

Solamente el que carga el saco sabe lo que lleva adentro

LA VOZ

Informando a la comunidad

Free/Gratis

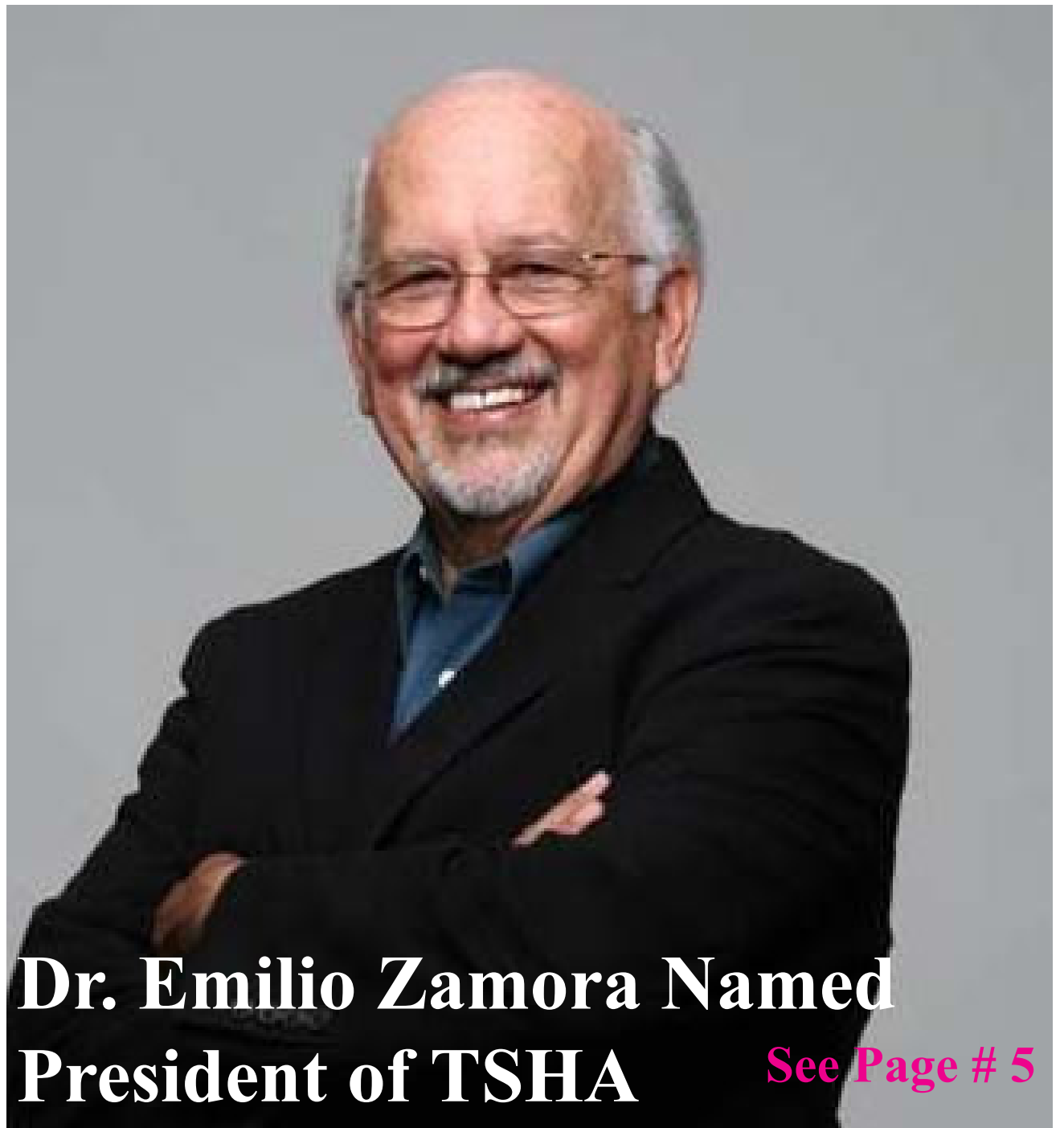
Volume 14 Number 3

March, 2019

A Bi-Cultural Publication



**George
Morales
Graduates
See Page # 13**



**Dr. Emilio Zamora Named
President of TSHA**

See Page # 5



Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez Elected to Top Post at TAMEST

Congratulations to **Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez**, director of Salud America! at UT Health San Antonio, on her election as **President of the Board of Directors for The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAMEST)**!

TAMEST is a premier scientific organization that unites the best and brightest scientists and researchers across **Texas**. **Ramirez** will help supervise all **TAMEST** programs and affairs. She also will serve as representative of the organization.

Dr. Ramirez & Her Work to Improve Latino Health. **Ramirez** has more than 30 years of experience developing research and communication models to improve Latino health locally and nationally. Her studies have increased cancer screening and survivorship. Her patient navigation studies reduced time to treatment and diagnosis for Latina breast cancer patients. This helped save their lives.

In the scientific field, **Ramirez** is a **Susan G. Komen Scholar** and is on the scientific advisory board for **LIVESTRONG**. In **San Antonio**, **Ramirez** is on the **San Antonio Mayor's Fitness Council**.

Ramirez is a native of **Laredo, Texas**. She earned M.P.H. and Dr.P.H. degrees from **UT Health Science Center** at the **Houston School of Public Health**.

People in the News



Manny Garcia Named Executive Director of Texas Democrat Party

After serving as the **Deputy Executive Director** of the **Texas Democratic Party** for almost four years, **Manny Garcia** has moved up to become the **Executive Director**.

Originally from **Brownsville, Texas** **Garcia** came to **Austin** in 2002 to attend **The University of Texas at Austin** and stayed. He went on to earn his masters degree in **Mexican American Studies** in 2008 and his Ph.D in **Education Policy and Planning** in 2018.

"Growing up in Brownsville, I know how hard people work to make ends meet. We weren't on the nicest side of town, but I was lucky that my home had a paved street with drainage. Many of my neighbors did not. I believe that everybody deserves a fair shot to get ahead in life. I believe that healthcare is a fundamental human right. I look forward to moving the Democratic Party forward during my tenure as your Executive Director."

To find out how you can get involved in the **Democratic Party in Texas** contact **Manny Garcia** at yellowdog@txdemocrats.org or call 512-478-9800



Sandra Cisneros Receives PEN/ Nabokov Award

Sandra Cisneros, whose books "The House on Mango Street" and "Woman Hollering Creek" are widely considered contemporary classics of American literature, has won the **PEN/ Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature**.

Cisneros is the third author to win the annual award, after Syrian poet **Adonis** in 2017 and Irish novelist **Edna O'Brien** in 2018.

The **PEN/Nabokov Award**, a collaboration between **PEN America** and the **Vladimir Nabokov Literary Foundation**, is given each year to a living author whose body of work, either written in or translated into English, represents the highest level of achievement in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and/or drama, and is of enduring originality and consummate craftsmanship.

Cisneros was born in 1954 in **Chicago**, and made her literary debut in 1980 with a poetry chapbook called "Bad Boys." Four years after that, she published "The House on Mango Street," a novel inspired in part by her upbringing in **Chicago**. The novel remains a staple on school reading lists, and is considered a classic of Latina literature in the United States.

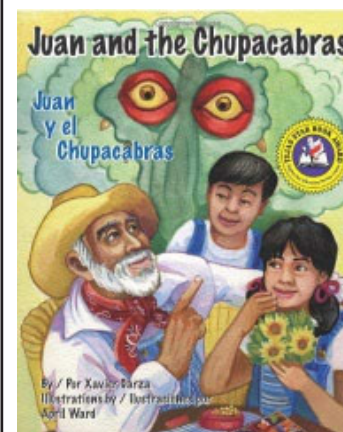
Cisneros now lives in **San Miguel de Allende**. The **PEN/Nabokov Award** comes with a \$50,000 cash prize.



Juan Perez Named Poet Laureate of Corpus Christi

At the fourth annual People's Poetry Festival, **Juan Manuel Perez** was named as the **Poet Laureate of Corpus Christi**.

Juan, a former migrant farm worker of indigenous Mexican descent, is the author and editor of many poetry collections including the recent anthology, **The Call of the Chupacabra** (2018). **Juan** is originally from **La Pryor, Texas** and graduated from **Sul Ross State University** in **Uvalde**. He served in both the **US Navy** and the **United States Marines**. He has been a **Corpus Christi** resident since 2013 and teaches history for an area public school.



Dr. Salvador Gonzalez

**MARCH 14, 1933 ~
FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

(AGE 85)

Dr. Salvador Gonzalez of Oklahoma, formerly of **La Pryor** passed away on February 26, 2019 at the age of 85. He was born on March 14, 1933 in **La Pryor, TX** to **Pedro** and **Elvira (Martinez) Gonzalez**.

Salvador married **Hortencia Gameros** in **Los Angeles, California**.

He graduated Valedictorian in 1951 from **La Pryor High School**. After graduating he attended the **University of California Irvine School of Medicine** and graduated in 1963 with his M.D.. He joined the **Air Force** and served for many years before returning to Texas to start a private medical practice. He never turned down a patient and was always willing to provide them with care.

He later served as a Medical Director for **Uvalde Memorial Hospital**. After many years of serving the community of **Uvalde** as a medical physician, he then became the medical director for **Vida Y Salud-Health Systems** in **Crystal City, Texas**. He finally retired in 2012 and committed his time to his other interests in life, which included working on his ranch and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his daughter, **Diana Mata** and husband, **Raymond Jr.** of **Uvalde**; sons, **Michael S. Gonzalez** and wife, **Laurie** of **San Diego, California**, **Dr. Vincent Gonzalez** and fiancé, **Diane Sweet** of **Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**, **Daniel Gonzalez** and wife, **Blanca** of **Austin**.

PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher
Alfredo Santos c/s

Associate Editor
Molly Santos

Contributing Writers
Alicia Perez Hodge
Olga Muñoz Rodriguez
Liz Lopez
Ramón Rodriguez

Distribution
Anna Valdez
Skylar Bonilla

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

La Voz is a monthly publication covering Bexar, Brazoria, Caldwell, Comal, Fort Bend, Guadalupe, Hays, Maverick, Travis, Uvalde, Valverde, Williamson and Zavala Counties. The editorial and business address is P.O. Box 19457 Austin, Texas 78760. The telephone number is (512) 944-4123. The use, reproduction or distribution of any or part of this publication is strongly encouraged. But do call and let us know what you are using. Letters to the editor are most welcome.
Our Email Address:
la-voz@sbcglobal.net

**Por cualquier
pregunta,
llámenos:
(512) 944-4123**

Pensamientos

Bienvenidos otra vez a **La Voz Newspaper**. Esperamos que todos se encuentran en buen salud porque como quien dice, your health is your wealth.

In this issue of **La Voz** we wish to call to your attention the most recent accomplishment of **Dr. Emilio Zamora**: being named the President of the **Texas State Historical Association**. **Dr. Zamora** has not only proven himself to be an outstanding scholar but also an outstanding community activist. He has given his time and energy to help advance the causes of the community which he believes in. He is a true asset to the community.

Another shout out goes to **Travis County Constable George Morales**. **George** climb out of the *barrio* is yet another amazing example of *hechandle ganas*. He has shown that perseverance and determination can get you down the road of success. The story that appears in this issue of **La Voz** comes from a publication of **Huston-Tillotson University** from where **George** will be

graduating in May. We congratulate **George Morales** on all his accomplishments thus far, for they are all well deserved.

We wish to also call to your attention the recent appointment of **Dr. Victoria Defrancesco-Soto** as the **Director of Civic Engagement** at the **LBJ School of Public Affairs** at **The University of Texas at Austin**. She will be working with others at the **LBJ School** to help increase the presence of the university in the civic affairs of the community. We look forward to keeping up with her outstanding career.

Dan Arellano who wrote a letter which appears on page # 4, is a community activist who used to live in **Austin, Texas** but now resides in **San Antonio**. For as long as I have known him has had a passion for public history. By this I mean that he wants others to know what he has learned about the true stories of **Texas**. Being retired gives one a lot of time to research history and **Dan** has done his digging. And not only has he done his digging, he has

taken to presenting his findings with public re-enactments of early **Texas** history. He has also made the time to lobby political bodies for resolutions and recognitions of events that he feels need to be included in the history books. **Dan** doesn't always get the recognition he deserves but he is definitely someone who is trying to make a difference.

Ramón Rodriguez, a new writer who has come to **La Voz**, has spent the last two months working on a story about **Mendez Middle School**. As many people know, **Mendez** has now become a charter school and is operated by a coalition of partners to try and get it on track with regard to state standards. **Ramón's** inside peek at **Mendez** offers a sense of the challenges that are faced with trying to save this school from closure in the future. **La Voz**, in partnership with the **ACE** program that operates at **Mendez** has recently started a journalism club that meets on Thursdays. We look forward to bringing you many **Mendez** voices in the coming months.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher

La Raza Round Table



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

512-415-3278 Cell
512-327-7449 Fax
800-738-0558
linda-deltoro@jbgoodwin.com
www.jbgoodwin.com

Linda Del Toro
Real Estate Consultant - Broker Associate

JBGoodwin REALTORS®
1613 S. Capital of Texas Hwy., Ste. 100
Austin, TX 78746



Workers Defense Project

Proyecto Defensa Laboral

E-mail:
info@workersdefense.org
Phone: (512) 391-2305

Mailing Address:
Workers Defense
Project
5604 Manor RD



With great confidence in our community and the support of my friends and family, I announce my re-election campaign for Travis County Constable Precinct 4. I entered the Constable's office with a vision of a "Better Tomorrow" and a community that we can be proud of and deserves better. Together we will continue to be one of the best offices in Travis County. Our office is your office.

Join me for our Campaign Kickoff and fundraiser at Third Base South Park Meadows on March 21st. at 6:00 pm Event location: Third Base South Park Meadows 9600 S IH 35 Frontage Rd

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. English Mass in the Church
10:00 a.m. Breakfast in the Parish Hall
10:30 a.m. English Mass in the Chapel
12:00 p.m. Misa en Español en la Iglesia

9322 FM 812 Austin, Texas 78719
From Highway 183 going South, turn left onto FM 812

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

Noticias de Dan Arellano

Dear Friends,

As the President of the **Battle of Medina Historical Society**, I was invited to attend an all expenses paid trip to **Janos Mexico**. **Janos** is a very historic village 250 miles south of **Juarez Mexico** in the beautiful State of **Chihuahua**. Since the trip was so far we spent the first night in **El Paso** and were picked up on the other side of the border in **Ciudad Juarez** by our guide and fellow historian **Al Borrego**.

In **Janos** the conference was alive with music, dancing, theatre documentaries and lectures. It was a beautiful experience and promises were made to bring us back next year. **INAH** stands for **Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia** and I believe is the equivalent of our own **National Park Service** whose goal is to preserve national historical sites. After a long day of historical lectures, the tours began.

First we went to a **INAH** site where a 26 thousand acre ranch is being used to bring back the prairie grasses, prairie dogs and buffalo. We were able to exit our van and actually approach the wild buffalo but were scolded by the park rangers for getting too close to the wild and dangerous buffalo, but what an experience getting close to these huge animals.

Our next stop was **El Canon del Diablo** where we were given a lecture by a descendent of **Geronimo** where we were told the real story of the **Apaches** and their struggle to live as free people. The story was very emotional and most of us were moved to tears.

The following day we went to **Casa Grande** which was a village that had already been abandoned by the **Paquime Indians** 1000 years before the arrival of the Spaniards. These natives had built enormous clay and limestone houses which when discovered by the Spanish and thus the name. Our Mexican cousins were very proud and very humble and welcomed us with open arms. Some promised to attend our own **Genealogy Society Conference** here in **San Antonio** in September.

Dan Arellano



Dr. Emilio Zamora Becomes President of the Texas State Historical Association

Dr. Emilio Zamora, Professor of History at The University of Texas at Austin was named President of the **Texas State Historical Association**, the leading organization in the state and the authoritative source for Texas history worldwide at its **123rd Annual Conference** which was held in **Corpus Christi, Texas**.

ABOUT

Dr. Emilio Zamora holds a **George W. Littlefield Professorship** in American History at **The University of Texas at Austin** as well as affiliations with the **Center for Mexican American Studies** and the **Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies**. **Zamora** is a life member of the **Texas Institute of Letters** and a **Fulbright** recipient.

His writing has garnered – among other awards -- the **Clotilde García Award** for the best book in **Tejano History** (twice), the **Coral Horton Tullis Memorial Prize for Best Book on Texas History**, the **H. L. Mitchell Award in Southern Working Class History**, the **T. R. Fehrenbach Award in Texas History**, the **Bolton-Kinnaird Award in Borderlands History**, and the **Award of Merit** for the best book published on **Texas**, fiction or non-fiction, from the **Philosophical Society of Texas**.

Dr. Zamora is also the 2018 winner of the **Award of Excellence** from the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center** in **Austin**. Among his many scholarly works are **The World of the Mexican Worker in Texas** (1993), **“Labor Formation, Identity, and Self-Organization, The Mexican Working Class in Texas, 1900-1945,”** in **Border Crossings: Mexican and Mexican - American Workers** (1998), and **Claiming Rights and Righting Wrongs in Texas: Mexican Workers and Job Politics during World War II** (2009).

Dr. Zamora has also been a long time community activist having served as the Chair of the **Raza Unida Party** in **Travis County** in the 1970s, a faculty member of the **Antioch Juarez Lincoln College**, a member of the **Hispanic Education Committee** in **Houston, Texas** and an active participant in the **Hispanic Quality of Life Commission** and the **Raza Round Table** in **Austin, Texas**.

He received his bachelor's degree from **Texas A&I University** in **Kingsville, Texas** in 1969, his masters degree in history, also from **Texas A & I** in 1972 and his Ph.D from **The University of Texas at Austin** in 1983. **Dr. Zamora** is originally from the **Rio Grande Valley**.



BELOW: Dr. Zamora protesting at the Texas Education Agency building in Austin, Texas in 2018.



Photo credit: Roberto R. Calderon

Lone Star Tejano Foundation Presents



Creating Dreams Through Education



MARCH 8-9, 2019

★ **FREE!**
DONATIONS
ACCEPTED ★

David Marez
AJ Castillo
FRIDAY




Shelly Lares
and Five-Time Grammy
Award Winner
Little Joe y La Familia
SATURDAY




8pm-12am Each Night!

ADMISSION FREE ONCE INSIDE RODEO FAIRGROUNDS
FOR FRONT STAGE SPONSORSHIP
INFORMATION, CALL 512-554-8368

GAVA

GO! AUSTIN / VAMOS! AUSTIN

Looking for a NORTH AUSTIN ORGANIZER

GAVA's North Austin Organizer will be responsible for building key relationships with residents and community stakeholders who live, work or worship in North-Central Austin zip codes 78752, 753 and 758, including the St Johns neighborhood. The organizer supports them to identify, initiate, and lead efforts to reduce barriers to—and increase demand for—healthy food and safe physical activity in their neighborhoods and schools.

Please send a cover letter, resume and a brief writing sample in English and Spanish to: admin@goaustinvamosaustin.org. Please note other languages for which you have effectively written and spoken communication skills.

ABOUT:

Go Austin/Vamos Austin is a coalition of neighborhood and community partners breaking down barriers to healthy living in Austin's Eastern crescent. **GAVA** organizes and mobilizes community power to reduce barriers to health while increasing institutional capacity to respond to the people most impacted by historical inequities.



Victoria M. DeFrancesco Soto has been appointed **Director of Civic Engagement at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin** as was announced by **LBJ School Dean Angela Evans**.

DeFrancesco Soto, who continues as a lecturer at the **LBJ School**, is a nationally recognized expert on underrepresented communities and immigration and a nationally renowned public thought leader on race and politics, with a proven track record of engaging diverse communities through local, regional and national networks.

In her new position, **DeFrancesco Soto** will work closely with the school's leadership team, leading efforts to build on the **LBJ School's** existing strengths and expand opportunities for faculty, students and community partners to participate in high-quality civic engagement projects and diversity and inclusion initiatives.

She also will coordinate with the **Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kate Weaver** to develop and implement recruitment strategies to attract diverse student applicants and to improve the inclusive environment of the **LBJ School**. The new appointment is effective through 2022.

"The LBJ School is extremely fortunate to have **Dr. DeFrancesco Soto**, with her high-caliber expertise and her commitment to creating an inclusive environment that fosters dialogue and



bring to public discourse. It makes her exactly the right person for this important position, and I thank her for agreeing to undertake it."

Weaver, with whom **DeFrancesco Soto** will work closely, noted that her devotion to working with a

"This new position also affords me the opportunity to further expand my own life-long passion — the shaping of educational environments, with focus on the cultivation of spaces that truly engage."

—**Dr. Victoria DeFrancesco Soto**

understanding between communities, to lead our school's diversity and inclusion efforts," said **LBJ Dean Evans**. "Her focus on bridging divides and finding ways to bring new voices into civic problem-solving enriches our learning environment and what we

variety of stakeholders beyond the classroom makes her a natural fit to direct these initiatives. "These values are core to President Johnson's legacy and at the heart of our mission in recruiting and training the next generation of public policy leaders," she said.

DeFrancesco Soto she says she is guided by the idea of expanding the civic arena — creating bridges between stakeholders and communities and making social science research relatable by showing how politics shape policies that govern our daily lives. "Finding a balance isn't going to be easy in our hyper-polarized environment," she told a group of **LBJ School** graduates in **Washington, DC** in December. "This is what will be the greatest challenge you face. ... I want you to commit to cross-partisan/cross-tribal conversations. Interactions with 'them.'"

"President Johnson was a man who enfranchised and empowered communities, whether through the **Voting Rights Act** or the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act**," **DeFrancesco Soto** said. "I am honored and privileged to work toward furthering his and the **LBJ School's** mission of empowering communities through civic engagement. This new position also affords me the opportunity to further expand my own life-long passion — the shaping of educational environments, with focus on the cultivation of spaces that truly engage."

DeFrancesco Soto is a contributor to **MSNBC** and **NBCNews.com**, as well as a regular political analyst for **Telemundo**. She has provided on-air analysis for **CNN**, **Fox**, **PBS**, **Univision** and **NPR**, and has appeared on **HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher."** She was a featured expert in the **PBS** documentary "*Willie Velasquez: Your Vote is Your Voice*," about the civil rights trailblazer, and has been published in both academic and popular outlets such as **POLITICO**, **Talking Points Memo** and **Perspectives on Politics**.

A faculty affiliate of the Department of **Mexican-American and Latino Studies** and the **Center for Mexican American Studies**, **DeFrancesco Soto** has been named one of UT's Game Changing faculty and one of the top 12 scholars in the country by **Diverse** magazine.

She earned received her M.A. and her Ph.D. in political science from **Duke University**, during which time she was a **National Science Foundation Fellow**. She previously taught at **Northwestern University** and **Rutgers University**.

Saving Mendez

By Ramón G. Rodriguez

Picture a sailboat being tossed around in the middle of the ocean. The crew is hungry; they haven't eaten in weeks and there's no land in sight. How did they get here? When did this all start? How might they be saved?

Mendez Middle School is that sailboat. Over the past five years, it's been through four principals, been on probation with the district, and lost 40 percent of its teachers at the end of last year. The **Austin Independent District** has ceded control over it, turning over the reins to a charter school operator and refashioning the school as an in-district charter.



Mendez Middle School Has Become a Charter School

From the outside, **Mendez** looks like a lot of other schools. The color scheme is white and blue, keeping in-line with the school colors, and the campus consists of three major buildings: the **PAC**, or performing arts center, the **C-Building**, which is **Mendez's** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) building, and the main building.

When you first walk through the front doors, you see a blue and white double staircase, one for going up, the other for going down. Walk a little further and you'll see a strip of blue tape on the floor, dividing the hallways into right and

left halves. If it's passing period, the halls will be swarmed with kids running to class, with maybe the occasional teacher yelling at one to take his hood off or asking where he's going if the student is dawdling. And although it looks like a normal school, one would never be able to tell what's been going on there, nor how important this school is to the **Dove Springs**.

Mendez is located in the heart of **Dove Springs**, a neighborhood which has historically been one of the poorest neighborhoods in **Austin**. The median household income in this zip code was \$39,799 in 2012, the most recent **Census** numbers available. That's 41 percent lower than the city average of \$68,023.

Dove Springs is around 76.7 percent Latino; **Mendez** is 90 percent Latino. Furthermore, about a quarter of **Dove Springs** is reported to be non-U.S. citizens. The fear of deportation for many families around here is real.

And these factors pile up on **Mendez's** students who are already going through a lot: adolescence, new social situations, and more academic expectations. And some of them are aware of the troubles here. **Maya Craft**, a seventh grader, sees it. *"I feel like it's been a little shaky,"* she said one day after school. *"But at the end of the day, we're gonna get back up. Because when we were told Mendez was going to get shut down, [the kids] fought for it. They wanted Mendez, this is home. I*

guarantee you, if they had beds, like dorm rooms, kids would pay to be here."

In the fall of 2018, **Mendez** got a fresh start, under new administration by non-profit **T-STEM** (Texas Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), in partnership with a second non-profit, **Communities in Schools**, or, **CIS**. The new way of doing business here looks like something akin to what you might see at a private school. **T-STEM** has implemented its unique academic blueprint and it administers the school while **CIS** provides the social and emotional support. The emphasis is on community building and project-based learning.

The new principal, **Joanna Carrillo-Rowley**, a 25-year veteran of education, is emphasizing getting to know the student body. Student attendance is up to 93.6%, a s opposed to 88% at the end of l a s t year, w i t h the goal being 96%. But one semester into a two-year contract with the state, there have been some challenges.



"Things are bad. Eight teachers have already left this semester," one faculty member, who asked to

Middle School

remain nameless for fear of retaliation, told me one afternoon late in the fall semester. This was not only the first time I had ever met this person, but actually the first time I had ever been to the school. I didn't need to pry this out of this teacher—it just came spilling out.

This candidness about the dismal conditions at **Mendez** was a recurring theme. One day, right before winter break, I stopped by a different teacher's classroom. The teacher was in distress, almost in tears: the job was frustrating, the school was disorganized, and, she said, the administration wasn't giving her the support she needed to succeed. She described the students as being disrespectful and unengaged, the parents as almost totally uninvolved and seemingly uncaring. Most damning: teachers describe the administration as ineffectual and unsupportive, but many administrators at the school realize that this is a perception that some, though not all, faculty holds of them.

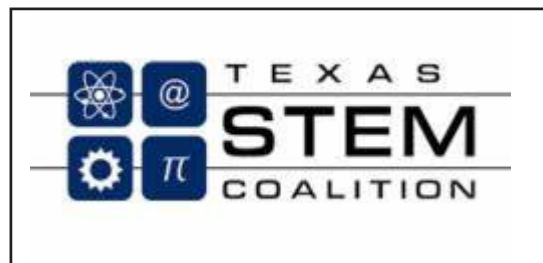
When the figure of eight teachers leaving was brought up to **Ms. Carrillo-Rowley**, she refuted it, claiming only four had left, and for personal reasons. But another teacher, who also asked to remain anonymous, said that at least nine teachers had left. Again, these numbers were refuted by the front office.

This dispute, how many teachers had actually left and why, would eventually become such a point of contention that the administration warned the staff about the repercussions of talking to the press and providing false information. As a result, all of the teachers that I had spoken to asked to remain anonymous rather than risk being reprimanded by the administration.

At some point the number twelve was brought up while **Joe Ferrara**, the director of the T-STEM center in **Dallas**, one of seven centers in **Texas**, who serves on the governance board at **Mendez**, was in the room. In response **Ferrara** said, *"Teachers leaving? Is that even newsworthy? Here's a quote for you: we need people to leave."*

And he's not wrong. **Mr. Ferrara** is the one who facilitates the project-based learning model at the school: he helped design the training and implemented it over the summer and has been overseeing its implementation this year as well as providing counsel to the principal. **Ferrara** lives in **Dallas**, but stays at an **Austin** hotel during the week and goes back home on the weekends. At this point, the relationship between administration and a substantial

segment of the staff has become characterized by bickering and a mutual distrust. Obviously, **T-STEM** has a plan and if they're going to implement that plan they're going to need all hands on deck. That means teachers, although some teachers say it's too little, too late.



again face closure. However, **Mendez** is starting behind the eightball: **T-STEM's** contract with **AISD** was not finalized until late June, giving a one month window for teacher training, whereas typically there is at least one planning year before the program is actually implemented. **David Simmons, Executive Director of School Turnaround at T-STEM**, said that likely only about 50 percent to 60 percent of teachers received training over the summer; and that others have been trained on an ongoing basis.

Mendez has been on 'improvement required' status for five years, after its students'

holiday. This legislation has opened the floodgates for several districts statewide to allow charter systems to run their schools.

But that solution, pulling low-performing schools up may come with its own problems. Critics say charter operators use state funds with little accountability or oversight, while simultaneously providing little transparency. That means the charter corporations may pay heavily inflated salaries to executives.

"This is kind of a national movement by the right-wing and by groups like ALEC, meaning the American Legislative Exchange Council,"

says **Patty Quinzi**, legislative counsel for the **Texas-American Federation of Teachers**. *"And these are groups that are operated by corporations. And they*



Mendez's deadline is approaching fast; it is under contract with the charters for two years. At the end of the spring semester 2020, if test scores do not improve significantly, **Mendez**, may once

STAAR scores were consistently below par. But last legislative session, it, and other troubled schools across the state were given a reprieve: **SB 1882** allowed these schools a two-year accountability

design policy, they designed the 'show me your papers' laws, they designed 'stand-your-ground' laws, and pretty much any kind of privatization efforts in the business realm and the public realm."

The Challenge of Saving

Additionally, education professionals, like **Patty**, worry that not all charter operators have substantial experience running schools and that they implement flimsy curricula.

Those criticisms do not necessarily apply to **Mendez**, as much as other corporate charters such as **IDEA** (Individuals Dedicated to Excellence and Achievement). At **Mendez**, teachers design their own curricula in accordance with **T-STEM**'s project-based learning standards. Some teachers recoil from this added responsibility, especially in a school where many teachers feel like they're on their own.

However, this does bring us to the third major concern with charters, which does apply to **Mendez**: teacher dissatisfaction. Several teachers said they feel voiceless: no teachers sit on the **Mendez** governance board and some even had their jobs threatened at a staff meeting in early January. Pretty much what it seemed to amount to is, 'you don't have to stay if you don't like it here.'

Some of the transgressions the administration is accused of includes not providing the necessary equipment, such as lights and door handles, to establish a fully functional classroom as well as ignoring teachers' requests and providing misleading statistics and metrics about how the school is doing. Examples cited included middle-

of-the-year exam scores, campus safety, and acceptable staffing rates.

For example, 93% of students feel safe at school as opposed to 88% last year, as per a student survey conducted by **UTeach**, although one teacher said that this figure wasn't taking fights into account.

At the end of the last school year, teachers at **Mendez** faced a choice: staying or leaving. Almost 40 percent left. And at this point, some of those teachers who stayed regret doing so. In interviews, one described the school as a "sh*t-show"; another: -"nothing can get worse than here." One said that that the stress of working at **Mendez** has had a profound negative impact on her mental health and personal life, ruining her passion for teaching and that the teachers who left tell her things like "get out while you still can."

They say that they have supported one another, as people often do in crisis, encouraging one another to take breaks for the sake of their health. When a teacher became unavailable, their students were

distributed amongst the remaining teachers, sometimes resulting in classrooms of up to thirty students, leading to an increase of workplace stress.

The upshot of all this however is that the teachers that have stuck around are invested in Mendez

The upshot of all this however is that the teachers that have stuck around are invested in **Mendez** — and in their students. And there's no reason they shouldn't be. As for the difficulty in distributing supplies, **Ms. Carrillo-Rowley** stated that the root of that problem was in obtaining its budget through the district, but said that things

would improve as that money was starting to come in.

Carrillo-Rowley, the new principal at **Mendez** is new to **Austin**. Although she has experience working with all grade levels over her 25 years in public education, it was working with middle schoolers that she really found her niche. "Middle school kids are amazing," she told me on the final day of the fall semester. No classes were in session and she was dressed casually in a christmas sweater, thick rimmed glasses, and blue jeans. "It's a different day every day, different hour every hour, you never know what you're going to face."

that doesn't spend a lot of time in her office. I'm out in the hallways mingling with kids, talking to kids making sure they're getting to class," she said. "I don't usually start my administrative duties until after the school day is over. And so I have a lot of late nights and stuff gets stacked, but for me, kids come first."

She says **Mendez** isn't so much different from previous schools she's worked at. But yes, she does notice some distinctions. "[The kids here] are very guarded. I don't know if that's a city thing," she said. "**Midland's** a city, but it's a small city... It takes a lot longer for [the **Mendez** students] to get to know you and for them to build

And she's got a great background for the position to boot: she got a middle school back in **Midland** out of 'improvement required' status, where it stayed out under her entire four-year tenure as principal there. Her approach is a good fit with the idea of community-building being implemented by the charters.

"My number one priority is kids. The kids keep me busy. I'm the type of leader

Overview

Mendez Middle School, serving approximately 600 students in South Austin, aims to provide students with a wealth of opportunities on their path to success. Consuelo Herrera Mendez, the school's namesake, worked as a teacher for nearly 50 years and was a tireless advocate for Mexican-American rights. With a focus on both community service and career and technical education, Mendez strives to live up to her legacy by providing students with the foundation they need to enter the global workforce and become contributing members of their community.

Mendez Middle School

a relationship with you,” she said. *“They live in a tough neighborhood, they go through tough things in their lifetime, it takes a lot for them to trust you. And once they do trust you, they’ll do anything for you. Because they learn to respect you, they learn to honor you. They’ll work with you instead of against you.”*

But it’s not only the students who are guarded; some of the faculty are, too. Many of them view **Carrillo-Rowley** as an outsider. The teachers feel that there is no way she could hope to just walk in and understand the problems the school is going through—that these problems are unique to **Mendez** and the **Dove Springs** area. Mostly, they lament the general disorganization and miscommunication that has characterized the school year thus far.

But how many of the problems at the school can be fairly levied against the principal is another issue: where does responsibility lie? And how soon is too soon to make a judgement? And although, in **Ms. Carrillo-Rowley’s** words, it can be a challenge to “keep track” while working with so many bodies, meaning **CIS** and **T-STEM**, their partnerships are also what gives them the potential to turn this school around.

Everyone at **Mendez** wants their school to succeed. **Jennifer Sims**

teaches a popular karate-based martial arts at **Mendez**. **Sims** told me in January, that right before winter break, that the teachers were excited to go on break but *“the students weren’t looking forward to it. This is where their friends are, this is where they want to be. This is what they’re used to, their structure, their day, their social life.”*

This is an area with few amenities. This isn’t a neighborhood with a lot of sidewalks, bike lanes, or urban trails and this, further, contributes to a neighborhood obesity problem, which is also a problem at **Mendez**. And this issue is further attributed to a variety of factors including the neighborhood’s status as a food desert (meaning limited access to nutritious and affordable food), high crime rates, and poor infrastructure. And as the issues in these kids’ personal lives pile up, as one could imagine, the difficulty of teaching them and keeping them focused in class multiplies.

And this is where the problem becomes educators versus a system in a game that is stacked unfairly . . .

And this is where the problem becomes educators versus a system in a game that is stacked unfairly against those who are already disenfranchised. Former

PTA president **Robert Kibbe** said, *“I was once a kid at Mendez. And it’s a tough time. Kids at Mendez, they’re looked down on.”* **Kibbe** said the expectations are that **Mendez** students are *“going to be into drugs, they’re going to be into gangs. Because they’re from Mendez, because they’re from Dove Springs.”*

Robert Kibbe was the PTA president at **Mendez** for two and a half years. His children went to **Mendez** at the time of his presidency, but even though he no longer has children there, he’s still involved in the school’s politics and sits on the school’s governance board. The idea behind **PBL** is to inspire curiosity and learning through taking a hands-on approach to learning, a style of learning more likely associated with a private school rather than a public school that’s failed to hit testing standards the past five years in a row. It is a chief mark of the educating style developed at **T-STEM** campuses, and there are 94 designated **T-STEM** academies for the 2018-2019 school year.

Hand-in-hand with **Communities in Schools’** emphasis on community-building, it was a radical shift that won over the evaluation committee comprised of faculty, parents, and teachers last spring.

This flashy, radical shift might

appeal more to a deeper cultural predilection for instant gratification, but some students and teachers aren’t feeling like the changes are have necessarily been improvements. Some student really like the **PBL** model and find it really engaging, and others have also struggled to succeed with it, as it’s kind of a foreign concept to them.

Similarly, with **CIS**, a lot of kids feel that the community-building practices have really worked for them and many of them have great relationships with their instructors, although some **CIS** representatives have also acknowledged the challenges in organization and implementation this year.

Some teachers have even argued that 2017-2018 was an improvement over previous years. *“For the first time for a while, they had a consistent principal for two years straight,”* said yet another teacher who requested anonymity. Things were looking up, *“staff morale was better, the test scores were doing a little better.”*

“And then this year they just came in and blew it all up,” he said. *“I feel like one of the biggest failures is that no one asked the people who were here, or had been here, what works with this group and what doesn’t work with this group of students.”*

It was a sunny mild January afternoon when I interviewed **Maya Craft** and **Melody Vasquez**. They were in the middle of a student council meeting in a classroom on the first floor and I interviewed them just outside on the stairwell. They were both wearing clothes consistent with the **Mendez** dress code; **Maya**, a 7th grader, was wearing blue and **Melody**, an 8th grader, was wearing black. **Maya** is interested in physics and **Melody** spends her time juggling various extracurricular activities including dance, soccer, and being student council president.

Melody responded to a question about changes at **Mendez** with a cool analysis, devoid of drama. *“Ms. Rowley and her assistant principals show more faith than the other principals did. They show that they’re more committed to doing everything. I wanna give them the benefit of the doubt that it’s their first year, but she’s really unorganized sometimes. And sometimes, miscommunication is a big thing. So, it’s not going as smoothly as we hoped. But she is making a really big change, really quickly. So, I can see why there are some trials and errors.”*

After that, she spoke a little about her plans for high school and then she went back to the business of organizing a nursing home outreach event with her school. **Mendez Middle School.**

FUE SU HOGAR DAÑADO POR HURACÁN HARVEY?

La asistencia puede estar a su disposición. **ACTÚE AHORA.**

El programa de asistencia para dueño del hogar en Texas ofrece asistencia para reparar, rehabilitar, o reconstruir viviendas dañadas por el huracán Harvey a los dueños calificados

Centro de asistencia para dueño del hogar (Conroe)

100 N. I-45 Fwy. Ste. 100-A
Conroe, TX 77301

De Lunes a Sábado

Centro de asistencia para dueño del hogar (Texas City)

600 Gulf Fwy. Ste. 130
Texas City, TX 77568

De Lunes a Sábado

Biblioteca de Alvin

105 South Gordon
Alvin, TX 77511

Cada miércoles

Para conocer las horas actuales de funcionamiento y una lista de centros satelitales, visite recovery.texas.gov/hap

VISITA UN CENTRO DE ASISTENCIA PARA
DUEÑO DEL HOGAR, HAZ UNA CITA, O
APLICA POR PÁGINA WEB :



RECOVERY.TEXAS.GOV



[1-844-893-8937](tel:1-844-893-8937)



cdr@recovery.texas.gov



Texas General Land Office
Community Development and Revitalization



Shop our Online Store!



www.lavenirco.com

SAAHC



San Antonio Alternative Housing

Affordable Apartments and Houses for Rent
Central, West, East & Southside San Antonio
1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Apartments & Houses

Call 210-966-9010



Travis Co. Constable Morales Finishes Degree Seven Months Early

Every day, Travis County Precinct Four Constable **George Morales, III**, puts himself on the front line, serving and protecting the citizens of Travis County, Texas.

Come May 2019, Constable **Morales** will be yet on another front line; **Morales** will graduate with the highest honor, summa cum laude, from **Huston-Tillotson University** with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, after having earned an associate's degree two years earlier, also from **Huston-Tillotson**.

With grit and determination, a familiar trait of **Huston-Tillotson's** students, **Morales** finished the requirements to graduate in October 2018. Typically, students finish December or in May of a given semester, but **Morales** got it done two months earlier. "I am pretty humbled where I'm at," **Morales** said on where he goes from here.

When asked about what made him return to college, he said, "I think raising my family, providing for my community, motivated me to return to school. When you are out there, speaking in the public, telling young kids to finish school, you have to be an example. Now, I will let them know the sense of

pride I had, especially going in my latter days to finish school. I was excited about it, the whole time through."

When then-Travis County Chief Deputy **Morales** decided to return to college in 2014, 22 years after first giving college a shot, he walked into class with the typical first-day jitters and a spiral notebook and pencil; he thought those were the only supplies needed. Yes, really. Instead, he needed a laptop and other tech essentials, a stunning revelation for him.

"It was not like when I went to college 20 years ago," **Morales** said, chuckling. "You got to have a lot of technology now. I thought college was college."

Soon after, **Morales'** wife surprised him with a 10-inch **Samsung** tablet outfitted with a keyboard and leather carrying case. "I was like, 'Wow.' I was excited for that. It was just something. I was like, 'Okay, I'm ready (for class).'"

Indeed, he was ready with a new attitude on a new mission. Although **Morales** quit college the first time, this time, it was different.



"I was determined. I was excited. I was ready."

Morales fittingly declared criminal justice as his major. He wrapped up his associate's degree in 2016 with a 4.00 and continued to his bachelor's. All the while, he was running for and got elected as constable.

During his matriculation as an upperclassman, he recalled a very inspiring speech on procrastination by one of his instructors, **Dr. Courtney Robinson**.

Morales, with renewed drive, knew that he was

not a procrastinator. But the message resonated with him, so much so, that he often reminded his peers about the pitfalls of procrastination.

He also recalls another instructor, **Jennine Krueger**. "She had just the best spirit and drive, determined that you can complete your goals that are set before you, no matter where you came from. I came from a

working-class community of Dove Springs," **Morales** proudly noted.

Then, there was another instructor, **Terra Richardson-Brown**, who **Morales** recalled being younger and working on her Ph.D. "Just to see her drive and her understanding on how education is applied and how we use it in everyday lives was amazing. I knew right then that I would try to finish with high honors."

And he did, finishing his bachelor's degree with a 3.98 GPA because of a lone "B" in a statistics class. A resolute **Morales** said, "I was okay with that because it was a 'high' B."

The three female professors plus two male professors, **Robert Russell** and **Terry Pickens**, were instrumental in **Morales'** success. **Morales** recalls a conversation with **Russell** and **Pickens** about why "Lady Justice" is blindfolded. "I was always telling both of them that we expect criminal justice to work, but sometime, it doesn't. In criminal justice, you can't be blind."

With all five of his professors, **Morales** knew that his passion was community policing. **Morales** carries around his business cards on which his

Continued on Pge # 17

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas



AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD Y EL INTENTO DE OBTENER PERMISO PARA LA CALIDAD DEL AGUA RENOVACION

PERMISO NO. WQ0013355001

SOLICITUD. City of Sugar Land, P.O. Box 110, Sugar Land, Texas 77487, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para renovar el Permiso No. WQ0013355001 (EPA I.D. No. TX 0101915) del Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 1,350,000 galones por día. La planta está ubicada 902 Tara Boulevard, Richmond, Texas, en el Condado de Fort Bend, Texas 77469. La ruta de descarga es del sitio de la planta a Bayuco de Rabbs; de allí a un canal de desvación; de allí al Bayuco Middle; y luego al Rio Brazos debajo del Rio Navasoto. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 14, Diciembre, 2018. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leerla y copiarla en Sugar Land City Hall, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North, Sugar Land, Texas. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/h_b_6_1_0/index.html?lat=29.547222&lng=-95.68777&zoom=13&type=r

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. **El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviado a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean**

recibir avisos de esta solicitud. El aviso dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que**

presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso. Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/ actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/ solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta

la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o 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 solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el

solicitante 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 relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o mas de las listas correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN A LA AGENCIA. Todos los comentarios públicos y solicitudes deben ser presentadas electrónicamente vía <http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/> o por escrito

Continúa en la siguiente página

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

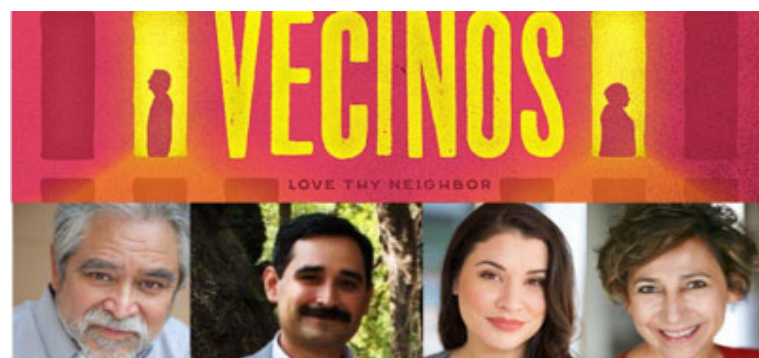
PERMISO NO. WQ0013355001

of Chief Clerk), MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Para obtener más información acerca de esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al programa de

educación pública de la TCEQ, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional de la ciudad de Sugar Land a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Cathy Dominguez, Brazos River Authority, al 254-761-3176.

Fecha de emisión: 19 de Febrero, 2019



Greater Southwest Optimist Club Scholarship Gala



" Helping Students Meet
Their Educational Goals "

Complimentary Wine Reception / Dinner

*Featuring Tejano Award
Winner Patsy Torres &
Blue Harmony Band*



\$75 Per Person
Saturday, March 23, 2019
6:00 PM - 12:00 AM
Omni Hotel Southpark
4140 Governors Row Austin, TX 78744

Email: martiben@sbcglobal.net / 512-292-3621 / www.gswoc.org

River City  Youth Foundation



CESAR E. CHAVEZ

¡SI SE PUEDE! MARCH

MARCH 30TH
SATURDAY

9:30 AM

ASSEMBLE @ TERRAZAS LIBRARY
1105 EAST CESAR CHAVEZ STREET

10:00 AM

LEAVE FOR MARCH AT
AB CANTU/PAN AMERICAN CENTER
2100 E. 3RD STREET

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

SPEAKERS, MUSIC, & DANCE



RIGHT TO STAY AND RIGHT TO RETURN PROGRAMS HELP BOTH RENTERS AND HOMEOWNERS WHO ARE HISTORICALLY RESIDENTS OF LOWER INCOME COMMUNITIES OF COLOR TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES. IT WOULD BEGIN TO ALLEVIATE AND MAKE REPARATIONS FOR AUSTIN'S YEARS OF RACIST ZONING, INEQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND TOTAL DISREGARD OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE EASTSIDE. DREAMERS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO STAY IN THE COUNTRY, WORK, & ATTEND SCHOOL. CESAR E. CHAVEZ IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LEADERS OF THE 20TH CENTURY. HIS LEGACY OF WORKERS RIGHTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, EQUALITY FOR ALL, PEACE, NON-VIOLENCE, CHILDREN AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS, DESERVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: PODER (512)401-3311 | PODER.AUSTIN@GMAIL.COM



George Morales Graduates From Huston-Tillotson

favorite job-related quote appears, “Community policing is knowing and respecting the community we serve.”

When **Morales** began policing as a patrolman, he thought he would lose a lot of friends. He indeed lost some, but he gained a lot more. “And the ones that decided not to be my friend were more inspiring and motivating for me to finish,” **Morales** said.

“I’m one of those guys who see the goal, and I go after it. Everybody knows that there is a light at the end of tunnel, but to me, you set a goal and go after it. Life is about completing goals.”

Sure enough, **Morales** has completed a huge goal, finishing college. He thanks his advisors, **Shakitha Stinson** and **George Marmell**, for keeping him on track with his courses to graduate. There is a special ring to “graduating” for **Morales**. He paused, reflecting.

“If you grew up poor like I did, in a family of nine, whose grandparents came from Mexico, whose father worked two jobs, whose mother was a custodian, who had a child at

age 16 (now 28 years old, the oldest of four, and **Morales** is still married to his children’s mother after 28 years with five grandchildren), why not get a bachelor’s degree. Why not complete it.”

Despite the odds, education was key for **Morales**. After high school, he went to the police academy and was later awarded “Officer of the Year” several times.

Last summer, **Morales** received the **State of Texas Commission on Law Enforcement** “Achievement Award for Public Service,” which was very rare for a constable to receive. He was amazed and went on to receive the “Cesar Chavez Award” for **East Austin**.

Morales’ staff nominated him for the public service awards because they saw how passionate he was to serve the community in which he was raised. “I showed them a different style of policing where you have people in the community that say, ‘This guy

looks like me, talks like me, he grew up like me, acts like me, he must be me.’ That was the focus I had. One of my staff members said, ‘These people really relate to you.’”

For **Morales**, building relationships with his community is key. “It’s not rolling down the window and waving; it’s about getting out of the car and having decent conversation with decent people, understanding their background. I wrote an article where I shared that moving forward is not buying a brand-new pair of shoes, but it is making sure we have shoes so that we can walk forward.”

Well, come **Commencement Day** in May at **Huston-Tillotson University**, hundreds will see **Morales** walk forward as his name is called to receive his degree, and the next part will be an emotional one.

“I will walk over and hand my mother a bachelor’s degree from her son who, out of nine children (second to the youngest), is the first to finish college.”



Juan & Armando Tejada are primos hermanos who have been performing their particular duet style of traditional and progressive **Tejano Conjunto** music with button accordion and bajo sexto for over 30 years. **Raíz XicanX**, the first recording that they produce together, is a concept CD of 17 love songs to and from la Raza. It includes a diverse repertoire of music, representing the Native American/ XicanX experience in the U.S., that ranges from original indigenous cantos with drum and flute, two original corridos written by **Juan’s** father, **Francisco Mariano Tejada** about his military service in the U.S. Army and World War II, traditional Conjunto instrumentals, full Conjunto covers of popular polcas rancheras, blues, country, rock and jazz, a cumbia Colombiana, an 8 minute version of “La Llorona,” and an Indigenous/Conjunto fusion waltz titled “A Father’s Canto/Zitlalli Aztlan Libre” that **Juan** wrote for his daughter.

While **Juan** and **Armando** recorded all of the button accordion and bajo sexto tracks, as well as all of the vocals and most of the bass parts and some drums and flute, there were various guest musicians that provided their musical talent for this **Raíz XicanX** CD: **Armando Aussenac** on drums; **Henry Brun** on bongos, congas and hand percussion in “Sentencia de Amor,” “El Canoero” and “La Llorona”; **George Prado** on acoustic bass in “I Couldn’t Sleep Last Night”; **Arturo “Sauce” González** (keyboards), **Al Gómez** (trumpet and horn arrangement), **Jay Fort** (saxophone), **Pete Ojeda** (bass) and **Urban Urbano** (drums) on “Forgive Me for Fallin’”; and **Isaac Álvarez Cárdenas** on native drum in “A Father’s Canto/Maya Quetzalli.”

Raíz XicanX by **Juan & Armando Tejada** is available at juantejada.net as well as iTunes and various streaming services.



Employee Profile

Chelsea Romero

Travis County FFT Program Director and Licensed TherapistSouthwest Key Programs

Chelsea Romero works out of her car a lot. As a counselor providing in-home family therapy for youth on juvenile probation, she has to be ready to respond when she's needed. It would be a lot to ask of most people, but for **Romero**, it's work she feels called to do. *"There's no reward like seeing a kid turn his life around,"* she says.

She was studying to get her degree in criminal justice when she first realized that locking kids up behind bars was not the solution to their behavioral issues. During an internship at an afterschool program, she began hearing from kids themselves about the issues in their lives that led some of them to have problems in school or with the law. *"I don't believe in locking up kids. I think kids are going to do better in the community as long as we match the resources and services that they need,"* **Romero** says.

Now a licensed therapist and program director at **Southwest Key Programs**, **Romero** and her colleagues have brought those resources to the homes of more than 100 **Travis County** youth since **Southwest Key** brought **Functional Family Therapy to Travis County** in 2017. It's the only such program in **Central Texas**.

Youth are referred by the **Travis County Juvenile Probation Department** which allows them to receive 4 to 6 months of therapy and case management services at home with their families. That's one hour a week face-to-face, and therapists are available for crises over the phone, including weekends.

The goal is to work with the family to discover issues that could be contributing to the youth's behavior and then connect the family to resources that can help. It's an



evidenced-based program that has been proven to work. During the program's first year in **Travis County**, 93 percent of youth attended their court dates and 98 percent increased so-called protective factors like good relationships with their parents and other positive adults, and increased regular school attendance. Eighty-eight percent decreased risk factors like drug use, gang involvement or truancy.

Romero says one homeless family she worked with had stopped attending a previous program after just one or two sessions. *"People thought they didn't care, but it was really a lack of transportation and everything else they had going on. In a situation like that, we can go to them at home or even meet them in the community if they don't feel comfortable seeing us at home because they live with 8 other people."*


Since the program also provides case management services, **Romero** was able to help the family look for housing. *"As family members become more comfortable, they will open up about other problems. Maybe they can't make rent or they don't have money for food. We'll spend hours finding fifteen places that can help with their rent, or food banks they can utilize."*

Once basic needs are met, family members are better able to partner with **Romero** to help their child. The program surveys the family each week about whether they feel it was a good session and whether they feel their situation is getting better or worse.

It can be tempting to give up on kids who have experienced a lot of trauma and have a juvenile record that precedes them, but **Romero** says that's a misguided view.

"It blows my mind how people can be portrayed on paper. There's pretty much no one we haven't been able to help. That's something Travis County said they like," **Romero** said.

"Once you introduce to them the idea that you're there to listen to them and help them, they open up."




The American Heart Association and the Latino Leadership Circle present

La Asociación Americana del Corazón y el Comité de Liderazgo Multicultural presentan

March 30, 2019 | 7:30am-1pm |

6505 N IH 35 Austin, TX 78752

Vestido Rojo



Win
\$100.00

Mendez Middle School Readership Contest

Gana
\$100.00

This month's contest has just one question: On a sheet of paper, tell us why you like or dislike the school you are go to. Length of answer is not important. Send in your response to La Voz, P.O. Box 19457 Austin, Texas 78760. If we pick your entry, you will receive a check for \$100.00. The winner of the readership contest in January came in late, but it came in. It was a second grade student from **Becker Elementary School**. In fact, he was the only who sent in an entry.



Alan Laninga, Becker Elementary School
was the January, 2019 winner

A photograph of a man and a woman in a classroom. The man, on the left, is wearing a black t-shirt and glasses, and is gesturing with his hands while talking. The woman, on the right, is wearing a white polo shirt with a logo and has her arms crossed, smiling at him. The background is a classroom with bookshelves and a whiteboard.

Dedicado al éxito de los
estudiantes.

Dedicados a la comunidad.

Communities In Schools.

ciscentraltexas.org



Communities
In Schools

Central Texas

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas



AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD Y EL INTENTO DE OBTENER PERMISO PARA LA CALIDAD DEL AGUA RENOVACION

PERMISO NO. WQ0011317001

SOLICITUD. La ciudad de Sugar Land, 101 A Gillingham Lane, Sugar Land, Texas 77478, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para renovar el Permiso No. WQ0011317001 (EPA I.D. No. TX0058114) del Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 6,000,000 galones por día. La planta está ubicada 16450 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land, en el Condado de Fort Bend, Texas. La ruta de descarga es del sitio de la planta a través de tuberías y alcantarillas a una serie de zanjas del distrito de drenaje del Condado de Fort Bend; desde allí al Río Brazos por debajo del Río Navasota. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 14 Diciembre, 2018. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leerla y copiarla en las oficinas de la secretaria de la ciudad de Sugar Land, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North, Sugar Land, Texas. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.594518&lng=-95.629334&zoom=13&type=r>

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. **El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviado a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir**

los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean recibir avisos de esta solicitud. El aviso dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la**

solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso. Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/ actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/

solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los periodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o 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 solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas

que el solicitante 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 relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o mas de las listas de correo permanentes para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN A LA AGENCIA. Todos los comentarios públicos y solicitudes deben ser presentadas electrónicamente vía <http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/> o por escrito

Continúa en la siguiente página

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

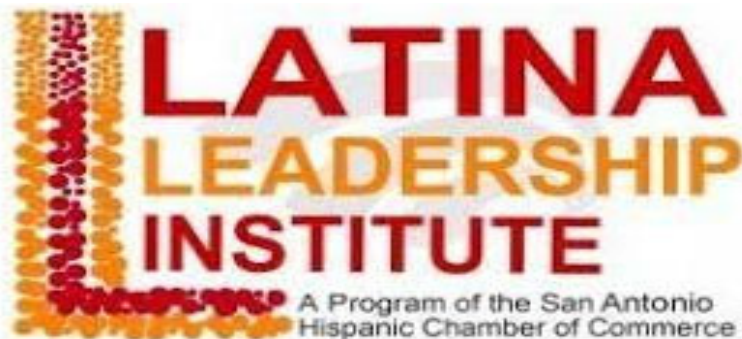
PERMISO NO. WQ0011317001

dirigidos a la Comisión de Texas de Calidad Ambiental, Oficial de la Secretaría (Office of Chief Clerk), MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Para obtener más información acerca de esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al programa de

educación pública de la TCEQ, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional de la ciudad de Sugar Land a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Cathy Dominguez, Brazos River Authority, al 254-761-3176.

Fecha de emisión: 18 de Enero, 2019



Address: PO Box 1624
Rosenberg, TX 77471

Telephone: 832-582-1020
281-239-5236

Email: janie.warstler@yahoo.co

Established 2005, the Fort Bend Hispanic Heritage Forum is a 501(c)3 Non-profit Corp., that advocates for higher education. Monetary donations are welcomed or become a "Friend of the Forum" by sponsoring a Scholarship in your Company/Family Name.

Calendar of Events

March 4th, 2019 - Stand Up for Schools Luncheon sponsored by **Austin Voices for Youth and Education**. **Event location: Dell Children’s Hospital** starting at noon. Guest speaker: Eskelsen Garcia, President of the National Education Association in Washington, D.C. For more information call: **512-653-4935**

March 7th, 2019 - South of Slavery: Black Routes to Mexico and Freedom, 1793–1868
A talk by Briscoe Fellow Maria Esther Hammack from 4–5 p.m. at the Briscoe Center for American History Sid Richardson Hall, Unit 2 2300 Red River Street Austin, TX 78712
Self-parking is available in the Manor Garage.

March 9th, 2019 - Little Joe y La Familia playing for the Lone Star Foundation during Rodeo Austin. 3508 East Cesar Chavez St. Austin, Texas. Event starts at 7:00pm Visit his website for more information.

March 14th - 17th, 2019 - Tejano Music Fan Fair in San Antonio, Texas. This is a Free Event. See page 24 in this publication for more information.

March 19th, 2019 - Austin Tejano Democrats Monthly Meeting Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Where: Casa Maria, 4327 S 1st St # 102, Austin, TX 78745

March 23rd, 2019 - Greater Southwest Optimist Club Scholarship Gala. Event location: Omni Hotel Southpark For more information see Page # 15 in this publication



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.

Fear	Miedo
Safety	Seguridad
Worry	Preocupación
For one’s Family	para la familia de uno
Too much	Hay mucho
Violence	Violencia
Too many	Hay demasiados
Shootings	Tiroteos
What is	Qué esta
Becoming of our	Pasando con nuestra
Society	Sociedad
We need to stand	Tenemos que poner nos pie
up and do something	y hacer algo
Time for us to wake up	Es tiempo que nos despertamos

La Voz Newspapers is Looking for Writers

Have you ever thought of sharing your thoughts with others? Here is an opportunity you should think about. We are looking for writers. What you do is send in an idea you have been thinking about and we discuss it. Once we agree on a couple of basics you work on your story. You send it in and we pay you. We pay ten cents a word. If you write a story that is 100 words, you make \$10.00. If you write a story that is 1,000 words, you make \$100.00. Easy money if you like writing. And remember, you do not have to be an expert writer. You just have to be able to put down the bones, we will help you with the make up. Contact us, 512-944-4123.

We are also looking for newspaper distributors. Give us a call.

La Voz Busca Escritores

¿Has pensado alguna vez en compartir tus pensamientos con los demás? Aquí esta una oportunidad que deberías pensar. Estamos buscando para escritores. Lo que tienes que haces es enviar una idea que has estado pensando y lo discutimos. Una vez que estamos de acuerdo en los elementos fundamentales, usted empieza a trabaja en su historia. Cuando lo acabas, lo mandas y te pagamos. Pagamos diez centavos por palabra. Si escribes una historia que tiene 100 palabras, haces \$10.00. Si escribes una historia que tiene 1,000 palabras, haces \$100.00. Es dinero fácil si te gusta escribir. Y recuerda, no tienes que ser un escritor experto. Sólo tienes que ser capaz de dejar los huesos, te ayudaremos con el maquillaje. Llameno en el, 512-944-4123

No tengan miedo

Don't be afraid

¡Estamos Contratando!

Buscando personas para la venta de productos y servicios financieros. Excelente oportunidad para candidatos interesados en aprender ventas en la industria financiera.

Beneficios Excelentes

Aplique en www.dolex.com

Español fluido una necesidad

Para más información:

(713) 941.8084

(682) 800.6490

Alexander Hernandez

Reclutador

alexander.hernandez@dolex.com



TRAVIS COUNTY WANTS TO DO BUSINESS WITH YOU

Travis County Purchasing Office is located at 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, Austin, Texas, 78701 Ph: (512) 854-9700 or Fax: (512) 854-9185. Please visit our web page at

<https://www.traviscountytx.gov/purchasing>

**BONNIE S. FLOYD, MBA, CPPO, CPPB
COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT**



¿Le interesa establecer relaciones de negocio y ser proveedor para la Ciudad de Austin?

¿Tiene alguna pregunta o necesita más ayuda?

¡Estamos para Servirle!

Oficina de Compras/Adquisiciones de la Ciudad de Austin
Registro de Vendedores/Proveedores en 512-974-2018

VendorReg@austintexas.gov

www.austintexas.gov/departament/purchasing

Para más información tocante el Programa de Compras y Adquisiciones de Negocios de Minorías y Mujeres de la Ciudad de Austin, y del proceso de certificación, por favor contactar al Departamento de Recursos de Empresas Pequeñas & Minoritarias en 512-974-7600 o viste www.austintexas.gov/snbr.



Texas Talent Musicians Association

Texas Talent Musicians Association is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose purpose is to promote excellence in the **Tejano Music Industry**. The Organization produces the annual **Tejano Music Awards** and other related events.

MISSION STATEMENT

Texas Talent Musicians Association is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose purpose is to promote professional excellence; a better understanding and greater appreciation for Tejano music; and to provide a public forum for songwriters, performers and musicians in order to recognize their artistic efforts and achievements through the annual Tejano Music Awards and related events. Texas Talent Musicians Association is based in San Antonio, Texas: "The Tejano Music Capital Of The World."®

OVERVIEW

Since 1980, the Tejano Music Awards and various other special events produced by Texas Talent Musicians Association have provided a forum to create greater awareness and appreciation for Tejano music. This music format has been a tradition in the state of Texas and is now transcending regional and cultural boundaries throughout the United States as well as internationally.

A reflection of its popularity is the yearly increase of crowds that travel to San Antonio each year to attend the Tejano Music Awards. For example, the first Tejano Music event, held in 1980, attracted an enthusiastic crowd of 1,300; and now all combined events draw an audience of over 90,000 fans of Tejano music.

Texas Talent Musicians Association is committed to providing the best recording artists to the world and 2018 is proving to show the international acceptance and continuous growth in Tejano music.

TEXAS TALENT MUSICIANS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 761358 SAN ANTONIO, TX
78245 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
210-320-4200 A Non-Profit 501 (c) 3 Organization
Established in 1980

TEXAS TALENT MUSICIANS ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

THE CAPITAL OF TEJANO MUSIC

12PM-11PM

TTM 2019 FAN FAIR

SAN ANTONIO, TX

THE BIGGEST TEJANO WEEKEND
MARCH 14TH-17TH
5 STAGES

ARTIST MEET & GREET'S 200+ BANDS

FOOD & DRINKS

AT THE HISTORIC MARKET SQUARE
DOWNTOWN SAN ANTONIO, TX

FREE EVENT
ALL AGES WELCOME
WWW.TEJANOMUSICAWARDS.COM

Budweiser **Hermes Music** **WELLMED**