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October/octubre 16, 2009 Spanglish Lazo Cultural Edition Vol. 5, No. 10 (LP1)

Special Edition of **La Prensa** for **Lazo Cultural**

CELEBRA EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS
VISITENOS Y COMPRA SU PAN DE MUERTOS

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Ann Arbor artists showcase artwork in *Day of the Dead* exhibit in Chicago.

Michigan artists showcased in Chicago for *El Día de los Muertos*

Michigan artists *Gabrielle Pescador* and *Juan Javier Pescador* showcase their work in Chicago at the National Museum of Mexican Art's *Camino a casa -Day of the Dead* exhibit.

Gabrielle Pescador and Juan Javier Pescador's *ofrenda* (offering) is dedicated to the Santo Niño de Atocha and to Quetzalcoatl.

Their *ofrenda* was chosen as one of 20 among a competition of national and international artists for the nation's largest Day of the Dead exhibit. The exhibit runs from September 25 – December 13, 1852 W 19th St Chicago, IL 60608, (312) 738-1503.

Inspired by the traditional veneration for both sacred entities, this *ofrenda* expresses the intense and vibrant features of the two devotions, energizing and connecting them in a chromatic contrast of orange and royal

blue, representing the earth and sky, the eternal intertwining of past and present, tradition and innovation, and hope and renewal.

This artwork honors the departed ones in their immigrant experiences from México into the United States and their connections with the ancestral cultures of Old and Ancient México.

For centuries the *Santo Niño de Atocha* has represented home away from home for people of Mexican roots on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican border. For many Mexican and Mexican-American families, the Holy Child continues to be an essential and intimate presence on home altars, yard shrines, roadside chapels, prayer cards, and devotional ornaments hanging from rear-view mirrors.

The *Santo Niño de Atocha* is the patron saint of immigrants,

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Michigan State marks opening of expanded Wharton arts center

EASTLANSING, Oct. 11, 2009 (AP) Michigan State University is celebrating the opening of the *Wharton Center for Performing Arts* after an \$18.5 million expansion and renovation.

Officials at the East Lansing school hold a ribbon cutting at noon Sunday, followed by an open house until 4 p.m.

Michigan State says the open house includes self-guided tours, with staff and volunteers available to answer questions.

There also will be dance demonstrations by artist-in-residence Happendance at the Rehearsal Studio and short acting performances by Doug Berky at the Pasant Theatre.

The center now has a four-story glass and brick facade and enlarged front lobby, box office and gift shop. It also has two new multipurpose spaces for programs.

On the Net: <http://www.whartoncenter.com>

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CMU students meet film pros while working at fest

MOUNT PLEASANT, Oct. 11, 2009(AP): Thirty Central Michigan University students have returned from Louisville with memories of the stars and a bit of job experience as well.

Members of Mount Pleasant school's events management program traveled to Kentucky to spend four days as volunteers during the International Festival of Film.

"Students ... worked one-on-one with directors and actors, learning both about the film business and what it takes to execute a high-profile event," university spokeswoman Tracy Burton wrote in a posting on the school's Web site.

Among the actors they met were Doris Roberts, who played Marie Barone on "Everybody Loves Raymond," and Jennifer Lawrence, who is filming "The Beaver" with Mel Gibson and Jodie Foster.

"This experience taught me more than I could ever learn in a classroom," sophomore Brittney Bushard of Mason said in a statement. "I had the opportunity to have my hands in almost every aspect of the

festival. By the end of the weekend I was troubleshooting issues on my own. You can't learn that in textbook."

"The best part of this experience was the diversity in our job duties," she said. "I was a screening technician, a hospitality greeter, an errand runner and everything in between."

About 250 students are in the events management minor, offered through the Department of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services Administration.

"I can't thank these students enough," said festival founder and executive director Conrad Bachmann, who hugged students before they boarded a homebound bus after the Oct. 1-4 event. "Without them, this event wouldn't have been as successful as it was. These kids came here ready to work, and their talents rose to the occasion."

On the Net: Central Michigan University recreation studies program: <http://rpl.cmich.edu>

Video: <http://tinyurl.com/yk8levh>

Salmonella Typhimurium outbreak in Michigan linked to consumption of raw alfalfa sprouts

LANSING, Oct. 9, 2009: The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) are issuing a public health alert regarding illness from Salmonella infections among people who have reported raw alfalfa sprouts consumption in Michigan.

At this time, MDCH and MDA are recommending that people, especially young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems, avoid consumption of raw alfalfa sprouts until we have further information about the origin of the contaminated sprouts. Other types of sprouts have not been implicated.

Michigan has 12 confirmed Salmonella Typhimurium cases from seven venues in Michigan (Bay, Genesee, Kent, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties) involved in the current outbreak.

The illness onset dates range from Aug. 17 to Sept. 18, 2009. There have been two known hospitalizations. MDCH and MDA are working closely with local health departments, the CDC and the FDA to determine the source of the outbreak.

"Eating raw sprouts is a known risk for exposure to Salmonella or E. coli O157:H7 bacteria," said Dr. Gregory Holzman, chief medical executive for MDCH. "We want to educate people about this known risk in order for them to make informed decisions concerning their health."

Sprouts are the germinating form of seeds and beans and are frequently eaten raw in sandwiches and salads. Past sprout-related outbreaks of foodborne illness have been linked to seeds contaminated by fecal materials in the field, during storage, or as a result

of poor hygienic practices in the production of sprouts. In addition, the warm and humid conditions required to grow sprouts are ideal for the rapid growth of bacteria.

In general, the FDA recommends these guidelines for those who choose to continue to eat sprouts:

- Cook all sprouts thoroughly before eating to significantly reduce the risk of illness.
- Sandwiches and salads purchased at restaurants and delicatessens often contain raw sprouts. Consumers who wish to reduce their risk of food borne illness should specifically request that raw sprouts not be added to their food.

• Homegrown sprouts also present a health risk if eaten raw or lightly cooked. Many outbreaks have been attributed to contaminated seed. If pathogenic bacteria are present in or on seed, they can grow to high levels during sprouting even under clean conditions.

Salmonellosis is a disease caused by the bacterium is an infection with bacteria called Salmonella. Most persons infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts four to seven days, and most people recover without treatment. The elderly, infants, and those with weak immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness. Anyone who has recently eaten raw alfalfa sprouts and is experiencing symptoms should contact their healthcare provider and their local health department.



Michigan artists showcased in Chicago for El Día de los Muertos

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travelers, mining workers, soldiers, prisoners, and people disconnected from home. As a liminal saint, He helps people find their way home safely.

In a similar venue *Quetzalcoatl-Tlahuizcalpantecuhtli*, the Dawn Rising Star or Venus, guides people and the sun through the *Mictlán* (the Underworld) and the night into the renewal of a new morning and a new life.

Editor's Note: Since the 1990s, Juan Javier Pescador and Gabrielle Pescador have presented Day of the Dead offerings throughout the Great

Lakes region. The most recent are "Detroit-Tenochtitlan" (2008) and "Frida in Mictlan/Mictlan in Frida" (2007), both displayed at the Michigan State University Museum, and online at www.pescadorarte.com

Juan Javier Pescador is a photographer and multimedia artist, who has exhibited his works throughout the United States and Mexico. Gabrielle Pescador is a painter as well as a multimedia and performance artist, who has exhibited and performed throughout the United States, Canada, and Singapore.

STATEMENT ON LA PRENSA READERSHIP

La Prensa has been publishing since 1989 and prints 12,000 issues of its weekly, bilingual issue as can be verified by calling our printer Michigan Web Press of Davisburg MI at 1.248.620.2990. In addition, Mid-month, La Prensa is part of the monthly publication *Lazo Cultural*, which prints 10,000. La Prensa has a 92% pick up rate with a readership multiple of 3.6, yielding in a total weekly readership figure of 63,680, including 14,000 weekly visits at www.laprensa1.com.



Writers, et al. Wanted

La Prensa is interested in journalistic/holistic/paranormal articles, essays, commentaries, healing-thought-pieces, poems, cartoons, art, photos, puzzles and other brainbashers, songs, and other provocative items, for possible publication in the weekly, bilingual publication known as La Prensa, publishing since 1989. We also post many of these items on our web site at www.laprensa1.com. We pay \$\$\$ for these published items. Bilingualism preferred (Spanish/English). For possible publication, please submit via email to: rico@laprensa1.com



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La Prensa Newspaper Staff

Culturas Publications, Inc.

Rebecca McQueen
Olga Castilleja

Editorial:

Rico, Editor
Davide García
Art/Graphics/Web:
Jennifer Retholtz

Advertising:

Nanette Nieto 419-242-7744
Melinda Sánchez 313-729-4435
Rico 313-729-4435

Distribution:

Wally, Rico, & Olga
Luis

Publisher

Chief Financial Officer
Manager

rico@laprensa1.com, 313-729-4435
Cartoonist, Spanglish, Pau & Yami

Graphics Manager & Webmaster

Marketing Manager
Marketing Representative
Cacographer, Layout & Sales

NW Ohio & SE Michigan
NE Ohio

La Prensa Publications, Inc. dba La Prensa

Headquarters: Adams Street, downtown Toledo, Ohio
Mailing Address: La Prensa, PO Box 9416, Toledo OH 43697
• Tierra phone 313.729.4435 • Fax: Please e-mail.

DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 5:00PM, Prior to Distribution

SALES: 313.729.4435

E-mail: laprensa1@yahoo.com

• **web site: www.laprensa1.com** •

Limit: five free copies per reader. Additional copies are \$1.00 each.
Hardcopy subscriptions \$100 per year. Emailed link to pdf is gratis.

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La Prensa's Detroit Office

W. Vernor Hwy.
Detroit MI 48209

Sales Representative:
Melinda Sánchez

313.729.4435

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Mich. House narrowly approves 3% tax on doctors

LANSING, Oct. 7, 2009 (AP): The Democratic-led Michigan House has voted to put a 3 percent tax on doctors' gross receipts to raise more federal matching money for state-run health care programs.

The House voted 56-52 mostly along party lines Tuesday to send the proposal to the Republican-led Senate.

Doctors who see Medicaid patients would benefit from higher reimbursement rates generated by the tax. Doctors who treat few or no Medicaid patients would lose out.

Advocates say the doctors' tax would be similar to taxes already paid by hospitals and nursing homes. Michigan's main trade group for physicians says doctors are unfairly being singled out.

Sphinx orchestra again playing NYC's Carnegie Hall

DETROIT, Oct. 7, 2009 (AP): Some of the best up-and-coming string players in the U.S. will take the stage at Carnegie Hall for their annual stop at the prestigious New York venue.

The Sphinx Chamber Orchestra is made up of top alumni of the Sphinx Competition for young black and Latino players.

Started better than a decade ago in the Detroit area, the Sphinx Organization strives to increase the participa-

tion of minorities in music schools, as professional musicians and as members of classical music audiences.

The Sphinx Chamber Orchestra has been playing Carnegie Hall since 2004.

After Wednesday's performance, it heads to California for stops Oct. 21 at California State University, Chico and the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts on Oct. 24.

On the Net: Sphinx Organization: <http://www.sphinxmusic.org>

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