



# RCMA HOY

Redlands Christian Migrant Association

## Helping Our Youth



November 2004 Issue 139

OUR MISSION: We Open Doors to Opportunities! ¡Abrimos puertas a las oportunidades!

### Hurricane Relief Fundraising Dinner

The children and families of RCMA have been severely affected by three of our four Florida hurricanes. To help raise funds for disaster recovery, efforts RCMA held a wine tasting and dinner event on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at Sotto Voce, a fine Italian restaurant in Naples. The owner is a former RCMA employee, Francisco Limon. The food



Los niños y familias de RCMA han sido afectados por tres de los cuatro huracanes que azotaron la Florida. Para ayudar a las personas a recuperarse, RCMA realizo una cena para recaudar fondos el martes 16 de Noviembre en Sotto Voce, un restaurante italiano en Naples. El dueño es nuestro ex-compañero de RCMA, Francisco Limón. La comida fue donada por el Miembro de la



was donated by Board Member, Bill Laimbeer. The wine was a donation of our friend Fred Del Lago (Prestige wine). Thanks to everyone who attended and everyone who helped! It was a great success! The Sotto Voce team was excellent!! The waiters donated their tips for the evening to the fundraiser. We can see why people want to



come back, not only for the fine food, but the good service. All proceeds raised in this event will be used to assist in the hurricane effort.

junta directiva de RCMA, Bill Laimbeer. El vino fue una donación de Fred Del Lago (Prestige wine). ¡¡Gracias a toda la gente que asistió al evento!! ¡¡Fue todo un éxito!!! El equipo de trabajo del restaurante Sotto Voce fue excelente!!, los meseros y cocineros del restaurante donaron sus propinas a RCMA. Nos podemos dar cuenta de porque la gente quiere regresar, no es solo por la comida

deliciosa sino también por el buen servicio. Todos los fondos recaudados durante este evento serán usados para ayudar a cubrir los gastos incurridos por los huracanes

The Mexican Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) is an ancient festivity that has changed greatly through the years, but which was intended in prehispanic Mexico to celebrate children and the dead. Hence, the best way to describe this Mexican holiday is to say that it is a time when Mexican families remember their dead, and the continuity of life. Two important things to know about the Mexican Day of the Dead are: One, it is a holiday with a complex history, and therefore the way it is celebrated varies quite a bit by region. And two, it is not a morbid occasion, but rather a festive time. The original celebration can be traced to many native traditions, such as the festivities held during the Aztec month of Miccailhuitontli, which was also dedicated to children and the dead. In the Aztec



El Día de los Muertos es una festividad Antigua que ha cambiado mucho a través de los años, y que en un principio celebraba a los niños y a los muertos. Podemos describirla como la celebración en la que los mexicanos conmemoran a sus seres queridos fallecidos y también la continuidad de la vida. Hay dos cosas importantes que saber acerca de esta fiesta : primero, es una fiesta con una historia compleja y la forma de celebrarla varia de región a región. Segundo, no es una celebración mórbida , sino una festividad. La celebración original comienza con muchas tradiciones nativos como la del mes Azteca Miccailhuitontli, dedicado a los niños y a los muertos. En el

calendar, this ritual fell roughly at the end of July and the beginning of August, but later, it was moved by Spanish priests so that it coincided with the Christian holiday of All Hallows Eve (in Spanish: "Día de Todos Santos.") The result is that Mexicans now celebrate the day of the dead during the first two days of November, rather than at the beginning of summer. At home members of the family decorate an altar in honor of deceased relatives, using papel picado, candles, flowers, photographs of the departed, candy skulls inscribed with the name of the deceased, and a selection of his or her favorite foods and beverages, including bottles of beer or tequila, cups of atole (corn gruel) or coffee, and fresh water, as well as platters of rice, beans, chicken or meat in mole sauce, candied pumpkin or sweet potatoes. Generally, the holiday's activities consist of families welcoming their dead back into their homes, and visiting the graves of their close kin. At the cemetery, family members engage in sprucing up the gravesite, decorating it with flowers, setting out and enjoying a picnic, and interacting socially with other family and community members who gather there. This is a way of recognizing the cycle of life and death. If you want to know more about the "Day of the Dead" go to <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~rjsalvad/scmfaq/muertos.html>

*Pictures from Plant City. Up a traditional altar. Below : Huitzilli group and prehispanic music*

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calendario Azteca esta festividad cae a finales de Julio y principios de Agosto pero mas tarde, fue modificada por sacerdotes españoles para que coincidiera con el "Día de Todos Santos." (All Hallows Eve ) el resultado es que ahora se celebra los dos primeros días del mes de Noviembre. En el hogar los miembros de la familia decoran un altar en honor de sus parientes fallecidos usando papel picado, velas, flores, fotos de los difuntos, calaveritas de dulce, con los nombres de los fallecidos y la comida y bebida favorita de los mismos como tequila, atole café y agua, así como arroz mole con pollo, frijoles, dulce de calabaza y camotes. Generalmente las actividades consisten en de familias dando la bienvenida en sus hogares a los difuntos y visitar las tumbas. En el cementerio, las familias adornan las tumbas con

flores y hacen comen ahí. Interactuando socialmente con otras familias y miembros de la comunidad. Esta festividad es un importante es una forma importante de reconocer el ciclo de la vida y de la muerte. Si quiere conocer mas acerca del "Dia de muertos" vaya a <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~rjsalvad/scmfaq/muertos.html>

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## THE FALL SEASON FAIR AND SOCCER TOURNAMENT OF RCMA ACADEMY

## FERIA DE OTOÑO Y TORNEO DE SOCCER EN RCMA ACADEMY

For the RCMA Academy, just as it probably is in the other RCMA centers, this season is very important because it is the season in which the majority of the migrant families who worked in the north during the summer return. We rejoice the coming of the fall, and we celebrate by organizing a soccer tournament (the official sport of our school).

Our celebration was held on Sunday, October 17 and there could not have been a better day to share with our children. Since ten in the morning the field was full of parents supporting their children as they ran after the soccer ball. It was quite a scene watching the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten kids score points in their respective goals! Who

cares? The important thing was to run with the ball and score goals. And while they waited their turn to play, the kids and their parents had the opportunity to eat anything from

t o s t a d a s , “chicharrones”, popcorn, nachos, hot dogs, chips, and soda. Children young and old jumped on the “Moon Walker” and won prizes in the competitive games that were organized by the teachers; and of course

many little ones got their faces painted with many beautiful designs and colors. We invited teams from the Wimauma soccer league, who gladly came to amiably compete with our soccer teams, and much to our pride and support our teams came out victorious in the tournament.

It turned out to be a splendid day in every sense, but the most important thing was the union among everybody: parents, students, teachers, family, and friends.

Note: We would like to thank everyone who voluntarily cooperated to make this event possible. The funds that were raised will be used for future educational activities for the students at our school, such as for field trips to museums, plays, etc.

**WELCOME BACK!** A big “Welcome Back” to all the Migrant Head Start employees who are returning to us for another season. And “Welcome Aboard” to our new employees!

Para RCMA Academy como seguramente lo es para todos los centros, esta temporada es muy importante porque es la época en que regresan gran parte de las familias que durante el verano estuvieron trabajando en los estados del norte, por lo que pensamos que bien vale la pena celebrar la llegada del otoño y, al igual que el año pasado, esa celebración la hicimos con un torneo de fútbol soccer, el deporte oficial de nuestra escuela.

La celebración se llevó a cabo el domingo 17 de octubre y que mejor que un domingo de diversión para compartir con los hijos. Desde las diez de la mañana ya estaba lleno de padres apoyando a sus hijos que corrían tras la pelota. ¡Fue todo un espectáculo ver a los

chiquitos de Prekinder y Kinder meter goles en su propia portería. ¡Qué más da! Lo importante era correr con la pelota y meter el gol.

..... y mientras esperaban el turno para jugar, padres e hijos tuvieron la oportunidad de comer ricos antojitos: tostadas, chicharrones, palomitas, nachos, hot dogs, sodas y papitas. Niños grandes y pequeños brincaron en el

“Moon Waker” y ganaron premios en los juegos de competencia organizados por los maestros; y, por supuesto, no faltaron las caritas pintadas con hermosos diseños y mucho colorido.

Tuvimos de invitados a equipos de la liga de Wimauma, quienes amablemente aceptaron competir amigablemente con nuestros equipos, pero, para nuestro orgullo, los vencedores fueron nuestros equipos.

Fue un día esplendoroso, en todo sentido, pero lo más valioso fue esa unión de todos: padres, hijos, maestros, amigos y familiares.

Nota: Queremos agradecer a todas las personas que voluntariamente cooperaron para hacer posible este evento. Los fondos recaudados serán utilizados para las actividades educativas de los estudiantes de RCMA Academy.



# NOTES AND NEWS -Words and Photos from Around the State!

## Child Safety Restraint Event in Putnam County

## Evento de seguridad para los niños en Putnam

A child safety restraint (CSR) event was held by RCMA in Putnam County. This event was held in cooperation with the Salvar Vidas outreach program of the Florida Highway Patrol in the Winn Dixie parking lot in Crescent City on October 27. Many of our clients as well as other members of the community benefited from the instruction on passenger safety and appropriate car-seat selection and installation. Car-seats were provided by the Highway Patrol for a small donation and bilingual technicians were made available by both the FHP and RCMA.



Un evento para la seguridad de los niños en los automóviles fue realizado en el Condado de Putnam . Este evento fue realizado en cooperación con el programa de “ Salvar Vidas” del Departamento de Patrulleros de las carreteras de Florida ( Florida Highway Patrol) en el estacionamiento del centro commercial de Winn Dixie en Crescent City el 27 de Octubre. Muchos de nuestros clientes así como otros miembros de la comunidad se beneficiaron de las instrucciones en seguridad para los pasajeros y también para elección e instalación de los asientos para niños. Los asientos para niños fueron proveídos por los Patrulleros de Caminos además de que se contó con la participación de técnicos bilingües por parte de FHP y RCMA.

## October 31st Celebration

## Celebración del 31 de Octubre

We had so much fun! We were surrounded by superheroes, princesses, witches, and monsters. Many of our parents came to support their children and pass out candy to all the students. At the end of the day the students participated in a parade and all got together on the field to sing for the teachers and other students. The teachers were very busy but enjoyed this fun day just as much as the kids did!



¡Cómo nos divertimos! Estuvimos llenos de Hombres Araña, Princesas, Brujas y Monstruos. Algunos padres ayudaron con su presencia y otros trajeron dulces y golosinas para los niños. Al final del día los niños y niñas desfilaron y se reunieron en el patio de la escuela para cantar y recitar enfrente de los maestros y otros compañeros. Los maestros estuvieron

muy ocupados pero igualmente disfrutaron este día único en el año.

**A Quick, but Important Tech Tip: ALWAYS SAVE AND BACK UP YOUR FILES!** This point can't be stressed enough! When working on a file, make sure to save it often and always know where you are saving your files! If you edit a document that you received by e-mail, make sure you use the “Save As” feature to save it on your hard drive. Otherwise, it may be “saved” in a temporary directory. And always back up your files, you never know when your original file may be damaged or deleted!

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