



SECTION E  
HERALDNEWS

Wednesday,  
October 11, 2006

# Taste

**Boxed in**  
Old-fashioned fun  
with those classic  
cardboard containers.  
**sneakers, E7**



**Today's recipes**  
Upscale corn dogs **E4**  
Garden's last gasp **E5**  
Vegetarian cuisine **E10**  
Glorious pancakes **E11**



## OFF THE MENU

# A diner no more

Classic dining  
car becomes  
vibrant Mexican  
restaurant

By CAROLINA BOLADO  
Herald News

At just 15, Micaela Gutiérrez lost her culinary guide. After her mother died, she and her younger sister had to rely on themselves, and occasionally their father and family friends to teach them their way around the kitchen.

"We taught ourselves, little by little," Gutiérrez said in Spanish. "We would watch how people prepared the food. We wanted to cook. We'd get together to cook for a party."

Today, she works in the kitchen of a 1950s-style dining car on Grand Street in Paterson. At Antojitos Poblanos, managed by Gutiérrez and her husband Fermín Gutiérrez, the swivel stools and black-and-white

checkered floor scream burgers and shakes, but the items on the menu are staple dishes of Puebla, a small state in southern Mexico with a rich culinary history.

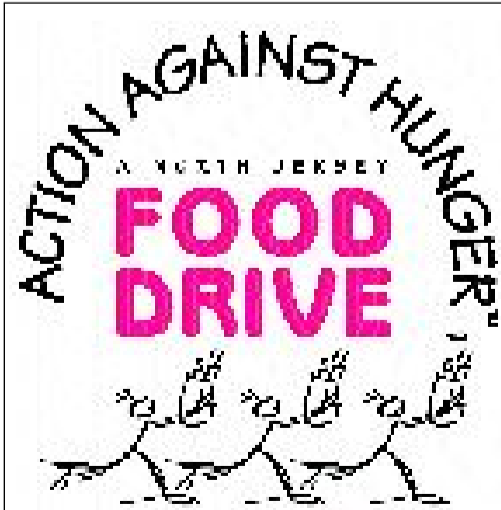
One of Micaela's specialties is mole poblano, a dish of chicken cooked with a sauce of unsweetened chocolate mixed with a variety

Please see **OFF THE MENU, E2**



Photos by LESLIE BARBARO/Herald News

Fermín Gutiérrez opened Antojitos Poblanos #2 in a classic dining car diner (top photo) on Grand Street in Paterson in early July. Below, Elvira Merino, who assists in the kitchen, prepares dough to make tortillas and cooks chicken quesadillas on the grill.



## ACTION AGAINST HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

**When:** Sunday, Oct. 15, from noon to 4 p.m.

**What:** Donations collected through this community service program, sponsored by the North Jersey Media Group Foundation, will help more than 40 emergency food pantries in Bergen, Passaic, Essex and Morris counties provide sustenance to people and families in urgent need.

By their estimates, the charities serve 40,000 people who would otherwise go hungry, despite the seeming affluence of the region.

**Where:** Food donation locations are featured on [www.ActionAgainstHunger.com](http://www.ActionAgainstHunger.com) and in ads running regularly in The Record, Herald News,

Community Newspapers of North Jersey Media Group, (201) magazine and other North Jersey Media Group specialty publications.

**Other ways to give:** Tax-deductible cash donations can be made at [www.ActionAgainstHunger.com](http://www.ActionAgainstHunger.com) or mailed to North Jersey Media Group Foundation, c/o Legal Department, 150 River St., Hackensack, NJ 07601.

**The most-needed items,** packaged in plastic or boxed containers, include canned meat, fish, spaghetti, sauce, fruit, vegetables, beans, gravy; powdered milk, 100 percent fruit juice, cold and hot boxed cereal, pancake mix and syrup, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jel-

ly, rice, instant mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, cake and pie mixes for Thanksgiving, coffee and tea. Organizers request that no glass containers or outdated items be included.

**For more information:** Call 201-646-4029, send e-mail to [fooddrive@northjersey.com](mailto:fooddrive@northjersey.com), or visit [www.ActionAgainstHunger.com](http://www.ActionAgainstHunger.com).

**Read more about the food drive** at Carolina Bolado's blog, [northjersey.com/foodblog](http://northjersey.com/foodblog).



Carolina Bolado