



La Voz

de Guadalupe County

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Inside This Issue

**People in
the News**

**La Cultura
Corner**

**Seguin Hispanic
Chamber News**

**Sam Flores - In
his own words
Part # 3**

**En las palabras
hay poder**

**La nueva ley
anti-inmigrante
de Alabama**

**A Halloween
Story You Will
Not Forget**

**Calendar of
Events**



***With Mexican roots and
blooming in Seguin :
A conversation with
Dr. Ana María González***

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.



Brigida Rangel Zuniga Passes Away

Brigida Rangel Zuniga, passed away Sept. 14, 2011. She was born on Oct. 31, 1931 in Pleasanton, Tx.

Gone is a mother loved by all her soul is now at rest. She'll sleep in peace, her work is done, a Mother's work — the best. She'll know the joy of rest in Heaven up above, where she may dwell contentedly protected by God's love. Our hearts may grieve that she must lie beneath the sacred sod, and yet we know she lives in peace within the house of God.

She is survived by her sons; Santiago Zuniga and wife Rosemary, Samuel Zuniga and wife Rosemary, Salome and wife Carmen Medina Zuniga and a daughter Sandra Z. Morales and husband Margarito. Mrs. Zuniga also had numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The family of Brigida Rangel Zuniga would like to express their most sincere gratitude to all of the wonderful people that were with us in our time of need. Thank you to all our family and friends for your prayers, love, friendship, and kind words of support. We would also like to express our appreciation for the flowers, gifts and food you gave so generously. Our sincere thanks to Father Francois Rakogovoavy, Deacon Nick Carillo, Rudy Herrera, Rosalinda V. Garza and Frank Rangel for the wonderful service, beautiful words, songs, and the spiritual rosary offered to our beloved mother. May the Lord bless each of your in life's journey as our faith has assured us of the resurrection.



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.

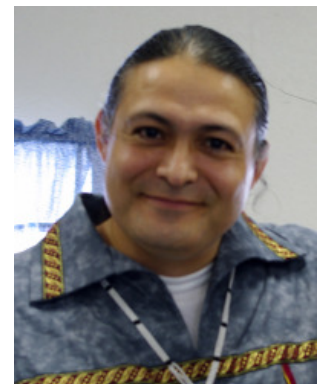
All of the Regents' Professor Awards include a \$5,000 award and commemorative medallion. Selected professors will also maintain the title of TSUS Regents' Professor for the duration of their service.

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 and Spanish border-

lands, 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.

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Para cualquier
pregunta
llámenos

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On the Passing of Steve Jobs

Welcome to another issue of *La Voz de Guadalupe County*. 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 newspaper business.

While I had experience laying out newspapers using the old fashion 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.

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.

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 Chairman**. One of the candidates in the running is a man named **Fidel Acevedo**. He is a long time community activists. He has worked on many campaigns and volunteered 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 because **Fidel** is not an attorney, not a millionaire and doesn't always wear a suit is not a reason to dismiss him.

Finally we have the sign below. Is it real or is photoshop involved. We are looking for comments



La Ley en Alabama

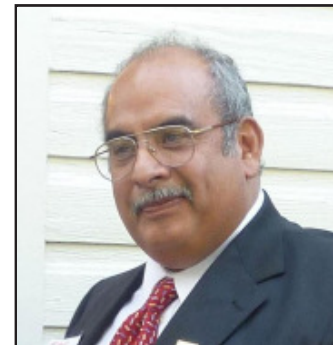
La gente en el estado de **Alabama** estan preocupados. El estado acaba de implementar una nueva ley que permite a las autoridades chequear si los estudiantes tienen papeles o no. Por su puesto, muchas padres de familia ven a esto como el comienzo de un esfuerzo para detener y deportar miembros de la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

Note to classroom teachers: *La Voz de Guadalupe County* is available in bundles to teachers who would like to use the newspaper in the classroom. Contact **Alfredo Santos c/s** for more details. There is no charge for bulk deliveries of **La Voz**.

On the Cover



Dr. González and student José Alberto Rincón performed "Sones de Tixtla - La iguana" at Texas Theater TLU Dance Recital (March, 2011)

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Family Wagon Becomes Show Stopper

by Jo Ann Sutherland

Who would have thought a 1954 Ford Country Sedan Station Wagon would have become a prize winner.

Gabriel Sassenhagen is the proud owner of this 1954 Ford and says a lot of hard work finally paid paid off. He says he has invested many hours working on the wagon, he even remembers the day he and his

brother Gilbert painted it for the first time on Easter Sunday. It took a total of eight hours to complete.

How did Gabriel acquire the winning wagon? One afternoon he and his brothers were outside having a good time and hejoked that he would like to rebuild the wagon to have a cool car to go cruising in. His older brother David, who was the owner of the wagon at that time asked Gabriel if he was serious?

David told him if he was willing to work on the station wagon that he would give it to him. David also asked Gabriel to honor three things. They were the following: he was not to change the color, he could not to alter the appearance of the wagon, and he could never to sell it.

Gabriel agreed and took ownership of the wagon in 1973 when he was still in high school. He was excited about the wagon until he realized that it was a family car which was not cool. He also knew that it would look bad if he went back on his word.

One day he decided to strip it down to the frame and he moved it into his family's garage. The wagon sat there for five years or so. The years went by and Gabriel was teased about not finishing the wagon. Everyone he knew would ask, "Man when are you going to get that thing running?" " Dude where is your ride?"



His response? "One of these days it will get done." The years continued to go by. In fact, 25 years went by before Gabriel decided it was time to get the wagon back in shape and running. Long hours, hard work, blood, sweat, and a few curse words have paid off for Gabriel because the car has won several awards.

Gabriel's Station wagon is one of those cars that when you see it, it really grabs your attention. The wagon is Indy green with pearl white. Its features include a clear hood with ghost flames . The clear hood is a dealer's hood which was used by dealers to show the motor without having to raise the hood. Under that hood sits a 1973 Mach 1 engine. It has a four barrel carb, BF Goodrich tires with Keystone rims, and the rear end has been shortened .

Gabriel built the machine to race but it has not seen the quarter mile yet. The wagon turned out to be a show pony instead of a racing stead. The wagon has won awards all around Texas. Some of the awards are, Best in Engine, Best in Paint, and Interior. Gabriel would like to thank everyone that has helped him in any way in the making his Station Wagon. He would especially like to thank his family and his brother David for giving him the vehicle and he would also like to honor his brother Gilbert who is no longer with us.



Yvonne De La Rosa
Teatro Program Coordinator

Welcome to the October edition of La Cultura Corner. How have you and your family been celebrating and learning about National Hispanic Heritage Month? Have you visited Teatro's Cultural Arts Center to see the wonderful exhibits on display in La Galleria, have you visited Mercer-Blumberg Learning Center to see the display on their campus, have you attended a lecture, have you visited a museum, or attended a fiesta? Remember National Hispanic Heritage Month is from September 15th-October 15th.

This month in the Mexican Culture we begin to prepare for Día De Los Muertos. What is Día De Los Muertos? Día De Los Muertos can be traced back to the indigenous people such as the Olmec, Zapotec, Mixtec, Aztec, Maya, Nahua, and Totonac. Rituals celebrating the deaths of ancestors have been observed by these civilizations for as long as 2500-3000 years.

More than 500 years ago, when the Spanish Conquistadors landed in what is now Mexico, they encountered natives practicing a ritual that seemed to mock death. They wanted to eradicate the ritual because they thought it was sacrilegious and perceived the indigenous people to be barbaric and pagan.

In their attempts to convert the indigenous people to Catholicism, the Spaniards tried to kill the ritual but the old Aztec spirits and rituals refused to die. The festivities fell on the ninth month of the Aztec Solar Calendar, which is approximately the beginning of August and was celebrated the entire month. The festivities were presided over by the goddess Mictecacihuatl. The goddess, known as "Lady of the Dead." In order to make the ritual more Christian, the Spaniards moved the dates to coincide with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day (November 1st and 2nd), which is when it is celebrated today. November 1st is set aside for remembrance of deceased infants and children often referred to as angelitos "little angels." Those who died, as adults, are honored November 2nd.

Día De Los Muertos is a holiday celebrated mainly in Mexico and by people of Mexican heritage all over the world. However, the holiday is open for all cultures to observe as it focuses on gathering families and friends in honor of the dead. Those celebrating decorate the gravesite and/or home altars for their loved ones with:

- zempasuchil (an Indian word for a special kind of marigold),
- ancient incense copal,
- candles (to help the deceased find their way home to their loved ones),
- pan de muerto (a rich coffee cake decorated with meringues made to look like bones),
- skull-shaped candies and sweets,
- marizpan death figures and papier mache skeletons and skulls (the Nahua speaking peoples of pre-columbian Mexico saw the skull as a symbol of life - not death),
- favorite food & beverage of the deceased,
- pictures of the deceased,
- and if the deceased was an infant or child you will see toys.

Although the idea of a holiday to remember the dead seems unusual here in the United States, where the topic of death is largely avoided, celebrating the lives of deceased ancestors and loved ones has a rich tradition. How will you be celebrating Día De Los Muertos?



An Invitation to Veterans

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

La Voz de Guadalupe County esta buscando fotos de los veteranos de Seguin. Si usted conoce a alguien que estaba en el servicio, comuniquese con Alfredo Santos c/s en 512-944-4123

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Seguin Guadalupe County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

www.seguinhispanicchamber.org

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hcoc@sbcglobal.net

October, 2011

From the Chairwoman, *Christina Krueger*

The Seguin Guadalupe County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the quarterly meeting of the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC). The date of the meeting is November 17, 2011. The location is still to be announced, but the Hispanic Chamber will be contacting local hotels/motels to contract the event.

The Center for Mexican American Studies and MASA of Texas Lutheran University, along with Seguin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, observe Diez Y Seis De Septiembre,, *Louis R. Ramirez, Sr.*

The observance of Diez Y Seis De Septiembre was held with a lecture in the Dunne Conference Center in Tschoepe Hall at Texas Lutheran University on September 16, 2011. The lecture on "Texan Involvement in the Mexican War on Independence" proved to be extremely interesting and informative. The audience was very attentive asking questions after the lecture. The speaker, Dan Arellano, is the author of *Tejano Roots, A Family Legend*. The book is a story of the *first* Texas Republic and the Battle of Medina. Relatively few people know, or remember that Bernardo Gutierrez was elected "Governor" of the first Republic of Texas on April 6, 1813 and declared the province of Texas independent of Spain. This is long before March 2, 1836, when settlers in Mexican Texas broke from Mexico. Among other attendees at the event were Mary and Raul Padilla of New Braunfels and Assistant United States Attorney Ruben Perez and wife, Maricella, from Houston.

3RD Annual Golf Tournament, *Ramiro Hernandez, Jr.*

Board members, Jeff Contreras, Edward Reyes, Jr. and Ramiro Hernandez, Jr., are coordinating the Seguin Hispanic Chamber's 3rd Annual Golf Tournament (4 person scramble) to be held on November 12, 2011, at Starcke Park. Registration is at 7:30 a.m.; shotgun at 9:00 a.m. The \$75 per person fee includes cart, green fee, goodie bags, beverages, lunch and dinner. Registration forms for players are available at the Chamber office, 971 West Court Street in Seguin, Texas. Play is limited to the first 24 teams to register.

New Board Members, *Louis R. Ramirez, Sr.*

Santos Castillo and Melissa De La Cruz were sworn in as directors at the Chamber's regular monthly board meeting held on September 13, 2011. Mr. Castillo works for the City of Seguin and is a supervisor in the Public Works Brush Department. Ms. De La Cruz is the Center Manager for Workforce Solutions, Alamo. Newly appointed, board member, Becca Polanco, will be sworn in at the board meeting on October 12, 2011. Ms. Polanco is an advertising representative for the Seguin Gazette.

Men's Power Luncheon, *Mary Louise Gonzales*

The Men's Power Luncheon is scheduled for October 21, 2011 from 11:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. at the Seguin Coliseum. The event will honor ten distinguished men who have achieved numerous goals both personally and professionally. The ten are Edward Davila of Davila's Bar B.Q., City Manager Doug Faseler, Robert Haynes, CEO of Guadalupe Valley Regional Medical Center, Municipal Judge Kevin Kolb, Louis Moreno, Regent at TLU, Rene Ramos with the Seguin I.S.D., Rudy Saucedo with Tyson Foods, Inc., Phil Seidenberger, CEO of Commercial Metals Co., Guadalupe County Judge Mike Wiggins, and Guadalupe County Sheriff Arnold Zwicke. In addition, two gentlemen, Mr. Sam Flores and the Honorable State Representative Edmund Kuempel, respectively, will be remembered posthumously. Tickets are \$10.00 each and are available at the Hispanic at the Chamber office.

Our Business is All about Your Business

Featuring: Small Business, Rusty Rooster.

The Rusty Rooster is located at 1056 E. Court Street in Seguin and is owned by Javier Morales. Refurbished from an old filling station, the Rusty Rooster interior exhibits abundant charm. The décor pays tribute to roosters of all sizes, colors, and personalities. The menu covers a wide variety of sides, fried chicken and fish. If you haven't been there, pay a visit soon. You will find the food hot and delicious.

Featuring: Large Business, La Michocana Meat Market #12.

La Michocana Meat Market is located in the shopping center at 1459 E. Court Street. The combination grocery store - meat market is managed by Arely R. Guillen. Shoppers can expect to listen to Mexican music while they shop. One patron says "It smells so good in there!" Many Mexican products and bakery goods are available. The meat is not prepackaged so customers can order exactly how much they want. No order is too small or too large. The produce is fresh and the service is excellent.



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

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/en-espanol/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 www.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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Attention Senior Citizens

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Free Bingo on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 11:00am

The Center also has monthly drawings, birthday parties and blood pressure checks.

Texas Lutheran University Faculty Profile

Dr. Ana María González

In the coming months, **La Voz de Guadalupe County** will feature in each issue a **Texas Lutheran University** faculty profile. The purpose of these profiles is to better acquaint the community with the university and its staff.

La Voz: How long have you been a faculty member at **Texas Lutheran University**?

González: I have been working at **TLU** for eight years, I came in 2003. I am Associate Professor of Spanish and chair of the **Modern Languages Department**. I teach Spanish language, Latin American literature and culture.

La Voz: Are you involved with any of the student organizations?

González: I have been involved in **MASA – Mexican American Student Association; Alpha Mu Gamma**, the foreign language honor society; I am the **TLU Latin American Folk Dance** group director, and we are working on the establishment of a Young Adults **LULAC** Council at **TLU**.

I like to be active and I am always involved in many different activities with students. For instance, more than two years ago, I started the “Historias de Seguin” project to collect stories from the Hispanic community of **Seguin**, the long term goal is to have a book and I am grateful to “La Voz de Guadalupe County” for the opportunity of publishing a story in every issue. I have led several study abroad programs and taken groups of students to a Honduras Mission trip in May. In addition, I play a leading role in the organization of **Hispanic Heritage Month** at **TLU**.

La Voz: What about the community?

González: Yes, I have collaborated with **Teatro de Artes de Juan Seguin**, the **Seguin Commission on the Arts**, **LULAC**, the

Guadalupe-Seguin Public Library Board, the acquisition of historical markers for **Juan Seguin School** and **Our Lady of Guadalupe Church**.

La Voz: Where were you teaching before you came to **Texas Lutheran University**?

González: I worked as elementary school teacher in the metropolitan area of **Mexico City** for 5 years and then moved back to my hometown where I was a professor at **UNAM – CEPE Campus Taxco**; then in the **USA** I worked at the **University of Toledo, University of Massachusetts-Amherst** and **University of Dallas**.

La Voz: Share with us, if you will, aspects of your early upbringing?

González: I was born and raised in **Taxco, Guerrero, in Southern Mexico**. At the age of 15 I moved to **Iguala** to obtain my elementary school teaching degree, which I received in 1984. My love for literature started in kindergarten when I became involved in poetry recitation at school festivals and special events.

La Voz: How did you go about making the decision to go to college?

González: I certainly believe it was a blessing I never expected because as a woman in **Mexico**, my opportunities for education were extremely limited. I come from a humble family and my mother is a



ABOVE: Professor González and TLU student Daisy Luviano with a group of kids during Honduras Mission Trip (May, 2011)

very traditional person who didn't even have first grade education and was convinced that women go to school only to get pregnant. I am glad I proved her to be wrong. It was because of my older sister, **Rosario**, that I had the opportunity to become a teacher. When I was teaching Spanish as a second language at **UNAM – CEPE Campus Taxco** I met **Dr. Mauricio González** who offered me a teaching associate position at the **University of Toledo** in **Ohio**, in order to pursue a master's degree in Latin American literature.

La Voz: Who were some of the people who extended a hand to you early in your career?

González: As I said before, my sister **Rosario**, **Dr. González** from **UT** and my dear husband who encouraged me to obtain my Ph.D. This is very interesting because when I got married my mother said that there was finally someone to cut my wings, indicating that my husband's job was to control me, therefore I would stop my studies

and be a housewife “*como Dios manda*.” Happily, marriage did exactly the opposite and my wings grew bigger!

La Voz: During the years you were in college, were you involved in any campus organizations?

González: Absolutely! In **Mexico** I was usually elected as my class representative then I was part of **Latino Women's Organization** at the **University of Toledo**; **LASO – Latin American Student Organization**, and **MEXCA – Mexican Cultural Association** at the **University of Massachusetts**.

La Voz: Given that literature is your field, what are some of the books that you highly recommend?

González: It would be a long list, but to name a few: “In the Time of the Butterflies”, a novel by **Julia Alvarez** about the **Mirabal** sisters who were brutally murdered under the dictatorship of **Rafael Trujillo** in **Dominican Republic** in the early 60's. I also like **Elena**

Poniatowska's literary work, all! “La muerte de Artemio Cruz”, “Aura”, “Cantar de ciegos” by **Carlos Fuentes** and unquestionably, “Love in the Time of Cholera” by **Gabriel García Márquez**.

La Voz: Let's change up the questions. Tell us:

Favorite hobby: I have more than one: take a walk at sunrise, travel, photography, and write. I published my first collection of poems last year and I am working on a second one. “Oquedad” is available at **TLU** bookstore and also at amazon.com, just google “oquedad ana maria gonzalez.”

Favorite food: Indian and Lebanese food.

Favorite color: Purple.

The thing on your bucket list that you still want to do: Write a novel!

La Voz: Any last words?

González: I have been to 23 countries and I love them all! People are the heart and spirit of all communities and all times. When I travel, I always look for people to know the new place and to understand what the community is about. Their daily activities reflect their past and project the construction for their future.

Photography has been the best way for me to express my love for humanity, it has also been the best way to communicate a message of acceptance and understanding of different peoples, their traditions, their successes, their failures and most important, their hopes. Nothing has been more rewarding for me than getting a good shot of people's eyes. Eyes are in my opinion, the most profound source of communication.

A True Story

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 **El 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 Chevrolet** 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 read 11:00pm. 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 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.

¿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

Now I Remember The Little Boy Disappeared at the

by Alfredo Rodriguez

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



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Boy Who

the Golf Course

quez Santos c/s

of our group as the kid headed into the golf course. Again, 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 **Teachings of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of Knowledge**. 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 **Other Worlds** 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?

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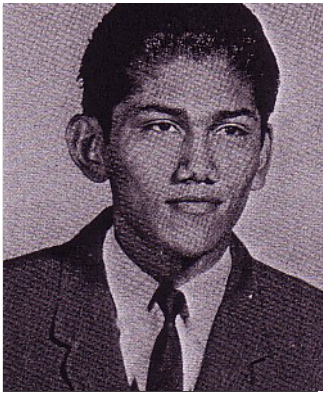
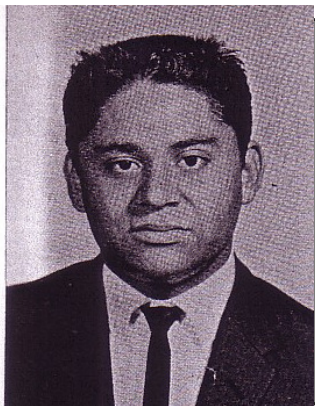
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Historias de Seguin

Un panorama del proyecto

¿De qué trata el proyecto *Historias de Seguin*?

El pasado nos ayuda a entender quiénes somos, cómo llegamos a donde estamos y por qué. El conocimiento de nuestro pasado nos ayuda a llegar hasta donde deseamos estar como gente y como sociedad. *Historias de Seguin* es un trabajo conjunto entre los residentes locales y la **Universidad Luterana de Texas** para reunir y preservar las historias de las comunidades mexicana y méxico-americana de **Seguin**. Como lo indicó el señor **Ramón Salazar**, el proyecto tiene la intención de reunir “*información sobre los ciudadanos de Seguin que en el pasado fueron influyentes de alguna manera, quienes contribuyeron al bien de nuestra comunidad, los empresarios hispanos que abrieron las puertas para todos, maestros que nos animaron, cualquier persona que de alguna forma ha aportado su tiempo o su talento para hacer de Seguin un lugar mejor.*”

¿Cuál es la meta del proyecto?

La meta principal es llegar a tener una mayor conciencia de las aportaciones y experiencias de los mexicanos y los méxico-americanos en **Seguin**. Ya se tiene establecida una página web (www.SeguinStories.net) y se realizó una exhibición de las primeras historias y fotos que se lograron en el restaurante **Davila's BBQ**, para compartir los primeros frutos del proyecto. También hay un gran interés en publicar en el futuro un libro con las historias y las fotos que se logren obtener a lo largo del proyecto. En palabras del **Sr. Salazar**, “*nosotros... estamos en un momento clave en el que podemos motivar a nuestros estudiantes y a nuestros hijos para lograr la grandeza de nuestro pueblo a través de una mirada a nuestro pasado.*”

¿Quién empezó este proyector? ¿Quién está a cargo?

El proyecto dio comienzo a petición de **Ramón Salazar**, entonces miembro del concejo municipal; de **Edward Dávila**, hombre de negocios por mucho tiempo y de Rosita Ornelas, reconocida personalidad de la radio hispana. **La Dra. Ana María González** fue quien inicialmente incorporó este proyecto en una de sus clases de español en TLU con la ayuda de **Tim Barr y el Center for Servant Leadership**. El proyecto ha crecido y se ha desarrollado por lo que otras personas se han involucrado también, pero el mismo grupo que empezó continúa aportando su apoyo, guía y supervisión.

¿Cómo puedo participar en este proyecto?

Si usted es mexicano o méxico-americano y desea ser entrevistado en inglés o español, por favor comuníquese con el **Sr. Ramón Salazar** al 830-379-1083 para agregar su nombre a la lista de participantes. ¡Esperamos contar con su colaboración!

Seguin Stories

Project Overview

What is the *Historias de Seguin – Seguin Stories* project?

The past helps us understand who we are, how we got here, and why. Knowing our past also helps us better understand how to get where we want to be as a people and society. *Historias de Seguin – Seguin Stories* is a collaborative effort between local residents and **Texas Lutheran University** to collect and preserve stories from **Seguin's** Mexican and Mexican-American communities. As **Ramón Salazar** has written, the project intends to gather “*information on the citizens of Seguin who in the past years were influential in some way, who contributed for the good of the barrios, the Hispanic entrepreneurs who opened the doors for all of us, teachers who encouraged us, anyone who in some way contributed their time or talents to make a Seguin a better place.*”

What is the goal for the project?

The primary goal is to promote a greater awareness of the contributions and experiences of Mexican and Mexican-American people in **Seguin**. A website was established (www.SeguinStories.net) and one batch of stories was displayed at **Davila's BBQ** restaurant to share the fruits of this project publicly. There was also strong interest in publishing the stories and photos in a book sometime in the future. In the words of **Mr. Salazar**, “*we...are at a pivot point to where we can motivate our students and our children to achieve greatness in our town by looking at our past.*”

Who started this project? Who is in charge?

This project began at the request of **Ramón Salazar**, long-time businessman **Edward Dávila**, and well-known former radio personality **Rosita Ornelas**. Initially, **Dr. Ana María González** integrated this project into one of her Spanish classes at TLU with the assistance of **Tim Barr** and the **TLU Center for Servant Leadership**. As the project continues to grow and evolve, new people have become involved, but that same core group continues to provide guidance and oversight.

How can I participate in this project?

If you are Mexican or Mexican-American and willing to be interviewed either in English or Spanish, please contact **Ramón Salazar** at 830-379-1083 to be placed on the list of participants. We look forward to hearing from you!



**Seguin-Guadalupe Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce**

Taking Seguin to the Next Level

Part 3

In His Own Words

The following is the last part of an excerpt from an autobiography **Mr. Flores** started to write a year ago upon the invitation of **Dr. Ana Maria Gonzalez**. The work will be part of the "Seguin Stories" project that she has been leading at **Texas Lutheran University**.

Several days later, he called me at work in **San Antonio** and asked me to come by his office. When I arrived he told me that he had spoken to the school board and they agreed that my son could attend **Weinert Elementary School**.

I said thank you and as I was leaving, **Mr. Bresemeister** said that he did not appreciate that I had threatened him. I responded by telling him that I did not threaten him with bodily harm, I threatened him because of the district's racist policies and that was no threat. When he realized that I was angry, he told me OK, we do not want any trouble. I replied, neither do I and left.

In 1962, I had run for a position on the school board. To the best of my knowledge, I was the first Hispanic who had ever run for a seat on the **Seguin Independent School District Board of Trustees**.

I knew winning a spot on the board was going to be very difficult. Elections were at large and voter turnout was something else. On election day the returns came in and I lost by eleven votes. **Tom Crump**, a wealthy Anglo who owned a lumber yard in **Seguin** beat me. A boys gymnasium in the school district bears his name.

Despite the loss, I continued to

remain active in the area of education. I organized a committee to get all the minorities involved in the civic and political affairs of the community. It was also geared to get students to stay enrolled in school and complete their education.

There were huge problems for Hispanics such as housing, getting better jobs and registering people to vote. We still had the poll tax to contend with in the early 1960s.

It was early in 1963 when the word got out that I had managed to get a transfer for Cesar

It was early in 1963 when the word got out that I had managed to get a transfer for **Cesar**, I got a call from **Edward Espinoza** who was my wife's cousin's husband. He said he knew of my son's transfer and asked if he and five other parents could come and talk to me. I said sure. **Edward** was an Army veteran from the **Korean War**. He had been wounded and highly decorated for valor in combat.

The day Edward came over, he brought four men and one woman.

The day **Edward** came over, he brought four men and one woman. I only remember the names **Vincent Medina** and **Jose Gallegos**. They were all Mexican American. First they wanted to know how I got the transfer for my son. I told them I had gotten approval by the Superintendent after I threatened to take him to court for discrimination.

They said they had all gone to see the Superintendent as well but were denied transfers. They asked me if I could help them and be their spokesperson. I said yes. Two weeks later we went before the **Seguin** school board. **Robert Koennecke**, the school board president asked what we wanted. I told him, *"We don't want a thing except to be treated fairly and equally, and with that we left the meeting."*

I called a meeting of the parents the following week and told them of some new recommendations I wanted to make. I told them that we should make this a public issue and go to the news media and tell them what is happening.

Both Anglos, Blacks and Mexican Americans became highly concerned about what was happening. It brought to light the ugly and discriminatory practices and policies of the **Seguin Independent School District**. My next recommendation was to get legal advice and find out what we need to do to sue the district in Federal Court for discrimination.

I said I would contact two attorney friends of mine and see what they would recommend. I contacted **Bob Vale**, who was a **Texas State Senator** and **John Alaniz**, who was a **Texas State Representative**. We met with

them and told them the situation and asked them what they would recommend to solve the problem. They both agreed that taking the school district to court would not be prudent because at that time, there were really no Federal laws that could force the school district to do what we wanted.

They recommended we take the case to the **Texas Commissioner of Education** who was a man named **Edgar**. **Edgar**, as the head of the **Texas Education Agency** had certain jurisdiction over all the schools in **Texas**. **Vale** and **Alaniz** agreed to take our case for a very nominal fee.

On the day of scheduled meeting, about 20 of us went to **Austin** as witnesses and or plaintiffs. The school district sent several staff members including **James Guttery**, who was the principal of the school. Our group had extensive information and documentation to prove our case.

Vale and **Alaniz** were highly assertive and questioned **James Guttery** extensively as well as other district officers. They also questioned many of us as witnesses or plaintiffs. After half a day of testimony **Commissioner Edgar** ended the meeting and advised everyone that he would render a decision in two weeks and inform both parties by mail.

About three weeks later we received **Commissioner Edgar's** decision informing us that he found our group to have very valid concerns and ruled in our favor. Secondly, he recommended that the **Seguin Independent School District** initiate a

desegregation plan for all schools including the school for the Blacks, who were totally segregated. The order from **Edgar** also prescribed that the district avoid gerrymandering to keep the students segregated in any schools. This was in 1963. (But it wasn't until 1965, when the Federal Government finally stepped in and started ordering Texas schools to integrate. (See the headlines from the Seguin Gazette on the next page.)

My involvement in the school desegregation efforts was the most traumatic situation

My involvement in the school desegregation efforts was the most traumatic situation I have ever been involved in. First there was the public criticism by many Anglos against me and other parents for protesting the segregation in the **Seguin** schools. Secondly, there were all the threatening telephone calls to my house because I was the spokesman for the group. Of course all the threats were anonymous. There was only one occasion where I could prove that someone was saying derogatory things about me.

My wife **Velia** was working with the school as an aide for the migrant program. This included making home visits. One afternoon she was visiting a parent and she could see there was a man coming toward the house. It turned out it was he was an insurance agent coming to collect the monthly premium.

According to my wife, he asked what they thought of this guy named **Sam Flores** who was



Bob Vale



John Alaniz

Sam Flores Recalls

Total integration set for 1st 6 grades

• With start of fall classes

Total integration of all grades in Seguin schools within two years—with the plan for the first six grades to go into effect this fall—was ruled by the school board Tuesday night.

Included in the plan for this fall are family and buses.

Complying with federal directives, the board approved for next September this plan for grades one through six:

—All first through fourth graders living east of Guadalupe St. will attend F.C. Weinert.

—First through fourth graders living west of Guadalupe will attend Jefferson Avenue.

—All the city's fifth graders will attend Lizzie M. Burgess.

—All sixth grade students will attend Juan Seguin.

Total integration of grades seven through 12 was pledged for the 1966-67 school term—a year ahead of the deadline set by the federal Department

of Health, Education and Welfare directive.

Though total integration of the higher grades will not come until the following term, Negro students in junior and senior high bracket may attend any school beyond the sixth grade this fall.

Board President Robert Koennecke said no details of the upper grade plan have been worked out at all. "This will be a big task, and one that we have not begun work on yet," he said.

The Seguin plan will be submitted to H.E.W. and Texas Education Agency officials for approval. School officials were told last month that plans for total integration must be turned in by June 1.

At least four grades would have had to been totally integrated by next fall and the balance by the 1967-68 term.

Eclipsed by the integration developments in last fall's protest of alleged discrimination by the way zone lines were set, the protest by Latin Ameri-

can citizens was carried to State Commissioner of Education Dr. J.W. Edgar.

But the launching of the six-grade integration plan apparently solves the problem. The setting of Guadalupe St. as a straight demarcation line answers questions on zig-zag zone lines.

Eliminated completely is the optional zone in which elementary students could attend either Juan Seguin or Jefferson Avenue. Dr. Edgar's office had ruled that the optional zone must be eliminated.

Board President Robert Koennecke said no administrative changes in the various elementaries was anticipated.

"But we have a big job reshuffling classroom supplies and such to arrange for the new plan by next fall," he said.

The new plan all but does away with the system's previous neighborhood

—see page 10

It was also in 1963 when a friend of mine, Dr. **Roger Bell**, a Black citizen, came to my home and asked me for help. He wanted to organize a Federal program to help poor people. This was the **Lyndon Johnson's** "War on Poverty program."

I read the information he had brought and agreed to help him. I told him that according to the information we would need to get the support and signature of the **Mayor of Seguin**, and the **County Judge**

A week later he came over and told me he had gotten their signatures. With that we proceeded to organize the **Community Council**.

Soon thereafter a group of organized the **Seguin Bi-Racial Com-**

mittee. The person leading this effort was a man named **Jim Bode**. He was an Anglo teacher who had a great desire to see improvement and equality. Another individual who was very involved was **Roger**. I forget his last name. Also members of this committee were **Earl Redix**, **John Randle** and **Mr. and Mrs. Davies**. I was the only Hispanic member.

We registered people to vote. We brought to light many of the problems people were facing in the community. We were aggressive and assertive. We took our concerns to the media and looked for ways to improve things.

Back then, Blacks were not allowed to go into restaurants. If they wanted something, they would have to the back door to the kitchen. I still get angry when I think of this.

I remember once we made a plan to go to a restaurant with some of our Black friends. The first place we went to was called the **King Bee** on Kingsbury St, which is where **Davila's BBQ** is now located. We ordered and everyone was served. Over time, we went to four other eating establishments. Everyone got served.

Then we went to a restaurant where **Christina's** is now located. We all ordered and everyone was served except **Jim Bode**, the Anglo. This was despite the fact that **Jim** was white. But they did it just to spite him for being involved in the fight for social justice. Jim died about 8 years later. But I never forgot him and the courage he showed back then.

Elective Office

In 1964, I decided to run for the **Seguin City Council**. **Manuel Castillo** was the first Hispanic to serve on the **Seguin City Council**. He was a WWII veteran and very dedicated to helping people. After serving two years he was defeated by **August Kutac**.

I ran against **Kutac** and beat him by a margin of 2 to 1. When **Manuel** died, I contacted his wife about getting a park named after him. She agreed and today **Manuel Castillo Park** on the North side of town is a monument to his public service.

In **Seguin**, in the early 1970s were getting more involved in the civic affairs of the city. There were several major groups, **LULAC**, the **American G.I. Forum**, and the **Council for Civic Betterment**. They were constantly encouraging people to get involved in the schools, in the city and the county.

The Hispanic community had more knowledge about their rights and responsibilities. This is when the idea of single member districts came up. Soon the school district had three minority districts. The **City of Seguin** was taken to court and out of this effort five minority districts were created. Only the Mayor and the City Secretary ran at-large.

Conclusion

Sam Flores would go on to serve for 35 years on the **Seguin City Council**. During this time he commuted every day to his job in the **Harlendale Independent School District** where he worked as a teacher and later as an administrator.

At the time of his death **Mr. Flores** was working on his autobiography with **Dr. Ana Maria Gonzalez**, a professor at **Texas Lutheran University**. This three part series that has appeared in **La Voz de Guadalupe County** since August, was excerpted from the first 75 pages of **Mr. Flores'** manuscript. That is as far as he had gotten with his writing.



causing all of the trouble for the school He told them that I was a no good rebel, a nuisance and someone should run him out of town.

He continued to say a lot of ugly things about me. Finally my wife asked him how he could say all that against me. My wife told him that she was my wife and what he was saying was not true. The man was startled to here this and left. When I came home from work my wife told me what the man had said and who he was. I called him by phone and told him what my wife had said. I told him that I was going to consider suing him and his company for slander and defamation of character.

The man became alarmed and said that he was very sorry and apologized. He said he would come to my house and apologize in person. He came to my house almost in tears and pleaded with me not to sue him and the insurance company he worked for. I said I wouldn't sue him and I would accept his apology. I did advise him to refrain from talking about me. He invited me to his church but I declined. After this incident, we became good friends and we are cordial to each other.

The War on Poverty

Sudoku

	9			7	2	6		
7			6					
6			3				2	
2	5	1		8				
		6	5	1	7	8		
				2		1	4	5
	2				9			4
					5			1
		5	1	3			7	



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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 bilingual 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 Guadalupe 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 Guadalupe County* una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

- What happened?

When did it happen?

Where did it happen?

Who was there?

Did you see it?

How many parents came?

Were they mad?

Who was arrested?

Are you going back again?

Were you afraid?

Good luck!
- ¿Qué pasó?

¿Cuándo pasó?

¿Dónde pasó?

¿Quién estaba ahí?

¿Usted lo vio?

¿Cuántos padres de familia vinieron?

¿Estaban enojados?

¿Quién fue arrestado?

¿Va usted a volver?

¿Tenía usted miedo?

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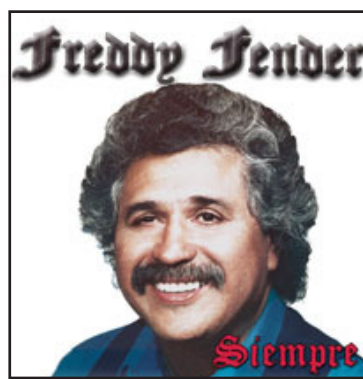


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Hispanic Heritage Month

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 15
"Fiesta en la Plaza"

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. • Alumni Plaza

Come and join us for a special celebration with music, food and dance. The event will feature the Son Jarocho Group "Son Armado" with traditional music of the state of Veracruz and a performance by Aztec dancers, plus food, drinks and festive colors. Free and open to the public.

Tuesday, September 20
Fiesta

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. • ASC, Graf Lounge

Students come make crafts, hear great music, and enjoy free food! Come celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month fiesta style!

Thursday, September 22
Mexican Revolution Series on PBS

4:00 p.m. • Dunne Conference Center

Given that last year was the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Revolution, the San Antonio station KLRN has created a new series called "Children of the Revolution." In it, they explain how the Mexican Revolution had a direct impact on the San Antonio area. It would be wonderful to relate a historical event of such magnitude to your actual life and surroundings, don't you think? Come and learn about it.

Monday, September 26
Honduras Mission Trip

4:00 p.m. • Dunne Conference Center

For 25 years, a group of Seguin residents has been going to Honduras to offer its voluntary work in public health and veterinary services. This last May, eight students and a professor from TLU joined their efforts and they will talk about their remarkable experience in the Central American country. A reception with traditional Honduran food and drinks will follow. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, September 28
***Robert Rivard –
San Antonio Express News Editor***

7:30 p.m. • Wupperman Little Theatre

"Mexico and its struggle to break from its past to find a new future." Veteran reporter and news editor Robert Rivard will relate his experience as a journalist covering events in Mexico, and share some reflections on the role of a free press, as Mexicans strive to transcend a seemingly relentless cycle of violence. Robert Rivard is the chairman of the Inter American Press Association (IAPA) Committee on Freedom of the Press and Information and he is also editor of the San Antonio Express News.

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 4
***Study Abroad in
Spain and Costa Rica***

4:00 p.m. • Dunne Conference Center

Students who studied abroad this last summer will share their experiences with wonderful stories and beautiful images. Come and find out the opportunities TLU offers to study abroad.

Monday, October 10
Dr. Refugio Rochin
10:00 a.m. • Chapel

Tuesday, October 11
***Lecture by Dr. Refugio Rochin:
An Educational Journey***

9:30 a.m. • Jackson Auditorium

Recently honored as one of the Peace Corps 1962–1964 alumni, Dr. Refugio Rochin has been designated as one of "America's Top 100 Influential Hispanics," by Hispanic Business magazine. He will speak about his own educational journey, the challenges he has faced and will have advice for all students entering today's workforce.

Thursday, October 20
Ojalá Concert

7:30 p.m. • Jackson Auditorium

Ojalá is an Austin based band that mixes both Spanish and Arabic in their songs. The music traditions of the South of Europe and the North of Africa are clearly linked (Spain was under Muslim rule for over 700 years). Therefore, instruments, voice register and rhythms are shared. This group recovers that common background and makes us aware of those ties. These ethnic rhythms will delight you and enrich your sense of belonging to a global community.

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