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Now I Believe!

En las palabras hay poder



People in the News



Shaina Sandoval Comes Out in New Movie

Shaina Sandoval can be seen in the films "In Search of the American Dream: El Nacional," "Midnight Clear," "Rain," and "Nico-The Millionaire," in addition to the music video "Saved."

A native Texan, Shaina is currently enrolled in the Herberger Institute for the Arts at Arizona State University, and is a member of Alpha Phi Sorority at ASU. While in Texas, she was the winner of the "Junior Female Actor" award at the MB Talent Expo and an academic honor roll student.

Shaina has extensive commercial and print credits, including national spots for InventNow.org, Cowboys & Indians Magazine, AT&T, Pei Wei, WalMart, and Denny's.

She has trained with Cathryn Sullivan, Cody Linley and Mitchell Gossett at Everybody-Fits, Theresa Bell at Theresa Bell Studio, Cathryn Hartt at Hartt and Soul Studio, Suzie Torres, Q4U Productions in Texas and Amanda Melby of Verve Studios in Arizona.

As a dancer, she was a principal with Anita N. Martinez Ballet Folklorico in Dallas, has studied with Dance Continuum in Bedford, TX and Les Jordan at North Central Ballet in Texas. She is proficient in Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, and Hip Hop and has soloed for the National Hispanic Celebration at the Majestic Theatre and guested for "The Ancestors," also at the Majestic.



Dr. Lily F. Tercero Tapped as President of Texas Southmost College

The Alamo Colleges congratulate Chief Budget Officer Dr. Lily F. Tercero on her selection by the Texas Southmost College (TSC) Board of Trustees as its college president. Tercero will become the first strictly TSC president the community college has had since it began a 20-year partnership with the University of Texas at Brownsville, a partnership that is now coming to an end as TSC becomes an autonomous institution.

Tercero has served in her current position at the Alamo Colleges since fall 2010. Before joining the Alamo Colleges, she served for 12 years as associate vice chancellor for planning and budgeting at the Tarrant County College District. Tercero holds a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Texas at Austin, where she graduated from the Community College Leadership program.



Domingo Medina Switches Companies and Gets Promtion

Domingo Medina Jr. has made a career move to Regional Sales Manager for Restorative Health Care. In this new position he will be managing the marketing teams in New Braunfels and Austin. Restorative Health provides clinical health care for home bound seniors. It also provides an array of services in the area of pediatric care.

Domingo was born and raised in New Braunfels. He grew up in Mill Town (near the Mission Valley Mill area) and attended school in Comal ISD where he graduated from Canyon High School. After high school he played football at Angelo State University and later transferred to University of Incarnate Word (in San Antonio) where he finished his degree in Business management. Domingo is married and has 4 children.







Texas State's de la Teja honored as Regents' Professor

Texas State University-San Marcos Department of History professor Frank de la Teja has been recognized as a recipient of the 2011 Regents' Professor Award by the Texas State University System (TSUS) Board of Regents.

The **TSUS** recognizes an individual within the system as a recipient of the Regents' Professor for showing an exemplary performance and contribution in the areas of teaching, research and publication.

All of the Regents' Professor Awards include a \$5,000 award and commemorative medallion. Selected professors will also maintain the title of TSUS Regents' Professor for the duration of their service.

In February 2009, de la Teja was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to serve the first-ever two-year term as the state historian of Texas. In this job, de la Teja will enhance Texans' knowledge about the state's history and heritage; encourage the teaching of Texas history in public schools; and consult with top government officials on the promotion of Texas history.

Since 1991, **de la Teja** has taught various history courses at **Texas State**, including critical issues in **Texas** history, Spanish borderlands, history of **Mexico** to 1848 and introduction to American Indian history.

While de la Teja was born in Cuba and raised in New Jersey, he has become one of the foremost experts on Latino history in Texas. He earned both his bachelor's degree in political science and his master's degree in Latin American history from Seton Hall University in New Jersey. He ventured to Texas to earn his doctorate in colonial Latin American history from the University of Texas.



Juan Perez Wins Poetry Award

La Pryor Poet and History Teacher, Juan Manuel Perez has officially taken the title of the 2011-2012 Poet Laureate for the San Antonio Poets Association. On September 17, 2011 Juan delivered the traditional "Annual Poet Laureate Address" to those in attendance at this poetry meeting.

This Poetry Society of Texas chapter and South Texas based poet organization established in 1979, have been selecting their Poet Laureate since 1981. Juan is the first native born poet from Zavala County and the surrounding Middle Rio Grande area to be selected as their Poet Laureate.

Each year, the San Antonio Poets Association selects a poet to be the next Poet Laureate through a points-value system in which Juan scored exceptionally high due to his presentation ability and accessibility, plus numerous speaking engagements and publication credits.

PRODUCTION

On the Passing

of Steve Jobs

Welcome to another issue of La

Voz de Austin. There are so

many things going on, no se

donde empezar. Certainly the

death of Steve Jobs is on my

mind. His pioneering work with the

McIntosh is what led me into

desktop publishing and the news-

While I had experience laying

out newspapers using the old fash-

ion cut and past methods, the

McIntosh was the technology that

allowed me to really take off in

1990. His death at the age of 56,

while tragic, reminds all of us that

we are only here for a short a time.

Why Can't Fidel

Acevedo Get Any

Respect?

Here is something that I have

been wanting to comment on for

some time. It is the election of the

Texas Democratic Party Chair-

man. One of the candidates in the

running is a man named Fidel

Acevedo. He is a long time com-

munity activists. He has worked

on many campaigns and volun-

teered for many events. Yet when

people hear that he is a candidate

for Texas Democratic Party

Chairman, they tend to dismiss

him. In Spanish we say que " lo

estan tirando a leon". Just be-

cause Fidel is not an attorney,

not a millionaire and doesn't al-

ways wear a suit is not a reason

paper business.

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PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

La Voz de Comal County is a monthly publication. The editorial and business address is P.O. Box 19457 Austin, Texas 78760. The telephone number is (512) 944-4123. The use, reproduction or distribution of any or part of this publication is strongly encouraged. But do call and let us know what you are using. Letters to the editor are most welcome.

Para cualquier pregunta llámenos 291-9060 944-4123

La Voz de Comal County - October, 2011

Joaquin Castro and Lloyd **Doggett Race**

The race for the new congressional spot in District 35 continues to percolate. One the one hand, you have Joaquin Castro who has raised half a million dollars and already filed ready to go at.

Then you have Lloyd Doggett, who is the current congressman of the 25th Congressional District who says he is also running the new 35th Congressional District and has about 3 million dollars in the bank. But with the redistricting issue in the courts, it looks that a lot of people are holding back and waiting to see if the maps are going to hold up.

Is it for real?

The sign below. Is it real or is photoshop involved? We are looking for comments.



La Ley en Alabama

La gente en el estado de Alabama estan preocupados. El estado acaba de implementar una nueva ley que permite a las autoridades chequear si los estudiantes tienen papeles o no. Por su puesto, muchas padres de familia ven a esto como el comienzo de un esfuerzo para detener y deportar miembros de la familia.

En los ultimos tres semanas, various padres de familia han sacado a sus hijos de la escuela. Otros ya han decedido salirse del estado de Alabama por causa de esta ley.

Los autoridades de las escuelas no son los unicos que estan viendo impacto de esta nueva ley, si no también los dueños de operaciones de agricultura. Ya se estan quejando de que no pueden consequir trabajadores para lavantar las cosechas. Unos estan hablando de que van a tener que usar personas de las carceles para hacer las piscas.

Los politicos que estan en favor de esta ley dicen que los Estados Unidos tiene que tomar control de quien esta entrando al pais. Dicen que esta ley si les va ayudar a protejer a todos. Otros dicen que el estado de Alabama no tenia porque pasar esta ley porque los asuntos inmigración es el negocio de gobierno federal y no lo de el estado.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s **Editor & Publisher**

An Invitation to Veterans

La Voz de Comal County is looking for stories and photos for its November, 2011 issue. Contact Alfredo Santos c/s for more details. 512-944-4123

On the Cover



Juliana Cruz is the young lady on the cover.



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Virginia Raymond

info@texasafterviolence.org

La Voz de Comal County - October, 2011



On November 5th, 2011 on the school grounds of the South Side Independent School District 1460 Martinez-Losoya Road in Losoya Texas, (20 miles South of San Antonio on Highway 281) Dr Juan Jasso, Superintendent of Schools and the Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin invite you to attend the annual schools Cardinal Days. Battle of Medina Film Productions will be filming the Memorial Service of the Battle of Medina and is seeking volunteers for the reenactment of the biggest and bloodiest battle ever fought on Texas soil.

The parade will start at 12 noon and will end at the school stadium. The **Battle of Medina Service** will start at 1: 15 P.M. in the stadium. If you wish to be in the parade you should arrive at 11 A.M.

Actors and reenactors should wear appropriate attire. Tejano's to wear 1800 Tejano attire, not Texan. Anglo volunteers to wear colonial period attire or frontier dress eg buckskin: Native Americans to wear buckskin or appropriate Native American attire. Spanish and Mexican soldiers are also needed in 1800 military attire with muskets if possible. Instructions will be given on site. This event will be professionally filmed, edited and produced by **San Antonio's** TV personality **Maclovio Perez** and directed and produced by Author and Historian **Dan Arellano**. Southside High School is located 20 miles south of San Antonio on Hi 281 South (Roosevelt Rd) and Martinez-Losoya Road.

Please go to my Facebook page for examples of appropriate attire. For More Information Contact: **Dan Arellano, President Tejano Genealogy Society** 512-826-7569





"In Search of the American Dream" is the story about four children and their adult brother as they desperately race across **Texas** for survival. They are running because their parents, undocumented for 30 years, were caught, arrested and thrown in jail in one fell swoop. Deportation is only a matter of time. When CPS separates them, the children are forced to abandon the only home they've ever known, leaving behind their friends, their school, neighbors, sweethearts and their youngest brother, age 3, and their dog, **Frijol**.

A routine traffic stop by a police officer goes terribly wrong and now they are not only running from immigration officers but also from the law.

If forced, what would you do to keep your family together? Learn about the **Martinez's** and their heralding journey to deal with the issues that threaten to tear their family apart. "*In Search of the American Dream*" will grip you and your family. Journey with the **Martinez** family as they face a challenge beyond their worst fears. This movie will make you love your family even more.

In the United States we see media coverage of huge "immigrant roundups" (raids) but the story of what happens to children who are torn from their parents when the parents are deported is rarely seen. Yet it happens every day in this country. The present law must be enforced. The parents must go but the American-born children stay.

"In Search of the American Dream" tells the story of one family torn apart... and the fear and agony the children are forced to bear alone.

"In Search of the American Dream" is currently in post-production and is slated to be released in early 2012

Algunos trucos pueden ser horribles para su registro

Por José M. Olivero Relaciones publicas del Seguro Social en Oklahoma City

En Oklahoma somos muy generosos y probablemente estará repartiendo golosinas a los duendes disfrazados y fantasmas en su vecindario la noche de Halloween. Pero no se deje engañar por un tipo de estafador en busca de información personal.

Debería siempre salvaguardar su información personal tal como su fecha de nacimiento, nombre de soltera de su madre, y su número de Seguro Social. ¿Por qué? Porque ese es el tipo de información que los ladrones de identidad andan buscando.

Tal vez piense que está seguro simplemente al no llevar su tarjeta de Seguro Social consigo y al no proveer su información personal por Internet o por correo electrónico. Pero los estafadores son muy astutos. Nunca conteste a un correo electrónico reclamando ser del Seguro Social y que le pregunte su electrónico reclamando ser del Seguro Social y que le pregunte su número de Seguro Social o información personal.

El robo de identidad es uno de los crímenes de más alto crecimiento en Norteamérica. Si piensa que ha sido víctima de un robo de identidad, debería comunicarse con la Comisión Federal de Comercio (FTC, siglas en inglés) visitando *www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/enespanol/index.html*. También puede llamar al **1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338)**; TTY **1-866-653-4261**.

Otro truco: Algunas personas que reciben beneficios de Seguro Social y Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI) son víctimas de anuncios engañosos. A menudo, estas compañías ofrecen servicios del Seguro Social por un honorario, aunque los mismos servicios están disponibles directamente del Seguro Social gratuitamente. Estos servicios incluyen el obtener:

- Una tarjeta corregida de Seguro Social mostrando el nombre de casada de una novia;
- Una tarjeta de Seguro Social para reemplazar una que se perdió; y
- El número de Seguro Social para un niño.

Si recibe o ve lo que cree es propaganda engañosa de los servicios del Seguro Social, envíe la correspondencia completa, incluyendo el sobre, a: Office of the Inspector General, Fraud Hotline (Oficina del Inspector General, Línea directa de Fraude), Social Security Administration, P.O. Box 17768, Baltimore, MD 21235. Si ve propaganda engañosa por Internet, puede reportar esta información a través del Internet en www.segurosocial.gov/oig/hotline_spanish/ index.htm. También, advierta al Procurador General de su estado o a la oficina de asuntos del consumidor y a la Oficina pro honradez comercial.

Infórmese mejor acerca del robo de identidad en www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/10964.html. Para leer acerca de propaganda engañosa visite www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/10005sp.html.

Disfrute de las delicias de la temporada, pero tenga cuidado de los estafadores que quieren robar más de un saco de dulces. Los resultados de convertirse en víctima de robo de identidad pueden ser horribles. Proteja la información que lo identifica.

SOME TRICKS CAN BE HORRIFYING TO YOUR RECORD

By Jose M Olivero Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Oklahoma City

Oklahomans are very generous and you'll probably be passing out treats to costumed hobgoblins and ghosts in your neighborhood this Halloween night. But be cautious that you're not tricked by a different kind of trickster looking for a handout, such as your personal information.

You should always safeguard your personal information such as date of birth, mother's maiden name, and your Social Security number. Why? Because it's that type of information identity thieves are after.

You may think you're safe simply by not carrying your Social Security card with you and not providing your personal information over the Internet or by e-mail. But scam artists have become tricky. Never reply to an e-mail claiming to be from Social Security and asking for your Social Security number or personal information.

Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in America. If you think you've been the victim of an identity thief, you should contact the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft. Or you can call **1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338)**; TTY **1-866-653-4261**.

Another trick: Some people who receive Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits are victimized by misleading advertisers. Often, these companies offer Social Security services for a fee, even though the same services are available directly from Social Security free of charge. These services include getting a:

- Corrected Social Security card showing a bride's married name;
- Social Security card to replace
 a lost card; and
- · Social Security number for a child.

If you receive or see what you believe is misleading advertising for Social Security services, send the complete mailing, including the envelope, to: Office of the Inspector General, Fraud Hotline, Social Security Administration, P.O. Box 17768, Baltimore, MD 21235. If you see misleading advertising online, you can report this information online at w w w.socialsecurity.gov/oig/ guidelin.htm. Also, advise your State's attorney general consumer affairs office and the Better Business Bureau.

Learn more about identity theft at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/ 10064.html. Read about misleading advertising at www.socialsecurity.gov/ pubs/10005.html.

Enjoy the treats of the season, but be cautious of tricksters trying to steal more than a sack of candy. The results of becoming the victim of identity theft can be horrifying. Protect your identifying information.

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Hispanic Women's Network of Texas Celebrates 25th Annual State Conference in Austin, Texas

The Hispanic Women's Network of Texas, a statewide Latina organization with eight chapters across Texas, is hosting its 25th Annual Conference "Serve, Lead & Empower-Celebrating 25 Years" on October 28-30th at the Sheraton Austin Hotel located at 701 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Anticipating over 300 conference attendees, Latinas from all over the state will come together for two days of workshops and training sessions. **HWNT** will be providing training sessions in the areas of health, professional and leadership development. This year's Honorary Chairs include **Texas Secretary of State Esperanza** "Hope" Andrade, Travis County District Clerk Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza and Former Texas State Representative Christine Hernandez. HWNT is proud to be celebrating its 25th Anniversary as an organization and we invite you to join us for this historical affair.

To kick off the conference, **HWNT** will have a ribbon cutting ceremony, hosted by the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, on Friday, October 28th at 12:45PM. Secretary of State Esperanza "Hope" Andrade will welcome the guest along with our State Board of Directors. In addition, **HWNT** has named Teresa Lozano Long our 2011 Latina Trailblazer. On Friday, October 28th from 6:00-8:00 p.m., a special reception will be held honoring Teresa Lozano Long for her long-standing relationship with the community through her education and fine arts initiatives. **HWNT** will hold its Estrella Awards Luncheon on Saturday, October 29th from 11:30-1:00 p.m. Each year, **HWNT** proudly recognizes a member from each Chapter for devoting their time, talent and resources to promoting the advancement of Hispanic women in the civic, corporate and public life.

About HWNT

The **HWNT** was formed in 1986 by inviting members of existing women's and Hispanic groups from around the state to create an organization that would address issues unique to Hispanas. The **HWNT** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and has become the premier Hispanic women's organization in **Texas**.

HWNT's History

The axiom "great minds think alike" applies to the origins of **HWNT.** The **Hispanic Women's Network of Texas** owes its existence to several great women who conceived the development of a statewide organization, which would fill the void for Hispanic women. Today, **HWNT** lives up to its mission statement of promoting diverse women in public, corporate, and civic arenas.

In 1986, Martha Hinojosa-Nadler with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, State Representative Lena Guerrero, and Travis County Voter Registrar Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza were discussing the need for a women?s organization. Entering the equation was Jim Estrada with Anheuser-Busch who had been meeting with Mary Alice Cisneros, Christine Hernandez, and Lupe Ochoa in San Antonio to discuss funding innovative projects in Texas. The actions that followed involved pulling together a Steering Committee of ten women from different geographic areas to poll their respective regions and meet in a statewide stetting. The Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF) served as the non-profit organizational structure. Norma Cantu and Dora Tovar of MALDEF provided invaluable assistance and guidance.

The result was the 1987 conference in **Dallas** at which 200 women from every geographic area of **Texas**, with diverse backgrounds and occupations, discussed areas of concern to women and Latinos. A commitment to remain united, address common issues and promote Hispanic Women was a major concern then and continues now. Today, **HWNT** chapters exist in **Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, Fort Worth, Houston, Laredo, the Rio Grande Valley,** and **San Antonio.**



Nora I. Silva

Nora I. Silva is the Sr. Director of Health Equity for the South Central Texas region of the American Heart Association. In this position Nora has worked to decrease health disparities by providing health education and promoting healthy lifestyles in the African American and Hispanic/Latino communities.

Prior to joining the American Heart Association team, Nora promoted healthy lifestyles as a fitness instructor for 19 years. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Health and Wellness Promotion from Texas State University and her Master's of Public Administration with a certification in Nonprofit Management and Leadership at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Nora serves as the Chair for San Antonio Chapter of the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT). She also serves as the Education Committee Chair for San Antonio at the state level of HWNT.

Since physical activity is an important part of a healthy community, she also leads free fitness classes at her home church, South San Filadelfia Baptist Church two days a week. Nora has been in San Antonio for six years and lives with her son Sergio and their dog Bailey. Her passion continues to be teaching and promoting physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellness.





Nelda Martinez

Councilwoman Nelda Martinez has a history of extensive volunteerism, community involvement and public service. She leads by example, with an open communication policy and works for the betterment of the community.

She serves on the Corpus Christi City Council and as Mayor Pro-Tem on a rotating basis. Councilwoman Martinez serves on several organizations: Circle of Redmember/advocate- American Heart Association Southwest Affiliate; Clowns Who Care- Driscoll Children's Hospital; Board Member- Foster Angels/South Texas-Supporting Foster Children, Former Board President- Palmer Program. Drug Abuse Councilwoman Martinez is President/CEO- Nueces Title and small business owner.

Councilwoman Martinez, the first Hispanic to take first place among at-large candidates. Unique record of service, leadership and advocacy has won her recognitions: Coastal Bend Area GI Forum Women's Chapter -1999 Outstanding Business Woman of the Year, Small Business Administration- "Women in Business Champion", YWCA- "Y Women in Careers Award", 2001Del Mar College-Wall of Honor, HWNT-CC "2001Las Estrellas" Award, and Volunteer Center-2003 Sweetheart of the Year.

She chairs Texas Municipal League's Policy Committee – Utilities/Transportation, and serves on the Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition. Councilwoman Martinez is an advocate for our community and HWNT-Corpus Christi. Promotes the advancement of women in public, corporate, and civic life

2011 Estrellas de Tejas

Hispanic Women's Network of Texas[™]



Cristina Castro Clark

Cristina Castro Clark is the present Vice Chair of Marketing and Development of the **HWNT Houston Chapter**, as well as a member of the Education Committee. She is the owner of The **Clark Designs**, co-owner of **Pinky Promise Photography** and the Marketing Coordinator at **Beyond Controls**, **Inc.**

Cristina earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Relations from the **University of Texas at Austin** and distinguished certification of Business Foundations from the **McComb School of Business.**

Cristina was selected for this award because of her unwavering commitment to the advancement of women through education. Over the last two years she has served as a role model to the young women that have participated in the Latinas Leading Latinas Educational Houston program. Specifically, she has continuously made time to assist the young women applying to college by reviewing their essays, resumes, and providing them with SAT preparatory material. She worked tirelessly through the course of the last year to help raise scholarship funds so that many young women could be provided assistance to pay for the high costs associated with obtaining an education.

Cristina's professionalism and continued willingness to volunteer, support, and make herself available to the continued success of the HWNT educational program is the reason why the Houston Chapter believes she is an Estrella.



Monica Peña

Monica Peña currently works for locally owned, family business **Escobar Construction, LLC,** www.escobarconstruction.com. She and her husband started the company over 10 years ago and she is very well involved in the day to day activities of the company. She enjoys being a resource of knowledge and bridging connections from different businesses and organizations.

Monica currently serves the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as Social Media Ambassador and is the Charitable Events Committee Chair of the Interior Design Society Texas Hill Country Chapter with this year's main project being a SafePlace family activity room redo. She found one of her passions was writing and is a contributing writer for The Austin Times Newspaper and La Voz Newspaper.

She has served on committees for the following organizations: Y.W.C.A., Hispanic Women's Network of Texas, Hispanic Futures Conference, and Las Comadres Para Las Americas. She has been honored with the Young Hispanic Professional Austin Association member of the Year award in 2009 and is currently on her second term as the organization's vice president.



Tomasa Garcia

Tomasa has owned her own company, TLG Language Resource & Training Center, in Denton, TX, since 1993. Serving primarily the Spanish speaking communities, TLG Language Resource and Training is an established support center with a variety of professional services, including: Immigration/Income Tax document preparation; Translations; since 1995, publisher of La Cronica Latina; Language Academy; GED Classes; Computer Classes; Consultation and support to the self employed and small business owners, including bookkeeping services. Her past experience and passion has always been education.

Tomasa is a founding member of the Denton chapter of HWNT and has stayed committed to its success. Besides HWNT, she was the Founder and past Chairman (1995-2000) of the Denton Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; TAMACC Past-Vice Chair for Networking; Communities In Schools, Denton Co, Founder; American Heart Association Board of Directors; Denton (LULAC), Co-Founder and past President and Artz & Jazz Festival Board of Directors.



Lucie Santiago Allen

Born in New York City, Lucie came from a large Puerto Rican family. The family moved back to Puerto Rico in 1961 where she finished high school and studied at the University of Puerto Rico. Lucie worked in newspaper advertising since 1968. In '81 she moved to Texas looking to expand her horizons. Lucie was lucky and landed in **DFW** and worked at the Dallas Times Herald. This was a great break for her - it changed her life. In '83, she met Robert Allen of Laredo, Texas, and fell in love. They were married 2 years later.

Lucie states, "Texas has been very good to me, the people who were my friends in 81 are still my friends today, Bob and I have celebrated our 26th anniversary, and now I am involved with a fabulous group of women whose works in educating young women heading for college (LIP program), sharing experiences with other Hispanic women (Mindshare) and giving out thousands of dollars in scholarships, have really inspired me."

Lucie is extremely proud of being a member of the Fort Worth Chapter of HWNT, and says, "The women in this group make a difference in their communities, their work places and in the lives of others. I am honored to be a part of this great group"



Angie Perez

Angie Perez joined the Hispanic Women's Network of Texas-Dallas Chapter in 2007 and immediately became involved with the Education Seminar Series by serving as a volunteer chaperoning students on one of the buses.

She went on to co-chair the program during the 2009-2010 academic school year and took great pride in helping to increase the number of students in attendance. In 2010-2011, she continued her involvement in the program by chairing the volunteer committee. Having become an **HWNT** member has been a blessing to Angie in that she has made many dear friends and grown both personally and professionally.

Angie is currently a human resources representative at Mission Foods/Gruma Corporation in Irving, Texas. She is a past board member of the North Texas Exes Collin County Chapter and has been a member of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs for over eight years.

Angie began her higher education journey at the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School; later earning a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Marketing from the University of North Texas while married and raising a young daughter.

In 2005 she fulfilled her goal of earning her Masters Degree of Business Administration (with a Human Resources concentration) from the **University of Dallas** – an achievement which made her family extremely proud, including her late father.



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ABOVE: Eva Paniagua one of the founding members of the Ballet Folklorico in New Braunfels.



ABOVE: Hilda Medina chats with one of the attendess at the Comal County Hispanic Council Mixer on September 26th, 2011.



ABOVE: Denise and Bryan Miranda were two of more than 100 people who attended the mixer.



Compramos Oro y Plata

Comal County Hispanic Council Mixer



ABOVE: A crowd of over 100 gathered outside the lawn of the law firm of **Rose Zamora** to participate in the **Comal County Hispanic Council Mixer** during Hispanic Heritage Month.





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Texas State receives grant to assist families

Texas State University-San Marcos has received \$670,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families to implement the Strengthening Relationships/Strengthening Families program, a relationship education program for pregnant and parenting adolescents.

The program, administered by Michelle Toews and Ani Yazedjian, associate professors in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences, will provide pregnant and parenting adolescents with critical relationship skills.

"These federal funds will give Texas State students the opportunity to help young people in Central Texas develop the relationship, job, and financial skills necessary to be better parents," said U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett. "This program is another example of the good that Bobcats are doing in their community, making a real difference in the lives of Texas families."

"The Strengthening Relationships/Strengthening Families program will provide pregnant and parenting adolescents with relationship education, as well as job readiness and financial management skills that will ultimately enhance their well-being and strengthen their families," said Toews.

Previous research has found adolescent pregnancy and parenting often result in poorer psychological functioning, higher levels of relationship instability, and an increased risk of intimate partner violence. In addition, SR/SF will incorporate job readiness skills because adolescent parents are less likely to graduate from high school, more likely to be unemployed, and more likely to receive government assistance.

The program will also provide financial management education in order to strengthen young families because Toews and Yazedjian have found many of the conflicts adolescent parents experience revolve around money.

To reach the goal of strengthening families, four SR/SF Facilitators will implement the program during the school day with the assistance of undergraduate and graduate interns at Texas State from a variety of disciplines. The program will be delivered to adolescents enrolled in Pregnancy, Education, and Parenting (PEP) programs located in Central Texas each week over the course of the school year. These sessions will cover topics such as healthy relationships, communication skills, conflict resolution strategies, job readiness skills, and financial literacy.



Bait' wins Tomás Rivera Children's Book Award

Alex Sanchez's young adult novel Bait, which depicts the emotional journey of a troubled 16-year-old boy, has been named the **Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award** recipient for works published in 2009-10.

Sanchez will be honored during a series of events Oct. 20-22 on the Texas State campus and at the **Texas Book Festival** in **Austin**.

The author will give a presentation 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 20 in the LBJ Student Center Ballroom on campus. Sanchez will be signing autographs, and books will be available for purchase. He will also take part in the Rivera Award 15th Anniversary celebration 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Wittliff Collections in the Alkek Library.



Sanchez will attend the **Texas Book Festival** Oct. 22, participating in the Rivera Book Award session along with moderator **Minda Lopez** 1:30-2:15 in Capitol Extension Room E2.15 in Austin.

The award, established at **Texas State University-San Marcos** in 1995, is designed to encourage authors, illustrators and publishers to produce books that authentically reflect the lives of Mexican American children and young adults in the United States.

The **Tomás Rivera** considers works in two categories: "Works for Older Children/Young Adult" and "Works for Younger Children," with each category under consideration in alternate years. This year's winner was nominated as "Works for Older Children/Young Adult." More than 40 books published in 2009 and 2010 in this category were considered for this year's **Tomás Rivera Award**.

In Bait, 16-year-old **Diego** is forced to confront painful secrets from his past. **Diego** goes through an emotional transformation with the help of **Mr. Vidas**, his probation officer. Over time, **Diego** recognizes **Mr. Vidas** as one of the only trustworthy adults in his life and together they examine **Diego's** experiences and begin to understand how those experiences set up patterns of behavior that continue to haunt him. The book resists stereotyping and oversimplification, allowing readers to witness the long and difficult process of dealing with emotional turmoil resulting from past abuse. This groundbreaking work boldly addresses important issues that are often hidden away and ignored out of fear and shame. A central message of the book is that through caring relationships with supportive adults, young people are able to overcome painful experiences to lead healthy lives.

Sanchez is an award-winning author of novels geared for young adults. He received his master's degree in guidance and counseling from **Old Dominion University** and for many years worked as a youth and family counselor. His novels include the **Lambda Award**-winning So Hard to Say, the **Meyers Award**-winning Getting It, The God Box and the Rainbow Boys trilogy. When not writing, **Alex** tours the country talking with teens, librarians and educators about the importance of teaching tolerance and self-acceptance. Alex was born in **Mexico City** and his family moved to the United States when he was five. He now divides his time between **Thailand** and **Hollywood**, **Fla.** He maintains a website at AlexSanchez.com.

About the Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award

Texas State developed the **Tomás Rivera Award** to congratulate and acknowledge authors and illustrators dedicated to depicting the values and culture of Mexican Americans. **Rivera**, who died in 1984, graduated from **Texas State** with both his bachelor's and master's degrees before receiving a Ph.D. from the **University of Oklahoma**. A Distinguished Alumnus of **Texas State**, **Rivera** published his landmark novel in 1971 titled ...y no se lo tragó la tierra/ ...And the Earth Did Not Part. In 1979, **Rivera** was appointed chancellor of the **University of California-Riverside**, the first Hispanic chancellor named to the **University of California System**.

For more information on the **Rivera Award**, please visit the Rivera Award website at www.education.txstate.edu/c-p/Tomas-Rivera-Book-Award-Project-Link.html.

Comal County Hispanic Council Participates in the Parade



ABOVE: Emily Medina with friends at the parade.



ABOVE: London Villegas and Ava Medina



ABOVE: Back row, lert to right - Alex Garcia, London Villegas, Ava Medina. Front row, left to riht - girl -not able to identify, Brandon Medina, Elijah Villegas, Emily Medina





ABOVE: Diana Villanueva, Annette Medina, Petra Villegas, Dolly Ruiz



ABOVE: Diana Villanueva, Dolly Ruiz, Annette Medina, Petra Villegas, Able Villegas, Joaquin Castro, Domingo Medina, Joe Ayala, Albert Ruiz

What you are about to read is a true story. It took place in 1968 in **Uvalde, Texas,** where I grew up as a teenager. Many of the individuals who were with me when this event took place still live in **Uvalde.**

This story first appeared in print in 1977, in a community newspaper called *EI Uvalde Times*, which was published by Olga Muñoz Rodriguez. To this day, I am still looking for an explanation of what really happened that unforgettable night at the Uvalde Memorial Golf Course.

Although it has been more than 40 years since it happened, I will never forget what we saw that night in the in **Uvalde, Texas**. It was just a typical summer night in **South Texas.** The scorching 100 degree heat from the day had kept most people inside their homes. But now night had fallen and people were outside on their porches visiting with neighbors or cruising up and down **Main Street** in their cars.

Dando la vuelta was the thing to do back then. Gasoline at the **Fina Service Station** only cost \$.22 a gallon. But for me it didn't really matter, because I did my cruising on a **Honda 50** motorcycle and I could get 50 or 60 miles per gallon! I loved my motorcycle. It was my freedom machine and I rode it every chance I could.

As I cruised up and down Main Street, I came upon a tan and white 1956 Ford Crown Victoria that was stopped at a traffic light by Churches Chicken. It was Chema's car. Jose Chema Martinez always had nice cars. I remember very well his purple **1955 Cheverolet** with the white tuck and roll upholstery job he had done in **Mexico**. I guess this **Ford** was another one of his project cars.

I peaked inside, and lo and behold I saw a bunch of familiar faces! Inside were none other than, **Rata** (Richard Garcia), **Nevarez** (Ricardo Nevarez), **Mofle** (Onofre Morales), **David Luna** *y* otro vato whose name escape me at the moment. **Rata, Nevarez, Mofle** and I all played high school football together and were good friends.

"¿Que estan haciendo?" I asked as I threw my head *al estilo* **Uvalde**. **Rata** answered first, *"Aquí nomas. No hay nada más que hacer. No tenemos feria."* I nodded in the affirmative when he mentioned money, porque yo también andaba *mrdio quebrado.*

"Vamos ir al parque a oir rolas," Rata said as the traffic light turned green. I took that as an invitation and fell in behind them as they continued to head East on Main Street. We crossed Getty Street, *la calle* Camp and then Wood Street before arriving at the Uvalde Memorial Park.

Thornton's Texaco Station was located right next to the park entrance and I remember looking at the big clock inside, that read11:00pm. Once inside the park we pulled up to the tennis courts and parked. Today, those courts are gone and have been replaced by a volleyball area and road that went all the way around the park is also gone. Presently, that same road just wraps half-way around the park.

We got off our vehicles and bantered a bit before deciding to head into the middle of the park to chill out. Somebody had a 45 rpm record player which was going to be our entertainment for the evening (That was the technology of the times). I didn't see anybody else in the park as we walked into the center to "make camp."

As the music was playing softly, we took turns telling stories, fighting with the mosquitos and wondering about all of our friends who had gone up North for the summer to work in the fields. "Where is **David Ozuna**?" Someone asked. "He went up North *y* anda jalando." "Where is so and so? Pués qué también se fué pa'l norte al betabel."

We continued talking and listening to music when suddenly I began to notice a change in the temperature. It seemed as though the temperature had dropped 20 degrees. Then someone commented that the crickets, beetles and other animals in the park had gone silent. That was strange.However, it was when the record player began to lose its clarity and started to slow down that we really began to pay attention to



by Alfredo Rodriguez Santos c/s

our surroundings. That is when we saw him or it. I don't remember who was the first one to see him but I do remember that by the time he got in front of the golf club house he had definitely caught our attention.

The Little Boy Who

¿Quien Es Ese Chamaquito?

As he came toward the road that went around the park, the light revealed that he was perhaps a boy between 12 or 13 years old. He was also carrying something in his arms. As he got to the road, he bent over and opened his arms. We saw it was a dog. a dog on a leash. The little boy then began to walk the dog along the perimeter of the park heading toward Main Street. "Quien es ese chamaquito?" Onofre asked out loud.

Rata and **Nevarez** grew up in the neighborhood adjacent to the golf course (El Barrio de Abajo), so they were the ones who would most likely have an answer. But they both said they didn't have a clue. We continued to watch as the little boy continued to move North along the park road. When he got to the flag pole, he crossed over and headed down into the **Leona River.** Although the river was dry, the actions of this little boy left us curious (But not curious enough to go follow him into the river).

With the kid out of sight, we put him out of mind. The sounds of the summer night returned and we continued our conversations, joking around and listening to the music. Then, about a half hour later, somebody in our group looked up and saw the little boy again. He was walking back along the road but this time he didn't have the dog with him anymore.Again, the sounds of the crickets and the other animals had gone silent.

Now we were really curious. As he got closer and closer, somebody in our group said "Vamos a ver quien es este vato." "Simon," somebody else said as we got up off the grass. We approached at an angle so as to intercept him on the road, but the little boy must have seen us, because he moved over to the other side. **Mofle** and I were at the head of our group as the kid headed into the golf course. Again,



Disappeared at the Golf Course

Believe!

he must have seen us or sensed us because he started moving quickly. In fact, we had to break into a full run just to keep up. Over a fairway and across another we went until we finally started to get closer to this kid.

We were now i the middle of the golf course and maybe about 15 or 20 feet away from the kid when **Mofle** yelled out, *"Hey vato! Parale hay!"* (Hey dude, stop where you are). But before we could get any closer,the little boy started to turn his head and before we could even make out his profile, he burst into a bright, orange flames and disappeared! That's right! Right there in front of us, he just vanished!

"¡En la madre! ¡Baboso!, yelled Mofle. I couldn't believe what I just had seen! We stopped dead in our tracks. The others, even though they were maybe 30 feet behind us, saw the same thing. Este chavalito se desaparecio! "Wachaste?" Nevarez asked. "Simon ese" Someone responded

¿A Donde fue este cabron!? "Where did he go?" Preguntó otro. *Nadie* contesto. Nobody volunteered a response. We didn't know what to think. Then to break the silence someone said something about an old Mexican saying that where there is fire there is money. *Y* con eso we all looked down for signs of scorched grass. It didn't take but 5 seconds to see with the moonlight that there was no scorched grass.

No one wanted to admit what we had just collectively witnessed. After all, we were "tough guys" and we weren't about to show any fear. Someone suggested that we search the immediate area *y como tontos* we broke into teams of two to "search" for the little boy. But who were we kidding? This kid disappeared in the middle of a golf fairway! There were no bushes to hide behind. There were no shrubs!

After a minute or two of going through the motions of searching of the immediate area, we came back to the spot where the kid had disappeared. Of course there was nothing to report. We looked at each other and because we were tough guys, *nadie queria enseñar que tenia miedo*. Then, and I won't say who, (It wasn't me) but one of the guys in the group started to tremble and as he tried to say something his voice began to break, his eyes got real big and it seemed like he was having a breakdown. Between a look of *susto* and a high pitched voice, he cried out, *"Yo no se que esta pasando pero*....

"Well, he didn't have to say anything else. That frightful look on his face said it all and the need for us to be tough guys was the last thing on our mind. Asustados, escamados, and just plain scared, we ran for our lives! Over the fairways and through the golf course, we ran like hell back to our vehicles!

We had just witnessed something beyond our comprehension. Maybe something not even human! *¡A la mo!*

Although the road coming into Memorial Park was a one way, I got on my motorcycle and dashed out the wrong way. I didn't even wait to see what the others were going to do. *I was scared. "What did we just see?"* I asked myself as I raced home on that Honda at 42 miles per hour.

The following day, and for many days, months and even years, we did not speak of what happened to

us in the park. We didn't say anything in part because we didn't know what to say. We also felt that if we did speak of this event, people were going to say, "que andaban fumando?" So we just stayed silent when it came to this incident.

The years passed, and each of us went our separate ways. Rata and Mofle joined the Navy, while David Luna moved to San Antonio. Chema stayed in Uvalde and I went out to California and ended up going to college.

In 1973, I was an undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley. One day friend showed me a book called the <u>Teachings of</u> <u>Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of</u> <u>Knowledge</u>. She told me a little bit about the book, which described a sorcerer who could disappear and fly. Immediately I thought about the event in the park in Uvalde. I listened to her describe the book and thought that maybe here was the answer to the disappearance of the little boy.

The next day, I went and bought a copy. I read the book slowly and was fascinated by what the author was revealing about his experiences with the sorcerer, **Don Juan Matus.** Over the next two years, I read four of what came to be a series of about seven books by **Carlos Castaneda.** While the books were fascinating, in the end, they did not bring me any closer to an explanation of what happened with the kid in the golf course. In 1992, I was living in Newark, Delaware and going to school once again. By chance I came across a book called <u>Other Worlds</u> by a physicist named **Paul Davies**. In this book, **Dr. Davies** describes in layman's terms **Albert Einstein's** theory of relativity and how it is possible for there to exist "parallel worlds" in the same space and time.

What Davies suggests, is that what we may have witnessed that summer of 1968 was someone moving from one world and into another, or as in our case, the little boy in the golf course was moving between different realities or worlds. Yes, I know that sounds strange. How can someone move from one world and into another? And it is here that we enter into the heart of the debate of what is reality?

Was the kid real? What does it mean for something to be real? As I now approach my 60s, I can only say that what happened back in 1968 continues to weigh on my mind. Should I feel privileged that my friends and I were given a peek at something that shows that the world is much bigger than most people imagine? Or should I feel fear knowing that the things most of us believe are important in this world are but minor illusions whose purpose is to distract us?

I must now confess that the more I learn, the less I know, only because I know there is so much more to learn. If **Paul Davies**' theory is on target, the question remains, who is the little boy?





Latino education leader José Cárdenas dies

José A. Cárdenas, a nationally recognized teacher, researcher and pioneer in the field of education for U.S. Latino children whose civil rights work zeroed in on educational justice and equity, has died. An authority in school finance reform and early childhood, multicultural and bilingual education, Cárdenas was found deceased in his home Saturday. He was remembered for pioneering educational approaches and programs now considered standard, including what longtime colleague Rosie Castro called the "Cárdenas' theory of incompatibilities."

"He pioneered the idea that children who are bilingual learned differently," she said. "It was a novel idea that the education culture had never looked at and was well proven out later. In the '60s and '70s, it was very new." Cárdenas, who was 80, suffered strokes in the last several years, his son Dr. Michael Cardenas said, and never fully recovered.

A Laredo native, he started college at the University of Texas at Austin at 15. Described as brilliant, with a keen intellectual curiosity, UT named him a distinguished alumnus in 1997. The José Cárdenas Early Childhood Center in the Edgewood Independent School District is named for him. He served as superintendent of Edgewood schools in the late 1960s and early '70s on the heels of student-led walkouts that brought to light unqualified teachers, deteriorating facilities and unequal educational opportunity for its poor, Mexican American students.

He played a role in the landmark case brought by Edgewood parents against the state that reached the U.S. Supreme Court. He testified in, or consulted on, more than 70 educationrelated civil-rights cases. "We have lost a real champion," said Al Kauffman, former attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "He was the leading Latino educator in the history of the United States."

"He was a man of great vision, great courage and great action," said María "Cuca" Robledo Montecel, president and CEO of the Intercultural Development Research Association, a nationally known institution that produces research and develops curriculum and education theory. Cárdenas founded IDRA in 1973.

"Dr. Cárdenas legacy is one that would have all of us focus on children to provide them the best, highest quality education and to do so without regard for the language they speak, the side of town they come from or the color of their skin," Robledo Montecel said.

"Many of us throughout the country will remember him as a man who cared deeply about children, about education and about opportunities that education brings to young children," she said.

Cárdenas earned his bachelor's degree at UT in 1950, a master's from Our Lady of the Lake University in 1955 and a doctorate, again from UT, in 1966. "He was an incredible thinker, intellectual and strategist," said Castro, who taught in an early Cárdenas-inspired program that put teachers on the road to Michigan, following children of migrant cherry pickers, so that they wouldn't fall behind. "He was a real innovator." Cárdenas also was remembered as a civil rights activist who challenged the status quo.

As superintendent of Edgewood, he denied the Texas Cavaliers' King Antonio from visiting schools, said fellow educator Rebeca Barrera, who began her teaching career at Edgewood. "He spoke his mind, and he was a role model for so many educators that followed," she said. "His greatest contribution has been the huge number of young people who pursued their doctoral studies," said retired educator Bambi Cárdenas, another longtime colleague. "It's hard to imagine the progress that would not have been made without his undaunting pursuit of that goal. His contributions will be hard to match." She recalled Cárdenas' visits to Edgewood school counselors in the early '70s in which he directed them — individually — "to stop ranking students and concentrate on getting them into college and finding scholarships for them "to help our kids transition to college."

Word Power En Las Palabras Hay Poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilinqual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of La Voz de Comal County.

Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de La Voz de Comal County una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

What happened? ¿Qué pasó? When did it happen? ¿Cuándo pasó? Where did it happen? ¿Dónde pasó? Who was there? ¿Quién estaba ahí? Did you see it? ¿Usted lo vio? How many parents came? Were they mad? Who was arrested? Are you going back again? Were you afraid? Good luck!

¿Cuántos padres de familia vinieron?

¿Estaban enojados?

¿Quién fue arrestado?

¿Va usted a volver?

¿Tenía usted miedo?

¡Buena suerte!

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Traditionally the Waitaha Nation are a Matriarchal people who followed the philosophies of Peace known as Rongomaraeroa, the keeper of Peace. Incidentally there have been no weapons of war found in the oldest archeological sites in our land of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

The Teachings from the Wananga Schools, placed high value on genetic memory, patterns of memory and passing on the traditions of their ancestors by teaching the grandchildren the way of living in a reverent way with all things and all people. Humility, deep respect and self discipline were the concepts and values interwoven in this way of life.

"Until now we have hidden our beginnings, and all that followed, in the shadows. In this way we protected our knowledge in the silence of the Whare Wananga, the School of Learning of Waitaha. Now is the time for our treasures to be brought into the light. We do this for the children, and their children, and all who call this land home. We are of Tane Matua, and we follow Rongo Marae Roa, the Female Entity of Peace." Song of Waitaha

In the wisdom and aroha (love) of those words, we say: 'Let the sacred kete (basket) be opened for the ancestors to speak again. Let the ancient karakia and waiata be heard throughout the land. Welcome to the trails of the peoples of the Nation of Waitaha. May you journey far in peace and understanding.' Friday, October 28 · 6- 9pm A gathering in San Marcos, TX, with the Waitaha Grandmothers visiting from New Zealand. Indigenous grandmothers of an ancient lineage of the South Pacific region. Aquarena Springs/Hispanic Cultural Center San Marcos, TX

November 4 & November 5 Unity Church of Wimberley, TX For more information Facebook Waitaha Grandmother's Visit

http://www.facebook.com/ event.php?eid=260442363986696

www.waitaha.org.nz



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