

# La Voz



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Free  
Gratis





## Senator Zaffirini to Receive Outstanding Alumna Award from UT-Austin

The **Moody College of Communication** at **The University of Texas at Austin** has selected **Senator Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo**, as the recipient of its **2015-16 Outstanding Alumna Award**. The award is presented annually to a **Moody College** graduate for distinguished achievement in public and private life.

*“Senator Zaffirini’s commitment to the citizens and communities of Texas and her outstanding career as a communication professional has brought great distinction to the Moody College of Communication,”* said **Jay Bernhardt**, the college’s dean. *“We are extremely proud to count her among our alumni.”*

Previous recipients of the award include former **U.S. First Lady Lady Bird Johnson**, storied **Texas** journalist **Wayne Sellers** and journalist and presidential advisor **Liz Carpenter**.

**Dr. Zaffirini** is an award-winning communication specialist with 13 years of teaching experience, including at the college and university levels. She has received more than 880 awards and honors for her legislative, public service and professional work, including more than 260 in communication. The

**South Texas Press Association** has honored her for her distinguished career in journalism and public service, and the **Press Women of Texas (PWT)** and the **National Association of Press Women** have recognized her communications expertise repeatedly with awards for her publications, speeches and public relations campaigns. In 2015 **PWT** named her its **Communicator of Achievement**.

Through her business, **Zaffirini Communications**, she provides professional communication services, including consulting, workshops and seminars, one-on-one coaching, keynote addresses and writing. A distinguished communicator, educator and leader, she holds B.S., M.A. and PhD degrees from **UT-Austin**, each with a 3.9 grade-point average.



## Garibay Inducted Into Austin Women’s Hall of Fame

**Montserrat Garibay**, Vice President for **Education Austin** was inducted into the **Austin Women’s Hall of Fame**. **Garibay** is one of the most high profile activists in the community. Among her many activities are recently being elected as an At-Large member of the **Democratic National Committee**. She has also been the president of **LULAC Council 4859** and was one of the co-founders of the **University**

# People in the News

**Leadership** which promotes the passage of the **Dream Act**. The induction ceremony will take place on **March 2nd** at **City Hall** at **6:00pm**.



## Brazoria County Teen Scores at San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo

Congratulations to **Reanna Santos** for placing **First** in **Western Horsemanship**, **Third** in **Western Pleasure**, **Fourth** in **Halter**. She received open horse show high point all around and received a **\$10,000.00** Scholarship. Full disclosure: **Reanna** es la hija de mi primo **Rudy Santos**. Ellos vivan en **Angleton, Texas**.



## Chencho Flores Turns 86

Puro, purísimo conjunto, al estilo **Austin**. Congratulations to **Chencho Flores** who plays with **Los Pinkeys** and can he make that accordion play some sweet dancing music!



## Natalia Molina Awarded Book Prize

**UC San Diego Department of History Professor Natalia Molina**, who also teaches urban studies, was recently awarded the **2015 Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize** for **Interdisciplinary Scholarship** for her book, *“How Race Is Made in America: Immigration, Citizenship, and the Historical Power of Racial Scripts.”* **Molina’s** publication examines Mexican immigration from 1924 to 1965 to understand how broad themes of race and citizenship are established.

The **Glasscock Award** supports humanities research through fellowships and grants. **Molina** formally accepted the award **Feb. 24**, at **Texas A&M University’s Glasscock Center Library**, where she gave a lecture about her work.

*“The Glasscock prize provides a stage for talking about immigration thoughtfully,”* **Molina** said. *“Immigration is such a hot topic today, yet in our 24-hour-news-cycle, fueled by sound bites, we often don’t discuss this pressing issue in an informed way.”* Last year marked the 50th anniversary of the 1965 Immigration Act, which, according to **Molina**, transformed immigration in unanticipated ways, most notably paving the way for immigration from **Latin America** and **Asia**.

## TEJANO MUSIC AWARDS FAN FAIR 2016

Set for **March 17, 18, 19, 20, 2016** at **Historic Market Square San Antonio**. The **Biggest Tejano Music Event in the World!**

Four Days of **FREE** Non-Stop Tejano Music Over 125 Tejano Music Bands from Across the **U.S.A** and **Mexico**

Performances by **Elida Reyna y Avante**, **Solido**, **Shelly Lares**, **La Fiebre**, **Hometown Boys**, **Lucky Joe**, **Ricky Valenz**, **Jimmy Gonzalez y Grupo Mazz**, **Los Desperadoz**, **Grupo Dezigual**, **Bajo Zero**, **Yvonne y Grupo Fuego**, **Grupo Imagen** and many more

**SAN ANTONIO, TX (12-16-2015)** – **Texas Talent Musicians Association (TTMA)** presents the **Tejano Music Awards Fan Fair 2016**. Scheduled for **March 17-20, 2016**. (Thursday-Sunday). Thousands of Tejano Music Fans from across the country will travel to **Historic Market Square in Downtown San Antonio** for the Tejano Music event of the year.

The four-day event runs from 12:00 noon to 11:00pm each night and will showcase over 125 bands from across the U.S. to include **Arizona**, **California**, **Colorado**, **Michigan**, **Minnesota**, **New Mexico**, **Florida**, **Ohio** and of course **Texas**. The **TMA Fan Fair** draws over 95,000 die-hard fans each year and offers an up close and personal atmosphere with live music on four stages featuring emerging acts to top veteran performers as well as some surprise guest performances.





## PRODUCTION

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pregunta,  
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# Pensamientos

Ya se que muchos de ustedes estan candado de la politica. Las llamadas por telefono, las cartas en el correo y los comerciales en la television has many of you saying ya parale! But this is part of the price we pay for living in a country where people can still vote and voice their opinion.

As of this writing it appears that **Donald Trump** is going to take the Republican nomination. He is on a roll that many people did not believe would happen. The Washington Post in an excellent editorial is calling Trump a Frankensein monster. He is a creation of the party, he was brought to life by the party and now he has become strong enough that some believe he is going to detroy the **Republican Party**. If you have a chance Google the piece and read it.

### Camiendo de Temas

Just to be fair and show you how wacky (is that a word) la politica has become, check out the following races around

In **San Antonio, Carlos Uresti**, a sitting **Texas State Senator** is facing a challenge from the wife of **Frank Madla**. **Frank Madla**, who died in a house fire a few years ago held the Senate seat for many years and **Carlos Uresti** ran for it and won. Now la wife wants it back. ¿Cómo vez?

In **Houston, Texas, Syliva Treviño**, with a long time of law enforcement including being a policewoman is running for Constable in Precinct 6. She is running for the position her husband, **Victor Treviño** had to resign from after he was indicted for financial irregularities and pleaded guilty to last year. **Sylvia** is a nice lady, but the idea of running for the spot your husband once held and had to give up . . . pues si mira mal.

Then you have another husband -wife trading places situ-

ation in **Brownsville, Texas**. This doesn't involve anything wrong it is just an interesting example we thought should be included in our little list here for March. **Bea Rosenbaum** is running for **Cameron County Commissioner**, the position her husband once held in the late 80s and early 90s.

I went down to **Brownsville** in 1988 to work on her husbands campaign and so I know the **Rosenbaum** family. I would have never thought that **Bea** would have caught the political bug and decide to run for political office but she did. I wish her well. She is an honest and hard working individual.

### Camiendo de Temas

Last but not least, *queremos recordales a todos que no dejen de ir a votar. Mucha gente quisiera tener la oportunidad que tenemos nosotros aquí en los Estados Unidos. Si se Puede!*

## EDITORIAL



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

### La Raza Round Table



Where friends and enemies come together for breakfast tacos every Saturday and discuss the important issues of the day. We meet at 4926 East Cesar Chavez Street in Austin, Texas every Saturday at 10:00am



### Workers Defense Project

*Proyecto Defensa Laboral*

E-mail: [info@workersdefense.org](mailto:info@workersdefense.org)  
Phone: (512) 391-2305  
Fax: (512) 391-2306

**Mailing Address:**  
Workers Defense Project  
5604 Manor RD  
Austin, TX 78723



## A TODAS LAS PERSONAS Y PARTES INTERESADAS:

Braskem América, Inc. ha solicitado a la Comisión de Texas sobre Calidad Ambiental (TCEQ) para una enmienda al permiso No. 37884 de Calidad del Aire, el cual autorizaría a la modificación de la unidad de producción de polipropileno de Oyster Creek situado en 5005 East Highway 332, puerta 9, OC-450, Freeport, Condado de Brazoria, Texas 77541. En la sección de avisos públicos de este periódico se encuentra información adicional acerca de esta solicitud.

## Holy Family Catholic Church

*An inclusive &  
compassionate  
CATHOLIC community*

**Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias**  
M.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.S., Ph.D.  
Senior Pastor



9:00 a.m. Dialogue on Scripture & Spirituality  
10:00 a.m. English Mariachi Mass  
10:45 a.m. Breakfast & Mariachi  
12:00 p.m. Spanish Mariachi Mass

**8613 Lava Hill Road, 78744**  
From Highway 183 South, turn right on the first road after  
FM 812. Look for the sign "Mass."

For more information: (512) 826-0280  
Welcome Home!



## Profile

### Kiel Kietlinski



**Kiel Kietlinski** is a native of Austin, TX and a 2005 graduate of **James Bowie High School**. He attended **Stephen F. Austin State University** with a major initially in Nursing that was later changed to Biology. **Mr. Kietlinski** met his wife during his second semester of college. The couple has been together for ten years and married for eight years. In December of 2009, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science and entered the Master's program in the same Biology department.

While working on his Master's, **Kietlinski** spent time traveling between **Stephen F. Austin State University** and **Brigham Young University** in **Provo, UT** for his research project. **Kietlinski** investigated crop domestication events in **Amaranth** species using DNA markers and phylogenetic analysis from samples spanning North and South America present in **USDA** databases. His work led to several publications and **Kietlinski** graduated with his Master's degree in May of 2012.

In the Fall of 2012, **Kietlinski** moved to **Carbondale, IL** to pursue a Doctorate in Plant Biology from **Southern Illinois University**. This gave him the opportunity to teach full classes. He fell in love with teaching and after a year in the doctorate program, and a 4.0 GPA, he transferred to the College of Education with the idea of becoming a science teacher in a public school. In 2015, **Kietlinski** graduated with a degree in Education and moved back to **Austin, TX** where he is now the chemistry teacher at **East Austin College Prep**.

**Your goals for EAPrep and your students:** My goal for **EA Prep** is to make it one of the best schools in the **Austin** area. My goals for my students is to teach them to respect themselves and others as-well as to promote student achievement.

**Your Favorite Activity:** I am a huge science fiction fan. I watch quite a bit of **Star Trek** and **Star Wars** in my free time. I even started the Sci-Fi and gaming club after school to get kids interested in the subject.

**Your Favorite Books:** The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy, Moby Dick, Gulliver's Travels, & The Hobbit

**Your Personal hero and why:** My personal hero would be my dad. He was always there for me growing up and taught me how to be a better person.

**What animal best represents you and why?** I think that the single celled amoeba best represents me despite not fully being classified as an animal. The amoeba is single celled and "simple", and I like to keep things simple. Furthermore, amoebas like to ingest and take in new things around them as they change shapes, which is similar to me in that I like to acquire new experiences and take on new roles.

**What is your greatest strength?** I think that my greatest strength is that I have a love of learning and that I really like to try new things every day.

**Interesting fact about yourself:** My wife and I have a number of pet hedgehogs. Each has their own personality. We currently own a male named Mendel, named after the father of genetics Gregor Mendel.



# Turning your back on immigrants is a betrayal

by Jorge Ramos

The children of immigrants in **America** tend to take on two responsibilities: They care for their immigrant parents, and they care for other immigrants as if they were their own parents. That has been a noble American tradition for over two centuries. Few things are sadder or more treacherous than closing the door to immigrants who came after us, which is what some U.S. presidential candidates want to do.

We've never seen so many sons of immigrants running for president. Republican candidate **Donald Trump's** mother was born in **Scotland**; **Marco Rubio's** parents were born in **Cuba**; **Ted Cruz's** father is also from **Cuba**; Democrat **Bernie Sanders' father** is from **Poland**; The parents of Republican **Bobby Jindal**—who dropped out of the race—are from **India**. All of these candidates know firsthand what it's like to live in a house where at least one parent has had to adapt to the culture and rules of a new country.

Nonetheless the current campaign cycle has been characterized by Republicans' harsh attacks on immigrants. The terror attacks in **Paris** and **San Bernardino, California**, have only heightened the xenophobic discourse in the United States.

Almost every **GOP** candidate has labeled undocumented immigrants "illegal," and some of them support the idea of building a wall along the southern border with **Mexico**. **Trump** famously characterized Mexican immigrants as criminals and rapists. And most of the Republican candidates, in

contrast to the three Democratic hopefuls, are opposed to offering a pathway to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the U.S.

Of course, most incomprehensible for many Hispanics is that the two Latino candidates, **Marco Rubio** and **Ted Cruz**, have taken such a harsh stance against immigrants who are here simply because they're doing the jobs that Americans won't do. Both **Rubio** and **Cruz** have broken a decadeslong tradition in which Hispanic politicians, no matter their family origins or political affiliations, tended to defend the most vulnerable immigrants in this country. As evidence, look at how **Luis Gutierrez** and **Nydia Velazquez**—Democratic representatives from Puerto Rico—or Cuban-American Republican lawmakers **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** and brothers **Lincoln** and **Mario Diaz-Balart** have defended the undocumented in the past.

Apparently that legacy no longer applies.

*"No one running for president knows more about immigration than me,"* **Rubio** recently said during a speech in **New Hampshire**. Yet **Rubio** and **Cruz** are struggling to see who can demonstrate the harshest opposition to offering undocumented immigrants a path to citizenship. Simply put: **Rubio** and **Cruz** don't want new immigrants to have the same opportunities that their own parents had.

Of course, the fact that a candidate is Latino doesn't mean that Latino voters will automatically vote for him. On the contrary, Latinos actually demand more from a Latino candidate. But we also know that at some point somebody looked out for that candidate's immigrant parents. Someone helped them get jobs. Someone taught them how to pronounce words in English correctly.

I myself am an immigrant. I arrived in this country 33 years ago, and I fondly remember when **Pete Moraga**, my news editor, invited me to his home to celebrate my first Thanksgiving with his family in **Los Angeles**. I remember how they patiently taught me about the American traditions associated with this holiday. Immigrants never forget those who helped us. Never.

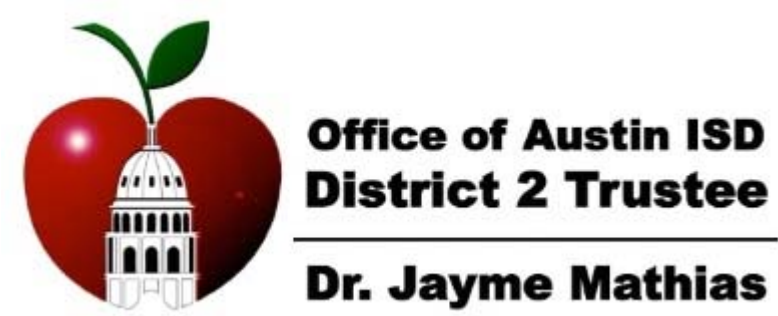
The United States has been extremely generous toward me, which is why I continue to argue that more recent immigrants should have the same opportunities and be treated with the same respect that I received.

I simply don't understand why immigrants or the children of immigrants tend to attack those who arrived a little later. There is no greater disloyalty than the children of immigrants forgetting their own roots.

That's a betrayal.



**Jorge Ramos**, an Emmy Award-winning journalist, is the host of Fusion's new television news show, "America With Jorge Ramos," and is a news anchor on the **Univision Network**. Originally from **Mexico** and now based in **Florida**, **Ramos** is the author of nine best-selling books, most recently, "A Country for All: An Immigrant Manifesto."

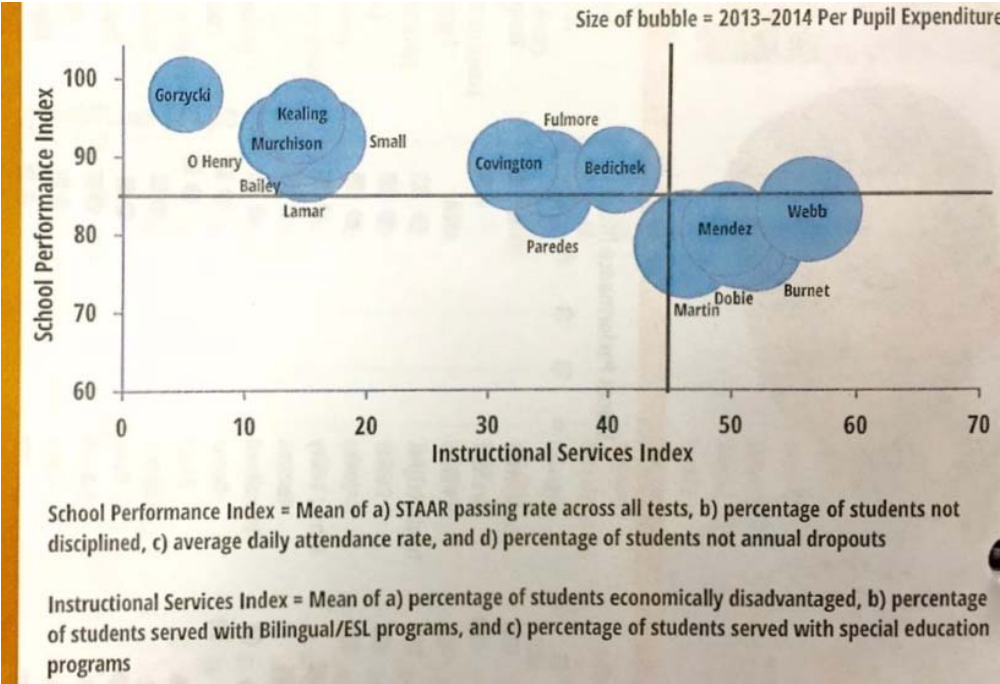


Dear Friend,

On Monday evening, our **AISD Board** reinvigorated a long-overdue conversation on equity in our district. You may remember that last March 30, we tasked our Administration to work with our Board’s Oversight Committee on Excellence through Equity, Diversity & Inclusion to develop the framework for a districtwide equity study. During the span of eight meetings, this Board Committee took up the issue twice, in April & December.

In the meantime, inequities persist.

On Monday evening, our **AISD Administration** shared some compelling data on the disparities of inputs & outcomes throughout our district. On Monday evening, I tweeted the following scatterplot created by our AISD Staff, charting student performance & our investment in instructional services during SY2014-15.



These data clearly show that not all schools are equal. Different amounts of resources are invested in different schools, all of which achieve differing outcomes.

I often come under fire for sharing data. Within the past two months alone, the operators of three local charter schools have pounced on me for exposing #charterschoolmyths.

In one presentation, for instance, I compared the performance of one charter school—which we’ll call Charter School X—with **Allison Elementary School in Montopolis**, a historically-underresourced community. I shared this slide.

	% Passing STAAR	College Ready	Distinctions
Allison	78%	20%	3
Charter X	61%	17%	1

2015 TEA data for Allison ES & Charter School X

The operators of Charter X responded with a public letter suggesting that all schools that meet **TEA** standards are somehow equal. They wrote:

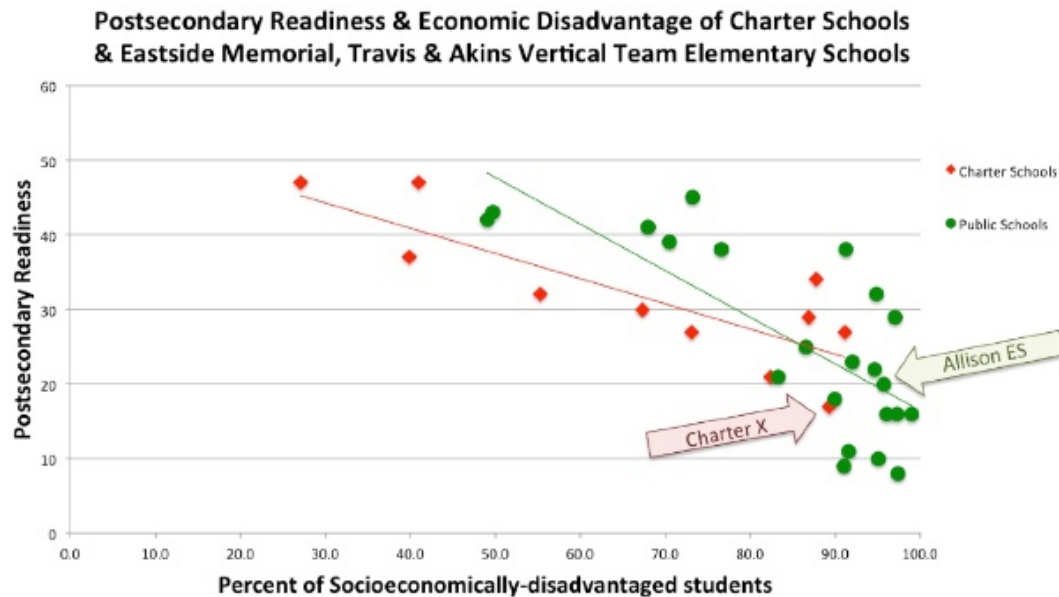
In your letter, you also say that it would be ‘eye-opening’ to compare [Charter X] to **Allison Elementary in Montopolis**. So, let’s do that. The Final 2015 Academic Accountability Ratings released in August rated [Charter X]’s elementary campus ‘Met Standard,’ which is the highest rating that can be given by the **Texas Education Agency**. Though true, this response doesn’t seem entirely honest insofar as it fails to address my claim that the performance of Charter X differs from the performance of **Allison Elementary**.

In a subsequent email to me, **Cynthia Valadez**, an outspoken champion for public education, shed more light on the matter. She wrote:

Last week, I was disappointed to read the desperate and dishonest attack on you by [two leaders of Charter X]. I refuse to believe that two men with doctorates from such prestigious universities are unable to read and interpret the data about their own “college prep” school. After reading their rant, I looked up the **TEA** data for [Charter X] and Allison [Elementary School]. **Dr. J**, you are absolutely right: It’s eye-opening. Allison has nearly 23% more English language learners and 6% more economically-disadvantaged students than [Charter X], and still [Allison] received two more TEA distinctions than [Charter X] and outperformed them in student achievement by 17 points. By 17 points, **Dr. J!** They say [their school] is “college prep,” and little ol’ **Allison** outperformed them in the domain of student progress by more than 20 points, in the domain of closing gaps by 11 points, and in the domain of postsecondary readiness as well! This is just another reason I’m SO proud of our public schools!!!

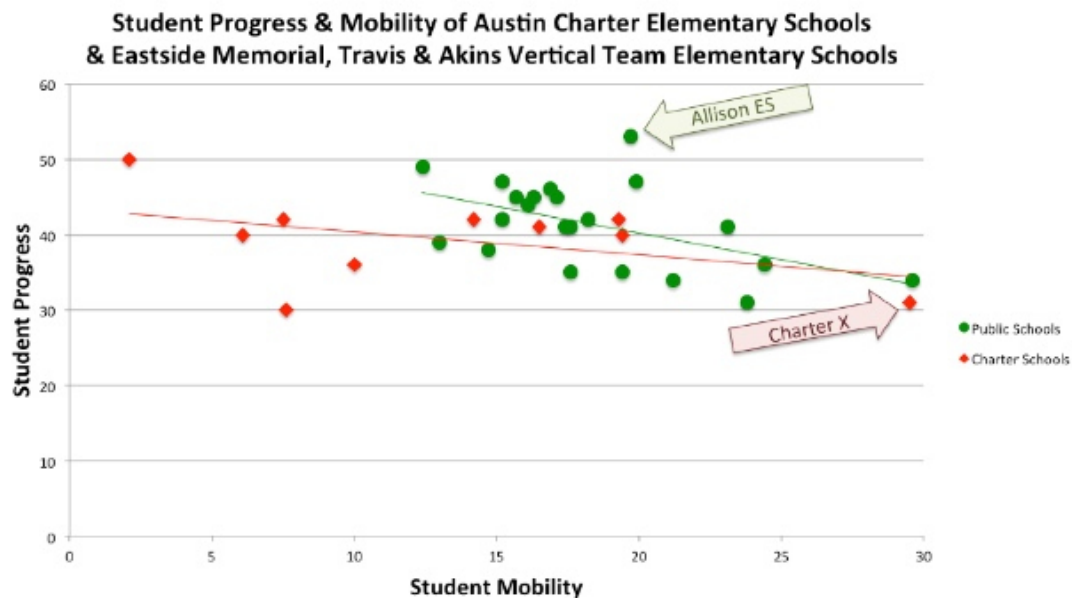
Intrigued by the question of how our schools are performing with respect to postsecondary readiness, I spent some time this week researching the **TEA** data for our schools. In my own analysis of the 33 public & charter schools of this subset, the strongest correlations are found between postsecondary readiness & socioeconomic disadvantage ( $r = -0.678, p < .01$ ) and between student progress and student mobility ( $r = -0.668, p < .01$ ).

Though I lack the skills of our talented AISD Staff, here are my own rudimentary scatterplots showing how the elementary schools of our **Akins, Eastside Memorial & Travis Vertical Teams** compare to local charter schools.



What is striking about our public schools (i.e., the green dots in the scatterplot above) is that our public schools typically serve larger percentages of socioeconomically-disadvantaged students, that many of our public schools continue to do well in postsecondary readiness when compared to local charter schools, and that we also have seven public schools that need an extra boost to get to the level of the lowest charter school shown here—Charter X, the “college prep” school to which **Cynthia** referred.

When we look at student progress, it becomes even more obvious that not all schools are equal.



Here we see that only half of local charter schools have a student mobility rate that even closely resembles the mobility rates of our public schools. And while I’m quite pleased to see the high rates of student progress in many schools, I’m also concerned about the six public schools that are underachieving with respect to student progress—which is why I’m hopeful that a district equity study might help to address the disparities we see here.

As a district, we’re doing so well in so many areas. Now, in my estimation, we need to be focusing on greater equity of outcomes throughout our district! As always, I welcome your perspective on issues of education & equity—or on any other educational matter that lights your fire!

In Unity, **Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias** Austin ISD District 2 Trustee

## Charter X Responds



January 14, 2016

Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias  
Secretary and District 2 Trustee  
Austin Independent School District

Dear Rev. Dr. Mathias,

We were disappointed to learn that, in a recent newsletter to your subscribers, you felt it necessary to attack charter schools and, more specifically, **East Austin College Prep** in order to justify **AISD’s** plan to spend additional money on communications contract services this year for the purpose of student recruitment. Your attack was disappointing for a number of reasons not least of which is the fact that **Southwest Key Programs**, the non-profit that founded **EAPrep**, was also an ardent supporter of your campaign for election to the **AISD School Board** because of your history as an advocate for the community of **East Austin**. **Southwest Key** organized community forums on your behalf at our offices, we provided time for you to inform our employees about your campaign platform, and we helped you to fundraise. We did all of this because we want to see **AISD** transform into a school district that serves the entire community, including **East Austin**. We believed that getting you elected would help to bring the changes to the school board necessary to begin this transformation. Instead, the very issues that have driven students and families out of **AISD’s** schools for the past decade persist—poor communication with parents, resources distributed unevenly between the schools, and lowered expectations for students of color in low economic neighborhoods such as **East Austin**. Advertising, we’re sorry to tell you, isn’t going to fix your enrollment problems and your constituents know it. This is why you had to resort to desperate and dishonest measures to defend **AISD’s** plan.

**\$238 per student? We wish!**

In your letter, you told your subscribers that, “During the one year in which our district partnered with one charter operator, for instance, that charter school spent a whopping \$238 per student on advertising!” By your own admission, you’ve only worked with one charter operator, yet you proceed in your letter to conflate the alleged spending habits of that charter operator, (for which you provide no documentation), with all charter operators.

I can assure you that **East Austin College Prep** does not spend anywhere near \$238 per student on marketing. In fact, for Fall 2015 student recruitment, our costliest year yet, **East Austin College Prep** spent a whopping \$9.81 per student.

**Continued on the next page**



You go on in your letter to compare this fictitious \$238 per student spending figure with an alleged \$4 per student that **AISD** will spend on student recruitment this year. This figure you presumably derived by taking the \$350,000 the trustees voted for at the December 14, 2015 **AISD** school board meeting and dividing by **AISD's** current enrollment numbers, but this doesn't take into account the money you already had in your Contracted Services budget line item for the **AISD Communications Department**.

A look at the FY2016 Official **Austin ISD** Budget shows that in the past three years, **AISD** was already spending an average of just under \$300,000 for communications contracted services, and that your budget for that line item in FY 2016 is \$1,071,040.\* That's an additional \$774,751. Can you explain the discrepancy between that and the \$350,000 figure that has been reported in the media? Whatever the answer is, \$4.00 per student does not sound like an accurate account of the money **AISD** will spend this year on marketing the school district.

#### Academic comparisons

In your letter, you also say that it would be "eye opening" to compare **East Austin College Prep** to **Allison Elementary** in **Montopolis**. So, lets do that. The Final 2015 Academic Accountability Ratings released in August rated **EAPrep's** elementary campus, "Met Standard," which is the highest rating that can be given by the **Texas Education Agency**.

**Southwest Key Programs** moved its headquarters to **Govalle-Johnston Terrace** because it is among the most marginalized and underserved neighborhoods in **Austin**. The people here told us that, more than anything, they wanted a school that could provide their children with a fair chance at a good education. They have subsisted for more than 25 years without a public middle school in the neighborhood and the high school here was rated unacceptable for over a decade. We agreed there was a need and we responded by founding **East Austin College Prep**.

In other cities, charter schools are seen as one component of a multi-faceted solution to solving the various educational needs of the community. Why **Austin ISD** persists in pitting itself against charter schools is beyond us, but the results of your continued approach is resulting in what you have now, a projected loss of 4000 students in the next ten years. \*\*

Why not, instead, develop solid, academic programming in all of your schools? Your enrollment will stabilize and you won't have to freeze transfers because families only want their kids to attend a handful of **AISD** schools.

We look forward to your response to the academic needs of ALL of **Austin's** students.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Juan J. Sánchez**  
CEO/el Presidente  
Southwest Key Programs

**Dr. Salvador Cavazos**  
Superintendent of Schools  
East Austin College Prep



## Public Invited to Grand Opening of New Community Health Center in Southeast Austin

**What:** Public grand opening of Central Health Southeast Health & Wellness Center, providing new and improved access to "one-stop" care and wellness opportunities for Dove Springs, Montopolis and Del Valle neighborhoods.

**When:** It took place on Saturday, Feb. 20 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Where:** 2901 Montopolis Drive in Austin (the intersection of E. Oltorf Street and Montopolis Drive).

**Who:** Community leaders, residents, and elected officials including U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett, Texas Sen. Kirk Watson, Austin City Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria (Dist. 3), and Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gómez (Precinct 4).

**Activities:** There was a ceremonial ribbon cutting at noon, tours of the Center including the medical clinic, pharmacy, educational garden, teaching kitchen with healthy cooking demonstrations, Zumba classes, free food and live music.

**Why:** The long-awaited completion of the Central Health Southeast Health & Wellness Center (the Center) means low-income residents now have easy access to "one-stop" care and wellness opportunities. The Center focuses on the whole person by offering a vast array of health, social and wellness services and resources all at one location.

#### About Central Health:

Central Health is here to make our community stronger by investing in access to health care for our most vulnerable residents. We are the local public entity that connects low-income Travis County residents to high quality, cost effective health care. We work with a network of partners to eliminate health disparities to reach our vision of Travis County becoming a model healthy community.

[www.centralhealth.net](http://www.centralhealth.net)

For more information about the Southeast Health and Wellness Center

2901 Montopolis Drive  
Austin, Texas 78741  
(512) 978-9901

On pages 10 and 11 you will see many of the individuals who played a role in the planning and design of the Southeast Health and Wellness Center. They spent many hours learning about the best practices of health centers and visited facilities around the state to get a good idea of what would work in Austin. They are to be commended for all their work and sacrifice.





**Ofelia Zapata and other Austin Interfaith Leaders**



# Southeast Health and Wellness Center Grand Opening



**ABOVE:** Larry Wallace, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer for Central Health, Ofelia Zapata a leader with Austin Interfaith, and Dr. Mark S. Hernandez, Chief Medical Officer for the Community Care Collaborative



**ABOVE:** Many of the attendees who helped to cut the ribbon at the Grand Opening of the Southeast Health and Wellness Center



**ABOVE:** Larry Wallace, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer for Central Health and Jill Ramirez Executive Director of the **Latino Healthcare Forum**



# Southeast Health and Wellness Center Grand Opening



Austin City Councilwoman- District 2, **Delia Garza**



Austin City Council member (District 2) **Pio Renteria** speaking at the Southeast Health and Wellness Center which is located in the former VA Clinic at the Montopolis and Oltorf intersection.



Travis County Commissioner Precinct 4 - **Margaret Gomez** gave some of the opening remarks during the Grand Opening.



**LEFT:** Maria Hernandez and Claudia Herrington shared words with the audience in Spanish and English about why the new Health and Wellness Center was so importante to the community

**RIGHT:** Larry Wallace, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer for Central Health, Frank Rodriguez, Senior Policy Aide to Mayor Steve Adler and Dr. Mark S. Hernandez, Chief Medical Officer for the Community Care Collaborative.





# Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center Poster Contest

Therese Spina's winning poster.

**Virgen de Guadalupe**, with vivid vibrancy and depth, is imagined as a symbol of music, including hair that transforms into an ornate acoustic guitar and both hands strapped onto a accordion, as if she was busting out a traditional spanish song. Even though there're no musical notes on the lyrical poster, the music flowing through it can be heard with clarity.

The winning poster for the **35th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival** was created by artist, graphic designer and graduate of **Texas State University** **Therese Spina**, who said *"I did a lot of research and created it based on imagery that's embedded in Latino culture."*

Over the past weekend, all applicants, from four categories - Middle School, High School, College/University, Open to the Public - were evaluated and **Spina's** poster was victorious, with a included prize of \$1,000. All winning selections will be on display at the festival's opening night Friday, May 13.

The festival will be at the **Guadalupe Theater** and **Rosedale Park** May 11-15 and features over 30 Conjunto bands. The full schedule will be released next week.

The winning entries for the **35th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival** poster contest are below:

Top Selection Open Category: **Fernando Andrade & Samuel Morales**





# Latino Candidates on the Ballot in Travis County


	Candidate	Age	Office Seeking	Incumbent	Political Party	Education	Year of Graduation	Occupation
1.	Adan Ballesteros	59	County Constable	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas	1978	Constable Precinct # 2
2.	Carlos H. Barrera	59	Judge County Court at Law # 8	Yes	Democrat	B.S Georgetown University J.D. University of Texas	1979 1983	Judge, County Court # 8
3.	Jim Santiago Coronado	59	District Judge 427th Judicial District	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas J.D. University of Texas	1975 1978	Judge, 427th Court
4.	Ted Cruz	46	President of the USA	No	Republican	B.A. Princeton University J.D. Harvard University	1992 1995	United States Senator
5.	David Escamilla	59	County Attorney Travis County	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas J.D. University of Texas	1979 1982	County Attorney Travis County
6.	Huey Rey Fischer	24	Texas State Representative	No	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas at Austin	2014	Senior Policy Analyst
7.	Bill Flores	64	United States Congress 17th	Yes	Republican Yes	B.B.A. Texas A&M University M.B,A, Houston Baptist University	1976 1985	Businessman
8.	Dori Contreras Garza	57	Place 5 Supreme Court	No	Democrat	B.B.A University of Texas at Austin J.D. University of Houston	1980 1990	Justice 13th Court of Appeals
9.	Eva Guzman	55	Justice Place 9 Texas Supreme Court	Yes	Republican	B.B.A. University of Houston J.D. South Texas College of Law	1984 1989	Texas Supreme Court Justice - Place 9
10.	Gina Hinojosa	43	Texas State Representative District 49	No	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas at Austin J.D. George Washington University	1995 1999	Labor Lawyer
11.	Celia Israel	53	Texas State Representative	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas at Austin	1988	State Representative
12.	Manuel Jimenez	44	Travis County Constable Precinct 4	No	Democrat	Attended Community College of the Air Force		Chief Deputy Precinct 4
13.	Carlos Lopez	56	Travis County Constable	Yes	Democrat	Master Peace Officer License		Constable Precinct # 5
14.	Joe G. Martinez	69	Travis County Sheriff	No	Republican	Attended Austin Community College		Retired/Private Investigator
15.	Weston Martinez	46	Railroad Commissioner	No	Republican	B.A. Wayland Baptist University		Businessman
16.	George Morales III	41	Travis County Constable	No	Democrat	Attended Austin Community College		Cheif Deputy Precinct 2
17.	Don X. Rios	45	Travis County Sheriff	No	Democrat	Master Peace Officer License		Travis County Sheriff's Office
18.	Eddie Rodriguez	47	Texas State Representative District # 51	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas at Austin J.D. University of Texas at Austin	1995 2009	Texas State Representative
19.	Marco Rubio	44	President of the USA	No	Republican	B.A. University of Florida J.D. University of Miami	1993 1996	U.S. Senator
20.	Janie Serna	54	Travis County Constable	No	Democrat	A.A. Corrections and Criminal Justice		Parent Support Specialist
21.	Gisela D. Triana	49	District Judge 200th Judicial District	Yes	Democrat	B.A. Univ. of Texas San An J.D. University of Texas	1985 1988	District Judge
22.	Brad Urruita	45	District Judge 450th District Court	No	Democrat	B.A. Texas State University J.D. Washburn University	1993 1995	Attorney at Law
23.	Judith Zaffirini	70	State Senator District 21	Yes	Democrat	B.A. University of Texas Ph.D University of Texas	1972 1976	Texas State Senator Businesswoman



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## ¿Qué planes tienen los candidatos para fortalecer el Seguro Social?

por Bob Jackson

Ahora que **Texas** está en el período de votación temprana para la primaria presidencial del 1ro de marzo, es importante separar la retórica de la campaña de los graves problemas que afectan a nuestras vidas. Uno de estos temas - ignorado en gran parte en los debates presidenciales hasta el momento - es qué piensa hacer cada candidato, de ser elegido, para mantener el **Seguro Social** financieramente estable y viable para las generaciones futuras. Hay mucho en juego. Si no se toma acción, en menos de 20 años los beneficiarios del **Seguro Social** enfrentarán un recorte en sus beneficios del 25 por ciento. Para muchos, esto representaría una reducción de hasta \$10,000 por año. Para aquellos con un ingreso fijo, el resultado podría ser devastador.

Hoy en día, uno de cada tres adultos mayores en **Texas** depende del **Seguro Social** como su única fuente de ingreso. Para el 60 por ciento de los tejanos mayores de 65 años, el **Seguro Social** representa por lo menos la mitad de sus ingresos. Si no fuera por este programa, más de cuatro de cada 10 tejanos mayores de 65 años o mayores vivirían por debajo del nivel de la pobreza. "No es un regalo o subsidio sino algo por lo que hemos trabajado toda la vida", afirma **Gene Schneider**, voluntario de **AARP** basado en **Austin**. Él y su esposa se encuentran entre los afortunados que no dependen totalmente del Seguro Social para su supervivencia. Sin embargo, añade **Schneider**, "Si no estuviera disponible o si se disminuyera de manera significativa, sentiríamos el impacto".

Pero hay mucho más cuando se trata del **Seguro Social**. El programa afecta la vida de muchos tejanos que no están retirados. De hecho, aproximadamente cuatro de cada 10 beneficiarios no están retirados. Entre estos se encuentran las personas viudas, personas con discapacidad, los niños y los cónyuges. Y no olvidemos el impacto económico considerable generado por el programa. Por cada \$1 que el Seguro Social paga a los beneficiarios en Texas, se genera unos \$2.12 en actividad económica.

Cuanto más tiempo nuestros líderes se tomen en arreglar los problemas que afectan al **Seguro Social**, más difícil será encontrar una solución y habrá menos tiempo para que los trabajadores se preparen para el futuro. Es por eso que **AARP** está trabajando este año en todo el país con voluntarios y otros residentes para mantener la presión sobre los candidatos y empujarlos a ofrecer sus soluciones para proteger el **Seguro Social**. Nuestros voluntarios vestidos con camisas rojas se pueden ver en reuniones municipales, aeropuertos y otros lugares a donde los candidatos van. Todos los planes presentados por los candidatos se publican en el sitio web (en inglés) 2016takeastand.org. **AARP** no toma lados en esta campaña. Mientras que las posiciones del AARP no han cambiado, queremos que el foco esté sobre los candidatos. La realidad política es que no habrá avances en la actualización del **Seguro Social** sin liderazgo presidencial.

El **Seguro Social** ha beneficiado a generaciones y es el programa social más universalmente popular en la historia de nuestra nación. Los tejanos tenemos un largo historial con este programa. De hecho, la primera oficina local de la **Administración del Seguro Social** se abrió en **Austin** el 14 de octubre de 1936. En la actualidad, hay más de 1,300 oficinas de este tipo en todo el país. Ahora que 10,000 estadounidenses ingresan a las filas de los jubilados cada día, es importante que mantengamos este programa fuerte y a la par con cómo se vive hoy en día. Todos los cambios deben ser considerados como parte de una conversación más amplia sobre cómo ayudar a los estadounidenses a prepararse para una jubilación segura. "El Seguro Social es una parte integral del retiro de la mayoría de la gente", dice **Mari Okabayashi**, voluntaria de AARP en Houston que ha estado siguiendo esta conversación nacional desde hace años. "Para los baby boomers, sobre todo, es una parte integral de sus años de jubilación". A medida que nos acercamos a las primarias de **Texas** el 1ro de marzo, debemos de utilizar nuestra influencia como tejanos para enfocar la atención de los candidatos sobre los temas más importantes para cada uno de nosotros. En ese momento crítico cuando estés a punto de emitir tu voto en las elecciones primarias para presidente, asegúrate de considerar la posición de cada candidato sobre el **Seguro Social**. Tu seguridad financiera, y la de tus seres queridos, podría algún día depender de ello.



**VOTE FOR CHANTAL**

**Election Day: March 1, 2016**

**Early Voting: February 16 - 26**

***Vote at any Travis County  
Polling Location!***

# **Chantal ELDRIDGE**

**Democrat for  
450th District Court Judge  
Travis County**

**VOTE FOR CHANTAL**

**Election Day: March 1, 2016**

**Early Voting: February 16 - 26**

***Vote at any Travis County  
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## **KNOWLEDGE • VISION • EXPERIENCE**

**There is a mental health crisis in our local criminal justice system. At the Travis County Jail, officials report 20% of daily bookings, and 30% of the inmate population require mental health services.**

**With one in five defendants in Travis County suffering from mental illness, we need a judge qualified to meet this public health challenge. Chantal Eldridge is the only candidate in this race who has represented people with mental illness for over a decade and has the skills necessary to change the way criminal justice treats our most vulnerable populations.**



**Learn more at**

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## Jasmine Hernandez '14 Receives German Chancellor Fellowship

*Graduate one of 10 U.S. applicants selected by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation*

**Alumna Jasmine Hernandez '14** is one of just 10 scholars in the nation selected by the **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation** for a **German Chancellor Research Fellowship**. As one of only 15 applicants invited to present, **Hernandez** is serving as a 2015-16 fellow in **Bonn, Germany** where she is researching the effects of mass surveillance.



The **Humboldt Foundation** promotes academic cooperation between scientists and scholars from around the globe, offering research fellowships and awards that allow individuals the opportunity to work on a collaborative research project of their choosing in **Germany**. Only 100 international research fellowships are awarded annually.

Competing against Ph.D. candidates and established researchers, the political science major presented her proposal, "What Mass Surveillance Means for Transatlantic Ties in a Post-Snowden Era," asking the committee to consider the benefits her research could have on international diplomacy.

**"Cyber security has been and will continue to be a serious diplomatic and security issue around the globe," Hernandez said. "Because cyber security law is a relatively new field, no precedent exists for politicians and diplomats to mirror for international treaties or agreements. I ask, when the U.S. utilizes this technology to keep tabs on one of its closest allies like Germany, is there no limit to what can be practiced with this technology? What limits should be set and whose rules should be respected in an international playing field where it's every man for himself?"**



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## Banco HomeTown Nombra a Diana Ramos a Puesto en Alvin

La Vice Presidenta de HomeTown Bank, Diana Ramos, es la nueva Directora de préstamos en la oficina del banco en Alvin. Comenzó su carrera en HomeTown Bank como cajera en el 2001, se trasladó a el departamento de prestamos en el 2004, fue nombrada Asistente de Vice Presidente en el 2009 y posteriormente ascendida a Vice Presidente en el 2013. Una estudiante de honores y recipiente de una beca de Rudy Tomjanovic en Galveston College, Ramos recibió su asociado del Colegio de Galveston en el 2013 y su licenciatura de la Universidad de Texas A&M en el año 2015.



*Diana Ramos  
Se Habla Español.*

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# Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas

## AVISO DE RECIBO DE SOLICITUD E INTENCIÓN DE OBTENER UN PERMISO DE AIRE

### PERMISO NÚMERO 37884

**SOLICITUD** Braskem America, Inc. ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ, por sus siglas en inglés) para una enmienda para un Permiso de Calidad de Aire, Número 37884, el cual autorizaría la modificación de la unidad de producción de polipropileno de Oyster Creek situado en 5005 East Highway 332, Gate 9, OC-450, Freeport, Condado de Brazoria, Texas 77541. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía pública y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hib610/index.html?lat=28.982222&lng=-95.356111&zoom=13&type=r>. La planta emitirá los siguientes contaminantes: compuestos orgánicos, óxidos de nitrógeno, monóxido de carbono, dióxido de azufre y materia en partículas con diámetros de 10 micrones o menos y 2.5 micrones o menos.

Esta solicitud se presentó a la TCEQ el 22 de Enero 2016. La solicitud estará disponible para ser revisado y copiado en la oficina central de la TCEQ, en la oficina regional de la TCEQ en Houston, y biblioteca sucursal de Freeport (Freeport Branch Library), 410 Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport, Condado de Brazoria, Texas, comenzando el primer día de la publicación de este aviso. El expediente de cumplimiento normativo de la instalación, si alguno existe, está disponible para su revisión en la oficina regional de la TCEQ en Houston.

El director ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud está completa administrativamente y llevará a cabo un examen técnico de la solicitud.

**COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS/ REUNIÓN PÚBLICA** Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos, solicitar una reunión pública, o solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial (Office of the Chief Clerk) a la dirección a continuación.” La TCEQ tomará en cuenta todos los comentarios públicos en la decisión final de la solicitud. La

**fecha límite para presentar comentarios públicos es 30 días después de que se publique el aviso en el periódico.**

El propósito de una reunión pública es proporcionar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. Si el director ejecutivo determina que existe un importante grado de interés público con respecto a la solicitud o si lo solicita un legislador local, se llevará a cabo una reunión pública. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia de caso impugnado

Si solamente se reciben comentarios con respecto a la solicitud, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con el aviso de la acción del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todas las personas que presentaron comentarios o que se encuentran en la lista de correo para esta solicitud

El director ejecutivo terminará la revisión técnica, otorgará una decisión preliminar con respecto a la solicitud, y se publicará y enviará por correo un Aviso de la Solicitud y Decisión Preliminar a aquellas personas que se encuentran en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. El aviso incluirá la fecha límite para presentar comentarios públicos. Si se presenta oportunamente una petición para audiencia en respuesta a este Aviso de Recepción de Solicitud e Intención de Obtener Permiso de Aire, se extenderá el periodo de tiempo para solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a treinta días después del envío de la respuesta a los comentarios públicos del director ejecutivo.

**Después de la fecha límite para comentarios públicos siguiendo el Aviso de Solicitud y Decisión Preliminar, el director ejecutivo tomará en cuenta los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos**

**los comentarios públicos pertinentes y materiales, o significativos. Si se recibe comentarios, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decisión del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud se enviará por correo a todas las personas que presentaron comentarios públicos o que se encuentren en la lista de correo para esta solicitud.**

### OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO

**Usted puede solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado.**

Una audiencia de caso impugnado es un procedimiento legal similar a un juicio civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado. **A menos que se presente una solicitud para una audiencia de caso impugnado dentro de 30 días de esta notificación, el director ejecutivo puede aprobar la solicitud.** Una audiencia de caso impugnado solo se concederá con base a cuestiones debatibles de hechos que son pertinentes y materiales para las decisiones de la Comisión con respecto a la solicitud. Además, la Comisión solo concederá una audiencia sobre cuestiones presentaron por usted u otras personas durante el periodo de comentarios públicos que no se han retirado.

**Una persona que puede estar afectada por emisiones de contaminantes atmosféricos de una instalación tiene derecho a pedir una audiencia. Si se pide una audiencia de caso impugnado, debe presentar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o para un grupo o asociación, un representante oficial), dirección, y número de teléfono; (2) el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; (3) la declaración “[yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia**



**de un caso impugnado”; (4) una descripción específica de cómo se vería adversamente afectado por la solicitud y emisiones atmosféricas de la planta de manera que no es común para el público en general; (5) la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad con relación a la planta; (6) una descripción de cómo usa la propiedad que pueda ser afectada por la planta; y (7) una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el periodo de comentarios. Si la petición la hace un grupo o asociación, uno o más miembros que tienen derecho a solicitar una audiencia deben ser identificados por su nombre y dirección física. Los intereses que el grupo o la asociación busca proteger también se deben identificar. También puede presentar sus modificaciones propuestas a la solicitud/al permiso que satisfarían sus inquietudes.**

Después de la fecha de cierre de todos los periodos de comentarios y peticiones que aplican, el director ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier peticiones para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el

petionario haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente.

**Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionados a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad atmosférica que se hayan presentado durante el periodo de comentarios.** Cuestiones tales como el valor de la propiedad, ruido, seguridad de tráfico y zonificación no están dentro de la jurisdicción de la Comisión para abordarse en este procedimiento

**LISTA DE CORREO** Además de presentar comentarios públicos, puede solicitar que le incluyan en una lista de correo para esta solicitud al enviar una petición a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial de la TCEQ en la dirección a continuación. Los que están en la lista de correo recibirán copias de futuros avisos públicos (si hay) para esta solicitud, enviadas por la Oficina del Secretario Oficial.

**CONTACTOS DE LA AGENCIA E INFORMACIÓN** Comentarios públicos y peticiones se deben entregar por el Internet a [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html) o se deben enviarse por escrito a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Si se comunica con la TCEQ por vía electrónica, por favor tenga en cuenta que su dirección de correo electrónico, como su dirección actual, pasará a formar parte del registro público de la agencia. Para más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o sobre el proceso de permisos, por favor llame sin cobro al Programa de Educación del Público al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Se puede obtener información adicional también de Braskem America, Inc. P.O. Box 2168, Freeport, TX 77542-2168 o al llamar a Señor Gerald Crawford, Ingeniero Ambiental Principal al número 713-927-3978.

Fecha de Expedición: 2 de Enero 2016



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**Gina Hinojosa has FOUGHT and WON  
on the issues that matter to us.**

**Now she's ready to keep fighting  
for us at the State Capitol.**

***ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, MARCH 1***

***Ella Está Lista.***

**ENDORSED BY THE  
STATESMAN & CHRONICLE**

**GINA**  
***Hinojosa***  
**PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRAT FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

*Pol. adv. paid for by Gina Hinojosa for State Rep., Janis Pinnelli, Treasurer.*

## Word Power

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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.

Why is that people

¿Por qué es que la gente

express shock and awe

expresa conmoción y pavor

when they open their

cuando abran su

electrical or water bill

factura eléctrico o del agua

and discover that they

y descubrir que ellos

owe X amount of dollars?

deben X cantidad de dinero?

Why is it that people are

¿Por qué es que las personas son

equally surprised when it

igualmente sorprendido cuando

comes time to pay their

llega el momento de pagar sus

Federal Income tax and

impuestos federales y

owe a couple of thousand

deben una cantidad de miles de

dollars? And why is it that

dólares? ¿Y por qué es que la

people still wonder if their

gente todavía se preguntan si su

vote really makes a difference?

voto realmente hace una diferencia?



Justice should not depend on one's race or financial means... victims should have a voice... first-time non-violent offenders should be given a second chance. This has been my life's work. - Gary Cobb

**Vote Early Feb. 16th - 26th  
Election Day: March 1st**

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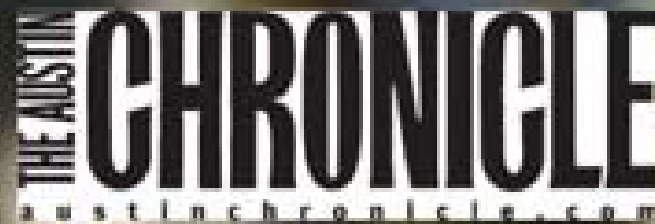
Take a virtual tour with us at  
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After that, go to [tlu.edu/visit](http://tlu.edu/visit)  
to schedule a visit in person.



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Nelson Linder,  
NAACP President

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Ends Feb 26th  
Primary  
MARCH 1st

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