



Volume 17 Number 2
A Bi-Cultural Publication
February, 2022

La Voz

Free
Gratis



Solamente el que carga el saco sabe lo que lleva a dentro

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People in the News



Damian Pantoja Elected VP of DVISD School Board

Damian Pantoja was elected Vice President of the **Del Valle Independent School District Board of Trustees** at a regularly held meeting on January 18th 2022. **Pantoja** was first elected to the school board last year and has been very active in raising the profile of the district through his activism.



Celia Israel Announces for Mayor of Austin

"As Mayor, I pledge to use our prosperity to build a city that leaves no one behind" **Israel** made this statement at her campaign launch in January.

When I came to **Austin** in the summer of 1982, all of 17 years old, this city took me in. It forged me into who I am today, and I continue to be energized by people from all walks of life willing to share ideas and fight injustice through their activism.

Today, my focus is on our current city, and especially those Austinites who are driving our phenomenal economy but who are getting left behind. They are teaching our children, framing our houses, shopping for our groceries and so many more jobs we rely upon.

We can't be a city that just attracts billionaires while simultaneously pushing working people to Bastrop and Buda. Diversity is our strength. We need a city that serves all demographics.

Those who know me agree; I don't back down from a challenge. In my four 4 terms in the Texas House of Representatives, I've fought for equality, common sense criminal justice, thoughtful ways to improve our transportation challenges, and stood my ground to protect the sacred right to vote.

As Mayor, I pledge to use our prosperity to build a city that leaves no one behind. But fulfilling that promise requires all of us to stand together. These are difficult and involved topics that call for all voices to be heard, all perspectives to be valued. I believe I CAN be a Mayor for **ALL** of Austin.



Vanessa Fuentes Appointed to CAN Board

Austin Councilwoman Vanessa Fuentes has been appointed as the

Vice Chair of the Board of Directors at Community Advancement Network - CAN.

CAN is a partnership of governmental, non-profit, private and faith-based organizations that work together to improve social, health, educational and economic opportunities in our community.

I look forward to collaborating with fellow board members in pursuit of **CAN's** mission to ensure that every-



Pete Gallego Stepping Down at Sul Ross State University

Pete Gallego, President of Sul Ross State University announced last month that he will be stepping down in 2022. **Gallego** had only been on the job at **Sul Ross** for about a year.

He joins former **Texas State Senator Kirk Watson** who also decided to leave his new job at the **University of Houston** as the **Dean of the School of Public Policy**.

"After much reflection and discussion with family and friends, I have decided to step away from my responsibilities as president at the end of the academic year," said **Gallego**. *"This is not an easy decision, but it is the right decision for me and for Sul Ross, the university I dearly love."*

Gallego, an **Alpine** native, was appointed president of **Sul Ross** in June 2020. From 2013 to 2015, **Gallego** was congressman for the **23rd Congressional District** after having lost reelection to **Will Hurd**.



Jerry Quijano named permanent host of "All Things Considered" on KUT 90.5

AUSTIN, Texas – Jan. 27, 2022 – Producer and host **Jerry Quijano** permanently takes the **"All Things Considered"** host seat at **KUT 90.5, Austin's NPR station**.

Listeners will hear **Quijano** from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, reporting the latest happenings in **Central Texas** from the **KUT newsroom**, as well as weather and traffic updates – and the occasional non sequitur.

He started with **KUT 90.5** as the Saturday night local host in 2017. After graduating from **Texas A&M University-San Antonio** and participating in **NPR's Next-Generation Radio** project he started full-time the following year. Since then, he's hosted various on-air shifts and reported on local stories.

A **South Texas** kid who grew up with dreams of being a DJ on a **Tejano** radio station, there's nothing he loves more than being the voice and connec-

tion that links **NPR's** national programming with the award-winning work produced in the **KUT newsroom**.



Abel A. Chavez Tapped to Lead Our Lady of the Lake University

Abel A. Chavez, PhD, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success at Western Colorado University, will assume office in July upon the retirement of **President Diane E. Melby, EdD**.

"Dr. Chavez brings a record of outstanding leadership in higher education to Our Lady of the Lake University," said **Paul Olivier, Chair of the Board of Trustees**. *"He also brings strong business skills and global experience. He is the right person to move OLLU forward."*

Dr. Chavez possesses a wealth of experience in higher education and business. An **Associate Professor** in the **School of Environment and Sustainability**, he has served **Western Colorado** as **Dean of Graduate Studies** and **Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs**.

The son of immigrants, **Dr. Chavez** grew up in **Denver**, collecting discarded items to repair and sell at flea markets. Though he had an affinity for mechanics, his father wanted him to get an education. **Dr. Chavez** obliged, becoming a first-generation student who earned three degrees, including an **MBA** and a doctorate in **Civil and Environmental Engineering**.

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Pensamientos

Otra vez aqui estamos con **La Voz**. Y otra vez it seems as though the years are flying by. As we enter the year 2022, we are entering our 32 year of publishing newspapers. I never thought I would be doing for as long as I have but I am. When I think back to when I first began working with a newspaper it was 1971 in **Stockton, California**. A friend had asked if I wanted to go with him to layout a newspaper. I didn't have anything pressing to do and so I said yes.

Over the years I have enjoyed more and more the art of putting out a newspaper and I have also come to understand the importance of doing so. There are so many stories in the Hispanic community that never get told. Most of the time it is because someone doesn't their story is worth telling. Other times there are stories that do not get told because existing publications do not seek them out. What ever the case may, we believe that everyone has a story to tell and we are always looking for one.

We invite you to let us know if you have something you would like to share with our readers. Just drop us line or email and we will take it from there.

Cambiando de temas

In this issue of **La Voz**, we would like to call to your attention the many candidates who running for public office. Among **Texas State Representatives**, there is a hotly contested race in **District 51**. See page 17 to learn how the various candidates have done in terms of fundraising.

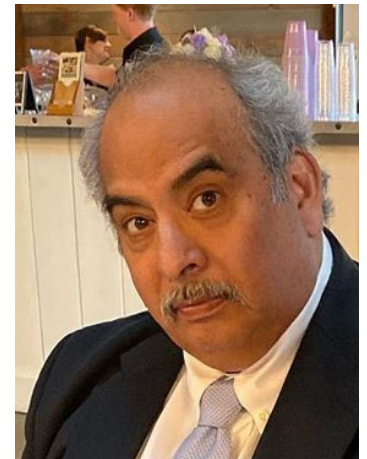
In the race to become the next **U.S. Congress** person in **District 35**, we have taken a look at the campaign finance reports and invite you to see how the six serious candidates are doing. There are 14 candidates in this race but eight of them forgot to fill out their campaign report forms and send them in to the **Federal Election Commission**.

Also in this edition of **La Voz** you will find an interview with **Pilar Sanchez**, the new **Executive Director of the Travis County Health and Human Services**. **Pilar's** journey is a fascination story that started in **El Paso, Texas**. We hope you enjoy how she has navigated her education and world of work.

We also wish to call to your attention a article on pages 22 and 23. It is one of those stories that you rarely hear about **South Texas** and the **Rio Grande Valley**. It is well written and I am sure is just the beginning of many more to come forward on this topic. It is also a Valentine's story of sorts.

Thank you for supporting **La Voz**.

EDITORIAL



Alfredo Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher
of La Voz Newspapers

Song from "Encanto" Soundtrack Tops Billboard's Top 100

If you have kids, or are a kid at heart, you've probably heard the hit song "We Don't Talk About Bruno" from the hit Disney animated film "Encanto". We may not talk about Bruno, but we are definitely singing about him. The song, written by **Lin-Manuel Miranda**, is now the no. 1 song in America, becoming the first song from a **Disney** film top the charts since "A Whole New World" from "Aladdin" in 1993. "Let It Go" from **Disney's** award-winning film "Frozen", although extremely popular, peaked at no. 5. According to **Billboard**, "We Don't Talk About Bruno" has been streamed over 34 million times since the film was released in November 2020.

"Encanto" follows the story of a magical multigenerational Colombian family and protagonist **Mirabel Madrigal** who, unlike her family members, did not receive a magical gift.

"Encanto" is now streaming on Disney+.



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M.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.S., Ph.D.
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Welcome Home!

Bertha Rendon Presents Award to Mrs. Nancy Guerrero

As the President of East Town Lake & City of Austin CDC Commissioner, Bertha Rendon Delgado presented a City of Austin Distinguished Service Award to life long East Austin native Mrs. Nancy Guerrero. As a resident of Garden St. she has worked contributing her time as a volunteer serving countless hours in the neighborhood. She raised her entire **Alverado Famalia** on Garden, Willow, & 3rd Street which are in the 78702 zip code.

Rendon stated, "As an pioneer elder and and lifetime member of East Town Lake Citizen Neighborhood Association, I thank you for all your hard work & service & welcoming me like family all these years I love you."



Bienvenido

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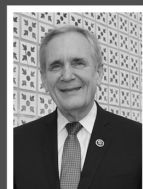
TRAVIS
COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC
PARTY



SENADORA JUDITH ZAFFIRINI



SENADORA SARAH ECKHARDT



CONGRESISTA LLOYD DOGGETT



JUEZ ANDY BROWN

Congratulations to this Year's Endowed Professorship Recipients at UT

An endowed chair/professorship - which includes a distinguished university chair, chair, distinguished professorship, and professorship - is a faculty position supported by an endowment from which distributions are dedicated to reasonable salary support, salary supplementation, research support, and/or other professional needs of a faculty member, subject to donor criteria. The holder shall be a faculty member who has demonstrated a distinguished career. The holder is normally named to an endowed chair/professorship for a period of six years. The endowed chair/professorship appointment may be renewable or non-renewable based upon donor criteria and/or college/school appointment policies.

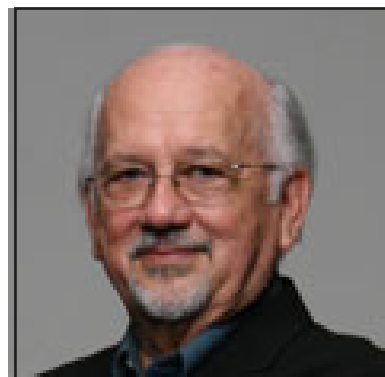
Dr. Luis Urrieta



Luis Urrieta is the **Charles H. Spence, Sr. Centennial Professor in Education**. Dr. Urrieta is a Professor in the **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**. He holds affiliated faculty appointments with the **Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS)**, the **Native American & Indigenous Studies Program (NAIS)**, and the **Lozano Long-Benson Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS)**.

Dr. Urrieta's research interests center around cultural and racial identities; agency as social and cultural practices, social movements and collective action related to education; and learning in family and community contexts. **Dr. Urrieta** previously held the **Suzanne B. and John L. Adams Endowed Professorship in Education**.

Dr. Emilio Zamora



Dean Ann Stevens from the **College of Liberal Arts** at the **University of Texas at Austin** recently announced that the university has appointed **Dr. Emilio Zamora, Professor of History**, as the **Clyde Rabb Littlefield Chair in Texas History**. The appointment, according to **Dean Stevens**, recognizes "*extraordinary scholarly accomplishments and service.*" In addition to elevating the prestige of scholars like **Zamora**, the appointments provide financial support for their research agenda. **Mr. Clyde Rabb Littlefield** (1931-2018), the benefactor responsible for establishing the endowment fund that supports the Chair, was a command historian with the U.S. military, a member of the advisory board for the **University's Center for American History**.

Dr. Gloria González-López



Gloria González-López, Ph.D. was recently notified that she is the recipient of the **C.B. Smith, Sr. Centennial Chair #1 in United States-Mexico Relations**.

Dr. González-López is in her 20th year of service at **UT Austin** where she is a **Professor of Sociology**. Her sociological research focuses on the areas of sexuality, gender, Mexican American and Mexican studies, and social inequality. These intellectual projects are inspired by feminist theorizing and research in the social sciences whereby sexuality is considered a social prism through which to explore institutional dynamics in the areas of religion, education, law, family, culture and politics.

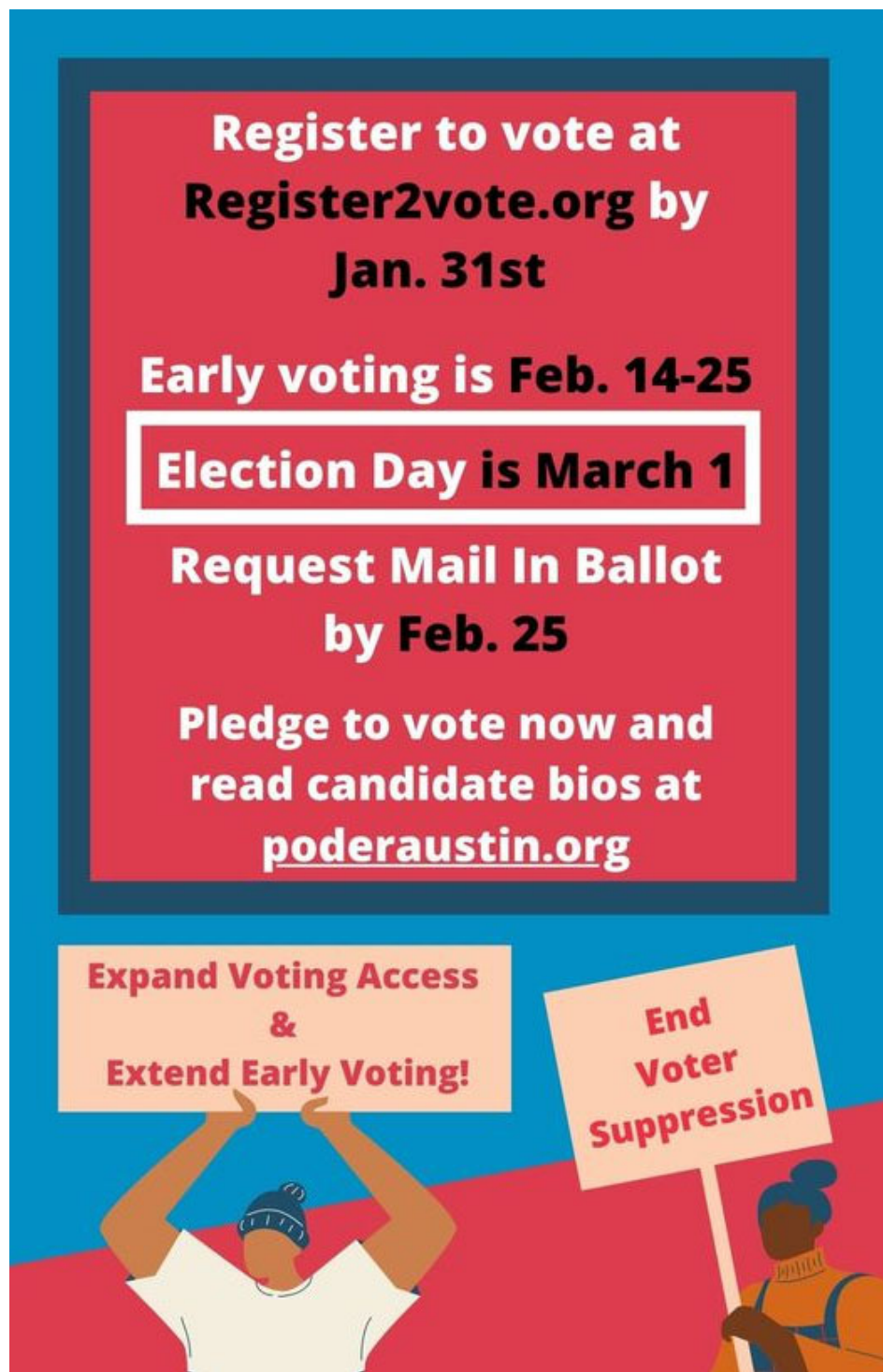
Dr. Victor Sáenz



Dr. Victor B. Sáenz was appointed to an **Endowed Professorship** in the **College of Education** at **The University of Texas at Austin**!

Dr. Sáenz serves as **Chair** of the **Department of Educational Leadership and Policy**. He also holds affiliated faculty appointments in the **Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS)**, the **Department of Mexican American and Latino Studies**, the **Irma Rangel Public Policy Institute**, and the **Institute for Urban Policy Research & Analysis**.

He is co-founder of **Project MALES** (Mentoring to Achieve Latino Educational Success), to advance educational outcomes for male students of color.



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Letter to the Editor

The following was sbmitted by one of our readers

To: My Mother

From: Your Child in Heaven

Hello Mother,

I see you, everyday since the day I left, truth be told, I haven't left your side. I know that telling me good-bye was possibly one of the hardest days of your life. But please know that I see you, I am watching over you. I have seen that some days you just do not want to continue going on, I want you to know that is when I am closest to you. You see the good Lord gave me a quilt filled with all of the memories from the day that you learned about me til the day that I was called home, I add on to it from time to time.

Memories of you talking to me in your belly, also of the times that I did not agree with what you ate, or the times I made you so tired that you didn't want to get up that day. But mother you are so strong that you pushed through. The memory of the day we first met is one of my favorites, you held me so close your warmth was all that i needed that day. Our laughs, our giggles, our good times and the times that I just was down right not listening, I now know that yes mom I should have not done that, and yes it did hurt. I was just too stubborn to admit it. You taught me all that you possibly could to have and in the process molded me into the man I was and still am, Thank you mother.

I am sorry that I am not able to be with you physically any more but trust and believe that I hear you, all your prayers and I also hear your cries these hurt he most, I try to take the pain away but all I can do is lay the quilt of memories across you to help the sad memories fade and bring back the good ones.

Mom know that I am not alone and have not been since the day that I got here. The prayers and nightly conversations that you have with me keep my heart filled, I can just lay and listen to them all day. I hear you on your good days too, I catch you singing, and all I can do is sit and smile. I'll admit I'll sing with you off key but I let you have all the good lines. There will be a time that you and I will be able to hug and be together again, but until then I will keep you warm and always cover you with our quilt when I see that you need it most. Until then mother please keep your head up, smile all that you can and if you need to cry, cry for the times i made you smile and laugh until we couldn't stop laughing.

Forever Your Child

So much death has surrounded us and a lot of just never got the chance to fully heal. One of the greatest loss is when a mother has to bury their child, our beautiful mothers make us from scratch for 9 whole months never expecting their worst fear to come to reality. All mothers who have lost a child can agree that they pray for the chance to hear or see their child again would help their heart, and I hope that this letter helps just a tiny bit. This letter is in remembrance of my cousin Daniel Zambrano, Kilgore, TX who lost his life in January 2014 at the young age of 26.

Forever Young -E. Carmona-Sanchez

Robert L. Santos

Sworn in as the 26th director of the U.S. Census Bureau.

United States
Census
2020

Robert Santos, a **San Antonio, Texas** native was sworn in on January 5th as the **26th Director** of the **United States Census Bureau**. His career spans more than 40 years in survey research, statistical design and analysis, and executive-level management. He previously served for 15 years as vice president and chief methodologist at the **Urban Institute** and directed its **Statistical Methods Group**. **Santos** was executive vice president and partner of **NuStats**, a social science research firm in **Austin, Texas**.

Santos has held leadership positions in the nation's top survey research organizations, including the **National Opinion Research Center (NORC)** at the **University of Chicago**, where he served as vice president of statistics and methodology and director of survey operations; the **Institute for Social Research** at the **University of Michigan**, as director of survey operations; and **Temple University's Institute for Survey Research**, as senior study director and sampling statistician.

Santos specializes in quantitative and qualitative research design, including program evaluation, needs assessments, survey methodology and survey operations. He also has expertise in demographic and administrative data, decennial censuses, social policy research and equity issues in research.

In 2021, Santos served as the president of the **American Statistical Association (ASA)** and is an **ASA Fellow** and recipient of the **ASA Founder's Award** in 2006. He was the 2014 president of the **American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR)** and received the **2021 AAPOR Award for Exceptionally Distinguished Achievement**. **Santos** is also an elected member to the **International Statistical Institute**, and he served from 2017 to 2020 as a member of the **Board of Scientific Counselors** for the **National Center for Health Statistics** at the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**. He was a longtime member of the editorial board of **Public Opinion Quarterly**.

Robert Santos was born and raised in **San Antonio, Texas**. He earned a B.A. in mathematics from **Trinity University** in **San Antonio** and an M.A. in statistics from the **University of Michigan** at **Ann Arbor**.





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COMAL COUNTY
PUBLIC INFORMATION

La paradoja de la vida

Dios creó al burro y dijo:

“Serás burro, trabajarás de sol a sol, cargarás sobre tu lomo todo lo que le pongan, y vivirás 30 años.”

El burro contestó:

“Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero.... 30 años es mucho, ¿por qué no mejor 20?”

Y así Dios creó al burro.

Después Dios creó al perro y le dijo:

“Serás perro, cuidarás la casa de los hombres, comerás lo que te den y vivirás 20 años.”

El perro contestó: “Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero... 20 años es mucho, ¿por qué no mejor 10?”

Y así Dios creó al perro.

Luego Dios creó al mono y le dijo:

“Serás mono, saltarás de árbol en árbol, harás payasadas para divertir a los demás y vivirás 15 años.”

El mono contestó: “Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero... 10 años es mucho, ¿por qué no mejor 5?”

Y así Dios creó al mono.

Finalmente Dios creó al hombre y le dijo:

“Serás el más inteligente de la tierra, dominarás al mundo y vivirás 30 años.”

El hombre contestó:

“Señor, seré todo lo que quieras pero... 30 años es poco, ¿por qué no me das los veinte años que no quiso el burro, los 10 años que rechazó el perro y los cinco años que no aceptó el mono?”

Y así es como el hombre vive 30 años como hombre, luego se casa y vive 20 años como burro, trabajando de sol a sol, cargando en su espalda el peso de la familia, luego se jubila y vive 10 años como perro cuidando la casa, comiendo lo que le den y termina viviendo 5 años más como mono, saltando de casa en casa de sus hijos, haciendo payasadas para los nietos.



Election Results

JOSE “CHITO” VELA FOR AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 WINS!

 **Workers Defense
Action Fund**

When Austin City Councilman Greg Casar from District \$ 4 decided to run for Congress in District 37, he resigned his seat. Mayor Steve Adler then called for a special election to fill Casar’s seat and a total of seven candidates filed to run. The election was set for January 25th, 2022. With seven candidates running, many thought there might be a run-off election. But on election day that proved not to be the case. Immigration attorney José “Chito” Vela captured 59/23% of the vote thus avoiding a run-off election. Vela will now become the next Austin City Councilman in District # 4.

STATISTICS		
Registered Voters - Total 34,582		
Ballots Cast -	Total	3,608
Voter Turnout -	Total	10.45%

Summary Results Report City of Austin Special Election Austin City Council District 4 January 25, 2022						
	TOTAL	VOTE %	By Mail	Early Voting	Election Day	Provisional
Amanda Rios	349	9.67%	21	153	175	0
Isa Boonto	33	0.91%	3	22	8	0
Ramesses II Setepenre	17	0.47%	3	9	5	0
Melinda Schiera	175	4.85%	13	77	84	1
Jade Lovera	402	11.14%	26	194	182	0
Monica Guzmán	495	13.72%	25	231	238	1
José "Chito" Vela	2,137	59.23%	123	1,057	953	4
Total Votes Cast	3,608	100.00%	214	1,743	1,645	6

SOURCE:Travis County Clerk’s Office

La Voz: Let's start by asking you to tell us your full name and where you were born.

Sanchez: **Pilar Sanchez.** I am from **El Paso, Texas.**

La Voz: In terms of family, where are you in the sibling order?

Sanchez: I am the youngest of 8.

La Voz: Did you have any particular hobbies or activities that you excelled in?

Sanchez: Growing up I enjoyed gymnastics and campaign block walking with my dad. Everyone knew my dad from either his volunteer work at church, the local boxing clubs or on electoral campaigns.

La Voz: Tell us about your parents.

Sanchez: My father, **Luis Sanchez** is from **Chihuahua Mexico** and a naturalized US citizen; he was a boxer when he met my mom. He is a wonderful father. Growing up, he was always at all my events, whether that was gymnastic meets, dance or theatre performances or the spelling bee. He supported me in everything I did and pushed me to be the best I can be. He also instilled a very hard working ethic. He never let me miss school. He himself worked 2-3 jobs throughout his life. I still call him "Daddy".

My mother, **Manuela Sanchez** just passed 2 years ago and I miss her dearly. It was a long good bye. She lived with dementia and then alzheimer for several years. But she didn't forget me until the very end. She stayed home and worked harder than anyone else I know. She cooked fresh breakfast, lunch and dinner

almost every day for all 8 of us. I miss her cooking and cannot seem to replicate it. She was the most generous and caring person. We always had someone living with us. Whether it was a cousin or a new arrival from **Mexico.** She preferred we bring our friends over to play vs having us go elsewhere. So each of us had a friend over, and so it was a party every day at our house. She was so loving to all, very firm but daily she invited our friends to stay for dinner without any hesitation.

Both my parents were avid readers and supported everything I did. They made sure I had everything I needed to succeed in life and believed in the importance in education.

La Voz: When you think back to your elementary school years, was there a teacher who stands out in your mind?

Sanchez: Oh yes. **Ms. Yolanda Garibay**, my 3rd grade teacher.

La Voz: Tell our readers why this particular teacher remains in your memory.

Then came into my life, Ms. Garibay. She paid so much attention to me.

Sanchez: Before third grade, I didn't care much about school. I tended to make Cs and Ds and was quite the class clown/disruptor. Then came into my life, **Ms. Garibay.** She paid so much attention to me. She taught me to sing "oh holy night" and other

songs in sign language after school. I was her teacher's assistant. From then on, I only made As. She made me feel important and helped me love school. I owe her so much. Teachers can steer kids in the right direction, and **Ms. Garibay** did.

La Voz: Where did you go to high school and what kinds of things were you involved in back then?

Sanchez: I attended **Thomas Jefferson High School** in **El Paso.** I was in journalism, year book club, theater, and gymnastics. I had so many friends, from all walks of life. I had such a great time in high school.

La Voz: Did the thought of higher education cross your mind as you got older. Did you have a circle of friends who talked about college?

Sanchez: I didn't have a counselor who helped me think about or prepare for college. But I followed my friends. I had friends in all circles in school. The punk rockers, the cheerleaders, the nerds, the athletes... I felt like I belonged with all of them. I was lucky that way. So when my friends took the SAT and ACT, so did I. Academics came easy to me (thanks to my super smart parents) so I did very well and UT sent me an application because of my scores and my grades.

La Voz: How did the decision to attend **The University of Texas at Austin** shape up?

Sanchez: I didn't apply to any colleges. But I listed **UT** in my SAT form and they got my scores. **UT** asked me to fill out the application and guaranteed me admission. I applied for financial aid and told my parents I was going to **UT** for college. I ran the calculations, and told my parents I needed \$300 and a ride to

Austin. That is how I got to **UT Austin.** I made the decision and all the plans on my own. Luckily, 3 other girls from my high school were at **UT** and I lived with them. I took out loans, received several grants and scholarships and therefore my parents



*I ran the calculations, and told my parents I needed \$300 and a ride to **Austin.***



didn't have to help me much financially. But their confidence in me and loving encouragement was immense.

La Voz: What kinds of activities were you involved in college?



*I joined the **Hispanic Business Student Association (HBSA).** It was the best . . .*

with Pilar Sanchez

County Health and Human Services

Sanchez: I joined the **Hispanic Business Student Association** (HBSA). It was the best thing I did in college. I made great connections there. For example, I met a **HBSA** alumni who has helped me since then. That is **Rosie Mendoza**. I was the **HBSA Alumni Chairperson** that year. When I reached out to **Rosie**, she donated an office printer to our club.

We couldn't believe it. That was back in 1990. Having your own printer was a big deal for clubs then.

We couldn't believe it. That was back in 1990. Having your own printer was a big deal for clubs then. Then she invited me to the **Walk for Safe Place**. I participated in that walk every year after that and got into running in other races because of her. She then helped me get into the **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**, where I served as **Board Chairperson** in 2010. Having teachers, like **Ms. Garibay** and mentors, like **Rosie** have



... the organization (Austin Pathways) I oversee today that brings life changing . . .

made a big difference in my life. I owe them so much.

La Voz: What was your major at UT and in what year did you graduate?

Sanchez: I started at the **Business School** as a business major, but soon moved to the liberal arts school and graduated as a government major with a minor in economics. I graduated in 1993.

La Voz: When you finished UT were your parents expecting you to return to **El Paso**?

Sanchez: After I stayed in **Austin** every summer, they knew I had made my life here. I also started graduate school here in **Austin** the very next Fall after graduation. I don't think my parents expected me to return after 6 straight years of living in **Austin**.

La Voz: Your biographical information states that you attended the **LBJ School of Public Affairs** from 1993 to 1995 as a **Woodrow Wilson Fellow**. Share with our readers what the fellowship was about.

Sanchez: The **Woodrow Wilson Fellowship** was a way to introduce minority undergraduates to graduate

school and entice them to apply. They invited us to take classes at the **LBJ School** in the summer before our senior year. They even had us stay at the dorms to get the full experience. It worked. I applied to that graduate school and got accepted. I graduated with my bachelors in August and started grad school in the Fall of 1993.

La Voz: We saw that you went to work for the **Housing Authority** of the **City of Austin** in 1997. Share with our readers how you have moved up through the ranks at the **Housing Authority**.

Sanchez: What is interesting is that I got my first professional job at the

housing authority partly because of my work-study job at **UT**. **UT** offered me a

work-study assignment to help me pay for my tuition. I helped the admissions department process applications.

So the **Housing Authority** hired me to re-engineer their admissions process. That got me promoted to Director of Compliance, and then I got promoted to **Vice President of Housing Operations and Community Development** in 2013. It's been quite a ride.

La Voz: What are some of your job responsibilities in this position?

Sanchez: We recently restructured some departments and I am now overseeing our non-profit organization, **Austin Pathways**. I have thoroughly enjoyed my stint as **VP of Austin Pathways**. Of all the divisions I've overseen, this has been the most enjoyable and rewarding. It has been wonderful to work so closely with the kids, seniors and families that live at our properties. We bring great programming to our sites for the people that live at our properties. Everything is designed to empower our residents to improve the quality of their lives and reach their full potential.

We help change lives and end the cycle of poverty one family at a time.

We help change lives and end the cycle of poverty one family at a time. For example, when we provide tutoring on-site and gift our kids a scholarship and they get a degree, they more likely are not going to live in public funded housing.

La Voz: We understand that you were responsible for the creation of the **Housing Authority's** first subsidiary agency? Can you tell about this?

Sanchez: I am so proud of that project. The **Housing Authority** was awarded a federal contract to administer **HUD** multifamily housing throughout the **State of Texas**. While

we were experts at running our own subsidized housing, we didn't have the infrastructure to oversee 300 more properties across the state. So I was asked to build it.

The organization, **SHCC**, brought over 50 new jobs to **Austin**. I was responsible for developing the subsidiary agency from the ground up, that is, developing all policies and procedures, hiring and training over 50 employees, and monitoring the program's regulatory compliance. The agency now oversees similar properties across the state of **Arkansas** as well.

It has come full circle for me. I helped build the revenue stream (SHCC) for the organization (Austin Pathways) I oversee today that brings life changing services to our residents.

Most importantly, the excess revenue this organization brings to **Austin** is reinvested in our non-profit, **Austin Pathways**. It has come full circle for me. I helped build the revenue stream (SHCC) for the organization (Austin Pathways) I oversee today that brings life changing services to our residents.

La Voz: Outside of your job you have been very involved in a number projects in the community. Share with us your involvement with **Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**.

Sanchez: My husband encouraged me to volunteer my time at the **Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** (GAHCC). So I boldly applied to serve on their **Board of Directors**. Because I was new to the

Continued on page 12

An Interview with Pilar Sanchez (Continued)

GAHCC, they asked me to serve on their non-profit board first, the **Hispanic Technology Institute of Austin (HTIA)**.

I was invited to the **GAHCC Board of Directors** immediately after that and served on their board for over 6 years, which culminated as chairperson in 2010. That led to the creation of the **Economic Growth Business Incubator (EGBI)**. I brokered a partnership between the **Housing Authority, GAHCC, and HTIA** to start an incubator in 2008. This is a resource center that provides business development classes for startup business who need assistance with writing their business and marketing plans or who need business counseling, coaching, accounting, among other things. I am so proud of the second organization I helped launch, **EGBI**. It is so successful. Most importantly, **EGBI** is helping businesses create jobs and the families who own these businesses are reaching their full potential and becoming self-sufficient.

La Voz: Your bio also states that you graduated from **Leadership Austin Class of 2009**, and you were appointed to the **City of Austin's Technology and Telecommunications Commission**



in 2006-2007 and that you mentored at **Zavala Elementary School for Communities in School** from 2003-2005. I know we are not the first to say that you have a very impressive work and community history. When you look back over your life and all your accomplishments, what surprises you the most about your journey?

Sanchez: It all came so easily to me. I just aligned my interests and volunteered my time. I was rewarded with opportunities to help the most vulnerable. It is also possible, because my husband helps tremendously with our daughter. He frees up a lot of my time. He is the best father (after my dad) a daughter can have.

La Voz: What does your family back in **El Paso** have to say about what the youngest of the 8 siblings has done in life?

Sanchez: Well I am sure they have a lot of colorful things to say; not all glowing. They would have preferred I had gone back to help our community in **El Paso**. I do carry a lot of guilt for not being there to help them with my parents though. But they have supported my every step. My brothers took turns sending me

money every semester in college. My sister surprised me with a beautiful day bed when I was downsizing and preparing to make the trip to **UT**. And they are there still, any time I need them without any hesitation and with encouraging and loving words.

La Voz: A couple of last questions: are there any surprises in the near future for you that you might want to drop a hint about?

Sanchez: I am so happy to announce that the **Travis County Court of Commissioners** selected me as their new **County Executive over Health and Human Services**. Wow!! That was last week, and I am still coming to grips with it. I am so excited and feel so honored.

La Voz: Let's lighten up the questions and wind down this interview with the following questions:

Favorite color? Purple; purple sunsets are my favorite.

Last book read? My husband and I are reading the *Five Languages of Love* by Gary Chapman. I highly recommend it.

First car you ever owned and how did you acquire it? A red Toyota Pickup. My dad bought it for me. Almost new, but no AC???!!!! I loved it. But now, I only buy American; I drive an electric car because I want to do my part.

Favorite quote? "Si Se Puede!!!!" Don't ever tell me something is impossible.

Favorite food? Mom's

Personal hero? My mom and dad. I still do not know how they made it all work. With 8 kids, and I had the most wonderful life as a child.

La Voz: Thank you for taking the time to visit with us.

Sanchez: My pleasure, I always enjoy visiting with you, **Alfredo**. Plus, **La Voz** serves a great need here in our community, the distribution of important and relevant information in a culturally responsible way.

MeXicanos 2070 is Pleased to Announce



MeXicanos 2070 is pleased to announce the launching of our internship program. Now in our third year as a 501c3 nonprofit we are looking for mature responsible individuals who are interested in learning about and participating in online digital advocacy for the Xicana/o/x community in the United States. Currently, we have specific internships centering on digital media advocacy, radio and podcast production, fundraising and grant writing, and qualitative and quantitative research on the Xicana/o/x community.

If you are interested click on the link below and answer the questions. You will be contacted by a representative of Mexicanos 2070 to set up an interview. We will be happy to answer questions during the interview process.



ELECTION DAY – MARCH 1

EARLY VOTING – FEB 14 - 25

**VOTE FOR
TÍA ANGIE**

HAYS COUNTY



I Stand With

Tía Angie

ANGELA VILLESCAZ

**FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
SAN MARCOS ~ KYLE ~ BUDA**

POL. AD. PD. FOR BY ANGELA VILLESCAZ FOR HD45.

Vote Progressive Democrat

New Leadership, Now is the Time!



Susanna Ledesma-Woody

for **Travis County
Commissioner Pct 4**

Vote Early Feb 14-25
Vote Election Day Mar. 1st

- Married mother of three who range from elementary to teen
- 10-year Project Management Specialist at AMD
- 10-year DVISD School Board Trustee
- A founding member, current president of the Del Valle Community Coalition
- A resident of South East Travis County since Childhood who knows the inequities our area faces
- An activist who has focused on education, healthcare, and distributive justice including food access and medical supplies, and is also a strong supporter of criminal justice reform, affordable housing, and **environmental justice**

Find out More!! susanna4commissioner.com

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Friends of Susanna Ledesma-Woody for Travis County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Susanna Ledesma-Woody is endorsed by: Run for Something • Grassroots Law Project • Our Revolution Texas • Texas Working Families Party Education Austin • Austin Environmental Democrats • Black Austin Democrats • University Democrats • Stonewall Democrats of Austin Mayor of The City of Pflugerville Victor Gonzales • D1 Councilwoman Natasha Harper-Madison • D2 Councilwoman Vanessa Fuentes Austin ISD Trustee Noelita Lugo • Manor ISD Trustee Ana Cortez • Del Valle ISD Trustee Damián Pantoja • Chas Moore • Julie Oliver • Pat King Fmr. AISD Trustee and Community Leader Paul Saldaña • Co-founder of HABLA and the Austin Lation Coalition Alicia Perez-Hodge Rosie Mendoza, Hatem Natsheh, Claudia Corum, Sukyi Mann, Kathy Mitchell, Susana Carranza and more.

@Susanna4PCT4
@votesusanna



Vote ANDY BROWN County Judge



**14-25 de
febrero, 2022**
Votar en persona
por adelantado

**1 de
marzo, 2022**
El día de las
elecciones

**18 de
febrero, 2022**
Para votar por correo,
tu boleta deberá
ser solicitada

Pol. Adv. Andy Brown Campaign, Laura Hernandez, Treasurer. PO Box 6061, Austin, Texas 78762.



Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health
1111 E. Cesar Chavez Street
Austin, TX 78702

**Solicitud de Propuesta 2201-002: Actualización del Hardware del
Conmutador de Red**

Fecha de Vencimiento: 2/7/2022 a las 2:00 PM CT

Alcance del Trabajo: El Sistema Central Health necesita actualizar y reemplazar el hardware de aproximadamente 137 conmutadores de red en 36 sitios clínicos y administrativos para mantenernos actualizados a las necesidades de velocidad y capacidad del entorno de nuestro Sistema en expansión, y disminuir las interrupciones a las operaciones comerciales.

Instrucciones para realizar pedidos: Todos los paquetes de solicitud se pueden descargar desde:

<https://prod.bidsync.com/central-health, O>

<http://www.centralhealth.net/finance/purchasing O>

<http://www.txsmartbuy.com/sp>



"Judge Eldridge is compassionate when appropriate and stern when necessary. It is important to have a judge like Chantal, who thinks outside the box to ensure our courts are just and fair, and that everyone is treated with dignity and respect."
Judge Charlie Baird, 01-13-2022

Election Day

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Early Voting

Monday, February 14, 2022
through Friday, February 25, 2022



REELECTCHANTAL.COM

POL. ADV. PD. FOR BY THE JUDICIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE VOLUNTARY STANDARDS OF THE JUDICIAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES, CIVIL P. 100, TREASURER



Re-elect Margaret
Gómez
Commissioner Pct. 4

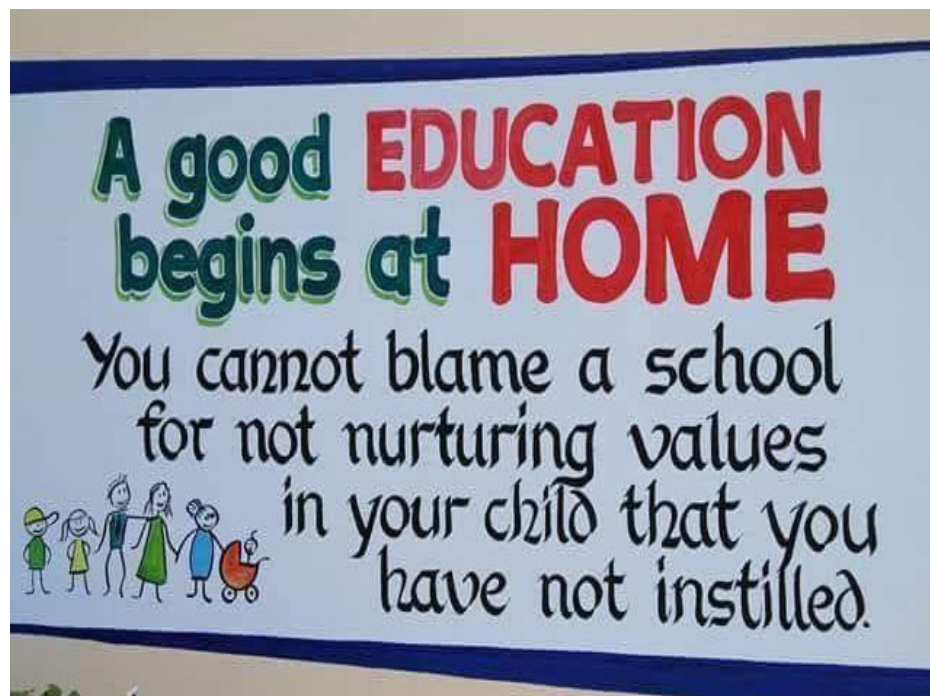
A Reformer Who Gets Results.

Re-Elect OUR
County Commissioner,
Democrat
Margaret
Gómez.

Early Voting:
February 14-25

Election Day:
March 1

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Margaret Gómez Campaign; Cynthia Valadez, Treasurer



Toma mi Corazón 30 La Peña's Annual Fundraiser



La Peña will hold its 30th Annual Toma Mi Corazón fundraiser, to support La Peña's Art and Educational Programs. This year's event features a virtual silent auction of beautifully decorated wooden hearts created by artists and community members, and other unique art pieces. All bidding will be done online.

The bidding for the auction opens on Saturday February 5, and ends on Saturday February 12th. The in person exhibit will be open until February 20

Online auction: www.32auctions.com/Toma30

Nos quisieron enterrar, pero no sabían que somos semillas.

Stand with
LULU FLORES
IN DEFENSE OF
**VOTING RIGHTS,
REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS,
ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE
AND EDUCATION.**

FIND OUT MORE AT VoteLuluFlores.com

ENDORSED BY:

**TEXAS
AFL-CIO**

EDUCATION
austin ★

**Lulu
Flores**

Democrat for State Rep. District 51

**VOTE EARLY: FEB 14-25
ELECTION DAY: TUE, MARCH 1**

[voteluluflores](https://www.voteLuluFlores.com) www.VoteLuluFlores.com
Pol. Adv. Paid for by Lulu Flores Campaign

Campaign Financial Reports for the Candidates in Texas State Representative District 51 March 1st., 2022 Primary



Robert Reynolds

Report Date" January 15th. 2022
Only paid the filing fee of \$750.00
Total Contributions: \$0
Total Expenditures: \$0
Cash on Hand: \$0
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



Claire Campos-O'Neal

No Report Found



Cody Arn

Report Date" January 31st. 2022
Total Contributions: \$45.00
Total Expenditures: \$2.13
Cash on Hand: \$776.00
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



**Maria Luisa
"Lulu" Flores**

Report Date" January 31st. 2022
Total Contributions: \$43,030.11
Total Expenditures: \$8,691.72
Cash on Hand: \$142,656.62
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



Albine Cadenas

Report Date" January 15th. 2022
Total Contributions: \$3,780.00
Total Expenditures: \$2,948.26
Cash on Hand: \$3,780.00
Principal of Outstranding: \$2,948.26
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



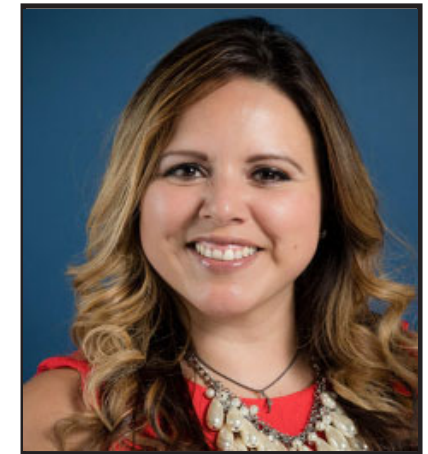
Mike Hendrix

Report Date" January 19th. 2022
Total Contributions: \$63,040.00
Total Expenditures: \$19,045.18
Cash on Hand: \$19,045.18
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



Matthew Worthington

Report Date" January 31, 2022
Total Contributions: \$18,034.00
Total Expenditures: \$24,583.33
Cash on Hand: \$39,344.61
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0



Cynthia Valadez-Mata, Jr.

Report Date" January 31st. 2022
Total Contributions: \$3,010.00
Total Expenditures: \$3,697.78
Cash on Hand: \$3,687.30
Principal of Outstranding: \$0
Total Unitemized Loans: \$0

Democratic Candidates in Texas

2022 Democratic Primary Ballot

Below are all the races on the **Democratic Primary ballot** in **Travis County**, with candidates listed in the order in which they will appear on your ballot. Every Democratic voter in **Travis County** will vote in statewide and countywide races. For district races, each voter will vote in the races representing the district in which they are registered to vote. To find your districts, refer to your voter registration card, or look up your information on VoteTravis.com.

FEDERAL DISTRICTS
US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 10
Linda Nuno

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 17
Mary Jo Woods

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 21
Cherif Gacis
Ricardo Villarreal
David Anderson Jr
Coy Gee Branscum II
Claudia Andreana Zapata
Scott William Sturm

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 35
Carla-Joy Sisco
Rebecca Viagran
Greg Casar
Eddie Rodriguez

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 37
Lloyd Doggett
Donna Imam
Quinton “Q” Beaubouef
Chris Jones

STATEWIDE for GOVERNOR
Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez
Joy Diaz
Michael Cooper
Beto O’Rourke
Rich Wakeland

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Michelle Beckley
Carla Brailey
Mike Collier

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Rochelle Mercedes Garza
Joe Jaworski
Lee Merritt
S. “Tbone” Raynor
Mike Fields

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Janet T. Dudding
Tim Mahoney
Angel Luis Vega

COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE
Michael Lange
Sandra grace Martinez
Jinny Suh
Jay Kleberg

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
Susan Hays
Ed Ireson

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER
Luke Warford

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 3
Erin A Nowell

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 5
Amanda Reichek

JUSTICE, SUPREME COURT, PLACE 9
Julia Maldonado

JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 5
Dana Huffman

JUDGE, CRIMINAL COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 6
Robert Johnson

STATE DISTRICTS MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 5
Rebecca Bell-Metereau (Incumbent)
Juan Juárez
Kevin Guico

STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 14
Sarah Eckhardt (Incumbent)

STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 21
Judith Zaffirini (Incumbent)

STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 25
Robert Walsh

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 19
Pam Baggett

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 46
Sheryl Cole (Incumbent)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 47
Vikki Goodwin (Incumbent)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 48
Donna Howard (Incumbent)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 49
Gina Hinojosa (Incumbent)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 50
James Talarico
David Alcorta

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 51
Claire Campos-O’Neal
Cody Arn
Maria Luisa "Lulu" Flores
Albino "Bino" Cadenas
Mike Hendrix
Matt Worthington
Cynthia Valadez-Mata

STATE DISTRICTS, CONT’D.
JUSTICE, THIRD COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4
Rosa Theofanis
Paula Knippa
Beth Payán

DISTRICT JUDGE, 147th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Cliff Brown (Incumbent)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 201st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Amy Clark Meachum (Incumbent)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 250th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Karin Crump (Incumbent)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 261st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Pam Davis
Daniella DeSeta Lyttle

DISTRICT JUDGE, 299th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Karen R. Sage (Incumbent)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 331st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Chantal Melissa Eldridge (Incumbent)
Jessica Huynh

DISTRICT JUDGE, 403rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Brandy Mueller
Craig Moore

DISTRICT JUDGE, 419th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Madeleine Connor
Catherine A. Mauzy (Incumbent)

DISTRICT JUDGE, 455th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Laurie Eiserloh
Eugene Clayborn

DISTRICT JUDGE, 459th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Maya Guerra Gamble (Incumbent)

35th Congressional District

All U.S. House districts, including the 35th Congressional District of Texas, are holding elections in 2022. The general election is scheduled on November 8, 2022. The primary is scheduled for March 1, 2022, and a primary runoff is scheduled for May 24, 2022. The filing deadline was December 13, 2021.



Campaign Financial Reports for Candidates in the 35th Congressional District March 1st., 2022 Primary



Jenai Aragona-Hales - Republican

Coverage dates: 12/09/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3,125.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$0.00
Total individual contributions	\$0.00
Other committee contributions	\$0.00
TOTAL LOANS RECEIVED	\$3,125.00
Loans made by candidate	\$3,125.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$3,125.00
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$3,125.00
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$0



Rebecas J. Viagran - Democrat

Coverage dates: 12/02/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$47,375.00
Total individual contributions	\$47,375.00
Itemized individual contributions	\$44,000.00
Unitemized individual contributions	\$3,375.00
Party committee contributions	\$0.00
Other committee contributions	\$0.00
Candidate contributions	\$0.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,286.24
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$2,286.24
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$45,088.76



Marilyn Jackson - Republican

Coverage dates: 10/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$4,962.52
Total individual contributions	\$4,712.52
Itemized individual contributions	\$3,952.00
Unitemized individual contributions	\$760.52
Other committee contributions	\$0.00
Candidate contributions	\$250.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$3,328.60
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$3,328.60
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$1,633.92



Dan McQueen - Republican

Coverage dates: 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$0.00
Total individual contributions	\$0.00
Itemized individual contributions	\$0.00
Unitemized individual contributions	\$0.00
Party committee contributions	\$0.00
Other committee contributions	\$0.00
Candidate contributions	\$0.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$0.00
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$0.00
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$0.00



Eddie Rodriguez - Democrat

Coverage dates: 10/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$251,472.00
Total individual contributions	\$247,722.00
Itemized individual contributions	\$231,120.00
Unitemized individual contributions	\$16,602.00
Other committee contributions	\$250.00
Candidate contributions	\$3,500.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$31,134.38
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$31,134.38
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$220,338.50



Greg Casar - Democrat

Coverage dates: 10/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$467,579.03
Total individual contributions	\$438,579.03
Itemized individual contributions	\$358,377.79
Unitemized individual contributions	\$80,201.24
Party committee contributions	\$5,000.00
Other committee contributions	\$24,000.00
Candidate contributions	\$0.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$111,870.02
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$111,870.02
ENDING CASH ON HAND	\$355,709.69

The Demographics of the 35th Congressional District

General Demographics

Current population	745,662
Age	
Residents younger than 5	8.1%
Residents younger than 18	27.2%
Residents 65 or older	8.1%
Education	
Residents with high school diploma (older than 25)	74.0%
Residents with degree (older than 25)	18.3%

LEFT: The 35th Congressional District in relation to the state of Texas

BELOW: The 35th Congressional District stretching from Austin to San Antonio, Texas.



Racial Demographics	
Race - White	71.7%
Race - Black or African American	9.7%
Race - American Indian or Alaska Native	0.8%
Race - Asian	1.8%
Race - Two or More	3.7%
Race - Hispanic or Latino	62.3%
Gender Demographics	
Female residents	50.1%
Foreign born residents	16.4%
Housing Demographics	
Housing units	270,891
Units inside multi-unit buildings	29.9%
Households	241,585
Home ownership rate	51.7%
Home median value	\$104,400
People per household	2.7
Income Demographics	
Income per capita	\$17,544
Income per household	\$38,944
Income below poverty line	26.3%

Communities in 35th District

- Parts of Austin, Texas
- Kyle, Texas
- Buda, Texas
- San Marcos, Texas
- New Braunfels, Texas
- Lockhart, Texas
- Parts San Antonio, Texas



BORDER LOVE ON THE RIO GRANDE: LATINAS IN THE RIO GRANDE

by Alberto Rodriquez

The area of South Texas known as the Lower Rio Grande Valley became in the period between the U.S. Civil War and World War I one of the few regions south of the Mason-Dixon Line where racial miscegenation laws were frequently challenged. As a consequence a small but significant number of prominent black-ethnic Mexican families emerged to complicate both the Anglo-Mexican and black- white racial dichotomies so common in the rest of the nation. In the article below historian Alberto Rodriquez describes that process.

The U.S. Census of 1900 for Cameron County, Texas, which today is dominated by the cities of Harlingen and Brownsville, showed an unusual statistic. According to that census, 177 blacks formed 18 households in Cameron County. Of those eighteen households, seven or 38% were interracially married. In neighboring Hidalgo County, where the largest cities are Donna, McAllen, and Edinburg, Texas, there were 18 out of 25 families interracially married or 72% of the black population. These two counties had the highest rates of interracial marriages involving at least one black spouse in the United States at that time.

Most of the black women and men of Cameron and Hidalgo Counties migrated from the Deep South to the southern most region of Texas. These were farm families. Out of the 18 interracial households in Cameron County, nine families (50%) owned their land while nine families rented. In Hidalgo County, 10 out of 25 or 40% of

the interracially married couples owned land. If blacks acquired land in South Texas, it happened in one of two ways. Either they had economic success which provided the resources to purchase land, or they married into the landed ethnic Mexican families of South Texas.

These interracial marriages along the Lower Rio Grande Valley for the most part were black men marrying ethnic Mexican women or first generation Tejanas (Texas-born women of Mexican descent). Typical of these marriages was the union of Louis and Angle Rutledge of Hidalgo County. Louis Rutledge was a black male born in Alabama who lived in the county's Second Precinct in 1900. In 1886, he married Angle, an ethnic Mexican woman who was born to Mexican parents. The Rutledges, who had been married 14 years by the time of the 1900 census, had seven children ranging from two to thirteen years of age. The census also shows that all the children attended school.

It was more common for blacks and ethnic Mexicans to cross racial lines and marry at this time and in this area of Texas than any other section of the state. Since ethnic Mexicans were considered white by Texas officials and the U.S. government, such marriages were a violation of the state's anti-miscegenation laws. Yet, there is no evidence that anyone in South Texas was prosecuted for violating this law.

Moreover, there seemed to be little stigma attached to these marriages from the families involved. In 1900, Juan Zuniga's daughter, Redacinde Jackson, lost her black husband.



She then returned with her children to her father's home. Interracial families were often what would today be called blended families since both husband and wife brought children from previous marriages into the new households. Juan Singletary of Hidalgo County had two stepsons, Ballagar and Davie Solis, living with him. Both were sons of Antonia, his ethnic Mexican wife. Nagario Jackson also had a stepson living in his household. His name was Christ Visnuevo, the stepson of his ethnic Mexican wife, Eugirua. As the given names Juan and Nagario suggest, these "black" men themselves had ethnic Mexican mothers and thus represented a second generation of racially blended families.

The roots of this unusual interracial marriage dynamic can be traced into the 19th Century. Many black men who moved into the Lower

Rio Grande Valley after the Civil War married into ethnic Mexican families soon after their arrival. They joined black women and men who from the 1850s onward found sanctuary on the U.S./Mexican border. Although the black population in the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas can be traced back to the mid 1740s with the settlement of the Afro-Spaniard José de Escandon, most black migration to the Rio Grande Valley happened in three periods: 1.the Underground Railroad era with enslaved people fleeing from the slaveholding southern United States into Mexico between 1836 and 1865, 2.free black settlers on the border between 1850 and 1900, and 3. twentieth century black migrants who arrived between 1900 and 1960.

In 1849, for example, slave-owner Lad Kinchlow of Wharton County, Texas, freed and sent one-year-old Ben Kinchlow, his

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN AND VALLEY OF SOUTH TEXAS (1850-1940)

older brother, and his mother, **Lizaer Moore**, to **Matamoros, Mexico**. Although **Ben** does not give any explanation for his family's emancipation, he does state that he never knew his white father, **Lad Kinchlow**. **Ben** worked both sides of the border as a ranch hand and cowboy in the 1860s and 1870s. During that period he reported friendly interaction with ethnic Mexicans both in **Texas** and **Mexico**. When **Kinchlow** was five years old, his mother **Lizaer** (Eliza) **Moore**, married **Juan Rios**, an ethnic Mexican from **Brownsville, Texas**. Although **Kinchlow** did not claim any lineage to his ethnic Mexican stepfather or siblings, he found love within the **South Texas** ethnic Mexican society. **Kinchlow** said in a 1937 **WPA** interview that he "fell in love" with **Antonita Flores**:

Antonita was the one I fell in love with... Of corse I had chances to talk to her some. I used to go by Antonita and smile and pass her a sign and she always answered. I would have married her if I had stayed on there but I was young and hadn't even joined up with [Texas Ranger Lee] McNally [of Brownsville, Texas] yet and when I left their [sic], I drifted farther away an' never did go back. But Antonita stayed in my memory a long time. She was good an' kind an' as pretty as a rose. I thought lots of her an' I knowed she thought lots of me. We used to ride together but most of the time the old man was with us. Sometimes I got to talk to her an' I could slip in a nice word while we were off together.

Kinchlow's brief fling with **Antonita** reflected the complexity of race and ethnicity in **South Texas** at that time. Although **Antonita** was legally white and thus their

relationship was a violation of **Texas** miscegenation laws, according to **Kinchlow**, **Antonita Flores's** father knew about them and allowed the courtship to continue under his supervision. **Antonita's** father thus obviously had a different understanding of the miscegenation laws that existed from the Civil War through the mid-20th Century.

Even Anglos found the **Lower Rio Grande Valley** a haven for mixed race relationships. **John Webber**, an Anglo from **Travis County, Texas**, married one of his former slaves, **Silvia Hector**, soon after he founded **Webberville**. Yet **Webber** and his interracial family, which by this time included three children, were forced to flee the town he founded because of opposition to their status as a mixed race family. They moved further south in 1853 and settled near **Donna, Texas** in the **Lower Rio Grande Valley**. The **Webber** family eventually acquired 27,000 acres of land along the **Rio Grande**. Three other black families, the **Jacksons**, **Singletarys**, and **Rutledges**, arrived in **South Texas** with the help of the **Webber** family. Their descendants married ethnic Mexican men and women. Black-white marriages like that of **John** and **Silvia Webber**, however, remained rare.

The **Webbers**, **Jacksons**, **Singletarys**, and **Rutledges**, all of whom acquired large ranches, established a pattern of interracial marriage that was copied by other African American migrants into the region after the **Civil War**. Thus the Census of 1900 confirmed a half century of interracial blending between blacks and ethnic Mexicans in the **Lower Rio Grande Valley**. Today most of the **Lower Rio Grande Valley** people

who carry the last names of **Webber**, **Jackson**, **Singletary**, and **Rutledge** are all Spanish-speaking people who claim Mexican descent.

By the early 1900s, new waves of black settlers in **South Texas** were becoming an integral part of the growing agro-business economy in the region. Many of them worked on the **St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexican Railway**. Ironically the demand for their labor and the growing residential segregation that finally swept into **South Texas** from the rest of the state, allowed their small communities to flourish.

Although the four major interracial families—the **Webbers**, **Jacksons**, **Singletarys**, and **Rutledges**—increasingly identified as ethnic Mexicans, they nonetheless continued to support the black newcomers who arrived in the area. One of their most important contributions was **Jackson Chapel**, a **Methodist Church** found in 1874 on **Jackson Ranch** between the communities of **Donna** and **Hidalgo, Texas**. The one room church served both as a school and community meeting center and still serves that purpose today. The church became the center of the small but growing black community while the school, for many years, provided the only educational opportunity available to African American children. As vital as it was to black **South Texas**, however, **Jackson Chapel** also provided a space for Anglos, blacks, and ethnic Mexicans to meet, exchange culture, and interact in their daily lives.

Jackson Chapel led the way for all-black churches in the **Lower Rio Grande Valley**. By 1930 **Brownsville**, **Raymondville**, **Harlingen**, and **Edinburg** all had such churches. As the African American population in the **Lower Rio Grande Valley** grew in the period between 1880 and 1920, these churches helped establish a sense of African American autonomy from both the Anglo and Mexican worlds and for the first time black communities became a distinct part of the increasingly diverse **South Texas** racial makeup. Yet, the growth of racially exclusive neighborhoods for Anglos, blacks, and ethnic Mexicans limited and discouraged the interracial and interethnic contact that had been common in the mid-19th Century.

With the post-World War II influx of Mexican immigrants and Tejanos from other areas of Texas as well as the steadily increasing black population, the size, number, and influence of the early black-ethnic Mexican families declined. While the border region of the **Lower Rio Grande Valley** continues to be a space of interracial-interethnic marriage freedom, it is important to recall how the process began that allowed this far south region of **Texas** to quietly challenge the rest of the United States on the question of interracial marriage. The **South Texas** past may well suggest one type of future as the black and brown populations continue to grow in numbers and influence throughout the nation.

TORNEO CHARRO

LIENZO CHARRO DE SAN ANTONIO

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26 Y 27 DE FEBRERO

SÁBADO

26 de Febrero
10:00 AM

1. Rancho HG
2. Compadres de Bajío
3. Agua Santa
4. Charros de San Antonio B

1:30 PM

5. Caporales de Houston
6. Unión Zacatecana
7. Rancheros de Houston
8. Tradición Charra

5:00 PM

Punteadero Femenil

7:00 PM

Coleadero de Premio

DOMINGO

27 de Febrero
10:00 AM

9. Hacienda Gran Centenario
10. Rancho Los Morales
11. Rancho El Encinal
12. Charros de San Antonio A

1:30 PM

13. Charros de Dallas
14. Regionales de Austin
15. Charros Los Alazanes
16. Regionales Del Valle

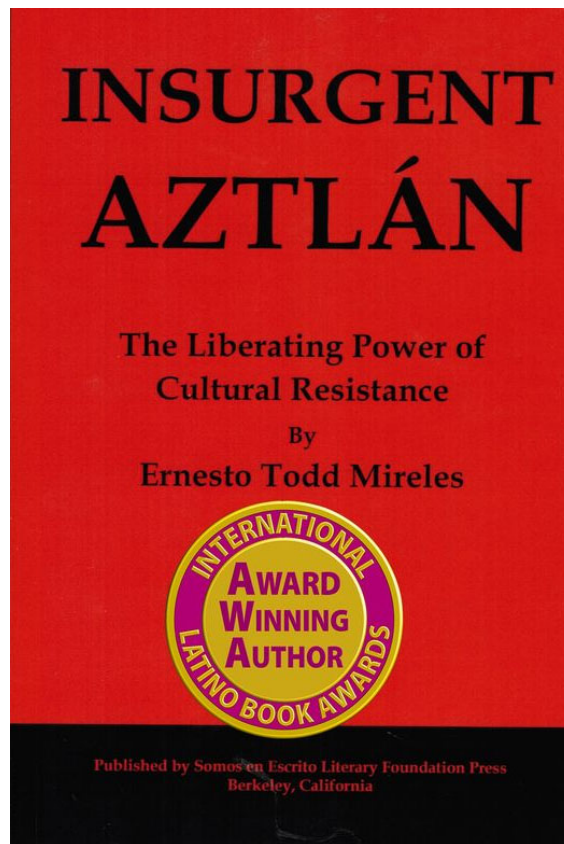
4:30 PM

17. La Fortaleza
18. Charros Manantial
19. Capilla de Guadalupe
20. Misterio de Oro



Libros para el invierno

Insurgent Aztlán The Liberating Power of Cultural Resistance reconstructs the relationship between social political insurgent theory and Xicano literature, film and myth. Based on decades of organizing experience and scholarly review of the writings of recognized observers and leaders of the process of national liberation movements, the author, **Ernesto Todd Mireles**, shares a remarkable work of scholarship that incorporates not only the essence of earlier resistance writing, but provides a new paradigm of liberation guidelines for the particular situation of Mexican Americans. **Mireles** makes a solid case for addressing the decades-long decline of Mexican American identity within itself and broadly among sectors of American society by asserting the powerful role of culture and history, each value unable to exist without the other, in the preservation and political advancement of a people.



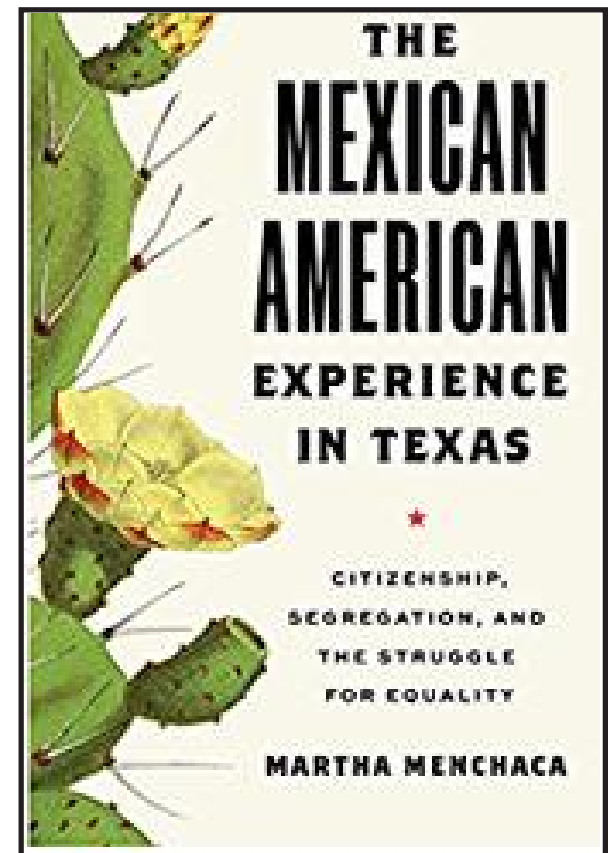
In the case of Mexican Americans, which consists of an estimated 40 million people and boasts the highest birth rate in the U.S., they constitute “a nation within a nation.” The intellectual challenge, **Mireles** asserts, is connecting insurgent social political theory with the existing body of Xicano literature, film and myth. The organizing challenge is how to build an insurgent identity that fosters a “return to history” to build a consensus among Mexican Americans, who are a complex collective of culturally, educationally, politically, and economically diverse people, to reclaim their historical presence in the Americas and the world. **Insurgent Aztlán** must be read by students from high school to graduate studies, their professors, organizers in the fields and factories, union shops, and urban community organizations, wherever Mexican Americans sense the need to re-evaluate their goals and aspirations for themselves and their families.

The Mexican American Experience in Texas: Citizenship, Segregation, and the Struggle for Equality (The Texas Bookshelf) Kindle Edition by **Martha Menchaca** (Author) Format: Kindle Edition Part of: The Texas Bookshelf (4 books) #1 New Release in Hispanic American Studies See all formats and editions Kindle \$22.49

Hardcover
\$29.95

For hundreds of years, Mexican Americans in Texas have fought against political oppression and exclusion—in courtrooms, in schools, at the ballot box, and beyond. Through a

detailed exploration of this long battle for equality, this book illuminates critical moments of both struggle and triumph in the Mexican American experience.



Martha Menchaca begins with the Spanish settlement of **Texas**, exploring how Mexican Americans’ racial heritage limited their incorporation into society after the territory’s annexation. She then illustrates their political struggles in the nineteenth century as they tried to assert their legal rights of citizenship and retain possession of their land, and goes on to explore their fight, in the twentieth century, against educational segregation, jury exclusion, and housing covenants. It was only in 1967, she shows, that the collective pressure placed on the state government by **Mexican American** and African American activists led to the beginning of desegregation. Menchaca concludes with a look at the crucial roles that Mexican Americans have played in national politics, education, philanthropy, and culture, while acknowledging the important work remaining to be done in the struggle for equality.

Available at Amazon

Calendar of Events

February 9th, 2022 - The Austin Latino Coalition extends an invitation to everyone to join in a conversation about the new 10-1 Single Member Districts Plan for the City of Austin. See page 14 for more details.

February 12th, 2022 - World War II Sweetheart Dance at Camp Marby in Austin, Texas. Call 512-550-9957 for more information. Dance to the sound of the big bands of the 1940s

February 12th, 2022 - La Raza Round Table Zoom Meeting from 10:00am to Noon Guests to include: Linda Guerrero regarding I-35 Expansion: Fred Lewis regarding Central Health: Amanda Carrillo regarding Jet Fuel Tank Farm



February 14th, 2022 - Early Voting Starts

February 19th, 2022 - Tejano on the Rivera Music Festival featuring Ricky Naranjo y Los Gamblers Kaufer-Hubert Memorial Park Farma to Market Rd. 628 in Rivera, Texas. This is a free event. For more information call: 979-665-1923

February 20th, 2022 - Toma mi corazón. See page 16 for more information

February 25th, 2022 - Last day of early voting

March 1st, 2022 - Election Day

March 2& 3, 2022 - Voces Oral History Center Amplify Austin Campaign. Please visit <https://voces.lib.utexas.edu> for more information

March 17th thru 22nd, 2022 - Tejano Music Ards in San Antonio, Texas. Free eventbeginning at noon each day

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LA RAZA 95.1

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**.

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

Today I went to the doctor

Hoy fui al médico.

He told me that I only

El me dijo que tenía sólo

had 6 months to live.

6 meses de vida

I asked him if he was sure

Le pregunté si estaba seguro?

He said yes.

El dijo que si.

He said he has seen

Dijo que había visto

this type of disease before

este tipo de enfermedad.

I thanked him and slowly put on my shoes

Le di las gracias y lentamente me puse mis zapatos.

As I walked out the door, I thought to myself, what if the doctor is mistaken?

Saliendo de la puerta, pensé, que tal si el médico esta equivocado?

As I walked down the street, I thought it might be a good idea to get a second opinion

Mientras que caminaba por la calle, pensé que sería una buena idea obtener una segunda opinión.

When I reached my house I told my wife the bad news.

Cuando llegué a mi casa, le dije a mi esposa las malas noticias.

She was in agreement that it was a good idea to look for a second opinion.

Eustvo de acuerdo en que sería una buena idea buscar otra opinión.

So I found another doctor and ran some tests only to tell me that there was nothing wrong with me.

Así que encontré otro médico y realicé algunas pruebas solo para decirme que no había nada malo en mí.

The next time you get bad news ...

La próxima vez que recibas malas noticias.



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Community Leader
Martha Cotera

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