6th Annual Fiesta on the Mesa Event Kicks off New School Year
For El Centro

By: Jessica Martinez

The 6th annual Fiesta on the Mesa was held on Wednesday, September 15 from 5-7 p.m. in the Outdoor Plaza of FLC. This entertaining cultural experience was the kick off to the Hispanic Heritage Month. The observation of the Hispanic Heritage Month started in 1968 when Hispanic Heritage Week was approved by President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. September 15th was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Thanks to: El Centro, Union Programming, Campus Dining Services (Sodexo), and the Leadership Center a wonderful fun filled evening was available for not only the Fort Lewis College community but the Durango community as well. Live music was performed by Grupo Sensacion Musical from Santa Fe, NM. Live dancing was performed by Club Baile Folklorico de Fort Lewis. Makings for traditional chicken and carne asada tacos were provided by Sodexo. Superb Chile roasting was offered by individuals from Archunde Farms. Although I am a currently a sophomore this was my first time attending Fiesta on the Mesa and to say the least, I was very pleased to finally be of it.

I believe Fiesta on the Mesa is a brilliant way to share the deep, rich Hispanic culture that many individuals are not accustomed to. What better way to educate and enrich our understanding of our Hispanic community history than to bring people together with food, music, and dancing.

I strongly believe that in order to expand on the mission of Fort Lewis College to strive for a common ground we must do what we can to enrich our community by respecting our past, living in the present, and striving for the future. Fiesta is an event to celebrate.

Tony Garcia, Playwright who created Enrique's Journey, Visits El Centro for first annual “Charla”

By John Gonzales

At El Centro on Tuesday September 7th we had Tony Garcia come and talk with us about some of his experiences and things that related to Enrique’s Journey. It was a very interesting talk to hear what he had to say about immigration and his views on other issues Latinos are facing these days. But as a student worker at El Centro, getting everything ready for him to come was a whole adventure in itself.

My name is John Gonzales and I have been working at El Centro for almost three weeks now. When Tony Garcia came to talk with us was my first day of work. When I showed up for my first day I was expecting to be filing folders or doing something on the computer or something along those lines--office type jobs. But I show up and Theresa tells me to sign in on the time sheet and then that we are going to be cooking today. I was pretty surprised because that wasn’t really in the job description but I just went with it.

First I had to wash dirty dishes from the day before which I was not expecting to do at all because, after leaving home, I thought I would be getting away from dirty dishes for a couple months. Looks like I was wrong. After I got done with that, I came back and I cut up about 5 or 6 tomatoes which was a lot of fun, and then the best part was cutting up some onions. Luckily the onions weren’t too bad and my eyes didn’t start watering. I lucked out with that one, thankfully.

After all of that cutting up was done, we had to set up some plates and other random things while Arturo was cooking the quesadillas on the hot plate. Once he was done with that, Theresa told me I was going to re-fry some beans. I just kind of looked at her with a blank stare because besides some of my Aunt’s beans, all the rest of the refried beans I’ve had are just from a can. Basically, I had no idea what to do and she started to explain it and I was kind of nervous to mess it up. I started to mash up the beans in the water and tried to do it the best I could. Arturo and Theresa showed me how and I eventually mashed the beans up. But don’t worry, I still messed them up. They turned out to have too much water in them and were really soupy. So, we drained them and got the beans ready just in time for Tony to begin. There were about 20 of us at the charla and we ate the food we made which included guacamole, quesadillas, refried beans, tortillas, and carne asada. I learned a lot from Tony. But the beans were the last thing I expected to learn today. But it’s all good. Successful first day of
Hispanic Football Players at FLC
By: Arturo Mata

Our Fort Lewis football team has had many changes in the last year. One of the biggest is the addition of a Hispanic head coach, Cesar Rivas-Sandoval who has helped recruit many other people from diverse cultures, which not only increases the level of diversities as of our players, but also increases the level of competition. The veteran Hispanic players of last year have been accompanied by a few more. The veteran starters and players that were on last years spring team are: Myself, David Castro, Adam Romero, Estevan Lucero, Michael Fuentes and Terry Begaye. These gentlemen have been joined on the gridiron with 9 other players from many different Latino backgrounds. A defensive player from California is Marckus Lopez who is Puerto Riqueño, and a Cubano named Gabriel Cabrera who plans to get healthy by next year to develop many skills. Eddie Vega, who has a Mexican heritage, plans on being a starter as a true freshman setting a standard for Hispanic players to strive to be not only good students, but also great athletes.

Recently, to play on the field against Western New Mexico were Eddie Vega, Terry Begaye, Estevan Lucero, David Castro, Arturo Mata, Marckus Lopez. Other Latinos at that game include; David Ferris, John Cachora and Richard Rodriguez. Joe Abeln hopes to be on the field soon to play with his teammates on the offensive line as a tackle.

Richard Rodriguez is the talk of the team as of now. He was a large factor in the victory against Western New Mexico on Saturday, September 18th. He kicked a 52-yard field goal to lead the Skyhawks to their first Conference win of the season. Rodriguez was a student at Fort Lewis College in 2008. He suffered an injury that prevented him from kicking that season and he went back to his home in San Diego, California. Now that he is back he plans on helping the team by kicking more points after touchdowns as well as field goals this season.

The Skyhawk football team plans on winning with the new regime and bringing an old tradition back to Fort Lewis.

El Centro’s Social Network, Will help me succeed at FLC
By: Adam Betancourt

As an incoming freshman, I had many things I was excited to accomplish. One of those things was to absolutely get involved, and this social concern was high on my list.

In high school, I was well involved with student government and many other programs like clubs and sports. My senior year, I was class treasurer, swim team captain and even senior representative of a volunteer club called Key Club.

All these opportunities I took advantage of helped me throughout high school, and even propelled me to attend a college out of state. I have left my home in Avondale, Arizona to start here at Fort Lewis College.

Now at Fort Lewis, my goal is to reenact my successes in high school and more. So the first week here, I started looking for social events and clubs, and also a work study position. Fortunately for myself, El Centro de Muchos Colores found me! More specifically Shirena Trujillo Long and student intern Theresa Rodriguez found me and sent me an email encouraging me to apply for a job at El Centro.

I had applied at the Business department already for a work study position, but I went to El Centro anyways to get an application. By the following week I had been interviewed and hired as an assistant Spanish tutor.

Not knowing what El Centro had in store for me I showed up to work that Friday thinking I would be assisting tutors, but instead we were planning Charlas (chats) and even helping promote Club del Centro. Working at El Centro since has inspired me to be more social. Even though it is my job, I find myself talking to more people and meeting new people through the promoting of the many events El Centro has to offer like Fiesta on the Mesa. Having this job will help me thrive in college through its many social aspects.

Students of Club Del Centro enjoyed the play Enrique’s Journey

Faculty Visits El Centro Weekly

Starting October 11, 2010 Dr. Les Sommerville professor and chair of Chemistry will be having office hours Monday 10:10 am -11.00 am. If you need help in following course he is available to help you or if you just want to get to know Les please stop by. Les is also the advisor of club AISES, American Indian Science and Engineering Society and SACNAS, Society for Advancement of Chicano and Native American Students.

Fundamentals of Chemistry I 150
Fundamentals of Chemistry II 151
General Biochemistry I

Les Sommerville
My Perspective of Sonia Narzario’s visit to El Centro

By Ashlee Albrecht

Sonia Narzario—author of Common Reading Experience Book (CRB) called Enrique’s Journey—came to talk to El Centro students on Thursday September 23 for 2 hours to talk about her experience when writing her book.

Sonia Narzario is a strong woman who went through the trouble of experiencing the lives of immigrants not once, but twice because she took the trains through Mexico. She told us how strong the belief in God and the saints were in those travels. Also, she opened our eyes to show us how, not the police but the gangs, basically rule the tops of trains and buses. She said gangs basically ran everything down in Mexico.

“I felt Sonia brings awareness and discussion about immigration. They do not only come from Mexico but other countries as well. She experiences and researches what she writes about,” said, Lucy Stewart, a visitor to the luncheon.

The stories Nazario told about how the gangs here were mere knock offs—so to speak—but the real terror is down in Mexico. We all know her as being a reporter that dared to see what the trip is like, but what we don’t know is how this journey gave everyone—yes even her—a new perspective on immigrants. She learned and then helped us read about why they come to the states and how hard they work just so they can take care of their families back home whom they may never see again.

Can anyone truly face the fact of leaving everything they hold near and dear to leave for a new country with no guarantee of jobs that can support their families? If anyone has ever wanted to know why or how they get here, the best answer that a person can get without actually going through it, would be to listen to Sonia or read her book.

My Grandmothers Desert

By: Deanna Ulibarri

Torrejas is the Spanish word meaning slices. When people started out making this dessert, they originally did it with slices of bread instead of crackers. This Spanish recipe is known from many places around the world, with the most popular places being Cuba, Honduras, and Mexico. The recipe that I decided to do is one from my Grandmother, which was passed down to her from her mother, and so on. My Grandmother, ever since I could remember, makes this recipe every year for our Easter dessert. We always have a really big family gathering and before we all eat, we help her make this. This dessert is the most popular one in my family so you have to make sure to get your serving before it’s all gone!

Serves: 4
Ready in 30 minutes.

Ingredients:
- 2 bags saltine crackers
- 3 eggs
- Shredded cheese
- Raisins
- Cinnamon

Syrup Sauce:
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- ½ cup water

Directions:

**Dessert:**
1. Separate the eggs and beat the whites until stiff. Add the yolks and beat again.
2. Dip the crackers into the egg batter and fry them in hot oil.
3. Drain and layer into a hot dish.
4. Sprinkle with cinnamon and raisins.

**Sauce:**
Combine the sugar, water, and cinnamon in a sauce pan. Heat gradually, boiling it until the syrup thickens slightly.

Make your serving of the crackers and pour the warm syrup over it.
As you can see above that the number of Hispanic student at Fort Lewis is more than we have ever had enrolled before. There are more than 7% Hispano students on campus this semester and many of them are multi-cultural. The center is currently evaluating the meaning behind these new enrollment numbers and is looking forward to sharing more with our entire campus community soon.

El Centro de Muchos Colores is a member of the community collaboration called the Unity Project. Our goal is to bridge the gap between the immigrant community and our receiving community. One way we do this is to work with our community members to help them with leadership and English language skills. This will enable our immigrant friends to participate in society more wholly.

Below, you will find the two biographies submitted by two of our community members. Gerardo appeared at the Immigrant Forum related to the Campus Common Reading Experience on Wednesday, Oct. 6 in the Student Union. Linda shared her story in anticipation of being a panelist at the event, but had conflicts with scheduling because she is studying English at the Adult Education Center — also a Unity Project member.

La Movida staff is happy to bring you their stories.

Gerardo Xahuenuitla

Gerardo Xahuenuitla, 23, came to the United States as a fourteen-year-old boy. But, unlike Enrique in the book Enrique’s Journey, Gerardo did not cross over to El Norte alone. He came with his mother and younger sister. They were crossing to join their dad who was already working and making good wages in the United States. They left their home of Tlaxcala, Mexico with the plan to cross over the border illegally. The young family made several attempts to cross over using an underground tunnel. Gerardo remembers the story well because he says every time they were easy to catch by the Border Patrol officials because they were so wet. “It was really, really difficult,” he says. The family decided to wait two years in Nogales, Mexico so that Gerardo’s grandparents could file the visa paperwork and eventually sponsor them for visas to come to the United States. Gerardo has lived in Durango since 2002, graduating from high school in 2005, and attending Fort Lewis College for two years. He works for his family and has served as an active community volunteer with Companeros – a Latino rights advocacy group – and has been an activist for the DREAM Act. The federal DREAM Act would allow undocumented students to attend colleges and universities at in-state tuition rates. If passed, it would also offer a path to citizenship for these youth if they finish college and/or join the military service.

Linda Fuerte

Linda, 36, was born in Chihuahua City in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico to a Tarahumara Indian mother and a Mestizo father. Her mother raised her in what she calls “the Sierra Tarahumara” – or the remote area near what gringos calls the Copper Canyon. In a small shack, she and her two siblings lived a very poor life – “demasiado pobres” she remembers. They slept on the floor with one blanket and would hold each other like “pollitos” (little chicks) to keep warm at night.

Linda left la Sierra when she was 11, and at the age 14, she moved to la Ciudad de Juarez to be with her father and siblings. That’s when she stopped school and started crossing the Rio Grande illegally to work as a housekeeper. “It was really easy to cross then,” she says. But, when she married and had her first of three children, Linda decided that crossing everyday “de mojada” was not ideal. Her older brother who was already living in the United States sponsored her application for a work visa, so she and her husband – who worked as a gardener and painter – could cross over the bridge to El Paso to work and return every night to live in Juarez.

Linda thought she’d be in that routine forever, but the recent drug cartel violence with forced her and her family to seek another place to live and that’s where Durango comes into the picture. Linda’s housecleaning employers had friends who lived in Durango, so she came first with one daughter and then the entire family joined her. Linda and her three children—ages 16, 9, and 4—and her husband have lived and worked in Durango since February 2009. Both husband and wife take English as a second language and enjoy Durango’s outdoor activities like hiking and picnicking in the mountains with their family.
This past spring, I spent a good part of my time working for El Centro by putting up all of the previous "La Movida" publications from recent years online on El Centro’s Blog. This is a website in a blog format that is being used to archive all of the "La Movida" publications of recent years in an organized and easy to access fashion. This website, http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/lamovida/, is available on and off campus and can be used to find out all about the most recent news from El Centro and associated parties. Please feel free to check out this resource if any publishing’s of "La Movida" have interested you.

El Centro Goes to FLC Enrique's Journey play

On Sunday evening, September 26th, we all gathered in El Centro to eat and enjoy each others company before attending the play. But, the pizza and UNO games were only the start of the fun. This gripping play portrayed a young man and his struggle to reunite himself with his mother in North Carolina who left him and his sister back home in Honduras. He battles through addiction, danger, heartbreak, and even beatings through his epic journey. Enrique’s Journey did a good job of exemplifying how hard it is for immigrants to try and make a good life for themselves. It did an even better job of showing how much will these same immigrants have to live, thrive, and work their way to the top.

New Blog available for all to experience "La Movida"

This past spring, I spent a good part of my time working for El Centro by putting up all of the previous "La Movida" publications from recent years online on El Centro’s Blog. This is a website in a blog format that is being used to archive all of the "La Movida" publications of recent years in an organized and easy to access fashion. This website, http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/lamovida/, is available on and off campus and can be used to find out all about the most recent news from El Centro and associated parties. Please feel free to check out this resource if any publishing’s of "La Movida" have interested you.
Club Del Centro

Club Del Centro is a place to experience and learn more about the Hispanic culture here on campus. It also provides links not only here on campus but in the Durango community. It’s also a place to just relax and have fun! We as a club want to promote Hispanic cultures through events, programs and food, as well as create opportunities for people interested in Hispanic culture, and connect with the Durango community while promoting pride amongst our community members. This year’s officers are as follows:

President- Reanna Hoskie (rIhoskie@fortlewis.edu)
Vice President- Felicia Trujillo (ftrujillo@fortlewis.edu)
Secretary- Sharina M. Ramsey-Adams (smramseyadams@fortlewis.edu)
Treasurer- Jared Ruybal (arybal@fortlewis.edu)

SACNAS

SACNAS supports Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in science research, leadership, and teaching careers at all levels. SACNAS advances students to gain the prerequisites for achieving success at the highest levels for science. SACNAS engages in building size, capacity, and diversity of the U.S. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) workforce that has been identified as key to the future economic development and human wellbeing of the nation. SACNAS innovates inclusive society of scientists working on a national scale to promote graduate science education within the Native American and Hispanic/Chicano communities. FLC students charted a local chapter of this National Chapter in spring semester 2010 . The next meeting is Tuesday, October 12 from 10-11a.m.

President- Reanna Hoskie (rIhoskie@fortlewis.edu)
Vice President- Theresa Rodriguez (terodriguez@fortlewis.edu)
Secretary/ Treasurer- Ashlee Albrecht (albrecht_ashlee@yahoo.com)

If you have any other questions or just want to learn more about any of these clubs, stop by El Centro!
DURANGO - A collaborate group of Fort Lewis College cultural centers, students and staff proudly presents the 3rd annual Real History of the Americas program. This unique program runs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Columbus Day, Monday, October 11, 2010, in the Fort Lewis College Student Union Ballroom. The public is welcome anytime during the day of this free event.

The Real History of the Americas takes a positive, but different, look at the history of North and South America from the viewpoints of Hispanic, African-American, Asian, and Native peoples, among many other others underrepresented groups that may have different perspectives on history than what is taught in schools. On display will be live art, poetry, film, dance and live music. Among the entertainers are the Savage Family, Hakim Be & Diles, and Soulaju. Food and refreshments will also be served.

The atmosphere of the event is casual and visitors are welcome to come and go as they please. This year, Real History of the Americas will be held in collaboration with the PRISM club to celebrate National Coming Out Day. Following Real History of the Americas, a dance will be held, in the Rocket Grill (just found out today!)

Sponsors for Real History of the Americas include: Club del Centro, Code Red, El Centro de Muchos Colores, the Native American Center, the Buffalo Council, the Anthropology club, Club Baile Folklorico, the Bala-Sinem Choir, and many other volunteers and student supporters.

For more information contact El Centro de Muchos Colores at 970-247-7654
El Movida
“The Movement”
A Fort Lewis College Student Publication
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erly. El Centro is the Fort Lewis College Hispanic Center geared toward promoting Hispanic pride and awareness, increasing Hispano student enrollment, and retention rates.

La Movida welcomes submissions. All sub-
missions should be sent to Shirena Trujillo Long at long_s@fortlewis.edu.

The opinions expressed herein are not neces-
arily those of El Centro de Muchos Colores or of Fort Lewis College.

For questions or comments please contact El Centro de Muchos Colores. El Centro is lo-
cated at 156A Reed Library and can be reached by phone at 970-247-7654.