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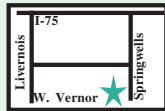
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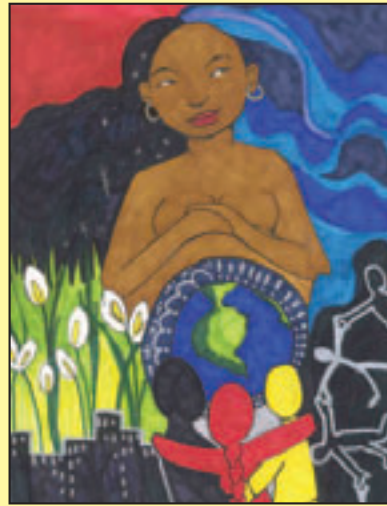
Spanglish Lazo Cultural Edition

Vol. 1, No. 1

Special Edition of La Prensa for Lazo Cultural

Mujeres Unidas: Una Familia, Una Comunidad

DDLM sends a message of Unity



Under the theme "MUJERES UNIDAS: Una familia, Una Comunidad, Un Mundo," several hundred Latinas are expected to congregate at the 13th annual Día de la Mujer Conference on Saturday, February 25 at the Michigan State University's Kellogg Center.

2006 DDLM is posthumously dedicated to Señora Vicenta "Cindy" Velásquez.

Her son Baldemar Velásquez, president of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) is routinely credited as the founder of the Toledo, Ohio-based union. But he has said that his efforts would not

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Lazo Cultural and La Prensa exchange monthly supplements

Commencing this week, a 4-page monthly supplement—*Suplemento Mensual*—will be exchanged between the weekly Latino publications of *Lazo Cultural* and *La Prensa* according to Luis García, publisher and editor of *Lazo Cultural*.

"We look forward to this exchange. *La Prensa* has strong presence in Southeast Michigan and Ohio, complementing *Lazo Cultural*, which has strong presence in Western Michigan and Detroit," said García.

Rico Neller, Editor of *La Prensa* concurs. "These additions will enhance both publications, offering our respective readers a bilingual, multicultural approach."

Lazo Cultural and *La Prensa* have been publishing since 2001 and 1989, respectively. And both have Web presence with www.lazocultural.com and www.laprensa1.com.

The supplements will be published the first week of each month.

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Breves

Activista Cindy Sheehan buscará escaño en Senado
Por IAN JAMES

CARACAS (AP): La activista estadounidense por la paz Cindy Sheehan, cuyo hijo murió en Irak, afirmó el sábado que está considerando competir por el escaño que ocupa la legisladora Diane Feinstein en el Senado, porque ésta no apoyó sus pedidos para que regresen los soldados a Estados Unidos.

Sheehan, quien está de visita en Venezuela para el Foro Social Mundial junto con activistas de todo el mundo, señaló que desde hace tiempo pensaba postularse por el escaño de Feinstein.

“Creo que esto es tan urgente y necesario, que es lo que voy a hacer”, indicó Sheehan a The Associated Press, y añadió que tomará una decisión final en cuanto a su candidatura después de conversarlo con sus tres hijos adultos en California en los próximos días. Las elecciones primarias del Partido Demócrata se disputarán en junio.

Sheehan acusó a Feinstein, senadora por California, de estar lejos de los electores en torno a Irak.

“Ella votó en favor de la guerra y sigue votando en favor de dedicarle

fondos. No hará un llamado para el retiro inmediato de los soldados”, dijo Sheehan, quien se hizo famosa cuando instaló un campamento de protesta cerca de la hacienda del presidente George W. Bush en Texas el año pasado.

“Considero que nuestra senadora debe ser llamada a cuentas por su apoyo a George Bush y a sus políticas de guerra”, indicó Sheehan.

Por su parte, el encargado de la campaña de Feinstein, Kam Kuwata, rechazó estas apreciaciones.

“Ella (Feinstein) no respalda a George Bush ni sus políticas de guerra. Ha declarado públicamente en muchas ocasiones que siente que fue engañada por el gobierno al momento de la votación”, agregó Kuwata.

Sin embargo, ya con las fuerzas desplegadas, Feinstein considera que el retiro inmediato de los soldados no es una opción responsable, en opinión de su jefe de campaña.

“La posición de la senadora Feinstein es trabajar para devolverle rápidamente la defensa de Irak a los iraquíes y con ello regresar a nuestros soldados lo antes posible”, agregó.

Sheehan, cuyo hijo, Casey, murió en Irak en el 2004, señaló que competir en las elecciones primarias del Partido

Demócrata ayudará a tener una visión más amplia del problema.

“Si decido competir, no me hago ilusiones de ganar, pero supongo que se pondrá más atención a todos los candidatos pacifistas en el país, y sé que por lo menos podré tener algo de influencia en la política”, agregó.

Sheehan y otros activistas se reunieron el sábado durante dos horas con el presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez, quien ha criticado fuertemente la guerra en Irak. Sheehan dijo que la sinceridad de Chávez le había impresionado.

Nuestro presidente ni se toma cinco minutos para reunirse conmigo”, dijo, y añadió que Chávez estaba “muy entusiasmado” cuando se enteró que buscaría un escaño en el Senado.

“Me sugirió que me lanzara a la presidencia... Yo sólo me ref”, señaló Sheehan.

López Obrador acusa a Fox de desatender la seguridad pública

Por ISTRA PACHECO

MEXICO (AP): El candidato presidencial por el Partido de la Revolución Democrática (PRD), Andrés Manuel López Obrador, acusó el sábado al presidente Vicente Fox de abandonar su responsabilidad en torno a la seguridad pública del país.

Según López Obrador, Fox no está cumpliendo con sus obligaciones para detener la creciente ola de violencia, y en cambio, presuntamente hace campaña a favor del candidato de su Partido Acción Nacional (PAN), Felipe Calderón.

“Póngase a trabajar, cumpla con su responsabilidad porque todavía le falta tiempo. No entregue antes de tiempo el gobierno y mucho menos lo abandone”, declaró López Obrador en un mensaje de campaña en la ciudad de Culiacán, estado de Sinaloa, a unos 1.300 kilómetros al noroeste de la capital mexicana.

“Se tiene que seguir garantizando que continúen los programas, y sobre todo que haya tranquilidad y seguridad en nuestro país”, agregó.

El año pasado más de 1.000 personas murieron en hechos violentos relacionados con el narcotráfico.

Y en fecha tan reciente como el



General Cónsul Antonio Meza Estrada will be leaving the Detroit consulate in February. Deputy Cónsul Oscar de la Torre (R) will assume his duties.

viernes varios sujetos fuertemente armados se batieron a tiros con la policía de Acapulco. La confrontación dejó cuatro sospechosos muertos y cuatro policías heridos.

El candidato del PRD, favorito en las encuestas de opinión pública para ganar la presidencia, le pidió además a Fox que no se meta en asuntos de campaña política.

“Hago un llamado al presidente de la República para que deje de hacer campaña en favor del candidato del PAN y se ponga a trabajar”, expresó.

Como parte de su gira por el norte del país, López Obrador prometió que no privatizará el sistema de pensiones.

“No vamos a privatizar la seguridad social. Estoy seguro que vamos a llegar a un acuerdo con los trabajadores, con los empresarios, para resolver el problema que se pueda presentar en cuanto a las pensiones. Vamos a llegar a un acuerdo, no vamos a imponer nada”, aseguró.

Además, dijo que buscará reformar la Ley del Trabajo para mejorar las actuales condiciones de hacinamiento que padecen los obreros agrícolas, darles protección ante los riesgos laborales y ofrecerles atención médica.

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La Prensa's Special Monthly Edition/Suplemento Mensual for Lazo Cultural, based in Grand Rapids, Michigan

During the first week of each month, *La Prensa* publishes a special monthly edition, in addition to its weekly, as part of the *semanal Lazo Cultural*, with additional readership of over 25,000 in Grand Rapids, Holland, Fennville, Muskegon, Kalamazoo, Lansing, and Pontiac, Michigan. *La Prensa* welcomes supplementing the superb *Lazo Cultural* and welcomes its readers to digest its contents. Some articles will be in Spanish, but the majority will be in English.

Likewise, *Lazo Cultural* supplements *La Prensa*, the first week of each month. Both *La Prensa* and *Lazo Cultural* can be viewed on line at www.laprensa1.com and www.lazocultural.com, respectively. The advertising rates for these special issues differ. Call 313-729-4435 for questions or comments or email latinoprensa@yahoo.com.

Soluciones provides strategies and solutions

By Lucy Brummett
Special to La Prensa

Columbus: On January 28th, participants from across Ohio sojourned to Ohio State University to partake in "Soluciones," a roundtable discussion on education. Attendees included administrators, experts in education, Latino community leaders, and public policy makers.

The multi-theme was closing the Latino achievement gap by recognizing the many challenges schools are currently facing and what solutions are working to close that gap.

The keynote speaker was Dr. María Fránquiz from the University of Texas in San Antonio, Bicultural/Bilingual Studies Division. She has been working in rural and urban areas in Texas for numerous years. Dr. Fránquiz detailed Welcome Centers, which had been established to assist new students moving to the United States. In these centers, children learn survival English through visual presentation prior to being placed in formal ESL (English as a Second Language) classes.

Sister Mary Jo, of En Camino in Fostoria, discussed pilot programs such as Escuela Familia—a program which involves the entire family, with tutoring and enrichment participation, with an emphasis on computer-based learning.

It was learned that in the Toledo school district there are career-based programs that have helped the students become involved in something that interests them. Some of the programs offered are in

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Spanglish.!

By Davide Garcia



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Mujeres Unidas: Una Familia, Una Comunidad DDLM sends a message of Unity

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have succeeded without the support of his mother Cindy Velásquez and her "circle of friends," who helped recruit early members and enhanced his own credibility.

"... There's a new sense of vitality to come together now, when so many issues loom over us..." says Ms. Roxanne Franco, this years Chair for the conference. The many issues Ms. Franco refers to will be addressed on a series of 30 workshops under Education, Health, Culture and Community Affairs as well as by the two guest speakers Rosemary Valladolid and Lupe Lara.

Both, Ms Valladolid and Lara are nationally known motivational speakers that focus on community and personal empowerment using Latina/o culture and traditions as a base of strength.

A native of El Paso, Texas, Ms. Valladolid presently teaches psychiatric nursing at the University of Texas at El Paso. Ms. Valladolid has been elected and appointed to executive boards of many national and regional business and civic organizations.

Among her many honors are: the National Training Lab Award as one of the ten best trainers in the country, the El Paso Women's Commission Civic Leadership Award, the State of Texas Piper Professor Award, and the National Adelante Mujer Award.

Ms. Lara is a native of San Antonio, Texas, who has made Detroit her second home She has worked over the last 25 years in the Children's Hospital of Michigan where currently serves as the Manager for Community Relations and is also responsible for the Conflict and Mediation Program, Volunteer Department and Diversity Initiatives.

Ms. Lara has been a community activist for the improvement of services to the Detroit multi-cultural community and co-founder of many organizations, and served on many community agency boards. She has been appointed by four different Michigan governors to serve and lead state commissions and boards.

"...The power and experience these two guest speakers bring into DDLM will bring clarity and vision to what our role is as Latinas..." added Ms Franco, an MSU Senior student of Political Science and Chicano and Latino Studies. The element of vision expressed by Roxanne is something she developed early on when she attended DDLM conference for the first time in 1995 when she was in fifth Grade.

"...My mom brought me along and I knew then what I needed to do to help myself and my community...."

The program planned for this year's Día de la Mujer conference may produce more talent and leadership among Latinas than ever before.



"Soluciones" participants included (L-R): Lucy Brummett, Fremont City Schools; Dr. Silvia Jiménez-Hyre, Chair-Ohio Commission of Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA); Maggie McClendon, Coordinator at Youngstown State University; & Ezra C. Escudero, Executive Director of OCHLA.

Soluciones provides strategies and solutions

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Allied Health, Construction, Horticulture, Agriculture, and Aviation.

Toledo participants included: José Luna, David Ibarra, Linda Alvarado, Sonia Troche, Emilio Ramírez, and Robert Torres.

Torres, who was recently elected to the Toledo Board of Education, stated that the use of *dichos* by Dr. Fránquiz was very effective and illustrated Latino cultures and needs.

According to Torres, "Dr. Francaes' commentary that Latino children are "Ni de aqui, ni de alla" is most appropriate to the experience of Latino children in many Ohio school communities.

"That basic understanding and the need to infuse one's ethnicity, family culture, language, and value system as a bridge to educational success was strongly supported by those in attendance. OCHLA Director Ezra Escudero is to be commended for elevating the importance of community discourse in education.

"I am certain that our Latino community and its children will benefit from the collaboration which will be realized among colleagues in Toledo, Fremont, Fostoria, and Defiance. Even so, an honest discussion to close the Latino academic achievement gap in Ohio can not happen without the commitment of elected officials to address the funding crisis of our schools.

"Let us continue the dialogue that was started this Saturday in our families, neighborhoods, and institutions."

For schools in the Cleveland area, children in kindergarten through fourth grade are involved in dual language instruction.

Funding seemed to be an obstacle in putting new programs into place within some school districts. A vital suggestion to such a problem was having Latinos in leadership roles within their community that could partner with local agencies and organizations. Also personal connections with the students played an integral role.

Those who attended the roundtable discussion were able to hear first hand experiences from current Ohio State University CAMP (College Assistance Migrant Program) students. Silvia V. Mata, a third year CAMP student, spoke of Dr. José Villa, director of the CAMP program, and his belief in her attending college. As a migrant child, at the age of five, she was given the difficult task of translating for her parents. She challenged everyone at the conference to do something about Latino youth.

When Dr. Villa invited students to learn more about the CAMP program, he was expecting thirty prospective students, but Mata was the only one who showed up. Her emotional testimony on her thoughts on education, along with all of her struggles, served as a wake up call.

With the continued support of these collaborations we can implement the necessary tools our school districts need to ensure that our Latino children get the education they deserve.

Approximately 80 individuals attended this worthwhile event, sponsored by the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, Ohio State University, Ohio Department of Education, and the Ohio Council of Urban Leagues.

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

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