venue and time to be announced.

Nov. 20, 8:00AM to 5:00PM: *Lagrange Village Council's Community Organizing Workshop*, at the Zablocki Senior Center, 3015 Lagrange Street, Toledo; learn community skills! Learn the ABCs of community organizing! The day will consist of discussions, break-out groups, role playing, strategies, analyzing your community, choosing and cutting an issue, lunch and refreshments, y más! \$10. Call Ramón Pérez at 419-255-8406.

March 5, 2005: LSU's annual Scholarship Baile with the *Hometown Boys*.
 [Any listings? Contact Rico at 419-870-6565 or 313-729-4435, or Teo Feliciano for Cleveland events at 216-252-7773 (ext. 2), or email to laprensa1@yahoo.com. Always call ahead before going to any event for last minute changes or cancellations.]

**Sobering Iraqi Casualty Stats
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Through November 8, 2004

U.S. Military Casualties in Iraq:

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 Since capture of Saddam (12-13-03): 671 dead
 Since U.S. handover to Iraq: 272 dead

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[Afghanistan toll: 288 dead Source: www.antitar.com]



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THE WARS, THE ELECTIONS, & THE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Beyond Bush and Kerry:
 What direction should the social movements go in after the elections?

Panel and discussion on the following topics: Building a black and Latino alliance in Detroit; The environmental justice movement; The anti-war movement; Race and voting rights; & The labor movement.

When: Sat, Nov. 13, 7:00-9:30PM.

Where: Mexicantown Center, 4114 W. Vernor in SW Detroit.

Speakers: Theresa El-Amin, Southern Anti-Racism Network; Kim Hunter, Detroit environmental justice activist; Tim Schermerhorn, Transit Workers Union Local 100; Joaquin Bustelo, immigrant rights activist; and Elena Herrada, Detroit community activist.

This event is sponsored and organized by Solidarity. For more information contact: Jessica (313) 205-4249 or Ric (516) 343-8482.

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NOTICE TO OUR READERS:

We ask La Prensa readers to send bio's of their parents or grandparents—*gente* over 80 years young like Felipe de Jesús Alvarado-Rodríguez, above—along with a digital photo. La Prensa will publish an edited bio and photo in future La Prensa issues, when space permits. Have a special someone? Someone celebrating a quinceañera, wedding, anniversary, or birthday? La Prensa could use these digital photos and bios too! Subject, again, to space and editing.
 Please make all submissions only by e-mail to laprensa1@yahoo.com.

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Pelo Malo: Confessions of a kinky-haired Puerto Rican sister

By Xenia Ruiz

My birth certificate contains a mistake. Where it asks for my parents' race, "White" is neatly typed. Although my father was the color of vanilla, my mother was dark caramel. Back in the early 1960's, there was no category for "Hispanic" so Puerto Ricans were re-categorized into the White category—until someone noticed that dark-skinned folks were getting off the flights from Puerto Rico. Ironically, in Puerto Rico (where my mother claims there is no racism), on the birth certificates of children born in the '60s, parents were categorized under the *negra* (black) race and the *blanca* (white) race.

Like a lot of African-American families, my Afro-Latin-American family's skin tones range from black coffee to *café con leche* to milk *sans* coffee. Our hair textures range from *pelo lacio* (good hair) to *pelo malo* (bad hair), which in itself ranges from various degrees of kinky to assorted grades of nappy. For the longest time, I thought my family was the only Puerto Rican family with dark-skinned, kinky-haired members. Until I entered high school, I never met any other dark Hispanics outside of my family.

According to history, Puerto Ricans are a product of three races: Caucasian (Spaniard), Negroid (African) and Indian (Taino). In history books, posters, anything celebrating Puerto Rico, you will see these three races profiled as the ancestors of the average Puerto Rican. But the truth is, the most of the Tainos were killed within decades after the Spanish landed in Puerto Rico during the 15th and 16th centuries. African slaves were imported to work the sugar cane fields of Puerto Rico even before they were brought to America. Consequently, few Puerto Ricans have Indian blood but to hear some of them tell it, Taino "blood" constitutes half of their biological make-up. There are some Puerto Ricans who lay claim to this ancient Indian blood before they admit to having one drop of African blood. I do not deny that some modern-day Puerto Ricans may have some native blood, but the odds are their "red" skin and *pelo Indio* are more a product of the interracial mix of black and white than anything else.

As a child, perhaps fueled by the glamorization of Hollywood Indians in TV movies, I pretended to be Indian. With my hair in two braids, I would tie a bandanna around my head and root for the Indians in Westerns. But of course, I didn't understand then that Hollywood would never let the Indians win. Other times, I would pretend to be White and secure a towel, or a brand-new mop-head, over my hair, swinging it from side to side so my "hair" could swish like the Breck girl. Or at least, like the other Latinas at school with "real" Spanish hair.

During my childhood, I always believed my hair was an inconvenience for my mother. It was thick and kinky, prone

to easy tangling, but she refused to straighten it with the hot comb as she did her own hair because according to her, my hair grade was not as bad.

The frustration in untangling my mass was evident on my mother's face during our weekly hair-washing/untangling ritual, and whenever I'd reach up to protect an unruly knot, she'd pop my fingers with the comb. It was during these times that I believed she hated me for not inheriting my "vanilla" father's "good" hair. When she combed my hair in a hurry, she would forego the untangling and use a handful of pomade, brushing it back until the surface shone like polished leather shoes. Unfortunately, as the day wore on and my hair dried, the roots would intertwine into a tangled web. Before sending me off to bed, she would attack my tangles, my head throbbing from the tugging and the tears.

Among my "kinkier-haired" cousins, my hair was envied because it was slightly "better" and longer than theirs. When my aunts threatened to apply the hot comb, my mother would jump to my virgin hair's defense, warning them against straightening one kink on my head.

In school, I was an oddball of sorts. Puerto Rican girls stayed away from me because they thought I was black; black girls stayed away because I talked "funny." If my sister and I spoke Spanish around Latinas, they'd stare like we were aliens from outer space.

"Where are you from?" they'd ask in voices filled with distaste, never making any attempt to include me in their cliques. Whenever my family spoke Spanish in public, I'd shrink away, embarrassed, pretending I wasn't with them because people would give us "the look"—the eyes and raised brows sweeping over the kinkiness of our collective hair, our various shades of brown skin. I began to believe that if we had been just a little lighter, our hair more *lasio*, our features less African, we wouldn't have attracted so much attention.

For a while I hung around other misfits: a white girl nobody else liked; a Mexican girl ostracized for her size. Eventually, black girls accepted me into their circle. I learned to jump double-Dutch with the best of them, loved soul music more than *salsa*, and soon echoed their West Side tones, appending "finna" and "ay-ayn't" to my already slang-laden "Spanglish" vocabulary.

Even though they still occasionally mimicked my accent, my hair and skin tone made me one of them; I became more black than Puerto Rican. Any passerby watching me jump double-Dutch or play hopscotch would have never guessed—or cared—I was Puerto Rican. To them, I was just another little black girl. But then, I would be asked to translate for a non-English speaking person in school, or in stores, and the embarrassment and shame would return. Embarrassed that my "black"

cover had been blown, ashamed that my Spanish wasn't good enough.

Sometimes my younger sister and I would pretend to be undercover spies, listening to other Spanish kids talk about the little *negras* in the playground until we'd unleash a tongue-lashing of Spanish curse words and threats and sometimes, ass-whuppin's if needed. Other times, when the black kids made fun of us, we'd start speaking Spanish and their envious looks were all we needed to feel vindicated.

It was during my teenage years that I finally accepted that my hair and skin color would always define what I was. African-American boys—and later men—were more attracted to me than Latinos.

I devoured Afrocentric literature and watched with anticipation for the token black character on TV shows. "But you're not black," my mother would say when I told her about being called the "n" word. "Apparently I am, Mami!" I'd argue, as she tried to convince me that just because I looked black, I really wasn't.

Later, when I got too old for braids and tired of my mother pulling my hair, I started brushing my hair back in a ponytail. With enough pomade and water, my hair would stay laid—until the sun napped it up. In addition to the tail part of my ponytail kinking up, there were two rebellious clusters of hair at my temples which refused to stay down when my hair dried. One day, a Latino I had a crush on, said, "Don't you ever comb your hair?" After that, I kept a brush with me to tame the rebellious tufts.

I got my first relaxer the week before my high school graduation. Not only did the beautician straighten my kinks, but she also chopped off half of my hair. I couldn't believe how light my head felt; my hair actually moved when my head did. I was the Breck girl. The comments ranged from: "Why didn't you do this earlier?" to "Why are you oppressing your hair?" To some Puerto Rican boys, I began to look more Latin, evidenced by interested looks; to others, I was just another black girl with processed hair.

After living in the secure multi-colored world of my family and blending into the all-Black world of my neighborhood, I entered the white-collar working world with some trepidation. Old and new curiosities resurfaced: "Where are you from?" "Chicago." I'd answer, though I knew they meant my ethnicity. And when I finally came clean, their shocked expressions were usually followed with comments like, "I didn't know they had blacks in Puerto Rico."

After eighteen years of relaxers and over-processing, I made the conscious effort to stop "oppressing my hair." Friends and co-workers used adjectives like "interesting" and "different" when referring to my *au natural* style. It has been one year since my last relaxer and my hair is thanking me by growing.

To this day, I still get "the look" from people whenever I speak Spanish. There are times when I still get embarrassed if I am asked to translate. Sometimes I still believe that had I resembled Jennifer López or Salma Hayek, I would be more accepted.

Nevertheless, I have become an expert at drifting in and out of three worlds: the Latino (family); the black (friends); and the white (co-workers). Because my "looks" don't go with my ethnicity, I can listen in on Spanish conversations in elevators where unsuspecting lovers think they are safe because all they see is a black woman. I can get rid of my accent on cue and slip into my black persona with an African-American sister in a line at the bank without letting on "what" I am. I am once again that "undercover spy" I was as a child.

Still, my appearance is not enough to warrant instant acknowledgment by my Latin sisters; I have to speak Spanish before I get the nod, the obligatory "¿De adonde eres?" With my African-American sisters, I am accepted right away based on our analogous hair and skin. They greet me with "How you doin'?" and only later, after we have shared stories, established a kinship, do they ask, "Where are you from?" Sometimes, they don't ask because it doesn't matter. They understand what my hair and I have been through.

Mija Magazine is back, La Prensa!

Yes, we have returned with brand new articles and a revitalized website! You know *La Prensa* readers, starting a magazine on your own is pretty difficult. I went from no computer to owning one great one!

Throughout the summer, I went to various places to check my email. I was stunned at the response the magazine was getting. *Mijas* that stopped living their dream because there was no mass media outlet to support them and when they saw what *Mija Magazine* had to offer they picked up that dream, dust it off, and kept on moving forward.

One day, I was looking at the weird patterns on the ceiling in my room saying to myself, "How am I going to do this?" And now look we're in *La Prensa*, online, and within the next few months launching nationally to 10,000+ *Mijas* in magazine form! (*Advertising info online*) But let's talk about *now* shall we? Within the next few weeks look for the following:

The Latina Santana – Liz Melendez
Go in for coffee, come out with an experience at Tia Chucha's Café Cultural
MTV's I want a famous face...nip/tucking a new culture
Pelo Malo – Confessions of a Kinky-Haired Puerto Rican Sister

Column of the Americas – The Political Spiritual Realm of President Bush
Cooking con Clotilde – our new food column
Bella Brava's President/Founder Lorinda Morales
Jibara Abuelas – we all have one
Ta Ti Quietax/Relax – Take a bath without getting wet?
Beautiful Barcelona – by Vanessa Cortes
Special from Arte Sana "Sexual Harassment"
Y más on www.mijamagazine.com

If you would like a free copy of *Mija Magazine* in magazine form please email me personally at rrosa@mijamagazine.com.

Have a great week *La Prensa!*

Sinceramente,
Roberta M. Rosa
CEO/Founder



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Puerto Rico ex-governor disputes preliminary election results showing win for opponent

By LEONARDO ALDRIDGE
Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP): Former Gov. Pedro Rossello disputed preliminary election results suggesting a win for his opponent and said Thursday he was confident he would prevail in a recount.

The recount is planned Monday following an extremely close vote Tuesday between Rossello, who supports making Puerto Rico a U.S. state, and Anibal Acevedo Vila, the U.S. territory's nonvoting delegate to Congress.

"We have information showing that when this process is over, we'll prevail," Rossello told reporters Thursday in his first public statements since the vote.

Puerto Rico's election commission said Acevedo Vila had won by 3,880 votes, according to preliminary results. But the margin was so slim—Acevedo Vila's lead was about 0.2 percent—that officials ordered a recount.

Acevedo Vila claimed victory Wednesday, and began announcing plans for the transition. Rossello declined to give details about his victory claim but

criticized Acevedo Vila for beginning to name a transition team before the recount.

"It's disrespectful" to the election process, Rossello said.

Acevedo Vila, from the pro-commonwealth Popular Democratic Party, was running to replace his ally Gov. Sila Calderon, who didn't seek re-election.

Rossello, of the pro-statehood New Progressive Party, was governor from 1993 through 2000. He has pledged a new campaign to make Puerto Rico the 51st U.S. state through a referendum on statehood, an option narrowly defeated in nonbinding votes in 1993 and 1998.

Acevedo Vila criticized Rossello for corruption scandals involving officials in his government, and a number of supporters said that was a major concern.

Acevedo Vila has pledged a constitutional assembly to discuss Puerto Rico's status next year. He says he favors reforming the commonwealth system to allow for greater autonomy, particularly in economic development.

Gobernadora descarta PNP nombre otro equipo de transición

Por ISTRAPACHECO

SAN JUAN (AP), 5 nov.: La gobernadora Sila M. Calderón se opuso el viernes a que el Partido Nuevo Progresista (PNP) nombre un comité de transición paralelo al que nombró Anibal Acevedo Vilá, como solicitó esa colectividad.

Aunque es necesario un recuento de votos para certificar finalmente al próximo gobernador del país, Calderón señaló que la ley no contempla dos comités de transición.

Enfatizó que sólo el aspirante que tenga mayor cantidad de votos es quien debe empezar el proceso de inmediato.

"(La ley) dice que, aún si hay un recuento, la persona que tiene más votos tiene que comenzar la transición con el gobierno actual. En ningún lugar (de esa ley) dice que tiene que haber transición con otras personas que tengan otro número de votos", dijo la mandataria.

El comisionado electoral del PNP, Thomas Rivera Schatz, catalogó de "irresponsable" que Acevedo Vilá inicie la transición cuando todavía no hay una certificación final de que ganó las elecciones generales, por lo que hizo un llamado a la gobernadora para que detenga el proceso.

El lunes comienza el recuento de votos y no será hasta finales de noviembre o

mediados de diciembre que se conozca oficialmente el ganador de los comicios.

Mientras, el comité de transición nombrado por Acevedo Vilá tendrá el sábado su primera reunión con el gobierno saliente, en el Departamento de Estado.

No participar de esa reunión sería violar la ley, argumentó Acevedo Vilá.

Por otro lado, el probable gobernador electo defendió el nombramiento de Carlos Díaz Olivo, como miembro de su comité de campaña. Díaz Olivo fue detenido para interrogatorio por las autoridades federales que investigaban si aceptó dinero como parte del fraude millonario al desaparecido Instituto del Sida de San Juan.

"Hasta donde tengo información él nunca fue acusado ni señalado en nada", declaró Acevedo Vilá.

En cuanto al recuento de votos que comienza el lunes, el candidato popular no presentó reservas a que el Colegio de Abogados se integre como observador del proceso, ya que apoya que se le dé espacio a cualquier entidad que ayude a evaluar la pureza del mismo.

También dio su respaldo a la gestión del presidente de la CEE, Aurelio Gracia y dijo que el país debe tener confianza en el escrutinio que está a punto de iniciar.



Magda Gómez with director of Ohio Business College

Myers University joins forces with Ohio Business College

Representatives of Myers University and Ohio Business College signed an articulation agreement at the Myers University Lorain Academic Center last Wednesday, Nov. 3. The agreement allows Ohio Business College students to easily transfer their credits into a bachelor's degree program at Myers University.

"This partnership greatly expands the educational opportunities available for students in Northeast Ohio," said Myers president, Dr. Paul C. Feingold. "Students, in pursuit of a bachelor's degree, will be able to continue their studies at Myers after beginning at Ohio Business College."

The partnership agreement formally establishes a relationship between the two schools and sets standards for students transferring from Ohio Business College to Myers.

Under the agreement, Ohio Business College students, who have completed necessary academic requirements, can transfer to Myers, where they can complete the courses needed to obtain a bachelor's degree in areas such as accounting, corporate management, and information technology.

Students transferring from Ohio Business College's locations in Lorain and Sandusky to Myers University in Cleveland will be able to study at the Myers University Lorain Academic Center, located at 300 Broadway Ave., at any of Myers' other five suburban Academic Centers, or at Myers' Downtown or MidTown Cleveland campuses.

Myers University is the oldest private university in Cleveland, first opening in 1848. Myers offers a business and professional education, with 19 majors and Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degrees.

Also offered are three graduate degrees—a Master of Business Administration degree, a Master of Financial Planning degree and a Master of Management degree. A Downtown and MidTown campus and multiple Academic Center locations allow students to attend classes in the communities where they live and work. Myers University offers numerous learning and scheduling options for students, including on-line classes.



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The Lucas County Board of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program announces the availability of funds for the Phase 23 funding cycle, beginning in January, 2005. These funds are awarded to not-for-profit agencies on a competitive basis to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in Lucas County.

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Rothgery becomes Lorain County Common Pleas judge

Elyria OH: Former acting municipal court judge Christopher Rothgery defeated, unofficially, James Barilla, 63,811 to 33,824, on Nov. 2, to become a Common Pleas judge of Lorain County.

Rothgery was a practicing attorney for 16 years and acting judge at Elyria Municipal Court, easily defeating Barilla, a magistrate in the domestic-relations and juvenile division of Lorain County Common Pleas Court.

Rothgery won the Democratic Party primary nomination in March with more than 50 percent of the votes, easily defeating Elyria Prosecutor Jay



Grunda and Avon Lake Law Director Geoffrey Smith.

Rothgery's term begins January 1, 2005. He plans to implement a computerized system for docket and calendar control, to better serve the citizens of Lorain County.

Previous runs by Rothgery include his unsuccessful bids for Congress in 1992,

Elyria Municipal Court judge in 1997, and state representative in 2000.

According to Rothgery, "I am ready to serve the citizens of Lorain."

As to the plans of Barilla, he may run for Avon Lake Municipal Court judge next year.

See page 3 for more election returns for Lorain County.



Dear Friends:

The Consulate of Mexico invites you to enjoy the splendor of the State of Oaxaca in Michigan, during a meeting with the Governor of Oaxaca, José Murat, next Tuesday November 16th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at the Elie Manor Restaurant, located at 22681 Newman Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124.

We will have Oaxacan cooking, crafts, traditional costumes and regional music.

Contribution for this event: \$10.00

Please RSVP at 313 964 4813 ext. 13 or 30 • E-mail: baedre@consulmex.com



SOLIDARITY PRESENTS A BLACK AND BROWN FORUM ON:

The Wars



The Elections



The Social Movements

BEYOND BUSH AND KERRY: WHERE DO THE MOVEMENTS GO AFTER THE ELECTIONS?

Panel and Discussion Topics:

- Race and voting rights
- Race and environmental justice
- The labor movement
- The anti-war movement
- Building a Black and Latino Alliance

Saturday, November 13th, 2004

7pm - 9:30pm

Mexicantown Center 4114 W. Vernor, Detroit

Panel includes:

- Theresa El-Amin: Southern Anti-Racism Network
- Kim Hunter: Detroit environmental justice activist
- Tim Schermerhorn: Transit Workers Union Local 100*
- Joaquín Bustelo: immigrant rights activist
- Elena Herrada: Detroit community activist

*Organization listed for identification purposes only

For more information contact Jessica 313-205-4249; www.solidarity-us.org



Get Out the Vote! Vote for the Toledo Zoo!

Please log on to: www.zootycoon.com & vote, by Nov. 12, for the Toledo Zoo to become "America's Favorite Zoo!" The winning zoo will be recognized as "America's Favorite Zoo" and earn a \$25,000 grant to fund its animal habitat care.



Un Centro Completo Para La Salud De los Pies

- Inflamación del Pie
- Juanetes
- Dedos en martillo o en garra
- Espolón óseo
- Uñas Encarnadas
- Callos
- Verrugas del Pie



Robert T. Portnow, D.P.M.

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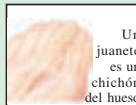
Tendón suelto



Hueso reubicado



Hueso removido



Un juanete es un chichón del hueso

~ El Especialista De Los Pies ~

CLEVELAND WEST
65th & Detroit
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3691 Lee Rd.
216-491-9902

LYNDHURST
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