



Volume 17 Number 3
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La Voz

Free
Gratis



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

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Uriegas**

March 19, 1939
February 27, 2022



People in the News



Stephanie Bazan Declares Intent to Seek Austin City Council Seat

Stephanie Bazan, long-time community leader and local marketing and communications executive, announced today that she is running for **Austin City Council, District 5**, (South Austin), the seat currently held by **Ann Kitchen**, whose term ends in 2022. A working mom and native Austinite, **Bazan** is running to address inequities, focus on families, manage growth and promote affordability.

"I'm running for Austin City Council District 5 because I care deeply about the future of our city, and I want to create inclusive solutions to ensure that, as our city continues to grow, it remains a place for everyone. I want to amplify the voices of South Austinites and address affordability, so families can remain in this vibrant city, and ALL our neighbors can thrive."

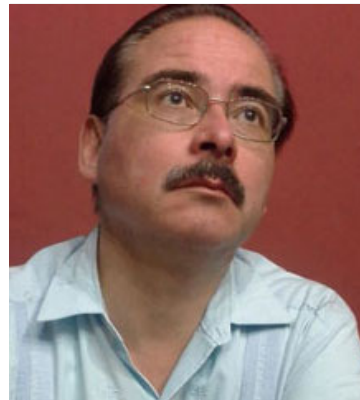
A resident of **District 5** for over a decade, where she lives with her husband **Matt Abbott**, an educator, and their two children, **Bazan** has a deep understanding of the issues and opportunities facing the **City of Austin** and her neighbors. Currently the **Chief Communications Officer** for the law firm **Schulman, Lopez, Hoffer & Adelstein**, **Bazan** has been a communications professional for more than fifteen years. She previously served as the **Director of Communications &**

Programs for the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, where she advocated for small and minority owned businesses and positively impacted the lives of many leaders through her elevation of the nationally ranked **Hispanic Austin Leadership** program.

Early in her career, **Bazan** served as Marketing Director for **LifeWorks**, a non-profit dedicated to ending youth homelessness. She later taught at **St Edward's University**, her alma mater, where she further lived out the university's mission of analyzing problems, proposing solutions, and acting on her responsibility to the community.

"Austin is consistently listed as one of the top cities in the country, and as a life-long Austinite, I am very proud of that distinction. However, I believe that Austin only works for all of us when it works for each of us," said Bazan. "Throughout my career I have brought people together to solve complex issues, and as District 5's city council member, I will dedicate myself to working with neighbors and leaders throughout our community to make Austin a city we can ALL enjoy."

A member of the **Limon** family, **Bazan's** Austin roots and commitment to service are strong. She serves in a leadership capacity on numerous boards for Austin-based non-profit agencies, and volunteers for organizations related to youth and education. She is on the Steering Committee of the **Austin Community Foundation**



Andrés E. Jiménez Invited to serve as Editor of University of Havana Journal

Andrés E. Jiménez has been invited by the **Review of the University of Havana** to serve as **Associate Editor** and member of the **Editorial Committee**. **Jimenez** stated, *"I expect to assist in providing a venue for scholars and analysts from North America, including especially the US, Canada, and Mexico."*

The **University of Havana** or **UH** is a university located in the **Vedado** district of **Havana**. The **University of Havana** is the most renowned university in the Caribbean and Central America,



Lulu Flores Wins State Representative Democratic Nomination on March 1st. Now headed to the **General Election!** A big congratulations!



Congratulations to Eugenio Derbez on becoming the first Mexican to win a Screen Actors Guild Award as part of the CODA cast.



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Pensamientos

Bienvenidos otra vez a La Voz Newspaper. As you can see from our cover, we are saddened by the passing **José V. Uriegas**. **Mr. Uriegas** was as they say a force of nature. Or as we say in his hometown of **Uvalde, Texas**, el era un *Sorga! El no tenia miedo de nada.*

As you will read in the following pages, even when he was in elementary school, the demand by school administrator that he quit speaking Spanish was met with defiance and courage. He was paddled repeatedly in school for refusing to stop speaking Spanish.

And it was this refusal to comply that he carried with him all his life and throughout the many challenges that came his way. When he was told by the conservative elders in **Uvalde** in 1966, to not run for city council because he would only stir up the people, he said no. He ran, built a base of support and beat and incumbent in the process.

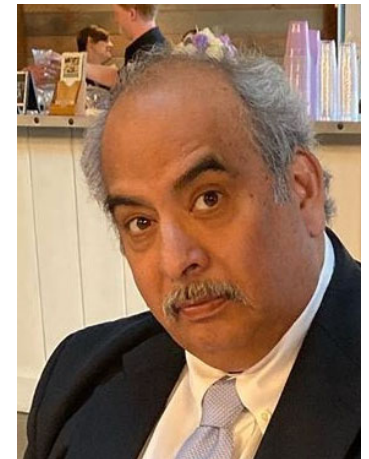


José V. Uriegas

Two years later he decided to run for **Texas State Representative**. Again, he was he was told *no José, los gringos son muy poderoso. Vas a perder.* **José** refused to listen and ran anyway. He lost this one but he learned a lot in the process. He also showed the **Mexican American** community in **Uvalde** that the days of walking around with their heads down were over. It was time to stand up and be heard.

José Uriegas lit the spark that ignited the **Chicano Movement** in **Uvalde, Texas**. Those of us came after him admired his courage and tenacity. He showed us how not to be afraid. And for that we are forever grateful. The few pages we were able to devote to his life in this issue of **La Voz** only provide a glimpse of what he did during his amazing life. The tributes from friends that have come in over the last week show that even after 50 years, many of them still carry a profound memory of **José Uriegas** and how he touched their lives.

EDITORIAL



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



It is my hope that we never forget the contributions, big and small, that **José Uriegas** gave to the many people who knew him. *Que en paz descansa.*

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!

Obituary of José V. Uriegas, Sr.

Our beloved José V. Uriegas, Sr., age 82, was called to our Heavenly Father on Sunday, February 27, 2022. He was preceded in death by his sons, Joey Uriegas, Jr. and Jorge Omar Garcia-Manos; his first wife, Leticia M. Uriegas; his parents, Celso and Elvira Uriegas, and his siblings, Raul Uriegas, Martha (Chole) Luna, Celso Alejandro Uriegas, Anna Maria (Anita) Rodriguez (Porfirio), and Evangelina (Nena) Overstreet (Herman), and his son-in-law, Mark Smith.

José is survived by his children, Veronica Uriegas, Vanessa Johnson (Leon Johnson), Ivan Manos, and Marcella Manos Lopez (Juan); his wife, Lupita Manos Uriegas; son-in-law, Fred Rojas; grandchildren, Jaylen Johnson, Celso Rojas, Rico Rojas, Mary Madden, Julian Uriegas, Maria Jose Hernandez Garcia, Jose Mario Hernandez Garcia, Andrei Dimitri Esquivel, Johnathan Sebastian Lopez, and Mia Marcella Lopez; his sister, Lola Bermea, sister-in-law Alma Uriegas and numerous nieces, nephews, other loving family and friends.

Visitation will be held from 5:00-9:00 p.m. with Recitation of Holy Rosary beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at Mission Funeral Home - South Side, 6204 S. First St., Austin, Texas.

Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 11, 2022 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 5455 Bee Caves Rd., West Lake Hills, Texas. Public services for Mr. Uriegas will conclude following Mass.

The Uriegas family is creating a scholarship fund in memory of Jose. Details to follow. Recitation of Holy Rosary will be live-streamed to allow those unable to attend to participate. Follow link to Facebook Live Mission - South Side



Remember When ?

1952

A DOZEN EGGS \$. 67
LOAF OF BREAD \$. 09
GALLON OF GAS \$. 20
GALLON OF MILK \$. 50
AVERAGE MONTHLY RENT \$80.00

AVERAGE INCOME
\$3,400.00
DOW JONES AVG:
2.69.86

BEST MOTION
PICTURE WINNER
AN AMERICAN
IN PARIS

PRESIDENT: Harry S. Truman
VICE PRESIDENT: Alben W. Barkley

NEW CAR: 1,700.00

NEW HOUSE: \$9,050.00



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Con Mi Madre Awards

13th Annual Corazón Awards April 9th 2022



The **Corazón Award** is given to a leader in the community who has made significant contributions to the education and empowerment of Latinas; someone who has "poured their heart" into the success of Latina youth and this was outside their job requirements. This year is extremely special as we present the **Corazón Award** to this amazing couple **Ernesto Nieto & Gloria de Leon**.

Gloria de León is a national expert in youth leadership development. As co-founder and senior executive vice president of the **National Hispanic Institute** she has 40 years of experience in curriculum design, organizational development and non-profit management. As a chief strategist, she plays a major role in defining **NHI** as a nationally recognized, independent, non-profit organization. **Gloria de León** is the principal architect of high impact, high intensity educational models used in all **NHI** programs today.

Ernesto Nieto is primarily known for his community work in Latino youth leadership development of over 42 years nationally and internationally. It was his vision years ago to engage college bound Latino high school youth in leadership training in preparation for a growing US Latino community on pace to become 1 in 3 Americans by 2050. Forty-three years later, the organization has served nearly 100,000 youth of which 98% enroll in college and 90% complete their undergraduate studies in 4 to 5 years. **NHI** alumni are present in local, state, and national levels in elective office and high administrative roles. They are also doctors, dentists, and attorneys, not to mention business entrepreneurs. The organization's policy makers, staff, and 400 annual volunteers consist of alumni who invest their involvement in different roles and capacities.

Please join us at our **13th annual Corazón Awards** as we present the **Corazón Award** to this wonderful duo and the founders of **The National Hispanic Institute**!



Our 13th annual Corazon Awards is approaching soon (April 9, 2022) and we would like to share the recipient of our **Mariposa Award**. We present the **Mariposa Award** to someone closely associated with **Con Mi MADRE** who has made significant contributions in their field and has brought recognition to **Con Mi MADRE** through those contributions. This is someone whose efforts have helped **CMM** "spread its wings and fly." Our 2022 **Mariposa award** goes to **Rosemary Banda**.

Rosemary is a native Austinite, born and raised in **East Austin**. She is the giving coordinator at **Tito's Handmade Vodka**, and her role goes well with her passion and desire to make the world a better place. She works in the philanthropy department and handles the donation process for all national giving and assists nonprofits with their support they provide in the community.

Rosemary completed the Hispanic Austin Leader program in 2009 and **Leadership Austin** in 2020. She is a former board member of the **Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** and **GAHCC Foundation** board of directors and has held various leadership roles in the **Hispanic Austin Leadership program**.

In 2015, she received the **GAHCC Chairs Award**; in 2016, she received the **TAMACC Women of Distinction** award; in 2019 she received the **HAL Alumni of the Year** award and the **HABLA Outstanding Community Leader Award** in 2020. She is a past advisory board member of the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board**, appointed by **Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza** and a past committee member of **Somos Austin**. In her spare time, she enjoys day trips and spending time with her family, especially her young grandson.



Our 13th annual **Corazón Awards** is approaching soon and we would like to share the recipient of our **Con Mi MADRE Award**. This award is presented to an educated successful Latina; someone who is living out our mission. Our 2022 **Con Mi MADRE Award** goes to **Erica Saenz**.

Erica joined **Waterloo Greenway Conservancy (WGC)** in January 2020 and serves as **Chief Operating Officer** overseeing organizational and park operations, communications, community engagement, human resources and programming. **Waterloo Greenway** is a 1.5-mile urban park system supported by a public-private partnership between the **City of Austin** and **WGC**. Once complete, the 35 acres of connected green space will be home to an array of natural and cultural destinations.

The park system is being planned, designed, and built in three phases of geographic milestones. Phase 1 opened in August of 2021 and includes **Waterloo Park** and the **Moody Amphitheater**. Phase 2 planning and design processes are complete and construction begins in the fall of 2022. Amid gardens, rolling pathways and a twinkling **Waller Creek** that links the park system, the environment, arts, health, and adventure will converge and nourish authentic and uplifting community experiences.

Erica previously served as **Associate Vice President for Community and External Relations** and **Associate Vice President for Assessment and Strategic Planning** at **UT Austin**. **Erica** was born in the **Rio Grande Valley** and moved to **Austin** in 1993 to attend **UT Austin**. She holds a BA from **UT Austin** and an MFA from **UCLA**. **Erica** is an alum of **Leadership Austin** and **Leadership Texas**. Her board and service commitments include **Austin Soundwaves**, **Community Advancement Network**, **Goodwill Industries of Central Texas**, **I Live Here I Give Here**, **Restore Rundberg**, **Somos Austin**, **Texas Exes Hispanic Alumni Network**, **Texas Exes Alumni Association Network Advisory Board**, **The Hispanic Alliance** and **The Long Center for the Performing Arts**.

The Life and Times

In **Uvalde, Texas** we have a word for people who are badd-ass. That word is *Sorga*. *Cuando la gente dice que alguien es un Sorga*, it means that person knows what they are doing and it is better to not get in their way. **José V. Uriegas** *era un Sorga*!

For those of us who knew his personal story and the many obstacles he overcame, there is no doubt in our collective minds that **José V. Uriegas** epitomized the meaning of *Sorga*. All of us in **Uvalde, Austin** and throughout **Texas** who were participants in the **Chicano Movement** were privileged to have known and worked with **José V. Uriegas**.

Born in Uvalde, Texas on March 19, 1939, **José** was the youngest of 6 children born to **Celso** and **Elvira Uriegas**. **José's** father was a sheep shearer and his mother was a cook. In an interview with **Texas Christian University's Civil Rights Black and Brown Oral History Project** in 2016, **José** shared that his family had **Basque** heritage and that they came into the United States somewhere around **Galveston** in the 1830s. In the interview he discusses growing up in **Uvalde**.

Vince: Where did you grow up?

José: I grew up en el barrio on the west side of town en la calle Prairie. It was a neighborhood where everybody knew one another.

Vince: What were some of your earliest memories growing up?

José: I remember the day I caught on fire. There was a big old gas pipeline that went into the westside of **Uvalde**. When it got really cold, the city would shut it off in order to preserve the gas pressure on the eastside of town. You know who lived on the eastside of town? So what people would do, and my parents did this, they would make a fire outside and collect the *brazas* (embers) and bring them inside in order to keep the house warm. Well one day, I got to close to the embers and caught on fire. My parents put the fire out, but I still carry the scars on my legs from that event.

Vince: How old were you?

José: Oh, I don't know. It was before I started school.

Vince: What else do you remember growing up?

José: One day I was playing on the front porch of our house. It was during **World War II**. In fact, it was right at the start of 1945, so I was about five years old. Back then the **Western Union** man (**Mr. Hinojosa**) would deliver telegrams on his bicycle. The chain guard on his bike was bent or something because you could hear him coming down the street and the chain was clang, clang, clang. During the war **Mr. Hinojosa** was the one who came to your house with the bad news of a war casualty. As he came down the street, people would peek outside their windows to see



where he was going to stop. Well, that day he stopped at my house. My mother came to the door and it was there that she learned that my older brother **Raul** had been killed. (This was in the densely forested [Ardennes](#) region between [Belgium](#) and [Luxembourg](#).) He died on Christmas day of 1944 in the **Battle of the Bulge**. I can still remember the screams



José Uriegas family home in Uvalde, Texas

of pain from my mother that afternoon. I'll never forget that day.

Vince: Share with us if you would your experience going to school.

José: I went the first four years to **Sacred Heart Catholic School**. Almost all of the students were Mexicanos. I was learning the basics *con las madres*.

Vince: Were you aware of discrimination growing up?

José: Well, I began attending the old **West Main School** in the 5th grade. When I got to **West Main** I quickly learned the rules were different in the public schools. At **Sacred Heart** we could speak Spanish because we were all Mexicanos,

but not at **West Main**. **West Main** was a whole different world. I remember there was this coach who had this paddle with holes in it so he could hit harder. One day he told me, I am going to hit you until you stop speaking Spanish. I looked at him and told him, well, I am going to speak Spanish. So he hit me until my ass was bleeding. I had scabs on my ass after that.

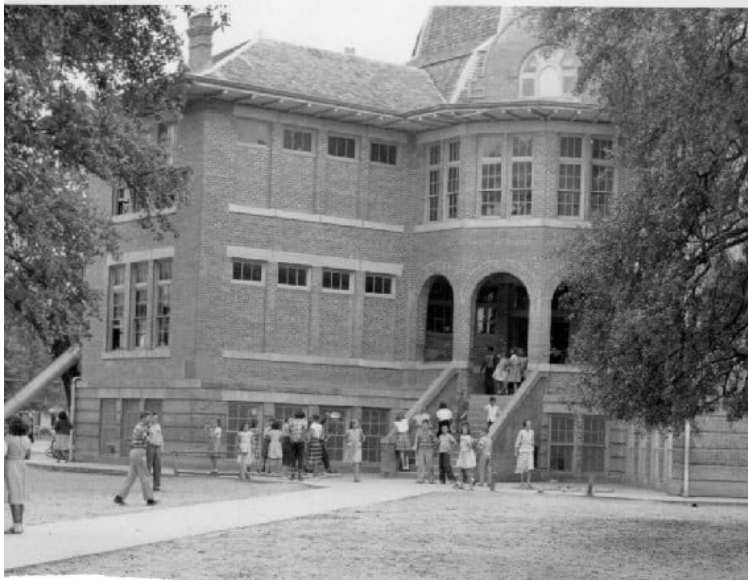
Vince: This was at the **West Main School**?

José: Yes.

Vince: What else did you experience at this school?

José: Well, there were white kids all over the place. All the teachers were white and there were fights all the time.

of José V. Uriegas



The Old West Msin School

Then **Coach Leverman** got fired. I don't know exactly why. New coaches replaced him and one day one of these new coaches informs me that I am no longer going to be the starting quarterback for the **Uvalde Coyotes**. He tells me that the ranchers control everything and they do not like a Mexican being in a leadership position.

Coach Leverman who had found a job in **Del Rio, Texas** got word to me that if I was interested, I could play football for the **Del Rio Wildcats**. He said he would help me with housing and got me a part-time job if I came to **Del**

Rio. I talked to my parents. They knew in their own way that there were forces out there that were going to try and keep me down. So they agreed to let me go. I moved into the San Jose Housing Project and got a part-time job.

Vince: How old were you at this time?

José: About 15



A young José Uriegas in high school

To this day I still have friends there that are my friends.

After graduating from high school Jose managed to enroll at **St. Mary's University** in **San Antonio, Texas**. In her book, **Texas Town Legends**, **Olga Muñoz Rodriquez** shares **José's** memory of that time: *"I had an uncle who had an abandoned house without utilities and he allowed me to live there. It was close to the university. There was a place that sold seven hamburgers for a dollar, so I ate a hamburger every day of the week."*

It was the start of the 1960s, **John F. Kennedy** would win the presidency and there was a sense that the civil rights movement which had been growing in the South would now spread into the Southwest among **Mexican Americans**. The **Viva Kennedy Clubs** that had spouted up during the campaign were just the beginning of a new spirit in the **Mexican American** community.

In many conversations over the years **José** talked about his own growing awareness of the plight of the **Mexican American**. He wanted to do something. The wheels in his mind were churning.

Someone would call me a name y bolas cabron! I was not going to take shit from anybody and I didn't. When we were out on the playground for recess there were always fights because someone was picking on me or somebody else.

Vince: Were you a good student?

José: If you mean academically, I would say I was average. I was doing my best to keeping up.

Vince: Was there any teachers or coaches that helped you?

José: There were a couple who did take an interest in me. One was a coach named **Walter Leverman**. The other was the principal **Sam Houston Foster**. They taught me how to play chess, how to listen to

classical music, they helped me with math. So when I moved up to junior high, **Walter** moved up also. This is when I started playing sports. **C o a c h Leverman** was the one who taught me how to play quarterback. But not only that, he was the one who convinced me that I could do stuff if I put my mind to it.

So I excelled at quarterback. I moved on to **Uvalde High School** and played football and served as the starting quarterback my freshman year. **Coach Leverman** also moved up to the high school. We didn't lose a single game.



Vince: So now you are living in **Del Rio, Texas**?

José: Yes. But that first year I was ineligible for varsity football so I played on the "B" team and ran track for **Coach Leverman**. I worked and saved as much money as I could. But then came my senior year. My whole "B" team came with me and we were on fire! We were a winning team. And then we played **Uvalde**. And this is a true story. The team that didn't want me, the team that didn't believe in me lost to us, the **Del Rio Wildcats** and I was the quarterback.

My time in **Del Rio** turned out to be great. It was there that I met my future wife. It was in **Del Rio** that I graduated from high school in the class of 1958.

The Life and Times

After e graduating from college in 1961, he found employment with the **Harlandale Independent School District** as a school teacher. Then in 1964, a teaching job came open in **Uvalde**. He applied and was hired. At about the same time there was a small grocery story on **Main Street** that was for sale, the **Lopez Grocery** store.



José got a loan from a new bank that had come into town and would teach in the day and work at the grocery store in the evenings. It was in this grocery store at night that he and a **Catholic** priest by the name of **Antonio Gonzales** would spend hours eating bologna sandwiches and drinking sodas that he learned about the social justice teachings of the **Catholic Church**.

What are you going to do José?

In time these conversations led to the question of what are you going to do **José**? *"Aquí estas, ya sabes lo que esta pasando con tu gente. ¿Que vas hacer?"* These were the kinds of questions that would eventually be answered by **José Uriegas**. (Interview with Jose Uriegas, May 15, 2009 in Austin, Texas)

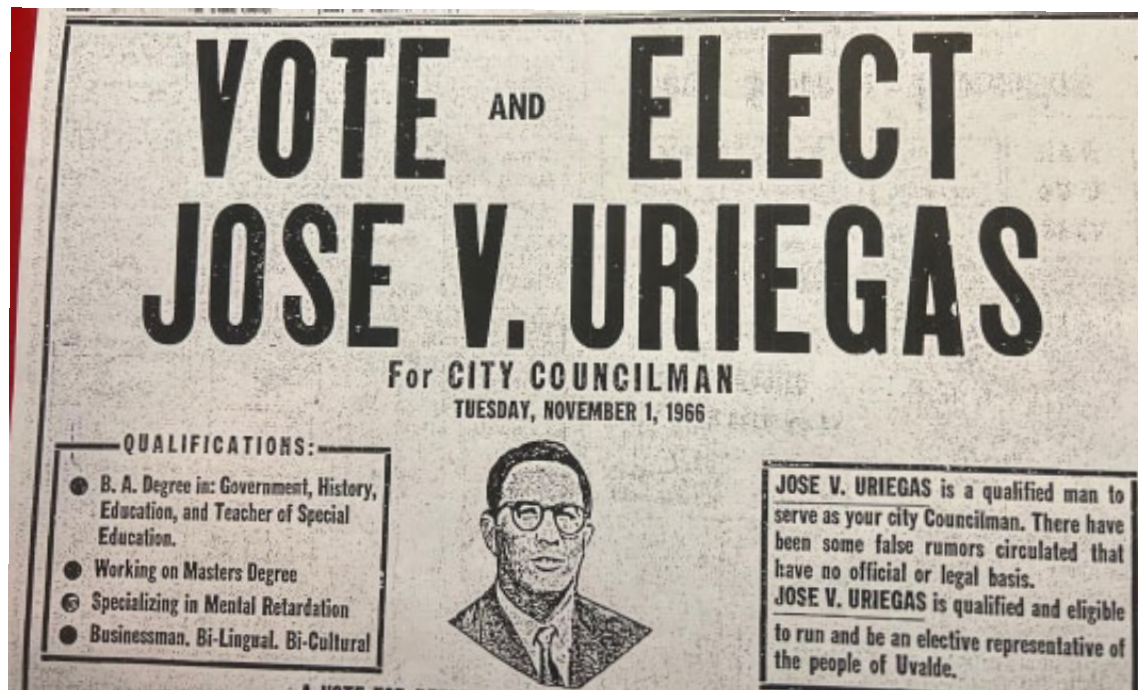
In the summer of 1965, the **Mexican American** community in **Uvalde** staged a boycott of **Pearl Beer**. The

word was that the local distributor didn't want his children going to the new elementary school that had just been built on the westside of town. (**Anthon Elementary School**)

The Mexicano beer drinkers in town decided that if he didn't want to send his kids to school with their kids, then maybe they didn't need to drink his beer. While the **Pearl Beer Boycott** resulted in the distributor losing his franchise it also showed everyone that if the **Mexican Americans** could stick together they could accomplish something significant. This lesson was not lost on **José Uriegas**.

That women were the key. Women will work.

The following year in 1966, with the help of **Father Gonzales** and many others, especially women, **José V. Uriegas** ran for the **Uvalde**



ABOVE: Political advertisement that ran in the Uvalde Leader News.

City Council. He says in the **TCU** interview that as he started to organize he found out very quickly:

"That women were the key. Women will work. Men go to the bar, drink and bullshit and say they are going to do something but don't. So I start to put together a good base of support."

In a run-off election against an incumbent (**Gordon Hudson**) in December, the results were **José Uriegas**, 698, **Gordon Hudson** 560. At the age of 27 years, **José** beat an incumbent and became the second **Mexican American** on the **Uvalde City Council**.

The **Chicano Movement** finally blew into **Uvalde** in 1967. It was **José Uriegas**, **Gabriel Tafolla**, **Gilbert Torres** and a few others who helped to establish the local **MAYO** (Mexican American Youth Organization) chapter.

Richard Nevarez, **Amaro Cardona**, **Ramon Velasquez**, **Rogelio Muñoz** and **Gilbert Cuellar** were some of the earliest members who would meet in the old two-story house on **Nicholas Street**.

In fact, it was **Nevarez** who got our *gangita* to start going to these meetings and pay attention to what was being discussed. Most of us were all of 15 years old and while I

would be among the first to admit that I really didn't know half of what was being discussed, I felt there was much in the way of truth about how we were treated as **Mexican Americans**. **José Uriegas** and **Gabriel Tafolla** inspired us to wake up and think about the situations we found ourselves in. Once someone paints a picture that you can relate to, it's hard to pretend that your happy-go-lucky daily routine has any meaning.

Our **MAYO** chapter may not have been very big, maybe 50 or 60 members, but we began to stand up and be heard. We often picketed the county jail at night to protest police brutality. On Fridays at **Uvalde High School** we

of José V. Uriegas

would have **Chicano Day**, wear *sarapes* and bring *tacos* to eat in the school cafeteria.

In 1968, **Mr. Uriegas** decides to run for **Texas State Representative**, resigns his city council seat and files as a candidate. He says that he, *"Stirred that pot (Uvalde) and that now wanted to get more people involved."*

The seat he sought was held by **Dave Howard**. (49nd District) In the **May Democratic Primary**, **Howard** defeated **Uriegas** and went on to win in the **November General Election**.

In a twist of fate, **Dave Howard** went to **Austin, Texas** in January to be sworn in for his third term as a state representative. While standing at the podium in the **Capitol** to deliver remarks before all those assembled, he suffered a massive heart attack and died on the spot.

In a special election called by **Governor Preston Smith**, **José's** good friend, **Gabriel Tafolla** would be one of 10 people who filed to run for the technically "open seat."

José Uriegas, who by now had gained a lot of exposure from around the state is appointed to the board of the **Southwest Council of La Raza**. This organization was a **Ford Foundation** spin off and was charged in part with funding local community groups and projects.

Then another project of **Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty** became a reality. It was called **VISTA**. It was like the **Peace Corps** but it focused on a domestic agenda. One of the **VISTA** programs that became operational in **Texas** was the **Minority Mobilization Project** and **José Uriegas** eventually became the director. The project grew to about 20 organizers and there were projects and campaigns from

the **Rio Grande Valley** all the way up to **Del Rio, Texas**. In fact, it was in **Del Rio, Texas** the famous march took place with the rabbit named **Justice**. **José Uriegas** was "stirring the pot" and raising polite hell all over the place. *El no le tenía miedo a nadie*. And while there were dangers lurking everywhere he continued to stay focused on what he believed to be in the best interest of the communities in which the **Minority Mobilization Project** worked.

The Public School Walkouts

In December of 1969, the students in **Crystal City, Texas** launched a school walkout to protest the many problems they faced in the public schools. Their walkout last about three weeks not counting the

Christmas holidays. The walkout drew national attention and the school board eventually agreed to the demands of the students. It was



ABOVE: The first issue of the MAYO newspaper in Uvalde that José Uriegas got printed in Mexico

shortly after this walkout that **La Raza Unida Party** was born. While news coverage of the **Crystal City** walkout was almost non-

existent in the local newspapers, the word did get out that things were exploding down the road from **Uvalde**. **MAYO** members from **Uvalde** would cut classes and drive down to **Crystal City** to support the students on the picket lines. Many small communities in South Texas were starting to catch on fire politically speaking.

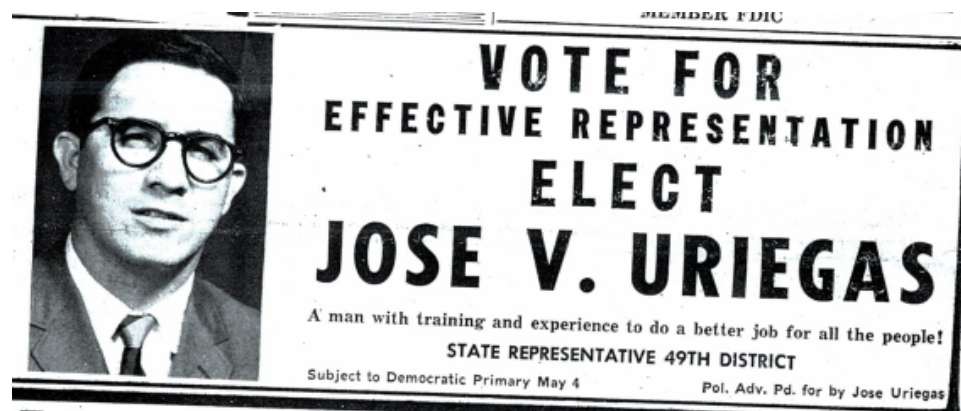
The Uvalde Public School Walkout

On April 14th, 1970 it was **Uvalde's** turn. A school teacher by the name of **George Garza** was not getting his teaching contract renewed. After several school board meetings things finally

exploded when the school board refused to discuss **Mr. Garza's** contract on April 13, 1970. When **Mr. Garza** and his attorney got up and walked out of the meeting, **Mr. Garza's** attorney, **Jesse Gamez** told an assembled group, *"If I lived here in Uvalde I wouldn't let them treat me like this!"* Immediately **Gilbert Torres**, a community activist stated: *"Well I am not going to send my children to school tomorrow until this matter of Mr. Garza's contract is settled one way or another!"* And then came the word: Walkout! Walkout mañana!

José Uriegas was in **Austin, Texas** when he received the phone call that a school walkout would be taking place the next day. He says that he got in his **VW** bus about 5:00am drove to **Uvalde**. As he pulled into the front of his grocery store and parked he saw a line of students walking on the sidewalk from the **Mexican Park** in an easterly direction.

José saw **Gilbert Torres** and **Amaro Cardona** standing across the street close to the **Conoco Gasoline Station**. So he crossed the street to talk to them. Just as he did, the police approached the three men and arrested them. When **José** asked why he was being arrested, they informed him



The Life and Times

that the charge would be parading without a permit. He of course protested and said but I just got here. To no avail, *al bote!*

José Uriegas would prove to be a pivotal figure in the **Uvalde** walkout. He organized the walkout kitchen which **Maria Garcia** managed. He brought in two community organizers from the **Minority Mobilization Project**, **Aurelio Montemayor** and **Javier Ramirez**.

Both of these young men played keys roles in helping the students organize a community newsletter, a teatro, daily picket lines at different schools and the operation of a freedom schools with classes at four different locations in town.

They students put together a list of 14 demands and presented them to the school board but the board refused to look at them until the students returned to class. The walkout lasted 6 weeks until the end of the school year.

Mr. Uriegas estimated that it cost about \$500 hundred dollars a day to sustain the walkout. Unlike **Crystal City**, the **Uvalde** walkout ended in a stalemate. The school board refused to budge. Many of the over 600 students who participated in the walkout were punished by having to



ABOVE: Students picketing at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas

repeat the entire academic year. A number of the upperclassmen refused to go back and never graduated from high school. (I was one of them.)

For a long time it was believed that the **Uvalde** walkout was the second longest school walkout in **Texas** public school history. The longest was in **San Angelo, Texas** where parents kept their children out of school for four years because the school board insisted they go to segregated schools. The year? 1910. Mexicanos have been in the social justice fight for a long time.

The Lawsuits

After the **Uvalde** walkout, came the lawsuits. One of the

parents, **Mrs. Genova Morales** became the lead plaintiff in a federal discrimination law against the **Uvalde School District**. She lost the case at the first level. When **MALDEF** appealed to the **5th Circuit Court of Appeals**, the decision was reversed. The **Uvalde** school board then appealed to the **United States Supreme Court** and the court refused to hear the case.

It took 46 years to settle the 1970 Uvalde Public School Walkout Lawsuit.

A federal judge who oversaw the **Morales** lawsuit then required the school district to make 22 changes and come into compliance with a set of standards. The school district

instead spent millions of dollars with a high powered **Houston** law firm to drag district's feet. It wasn't until 2016, that the **Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District** finally agreed to all 22 compliance issues that the judge, **Mrs. Morales** and the school district settled. It took 46 years for justice to arrive. **José Uriegas** was part of this struggle.

José Uriegas would go on to create the **Mexican American Research Center** and another group called the **Mexican American Center for Economic Development**. **José** was all about economics. I was fortunate to have been hired by **José Uriegas** in 1978 to be the

Assistant Director of the **Mexican American Center for Economic Development's Uvalde Center**. (**Bea Moreno Garcia** was the **Associate Director**) **José** has won a **CETA** grant from the **Department of Labor** to train farm workers on how to be entry level managers. We had classes at **Southwest Texas Junior College** in **Uvalde** and about 60 former farm workers we had recruited from the surrounding area. **José** was always focused on the economic aspects of people's live

He also owned for a time two Mexican restaurants in **Austin** called **Abuelitas**. He would later open **Mexicas Mexican Restaurant** on Interstate 35 and 12th Stree.

In 2012, there was a 40th year reunion of the **Raza Unida Party** held at his bingo hall on **Interstate 35**. One of the by products of this reunion was the **Raza Round Table**. **Jane** and **Gilbert Rivera José Uriegas** and myself helped to organize this weekly meeting on Saturdays. **José** offered to host the event. At the meetings he would often give his talk about how we owned less than 1/4 of 1 percent of the economic pie. In his later years he remained on track about the importance of economics.

Continued on page 13

of José V. Uriegas



ABOVE: The Conoco Gas Station where José Uriegas, Gilbert Torres and Amaro Cardona were arrested for leading a parade without a permit.

The Life and Times

José V. Uriegas Tributes

Probably the younger generation(s) of Mexican-Americans, particularly in Texas, aren't familiar with the name Jose V. Uriegas. If that is so, they should be. Jose was born in Uvalde, Texas in 1939. To say that he came from a humble origin would be an understatement but not unusual for Mexican-American families of that era. He attended high school in both Uvalde and Del Rio, distinguishing himself in athletics, particularly football. He went on to attend St. Mary's University in San Antonio and it was during that period that an awareness and sense of purpose regarding the plight of his people began to emerge and took the shape of community organizing especially among the disenfranchised youth in San Antonio. By now he was dedicated to the idea of improving the lot of his people and growing impatient and a bit angry with the reasons why they were suffering on a differential level from their Anglo counterparts. He, along with other young Mexican-American leaders in the Texas and around the country adopted the spirit of the revolutionary Mexican, Emiliano Zapata, who declared, "Es mejor morir parado que vivir en las rodillas" (it is better to die standing up than to live on your knees).

In the tumultuous year of 1968 Jose was chosen to direct an innovative program under the auspices of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) that instead of recruiting young people from around the country to work in poverty areas of the county, recruitment and training would occur in the very communities that would be served. The program was called the Vista Minority Mobilization Program (VMMP) and was to operate in San Antonio, Del Rio, Laredo, El Paso, plus Hidalgo County. The program became highly controversial and politically charged when the community organizing of these young folks quite naturally precipitated school walkouts in EdCouch-Elsa, Del Rio, and Uvalde, among other activities that were needed and legal but frowned upon by the "haves" of South Texas. Jose never flinched under the pressure and there was plenty, including arrests and intimidation by the Texas Rangers.

VMMP became a jumping off point for Jose. Lessons were learned and he shifted from a political emphasis to one of economic development as a means to hopefully address the deplorable conditions under which the many of "La Raza" lived. The VMMP had allowed for the development of volunteers and staff to the point that Jose was able, with their help, to create a non profit group called the Mexican Council for Economic Progress (MACEP) which, in addition to seeking charitable finding on its own, be assisted by the Mexican American Development Corporation (MADCO) created as profit making entity to help fund MACEP.

The idea enjoyed only modest success..This bifurcated approach, while meritorious,, proved to be a bit unwieldy with too many moving parts Undeterred, Jose moved on to developing a single entity called the Mexican American Research Center which still focused on economic development but with an emphasis on housing and business development.that has since helped many aspiring entrepreneurs navigate the minefield of establishing a successful business.

This piece doesn't begin to tell the story of the charismatic young man from Uvalde. Mainly he was por la gente y de la gente. He made his mark. Not bad for a kid from the wrong side of town.

Merle Smith

Tribute to Jose Uriegas.

I remember Jose Uriegas from 1968 when Vista launched Minority Mobilization in South Texas. Joe lived in Austin and convinced the Austin Office to fund a Special Project with a mixture of community and non-community volunteers. I was a member of the Mexican-American Student Organization (MASO) at UT-Austin and we helped recruit students to become non-community volunteers in the Valley. These included Ruben Barrera and Alberto Garcia. Later I was active in the Valley and saw the benefits of this project. The Vistas immediately began identifying community problems and assisting local leaders in protests and other activities attempting to solve community problems and shine light on discriminatory practices. In Hidalgo County, there were Vistas in Mercedes, Weslaco, Donna, PSJA, McAllen, Mission and Edinburg. There were more all over South Texas and San Antonio and they were all making a difference. La Causa was on the move. Behind the scenes, Joe Uriegas handled the politics and the complaints from the local officials who were feeling the heat.

In Del Rio, the volunteers were kicked out by the County Commission, Jose Angel Gutierrez and others organized a huge march which made a big impression on all of us because we didn't realize how many people were involved.

In 2007 I met a person who was a community organizer in San Diego, California and had been one of the original Vista volunteers in Cameron County. She learned how to organize in the Valley and then continued her efforts in California for 40 years.

I commend Jose for his foresight and determination that provided a starting point for many persons who came to La Causa and the fight for Civil Rights. Later he retired and enjoyed the fruits of his endeavors. QEPD.

Alex Moreno, Jr.

of José V. Uriegas

A very proud man, **José Uriegas** took care of his family and was taking care of his son **Joey** who had come down with **Huntington's Disease** like his mother. **Joey** passed away on November 27, 2021.

In his interview with **Texas Christian University Oral History Project**, **José** reflected that he and his good friend from **Uvalde**, **Gilbert Torres's** biggest accomplishment in life was that despite all the offers, and there were many, they never sold out. No matter what they did to us, we never sold out.



ABOVE: This photo of the members of the Raza Roundtable was taken at Mr. Uriegas bingo hall in Austin, Texas. In the middle of the photo is the Mayor of Austin, Steve Adler. José Uriegas and his daughter Veronica are among those in this photo.

José V. Uriegas Tributes

JOSE URIEGAS

A tribute by **Blandina Bambi Cardenas**

He arrived in Del Rio like a shooting star, bright, fast and making a high impact. I only heard about this new guy with an unusual Spanish surname. We thought it strange that he had come from Uvalde to play football in Del Rio. I was a very young Freshman, a Mustang, in San Felipe and he was a senior at Del Rio High School, a Wildcat. He wasn't there very long before he made his mark. He set his eye on the most beautiful girl in the barrio of Chihuahua and San Felipe combined. Letty Muraira, wasn't just beautiful, she was extraordinarily kind and sweet, with a ready smile that could melt the polar icecap. Until Joe came to Del Rio, Letty had not dated. Her Dad, Arturo "Chapo" Muraira, was strict; he held his daughters close. It was always her cousins from Comstock that accompanied her to the *quinceaneras*. I don't remember, nor was I privy to the details of the battle royale that ensued between Joe and Letty's Dad, I only know that it occurred and that Joe won.

Joe knew how to win, whether on the football field, in the battle for the girl he would marry or in the struggle for justice for our community. He was and would always be a quarterback with an uncanny "sense of the field", no matter what field he was on. He knew where the goal was and could weave his way through obstacles in order to push ahead. I would go from seeing Joe Uriegas from afar, to a profound kinship and respect for JOSE URIEGAS, committed to advancing the progress of Mexican Americans, fighting for inclusion in arenas denied us and building capacity in others to engage in the battle.

Like the boy who came to Del Rio, Jose Uriegas was sure of himself, bold and visionary. No le tenia miedo a nada. He could turn on the charm or look an adversary straight in the eye and cause him to retreat. He had grown up in starkly segregated Uvalde where discrimination was known to be even worse than in Del Rio. It had not defeated him. It had simply made him stronger and more determined to work for change. Like many of our generation, Joe Uriegas could have walked away and served his own individual interest. Instead Jose Uriegas made a CHOICE, to stand with his community and for justice. TOUCHDOWN!

I met Jose through Gonzalo who had recommended me for a job opening at the Vista Minority Mobilization Project where Jose was Director. He hired me and we officed on E. 6th St. It was the same Vista project that was ousted out of Del Rio by Gov. Smith. I worked with him for several years while I was a student at UT. Then stayed in touch when he was heading the Mexican American Research Center. Jose was an activist and a visionary who worked for the betterment of our community.

My deepest condolences to his family and friends. Rest in peace.
QEPD. Adios José

Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza

José "Joe" Uriegas, Sr.-- ¡Presente!

I first heard his name some 53 years ago when I and a handful of other young Chicanos were organizing the Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO) in San Antonio. By that time Joe was already a community leader in his hometown of Uvalde, emboldened by the sense of mission for social justice and equality that had won many of the youth of the 1960s era of social movements that gripped the nation. We became friends and fellow social justice warriors as colleagues in the VISTA Minority Mobilization Project, and in MAYO, in 1968 and 1969. We were warriors in pursuit of the "prize" that became Joe's lifetime mission—the economic and political empowerment of Mexican Americans in Texas. Joe never wavered in his commitment to this mission. I'm honored and privileged to have been his friend and fellow social justice warrior. José "Joe" Uriegas, Sr. – Presente!

Mario C. Compean

José V. Uriegas Tributes

My friend Jose Uriegas has left us as many others have done. It is the passing of our Chicano generation. Before him was the passing of Gabriel Tafolla, my former housemate while we were in college in Kingsville, Texas. Together, Uriegas and Gabe were a team of Chicano activists that opened the civil rights door in Uvalde for Mexican origin people. With election to the City Council, Uriegas showed not only that we could have a voice but that each of us need to speak up; use our own collective voices. We did just that as militants in the Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO) and later the Raza Unida Party. Uriegas led the VISTA Minority Mobilization program we used to organize in South Texas. He also became our champion of Chicano minority economic development. I remember not only the family grocery store in Uvalde but the restaurant in Austin and later the bingo hall. I will miss you my friend and will look for you and Gabe among others when it is my turn.

Abrazos. Jose Angel Gutierrez de Cristal.

Jose was a true combatant in the fight for justice and equality for the Chicano. He was old school and a hardcore believer that we should obtain our rights by any means necessary. He was tough and did not suffer fools well. It took me a while to see another side of Jose and that happened the first time I saw him with his son Joey. The love and tenderness he displayed toward Joey was touching and admirable. That tough guy was just a softie when it came to his family. He was fun to be around, always had a joke or a funny story. Muy chistoso. He was also an international entrepreneur, always thinking about the next business venture. I'll miss you mi amigo y camarada del Movimiento Chicano. Pórtate bien con los Ángeles hombre. Nos vemos al otro lado. Con favor de Dios. Con mucho Cariño,

Alicia Perez-Hodge

JOSE URIEGAS TRIBUTE

I have learned over the years that it takes time to know which events have changed my life until they are long passed. Such an event was when I met Jose Uriegas. I was just eighteen years old when I met Jose in 1968. I had joined a unique VISTA program called the Minority Mobilization Program. Around fifty Spanish-speaking students were recruited to serve in the Mexican American communities in Texas. Jose was one of our trainers and supervisors. He was around twenty-eight, a graduate of St. Mary's University who had just recently challenged the Anglo power structure in Uvalde, Texas, by running for City Council in 1966.

In this training, I began to see the distinctness of Jose Uriegas. Identity mattered to Jose, and he identified himself as a "Chicano." This identity was his code of honor. And this code of honor was based on esteem. Jose's recognition of who he was, was based on his admiration for "La Comunidad." Those who were lucky to have known him knew his message of empowerment and self-determination for La Comunidad. This code of honoring our people made him unique and never forgotten. God Bless him and que descanse en paz.

RUBEN BARRERA

Jose (Joe) Uriegas was an Icon in Uvalde Politics in the sixties and seventies. A school teacher who experienced discrimination first hand He along with many other was instrumental in changing the Uvalde school system. The late Joe Uriegas, Gabriel Tafolla, Gilbert Torres, Rogelio Muñoz, Amaro Cardona and many others were directly involved in organizing and executing a political strategy to create changes in Uvalde. Joe will be missed by many.

Abelardo Castillo

These Tributes to José V. Uriegas are made possible with the generosity of the Ruben Barrera Law Firm in Austin, Texas

José V. Uriegas Tributes

Mi Amigo José

We have known and worked with Jose for over forty years, so we have lots of memories. Here are some of the more outstanding ones.

We met Jose 42 years ago working at the East Austin Chicano Economic Development Corporation (EACEDC). Jose had helped El Concilio de East Town Lake Citizens get EACEDC incorporated and funded by the City. EACEDC was able to build ten houses (known as Nueva Vida) that were sold to low-income families. The houses still stand today. Members of our Board of Directors Met with Jose regularly about issues we were facing and received his advice and recommendations. With Jose's guidance several neighborhood development plans were created, including the Rainey Area Neighborhood Plan and the East Austin Development Plan.

When EACEDC was between funding I worked for Jose at his Mexican American Research Center (MARC) for about a year. There was a full staff of professionals who helped individual Mexican American groups, organizations, and even cities throughout the state. I went to Hebbbronville in South Texas to help the city document the history of its courthouse, then vacant and deteriorating. Hebbbronville had been by-passed when highways took most of the traffic that had previously relied on the railroads that met in that town. The City's hope was that they could market the courthouse to attract a new business or businesses and spur redevelopment.

I returned to work at EACEDC when the corporation was refunded. Jose was quite a joker, a fact that most of us who knew him well can attest to. Jose liked to tell the story of my leaving the MARC to return to EACEDC as "Jane left me for Gilbert". Jose opened at least three restaurants here in Austin. The last one was Mexitas (in the pink building) on the corner of E. 12th and IH 35 next to Lucky Lady Bingo

José was an innovator, mentor, planner, economist and above a friend and a member of our family. Que en Paz Descanse!

Gilbero and Jane Rivera

Joe Uriegas....the news of your passing caught me by surprise....Oh no! Nor that querido vato from Uvalde I came to know years ago in the late 1960's. Loco carnal que fuistes with that half smile, half curious look of yours, wearing boots and jeans like the latest Brando screen model. You couldn't get over my wheat jeans, madras shirt, and brown loafers, the kind that White fraternity guys use to wear....the question in your eyes was "pues, quien es este vato?"

I was one of the believers Joe. from Houston, at that. who along with people like you decided to join the struggle. And going weekends to Cottula for voter registration in the blistering hot sun was my commitment to what you and Gonzalo use to preach.

Knowing that you had passed at first came as sudden shock...Later in the day, i couldn't take you off my mind. It wasn't possible that you were gone....there are people like you who fought the good battle with little more than courage to rely on...the Chicano Movement, in a crazy sort of way, was like the modern day Ukraine. The struggle is much more than a battle for power or borders. Like Chicanos, they defend their homelands and culture for a higher cause we know as human dignity and the human right to exist...

Yes Joe, its our increasing turn in the eternal space of time that awaits us all. The only reminders of our pasts will come from those who remember and keep memories alive....you carnal will always be one of the true warriors who stood up against silence and conformity...and for your acts of courage you will..forever be one of our treasured Chicano heroes....ernesto

Ernesto Nieto

José was a friend you could depend on.

José worked on improving social and community problems. His role as a community leader was to fix the community's problems and work together with the community residents. José would guide other community leaders. José was a successful leader due to his confidence and skills of Leadership.

Though thick and thin, you've always been there for your friends and we can't thank you enough. You were always kind and generous to everyone. The thanks come from the bottom of our heart.

Gracias

Ricardo A. Chavira

José Uriegas

In 1968, Jose was our supervisor for VISTA volunteers in the Rio Grande Valley, he guided and taught us, but most of all, he took us in as family.

Homer Mora

**These Tributes Were Made Possible in Part by
Former Texas State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos**

José V. Uriegas Tributes

Para José

I met Joe when I was selected to be the VISTA Minority Mobilization trainer/supervisor for the Del Rio contingent of that project. We all met in San Antonio in July of 1968 for several weeks of training. I was brand new to my new job, coming directly to it from the high school classrooms of San Felipe H.S in the San Felipe Independent School District. The 67-68 school year had been very engaging and exciting. I met a group of new VISTAs, Anglo young adults from around the country wanting to do good in our Barrios. I had campaigned heavily for our first Chicano Mayor and for a teacher-colleague, Ruben Flores, who also won a seat on the city council.

In the VISTA Minority Mobilization Program, Joe and I were in the company of others from Laredo, El Paso, and the lower Rio Grande Valley under the initial leadership of Gil Murillo. Some of the trainers were key Chicano Movement organizers: Jose Angel Gutierrez, Mario Compean, and Nacho Perez. The program officer for VISTA/Peace Corps in Austin with the Office of Economic Opportunity was Gonzalo Barrientos, who supported Jose in the strong leadership of the VISTA program.

We all dispersed to our sites, with Joe going to the valley. A few months later, Gil Murillo resigned, and Joe Uriegas became the coordinator for our five locations. I left for the valley to start a Chicano college and survive in part because Joe would hire me as a VISTA trainer. Joe also joined an advisory committee for our 'Colegio.' During this period, I was also developing a weekend 'Curso de la Raza' which Joe supported. In May of 1970, Joe recruited me to help the student walkout in Uvalde, and under his leadership and support, I coordinated the out-school schools for the students. Jose was a vital supporter of those activities.

Eventually, I moved to Austin to work with MACEP under Jose's leadership. He saw the importance of economic development in our people and led the establishment of Chicano-owned businesses in Austin. Internal conflicts separated him from the organization, but he never lost the energy for entrepreneurial projects.

He supported and took care of his strong partner, Letty, and then cared for his son Joey through an identical illness. Joe wouldn't give up on those he loved.

Jose was a strong leader with strong opinions. He was fearless in confrontation and constant in his dedication to improving our lot as Chicanos. Even those who disagreed with him must attest to that.

Aurelio Montemayor

José Uriegas

I met Jose Uriegas but I never really knew him closely but he was an incredibly wise man in general. He attended an assembly of the Rural Development Leadership Network sponsored in Con Can back in the nineties. There he shared his experiences as a student in the Uvalde school system where he excelled as an athlete. He was aware of the way discrimination affected the Mexican American community in his hometown of Uvalde and the region. He was very enthusiastic and articulate about his beliefs of equality.

He explained that, to reach social justice, our people would have to have equity in the economic realm of this country. "We don't need a simple job. What we need is access to equity." He believed in equality and justice. He was a true civil rights leader in the momentum of the Mexican American Civil rights movement of the sixties. He was not a socialist or a capitalist, a republican or democrat, a liberal or a conservative in my view. He was a man that had a clear idea of right and wrong and common sense.

What I remember most of Jose is how much he loved his brother Cate Uriegas whom I knew.

Jorge Botello

Jose called me late in the evening. I was half-asleep. High school class at Pharr-San Juan-Alamo the following morning. "How early can I pick you up tomorrow? We're heading to Edcouch-Elsa." November 15, 1968, and over 175 students had walked out of their classes at Edcouch Elsa High School down in the Valley. I told Jose to pick me up at lunch time. I would be able to skip the rest of the day. We stopped for a taco. Letty was warming tortillas de harina over a comal at an electric stove. I think one of the girls was there; maybe Joey too. We arrived at the high school just as five students were being arrested for loitering and we followed the officer to the justice of peace for arraignment. Judge Lopez refused to allow for a personal recognizance bond. Off to jail they went.

I recall Jose walking around anxiously among the crowd, powerless to do anything and felt the angst of the powerlessness myself. Much has changed in the Valley and elsewhere in Texas. I want to believe that Jose Uriegas was one of the early sparks who helped make that happen. He was one of my many mentors.

Jesus "Chuy" Ramirez

These Tributes to José V. Uriegas are made possible with the generosity of the J. Ramirez Law Firm in San Juan, Texas



IRS destaca importancia del Crédito por gastos de cuidado de niños y dependientes; crédito puede ayudar a familias, otros

WASHINGTON — El Servicio de Impuestos Internos les recordó hoy a los contribuyentes de un crédito tributario importante que puede ayudar a las personas que le pagan a alguien para que cuide a sus hijos u otros miembros de la familia mientras trabajan, buscan trabajo o asisten a una institución de aprendizaje, a calificar para un crédito tributario importante.

El Crédito por gastos de cuidado de niños y dependientes se mejoró para el año tributario 2021. Esto significa que más contribuyentes pueden calificar este año, y el crédito tiene más valor. Los contribuyentes con un ingreso bruto ajustado de más de \$438,000 no son elegibles para este crédito a pesar de que pueden haberlo reclamado previamente.

"Hay muchos créditos tributarios importantes disponibles para las familias, y no queremos que nadie pase por alto el Crédito por gastos de cuidado de niños y dependientes," dijo Chuck Rettig, Comisionado del IRS. "Animamos a las familias y otras personas que pueden calificar para este crédito a revisar cuidadosamente los criterios para asegurarse de que reciben la cantidad máxima a la que tienen derecho. También animamos a las comunidades de profesionales de impuestos y otros a compartir esta información importante."

Dependiendo de sus ingresos, los contribuyentes podrían obtener un crédito de hasta el 50 por ciento de sus gastos calificados por cuidado de niños (en inglés). Para el año tributario 2021, el gasto máximo elegible para este crédito es de \$8,000 por un hijo y \$16,000 por dos o más.

Para los efectos de este crédito, el IRS define a una persona calificada como:

Un dependiente del contribuyente que tenga menor de 13 años cuando se proporciona el cuidado.

El cónyuge de un contribuyente que es física o mentalmente incapaz de cuidar de sí mismo y vivió con el contribuyente durante más de la mitad del año.

Alguien que es física o mentalmente incapaz de cuidar de sí mismo y vivió con el contribuyente durante seis meses y/o:

La persona calificada era dependiente del contribuyente o
Habrían sido dependientes del contribuyente excepto uno de los siguientes criterios:

La persona calificada recibió un ingreso bruto de \$4,300 o más

La persona calificada presentó una declaración conjunta

El contribuyente o cónyuge, si presenta una declaración conjunta, podría ser reclamado como dependiente en la declaración de otra persona

Los contribuyentes pueden usar el Asistente tributario interactivo (en inglés) o ver las preguntas frecuentes en IRS.gov para determinar si pueden reclamar este crédito. Para los socios de IRS, hay disponible un folleto promocional especial (en inglés) PDF.

El IRS ha estado destacando este crédito de muchas maneras, como en consejos tributarios, hojas de datos, notas de prensa, así como a través de Twitter y otras redes sociales del IRS y canales de divulgación. También se destaca en un video especial en el canal de YouTube del IRS.

Más de 150,000 latinos fallecidos debido a COVID-19

Esta semana trajo tristes noticias que nos hace reflejar sobre la devastación que nuestro pueblo latino ha sostenido durante los últimos dos años. Esta semana el número de latinos en el país que han perdido sus vidas a la mano de la pandemia sobrepasó 150,000. Específicamente, casi 153,000 latinos han muerto a partir del 19 de febrero. Estas personas son nuestros queridos quien han dejado atrás sus familiares y amigos. Lamentablemente, muchísimos niños han quedado huérfanos causa del COVID-19. Una terrible pérdida de demasiadas vidas que ilustra el golpe masivo que hemos experimentado durante los últimos dos años de la pandemia. En **Texas**, aproximadamente 37,000 latinos han fallecido debido a COVID-19, casi una de cada cuatro personas latinas que han muerto en la nación.

Les ofrezco dos perspectivas para entender el significativo de los cerca de 153,000 latinos fallecidos en el país. Primeramente, en los principios meses del 2021 había mucha esperanza que la pandemia disminuirá en intensidad con la disponibilidad de la vacuna. Desafortunadamente, en el ambiente de divisiones políticos y la desinformación, mucha gente rechazaron la vacuna, poniéndose en riesgo del contagio y a la muerte. La evidencia es bien establecida que la vacuna junta a la dosis de refuerzo han sido eficaces en evitando el contagio o, a lo menos, tener síntomas más ligeros si contractan el virus.

En la nación y en **Texas**, los latinos tienen una tasa de la vacunación más alta que la de los blancos y los afroamericanos, pero más baja de la de los asiáticos. Según datos de la **Fundación de la Familia Kaiser**, 62 por ciento de los latinos se han vacunado comparado a 83 por ciento de los asiáticos, 61 por ciento de los blancos, y 55 por ciento de los afroamericanos [<https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/latest-data-on-covid-19-vaccinations-by-race-ethnicity/>]. En **Texas**, 61 por ciento de los latinos se han vacunado comparado con 74 por ciento de los asiáticos, 53 por ciento de los blancos, y 47 por ciento de los afroamericanos. Todavía es el caso que dos de cada cinco personas latinas en la nación y en **Texas** no se han vacunado y siguen con un riesgo peligroso de contagiarse y morir por COVID-19.

Adicionalmente, podemos poner en perspectiva la magnitud de los casi 153,000 latinos que han fallecido por la pandemia. Imagínese que los residentes de la comunidad de **Killeen**, localizada en la región central de **Texas** y con una población de aproximadamente 153,000, se desaparecieran completamente. La población de esta ciudad es equivalente al número de latinos en el país que han perdido sus vidas por el COVID-19. La estadística de casi 153,000 latino muertos no es una abstracción.

¿Qué traerá el futuro con respecto a la pandemia? Es claro que no estamos en un punto en cual podemos ver la terminación de la pandemia. La aparición de nuevos variantes del COVID-19 es una realidad. En los últimos diez meses hemos experimentado muchos cambios con respecto a la pandemia. Por ejemplo, en abril de 2021, cuando el número de fallecidos latinos debido a la pandemia alcanzó a 100,000 [<https://www.latinorebels.com/2021/04/15/amilestoneofmisery/>], la situación mejoró con la disminución en los números de casos y muertes por unos meses después.

Sin embargo, en julio la situación empeoró con el surgió de la variante Delta. Más reciente, al fin del año 2021, llegó la variante Ómicron. En enero y temprano en febrero de este año, otra vez, los hospitales en muchas áreas del país se llenaron con pacientes quienes contractaron la variante Ómicron y muchas personas murieron. En este momento estamos viendo la situación mejorando con la disminución de casos y muertes después de la cima en enero. Esto será la nueva realidad con variaciones constantes por un tiempo en el futuro.

Al fin, es importante que continuemos siendo vigilante y cuidadosos para seguir saludables. Si no se han vacunado, por favor háganlo para protegerse y para proteger sus queridos. Es probable que una proporción significativa de los cerca de 153,000 latinos que han muerto debido al COVID-19 todavía estuvieran con nosotros si se veían vacunado. Ciertamente, la vacuna ha sido un regalo del cielo que, afortunadamente, ha guardado muchas vidas preciosas.

Rogelio Sáenz es sociólogo y demógrafo. Él es Profesor en el Departamento de Demografía en la **Universidad de Texas en San Antonio**.

**Norbert Flores, President
THE GREATER SOUTHWEST
OPTIMIST CLUB
42ND ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP
GALA**

*"An investment in knowledge
pays the best interest" Ben Franklin*



**Wine Reception Dinner Dance
Saturday March 26, 2022 6pm-Midnight
"Latin Express Band"
\$85 per person
Austin Southpark Hotel
4140 Governors Row
Austin Texas 78744**

**Ticket information:
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cmayo50@swbell.net**

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Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Environmental Assessment

Invitación a una Reunion Publica del Aeropuerto de Austin!

El aeropuerto organizará dos reuniones públicas para que los miembros de la comunidad conozcan el proceso de Evaluación Ambiental durante los proyectos de construcción e mejoras del Aeropuerto.

Los miembros de la comunidad pueden expresar sus comentarios y inquietudes sobre el Propuesto de Evaluación Ambiental (EA) durante la reunion, por correo o a través del sitio web del proyecto antes del cierre de período que sera el día 7 de abril del 2022.

Reunión Virtual

Fecha: miércoles 23 de marzo

Hora: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Alojado a través de Zoom, visite el sitio web del proyecto para obtener un enlace de la reunión

Reunión en Persona:

Fecha: sábado 26 de marzo

Hora: 10a.m.- 1p.m.

2717 Spirit of Texas Drive

Seguridad COVID-19: Todos en la reunion deben usar mascarillas durante el evento y mantener 6 pies de distancia. Si recientemente ha recibido un resultado positivo, a tenido contacto cercano a COVID-19 o se siente enfermo visite el sitio web del Proyecto para la reunión de Zoom el día 23 de marzo.

Visite SpeakUPAustin.org/AUS-EA-Español para obtener más información.



BUD LIGHT 4658

TEJANO EXPLOSION 2022

MARCH 31ST GARY HOBBS + DAVID MAREZ + JOE POSADA

APRIL 1ST JAY PEREZ + RAM HERRERA + STEVIE D

APRIL 2ND A.B. QUINTANILLA Y LOS KUMBIA ALLSTARZ + JAIME DE ANDA + STREET TALK BAND WITH PATSY TORRES + MICHAEL JACKSON REMIXED

APRIL 3RD RICKY NARANJO + DAVID FARIAS + LA CALMA

APRIL 7TH LOS PALOMINOS + LOS DESPERADOZ + SUNNY SAUCEDA

APRIL 8TH MICHAEL SALGADO + MARCOS OROZCO + EL DORADO

APRIL 9TH RAMON AYALA + CHENTE BARRERA + LOS GARCIA BROS.

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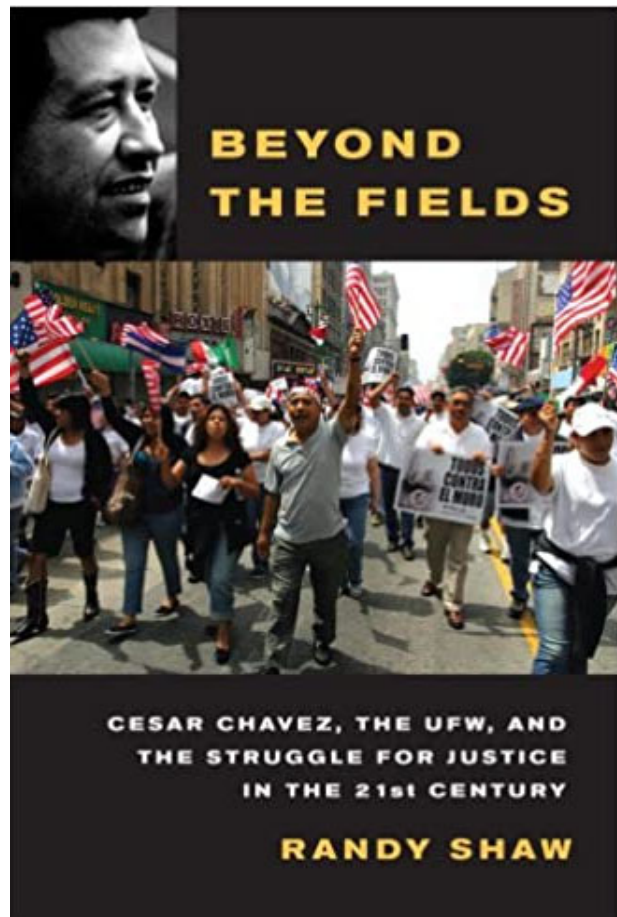
FOR TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Libros para la primavera

Cesar Chavez is the most prominent Latino in United States history books, and much has been written about **Chavez** and the **United Farm Worker's** heyday in the 1960s and '70s. But left untold has been their ongoing impact on 21st century social justice movements.

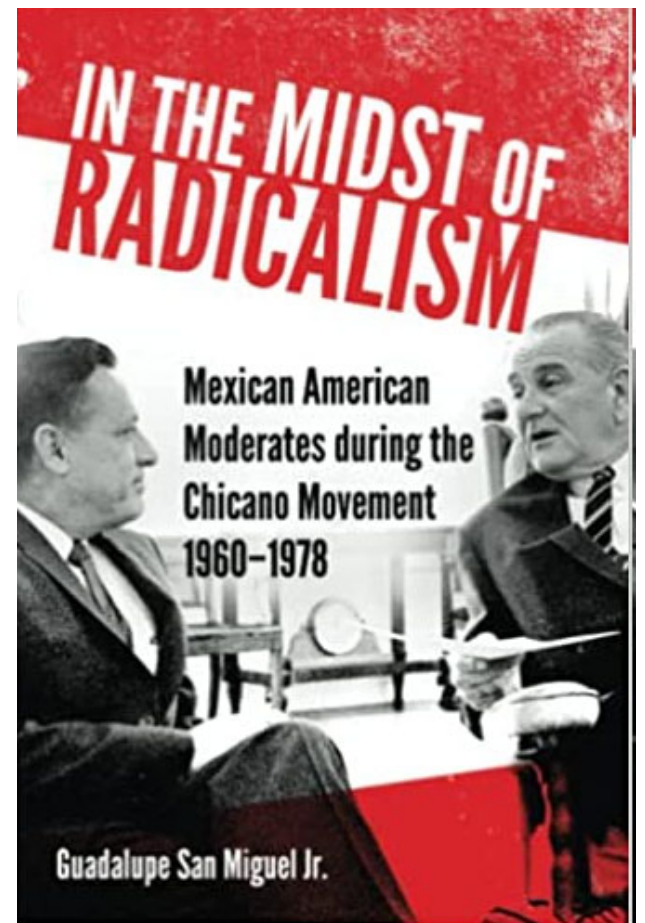
Beyond the Fields unearths this legacy, and describes how **Chavez** and the **UFW's** imprint can be found in the modern reshaping of the American labor movement, the building of Latino political power, the transformation of **Los Angeles** and **California** politics, the fight for environmental justice, and the burgeoning national movement for immigrant rights. Many of the ideas, tactics, and strategies that **Chavez** and the **UFW** initiated or revived—including the boycott, the fast, clergy-labor partnerships and door-to-door voter outreach—are now so commonplace that their roots in the farmworkers' movement is forgotten.

This powerful book also describes how the **UFW** became the era's leading incubator of young activist talent, creating a generation of skilled alumni who went on to play critical roles in progressive campaigns. **UFW** volunteers and staff were dedicated to furthering economic justice, and many devoted their post-**UFW** lives working for social change. When **Barack Obama** adopted “Yes We Can” as his 2008 campaign theme, he confirmed that the spirit of “Si Se Puede” has never been stronger, and that it still provides the clearest roadmap for achieving greater social and economic justice in the United States.



The **Chicano Movement** of the 1960s and '70s, like so much of the period's politics, is best known for its radicalism: militancy, distrust of mainstream institutions, demands for rapid change. Less understood, yet no less significant in its aims, actions, and impact, was the movement's moderate elements.

In the Midst of Radicalism presents the first full account of these more mainstream liberal activists—those who rejected the politics of protest and worked within the system to promote social change for the **Mexican American** community.



The radicalism of the **Chicano Movement** marked a sharp break from the previous generation of Mexican Americans. Even so, historian **Guadalupe San Miguel Jr.** contends, the first-generation agenda of moderate social change persisted. His book reveals how, even in the ferment of the '60s and '70s, **Mexican American** moderates used conventional methods to expand access to education, electoral politics, jobs, and mainstream institutions. Believing in the existing social structure, though not the status quo, they fought in the courts, at school board meetings, as lobbyists and advocates, and at the ballot box. They did not mount demonstrations, but in their own deliberate way, they chipped away at the barriers to their communities' social acceptance and economic mobility. Were these men and women pawns of mainstream political leaders, or were they true to the Mexican American community, representing its diverse interests as part of the establishment? **San Miguel** explores how they contributed to the struggle for social justice and equality during the years of radical activism. His book assesses their impact and how it fit within the historic struggle for civil rights waged by others since the early 1900s.

In the Midst of Radicalism for the first time shows us these moderate Mexican American activists as they were—playing a critical role in the Chicano Movement while maintaining a long-standing tradition of pursuing social justice for their community.

amazonbooks



The **ESB Mexican-American Cultural Center (ESB MACC)** will host its first annual **MACCnífico** - a celebration of **Austin Tejano & Latino** music and culture. We will showcase local musicians and performing artists who contribute to **Austin’s** diverse Latinx art community, inviting the public to celebrate the biggest week of live music in **Austin**. With live performances, food trucks, on-site activations, and special guests, it will be a “mag-nificent” display of **Austin’s Latinx** culture, so in other words, “MACC-nifico”!

This event will take place outdoors on the **MACC Zocalo**, our central plaza that has always served as our gathering place for large events. Admission to the event is free of charge and open to the general public with a health screening (more below).

On Thursday 3/17 the **ESB MACC** will exclusively present performances by our artist residency program, **LAAP** (Latino Artist Access Program). Past **LAAP** performances at the **MACC** have included live sets by singer-songwriters, theater productions, live comedy shows, and even traditional folkloric dance. All **LAAP** artists have been invited to contribute a performance or presentation. Please see the full list of **LAAP** artists here.

On Friday 3/18 the **ESB MACC** will host a Tejano music night with local bands that are continuing the strong Tejano and Conjunto traditions of Central Texas. Our beloved Tejano musicians have always been rooted in East Austin and have played such venues as the **Pan Am Rec Center’s Summer Concert Series** and various folk festivals in the area. Expect lots of dancing and plenty of reunions with these bands whose audiences see them as family, some of whom have been performing in **East Austin** for 40+ years!

On Saturday 3/19 the **ESB MACC** will host a Latino/a/x music showcase that can mix genres such as cumbia, salsa, reggae, funk, world, rock en espanol, and more! This final evening of performances on Saturday night will showcase the incredible diversity in Austin’s Latino music scene, especially those bands that have expanded beyond traditional genres with their own modern twist.

Doors will open at 4:00pm and live music will continue to approximately 9:30pm. Guests who arrive early to the event will also be able to chat with various community outreach tables, vendors, and local organizations. If you’ve never been to **Austin**, come find out about the work being done in our communities! And for those local attendees, connect with organizations that further the **MACC’s** mission to preserve, promote, and facilitate an appreciation for Latinx culture and connect to our ever-growing community.

The event is free to attend, but capacity is limited due to social distancing measures. Guests can access a health questionnaire online to fill out before they arrive at the event, and temperatures will be taken upon arrival. Guests are advised not to attend if they have been exposed to COVID, have a recent positive COVID diagnosis, and/or have been ill. There is no alcohol at this event.

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.

Music	Música
Sound	Sonido
Drums	Tamboras
Guitar	Guitara
Accordion	Acordion
Bass	Bajo
Sing	Cantar
Scream	Gritar
Beat	Compass
Speakers	Vocinas
Microphone	Microfono
Dance	Bailar
Turn	Voltear
Entrance	Entrada



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ATX Appreciation Day



Paco y Lola say

"Muchísimas Gracias Austin!"

To thank you for the warm welcome and amazing support,
come enjoy más tamales, barbacoa y buñuelos!

Sunday, March 20th

10 am - 12noon

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Las nuevas clases empiezan
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Departamento de Recursos de Empresas
Pequeñas & Minoritarias en 512-974-7600 o
viste www.austintexas.gov/snbr.





Hablemos de Project Connect

Project Connect incluye opciones de tránsito expandidas a lo largo del área de Austin, con un nuevo tren ligero, un subterráneo y más servicios alrededor de la ciudad.



El aporte de la comunidad está ayudando a planificar y diseñar Project Connect. ¡Necesitamos su opinión!

Unirse a las reuniones públicas para conversar con los equipos del proyecto acerca de las líneas de trenes ligeros Naranja y Azul y sobre cómo los diseños están incorporando los comentarios de la comunidad.

Las sesiones en grupos reducidos cubrirán:

- Consideraciones ambientales
- Cómo se conectarán los servicios de tránsito dentro de nuestra comunidad
- Inversión antidesplazamiento

REUNIONES VIRTUALES EN VIVO

Martes 29/3, 5:30 – 7 p. m.

Jueves 31/3, 12 – 1:30 p. m.

JUNTA PÚBLICA VIRTUAL A PEDIDO

Martes 29/3 – Viernes 29/4

Para obtener más información, visite
ProjectConnect.com/getinvolved.

Para servicios de traducción de idiomas o adaptaciones, llame al 512-904-0180. La información sobre la reunión está disponible en español.



Southwest Texas Oral History Center

www.oralhistoryswt.org

Take a look and listen to the Middle Rio Grande region of Texas through Oral History.

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Medina, Edwards, Zavala, Dimmit, La Salle, Real**

¡Sí, Se Puede!

CÉSAR CHÁVEZ MARCH AND DAY OF ACTION!

**UNITED BY
OUR ROOTS**



**March 10am
(9:30am gathering)
Program 10:30am
Community Networking
11am - 1pm**



**SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022
10AM TO 1PM
PARQUE ZARAGOZA
2608 GONZALES ST., AUSTIN, TX 78702**