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La Voz

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Tejano Monument Event Brings Out Thousands to Bear Witness

See Pages 16 and 17



Austin Policeman Killed Responding to a Call

Senior Police Officer Jaime Padron was shot and killed after responding to the Walmart on the I-35 Frontage Road to investigate reports of an intoxicated man at approximately 2:30 a.m.

Upon arriving at the scene, Officer Padron was immediately attacked by the man and was shot once in the neck at point blank range. Despite being wounded, he was able to inform dispatchers that he had been shot. Two Walmart employees tackled the suspect and held him down until responding units arrived and placed him under arrest. Officer Padron succumbed to his wound at the scene.

Officer Padron was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and had served with the Austin Police Department for three years. He had previously served with the Austin Airport Police Department and the San Angelo Police Department for 14 years. He is survived by his two young daughters and parents. Officer Padron was 41 years old.



People in the News



Remembering Selena Quintanilla

It was 17 years ago that Selena Quintanilla was shot and killed in Corpus Christi, Texas by the president of her fan club. And even though she is gone her music remains as popular as when she was alive. Radio stations across the state continue to play her songs and at quinceañeras far and wide her music is played as people remember the young lady who had made it to the big time by the age of 23.

After her death in 1995, many people promised to never forget her and today with the help of social media and other technology she remains a vivid image in the minds of many.

In 1994, the name Selena was not even among the top 100 names given to girls born in Texas. After her death, the name Selena climbed to 18 with 974 girls being named Selena.

Today, Selena would have been 41 years old. There is no way to know her life would have turned out or where her career may have taken her. What we do know is that her memory continues to hold a place in the minds and hearts of many.



Eva Guzman Among those at the Tejano Monument Activities

Justice Eva Guzman was among those in attendance at the Tejano Monument unveiling last month at the Capitol. Sharing the stage with the Governor Rick Perry, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst and State Senator Judith Zaffirini, Guzman offered words of praise to all those who helped make the Tejano Monument a reality.

Appointed to the Supreme Court of Texas on October 8, 2009, by Texas Gov. Rick Perry, Guzman served as an Associate Justice on the Houston-based Texas Fourteenth Court of Appeals. Prior to that she was a trial court judge on the 309th Family District Court after her appointment by then-Gov. George W. Bush.

Before taking the bench, Justice Guzman enjoyed a successful 10-year career in private law practice. She holds a B.B.A. from the University of Houston and a law degree from South Texas College of Law. Though born in Chicago, Justice Guzman grew up in Houston.



Michelle Valles Goes to California

Michelle Valles, will join NBC4 Southern California as the weekend anchor and general assignment reporter, starting April 9, 2012. Valles will co-anchor the weekend editions of "Today in LA," alongside Ted Chen, on Saturdays and Sundays, from 7 a.m.-8 a.m.

With more than 13 years of broadcast journalist experience, Valles served as an evening and morning news anchor and reporter at NBC affiliates in Austin and El Paso for an accumulated 10 years. She also launched and co-created Austin's first-ever award winning lifestyle show as the co-host and writer of Austin Live on CBS affiliate (KEYE).

"We are delighted to welcome Michelle to the NBC4 team," said Steve Carlston, President and General Manager of NBC4 Southern California. "Her experience as a broadcast journalist, along with her energy, wit and creativity, will greatly contribute to our newscast."

Valles received her B.A. in Journalism from The University of Texas at Austin and was a member of a number community based organizations in the Austin area.



Carmen Tafolla Named San Antonio Poet Laureate

San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro named long time community activist, writer, poet and author Carmen Tafolla to be the city's poet laureate.

"I can think of no one more worthy of this honor," the mayor said in a statement. "She's not only an accomplished poet and educator, she is a homegrown talent who embodies the power and poignancy of art in our community." Tafolla said being named poet laureate of her native city was a "tremendous honor."

"I believe we are an extremely poetic city," she said. "Sometimes it can be the words to a song or a turn of phrase. San Antonio is a dynamic literary city, and a poet laureate can empower the literary community, as well as bring everyday people into that community in a spirit of co-creation."

Born on the West Side in 1951, Tafolla attended local public schools and earned her doctorate in bilingual education from The University of Texas at Austin in 1982. Currently, she is writer-in-residence at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

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Pensamientos

Since the unveiling of the **Tejano Monument** on the grounds of the **Texas State Capitol** last month, I have passed by the Capitol several times and each time I have seen 5 to 10 people gathered around the plaques in front of the monument reading what it now etched in metal.

As I think about what these people are reading, I run the numbers in my head and think, if 100 people stop to read and visit the **Tejano Monument** each day, that will be about 3,000 people per month or 36,000 people per year. Over time hundreds of thousands of people will come to know, as **Paul Harvey** would say, "the rest of the story."

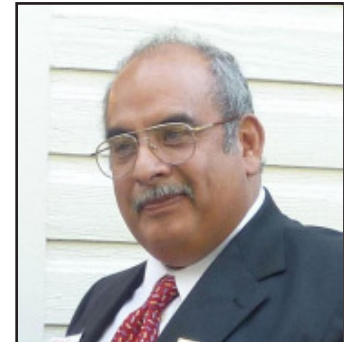
On page 16 you will find the obituary of **Erasmus Andrade**. I met **Mr. Andrade** a couple of years ago when he was in town for an **AARP** convention. We had spoken a few time by telephone and he called to let me know that he was at the convention and to come by for dinner.

I went and stayed for four hours as he shared with me all the activities he had been involved in during the years of the **Chicano Movement**. As I listened to him speak, it became clear that he was a "behind the scenes player" who helped to make things happen. We ended the evening by agreeing to someday get together again. That day will of course never come.

We reprinted his obituary in **La Voz** in part because he was at one time a member of the community and secondly because of the example he set with his time and dedication to the cause of social justice issues.

La gente de Seguin, Texas - I have visited and worked in many communities around the country, but I have rarely seen a community like **Seguin** which has so many activities going on for the Hispanic community. It seems like every month there is an event taking place that draws in so many people. I have found in the year we have been publishing **La Voz** in **Seguin** a community that is truly working hard to make it a better place for everyone.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

On the Cover

The photo on the cover of this month's issue of **La Voz** has **Dr. Andres Tijerina**, Professor of History at **Austin Community College**, addressing the crowd that assembled for the unveiling of the **Tejano Monument** on March 29th, 2012. Seated in front are **Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman** and **Texas State Senator Judith Zaffirini**.



Mayfest in Creedmoor, Texas

First Saturday in May (May 5th this year.) **Place: Creedmoor Community Center**

Time: 9:00 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Food: 4 H Club is handling

Breakfast Tacos before 9:00 A. M. **Other Hot Food during the day** **Arts and Crafts**

Booths all day Bingo 11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Antique Tractor **Displays on grounds**

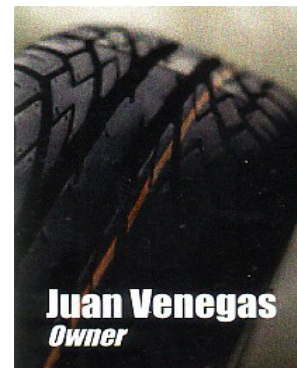
Singer-Songwriter Competition at Noon— **Winners selected by panel Jon Burklund**

in charge Contact: Mr. Berklund for further information (Jon's father) 461-0650



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Jesse Gamez Activist Attorney Passes Away in San Antonio

Jesus Maria Gamez III (Jesse), a prominent **San Antonio Attorney and Hispanic Rights Activist**, died in **San Antonio** on Tuesday March 20, 2012 after a battle with cancer.



was in law school, and for the rest of his life, he was an activist in the **Hispanic Civil Rights Movement** in **South Texas**.

As successful as he was, he never forgot his roots, always championing the cause for the less fortunate, the struggling student, and his hometown of **Crystal City, Texas**, where a

He passed away peacefully, at home, surrounded by loved ones. **Gamez**, (69) was well known throughout **San Antonio** and the **South Texas** area where he practiced a wide range of civil and criminal law.

migrant school is named in his honor.

He was born August 2, 1942 in **Crystal City** to **Jesus Maria Gamez, Jr.** and **Esther Varela**. As a young man he was a migrant farm worker and picked vegetables and fruits in both **California** and **Wisconsin**. He graduated in 1960 from **Crystal City High School**. After high school, he attended **Southwest Texas Junior College** in **Uvalde** for 2 years before attending **St. Mary's University** in **San Antonio**, where he graduated with a B.A. Degree in 1964.

He established scholarship funds for law students in **St. Mary's Law School** and **Crystal City High School**. A man of many interests, he was a well-known firearms collector and hunter. On numerous occasions he provided advanced weapons training for the **Crystal City Police Department** and the **Zavala County Sheriff's Department**.

With his marriage to **Diana Palacios**, he embraced two sons, **Armando** (Sonny) **Garcia** and **Rey David Garcia** as well as two granddaughters', **Adriana Garcia** and **Giselle Garcia**.

In 1965, he enrolled in **St. Mary's Law School** and began working as a law clerk for famous **San Antonio Lawyer, Pat Maloney**. He married his wife, **Celia Zubia** in 1965 and they had three children. In the spring of 1968, with barely enough hours to qualify for the Bar Exam, he borrowed money from his best friend to go to **Austin** to study for, and take the exam.

He is survived by his loving wife, **Diana Palacios Gamez**. His daughters **Ester Jean Gamez** and **Selina Gamez Maloney** who is married to **Pat Maloney, Jr.**, one son, **Jesus Mario Gamez IV**, who practices law in **San Antonio**, and the pride and joy of his life, his grandchildren, **Patrick Maloney, Connor Maloney** and **Kyla Maloney**.

He passed and was licensed by the **State of Texas** that same year. Even after leaving law school, he continued to work for a number of years for **Pat Maloney** in his office in **San Antonio**. During the time he

He will forever live in the hearts of those he loved and family and friends who dearly love him.

Texas State University Hosts Literary Celebration

Event: *Voces y Memorias: the Rolando Hinojosa and Arturo Madrid Literary Celebration*

The Wittliff Collections: Texas State University-San Marcos

April 25th, 2012; 6:30 P.M.

On April 25th, 2012, Texas State University-San Marcos will host three prominent Mexican American literary figures—**Rolando Hinojosa**, **Arturo Madrid**, and **Carmen Tafolla**—at the prestigious Wittliff Collections for *Voces y Memorias: the Rolando Hinojosa and Arturo Madrid Literary Celebration*. The event will consist of readings by Hinojosa and Madrid from recently published books, a discussion between the authors about the craft of writing from a minority perspective in which Tafolla will act both as moderator and participant, and a book sale, where attendees will be able to purchase books written by Hinojosa, Madrid, and Tafolla and have them signed by the authors.

Rolando Hinojosa-Smith is the **Ellen Clayton Garwood Professor of English** at the **University of Texas-Austin**. A novelist, essayist, poet, and short-story writer from the **Rio Grande Valley**, **Dr. Hinojosa's** work has won numerous awards, including the prestigious **Premio Casa de las Americas** and the **Premio Quinto Sol Annual Prize**. He is considered by many to be among the most important living Texas writers. In November 2011, **Hinojosa** published *A Voice of My Own: Essays and Stories* and a new edition of *Partners in Crime*.

Arturo Madrid is the **Norene R. and T. Frank Murchison Distinguished Professor** of the **Humanities** at **Trinity University** in **San Antonio**. A decorated critic and scholar, he is the recipient of such honors as the **President's Medal** from **Brooklyn College**, the **Lifetime Achievement Awards** from the **Ford Salute to Higher Education**, and the **Charles Frankel Prize** (later renamed the **National Humanities Medal**) from the **President of the United States of America**. In April of 2012, Trinity University Press will publish his family memoir, titled *In the Country of Empty Crosses: the Story of a New Mexico Hispano Protestant Family*.

Carmen Tafolla is one of the most anthologized living Latina writers. She has published work for both children and adults in more than two hundred anthologies, magazines, journals, textbooks, and readers. She is the author of more than fifteen books, seven screenplays, and numerous articles and essays. She earned her Ph.D at **The University of Texas at Austin** in 1982.

Usted Acaba de Ganar un Gran Cantidad de Dinero

Ahora la gente se está preparando para la temporada de primavera con el jardinería, las vacaciones y actividades al aire libre. Mientras otros están cayendo víctimas de estafas de lotería. Muchas veces estafadores utilizar nombres de las agencias gubernamentales y organizaciones de renombre para tratar de confundir y dar la confianza en la afirmación de ganancias. **El Better Business Bureau** le recuerda al consumidor a ser sospechosos si le viene anuncios de premios de sorteos por correo, correo electrónico o teléfono.

Cada mes cientos de consumidores pierden dinero por tener confianza en un anuncio de lotería. Mucha gente les dicen al **BBB** que reciben notificaciones de lotería, cheques y anuncios de un gran premio. Acuérdesse, no se puede ser un ganador si no introdujo en una lotería. Con el fin de ganar un concurso, el participante normalmente tiene que llenar y enviar un formulario de entrada a una empresa. Si usted sabe que entro en una lotería y siempre has ganado algo, no deberían tener que pagar un centavo, enviar dinero por cable o compra nada para recibirlo. Siempre para ser seguro del sorteo y confirmar sus ganancias póngase en contacto con la organización directamente. Si usted cree que el anuncio es una estafa asegúrese de informar a la **Comisión Federal de Comercio o el Prevención de Correo Engañoso y Ley de Cumplimiento**. Para ayudar a los consumidores identificar estafas y encontrar empresas confiables, **BBB** ofrece consejos cada semana por www.bbb.org y <http://watchyourbuck.com/>.



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TEXAS FOLKLIFE'S 2012 BIG SQUEEZE ACCORDION CONTEST SEMIFINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Free Concert and Playoffs to be held at The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum Saturday, April 28

Winners will perform at 23rd annual Accordion Kings & Queens Festival held on Saturday, June 2 at Houston's Miller Outdoor Theatre

Austin, Texas – April 10, 2012 – Texas Folklife is pleased to announce the names of the eight young squeezeboxers who will advance to the semifinal stage of the sixth annual Big Squeeze accordion contest: **Peter Anzaldúa**, 15, of Brownsville; **Candice Cerda**, 17, of San Benito; **Omar Garza**, 17, of Mission; **Luis Gonzales**, 16, of Grand Prairie; **Zeth Lara**, 12, of San Benito; **Juan Longoria III**, 11, of Brownsville (son of 2007 champion!); **Michael Ramos**, 16, of Dallas; and **Isaiah Tellez**, 13, of Pasadena. In addition to welcoming back two finalists from last year's contest—Omar Garza and Isaiah Tellez—Texas Folklife is gratified that the contest is generating its own extended family with the son of the first Big Squeeze Champion Juan Longoria, Jr. making it to the semifinals this year.

The Big Squeeze 2012 semifinals for up-and-coming musicians will be held in Austin at [The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum](#) on Saturday, April 28. This is the third consecutive year that The Big Squeeze contest will be held at the popular museum that tells “the story of Texas”—a perfect partner for the non-profit that promotes and celebrates Texas's diverse, authentic culture.

Semifinalists will perform before a panel of judges and the public on the Lone Star Plaza in front of the museum, Saturday, April 28, from 2:00-5:30 p.m. A free concert to entertain the crowd will also be held on the Plaza. Dancing will be encouraged at this free, family-friendly event, and for those who want to take breaks once in a while we recommend bringing folding chairs. The event will be held rain or shine. In case of rain, it will be held inside the museum.

Emceeding this year's semifinals contest and performance will be Joe Nick Patoski, iconic Texas author and Texas Folklife's emcee for the annual Accordion Kings & Queens Festival. The program will feature Joel Guzman, two-time Grammy Award winner and considered one of the best accordion players in the country; Ruben Paul Moreno, zydeco phenom who has just been nominated for the 2012 Zydeco Music Awards; and last year's Big Squeeze Champ Ignacio “Nachito” Morales.

Baile de Primavera

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will sponsor a “Spring Dance” on Sat. April 28, 2012 at *Fiesta Ballroom* in Seguin from 9:00 pm to 1:00a.m with conjunto music by Grammy Award Winner *Santiago Jimenez, Jr.* All proceeds will go towards renovation of the pews.



6th Annual

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¿Quién era Juan Seguín?

From the Texas State History Association Handbook

Juan Seguín, political and military figure of the **Texas Revolution** and **Republic of Texas**, was born in **San Antonio** on October 27, 1806, the elder of two sons of **Juan José María Erasmo Seguín** and **María Josefa Becerra**.

Although he had little formal schooling, **Juan** was encouraged by his father to read and write, and he appears to have taken some interest in music. At age nineteen he married **María Gertrudis Flores de Abrego**, a member of one of **San Antonio's** most important ranching families. They had ten children, among whom **Santiago** was a mayor of **Nuevo Laredo** and **Juan, Jr.**, was an officer in the Mexican military in the 1860s and 1870s.

Seguín began his long career of public service at an early age. He helped his mother run his father's post office while the latter served in **Congress** in 1823–24. **Seguín's** election as alderman in December 1828 demonstrated his great potential. He subsequently served on various electoral boards before being elected *alcalde* in

December 1833. He acted for most of 1834 as political chief of the **Department of Bexar**, after the previous chief became ill and retired.

Seguín's military career began in 1835. In the spring he responded to the Federalist state governor's call for support against the Centralist opposition by leading a militia company to **Monclova**. After the battle of **Gonzales** in October 1835, **Stephen F. Austin** granted a captain's commission to **Seguín**, who raised a company of thirty-seven.

His company was involved in the fall of 1835 in scouting and supply operations for the revolutionary army, and on December 5 it participated in the assault on **Gen. Martín Perfecto de Cos's** army at **San Antonio**. **Seguín** entered the **Alamo** with the other Texan military when **Antonio López de Santa Anna's** army arrived, but was sent out as a courier. Upon reaching **Gonzales** he organized a company that functioned as the

rear guard of **Sam Houston's** army, was the only Tejano unit to fight at the battle of **San Jacinto**, and afterward observed the Mexican army's retreat.

Seguín accepted the Mexican surrender of **San Antonio** on June 4, 1836, and served as the city's military commander through the fall of 1837; during this time he directed burial services for the remains of the **Alamo** dead. He resigned his commission upon election to the **Texas Senate** at the end of the year.

Seguín, the only **Mexican Texan** in the Senate of the republic, served in the Second, Third, and Fourth Congress. He served on the Committee of Claims and Accounts and, despite his lack of English, was chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs. Among his legislative initiatives were efforts to have the laws of the new republic printed in Spanish.

In the spring of 1840 he resigned his Senate seat to assist **Gen. Antonio Canales**, a Federalist, in an abortive campaign against the Centralists, but upon his return to **San Antonio** at the end of the year he found himself selected mayor. In this office **Seguín** became embroiled in growing hostilities between Anglos and Mexican Texans.

He faced personal problems as well. He had gained the enmity of some residents by speculating in

land. He financed his expedition in support of **Canales** by mortgaging property and undertook a smuggling venture in order to pay off the debt. Although upon his return from **Mexico** he came under suspicion of having betrayed the failed **Texan Santa Fe** expedition, he still managed to be reelected mayor at the end of 1841.

His continuing conflicts with Anglo squatters on city property, combined with his business correspondence with **Mexico**, incriminated him in **Gen. Rafael Vásquez's** invasion of **San Antonio** in March 1842. In fear for his safety, **Seguín** resigned as mayor on April 18, 1842, and shortly thereafter fled to **Mexico** with his family.

He spent six years in **Mexico** and then attempted to reestablish himself in **Texas**. While living in **Mexico** he participated, according to him under duress, in **Gen. Adrián Woll's** invasion of **Texas** in September 1842. Afterward his company served as a frontier defense unit, protecting the **Rio Grande** crossings and fighting Indians. During the **Mexican War** his company saw action against **United States** forces. At the end



of the war he decided to return to **Texas** despite the consequences.

He settled on land adjacent to his father's ranch in what is now **Wilson County**. During the 1850s he became involved in local politics and served as a **Bexar County constable** and an election-precinct chairman. His business dealings took him back to **Mexico** on occasion, and at the end of the 1860s, after a brief tenure as **Wilson county judge**, **Seguín** retired to **Nuevo Laredo**, where his son **Santiago** had established himself.

He died there on August 27, 1890. His remains were returned to **Texas** in 1974 and buried at **Seguin**, the town named in his honor, during ceremonies on July 4, 1976.

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Juan Seguin School Dedication Ceremony

On Saturday, April 21, 2012, a community dream will become a reality as **Seguin** will unveil the **Juan Seguin School Historical Marker** awarded by the **Texas Historical Commission**. The marker reads:

The unveiling of the historical marker will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 10 AM at the **Juan Seguin School** located at 450 Dolle St. The Master of Ceremonies will be **Ishmael Flores, Seguin ISD Board**

Secretary. The ceremony will include a welcome from **Dr. Irene Garza, Seguin ISD Superintendent** and the pledge of allegiance by **Seguin ISD Board President, Louis Q. Reyes III**. Guest speaker is a former **Juan Seguin** student, **Ruben Perez** (Assistant United States Attorney, Chief; Civil Rights / Human Trafficking Unit/ Southern District of Texas.)

The **City of Seguin** will present a resolution by **Betty Ann Matthies, City Mayor** and **Thalia Patlán Stautzenberger, City Secretary**.

Special guests will also include **Seguin ISD Board of Trustees** and **Juan Seguin** family descendants. Additionally, **John Gesick, the Texas Historical Commission** local contact, will be recognized for his support in the submission of the application.

The **Ballet Folklórico De La Rosa** (Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin) will perform to the lively music of "VIVA SEGUIN."

Juan Seguin School
450 Dolle Ave. Seguin, Texas 78155

Dedication & Unveiling Ceremony
Texas Historical Commission
State Marker

Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 10 AM

Guadalupe County was home to a number of rural schools for the area's burgeoning population of students of Mexican descent. In addition to those already living here, immigrants came from Mexico in the early 20th century fleeing for safety during that country's revolution. In 1902, the local school board, under the leadership of the City of Seguin, passed a motion to establish a separate school for Mexican children. Juan Seguin School opened in 1903, was an early model of a segregated urban school for children of Mexican heritage. Students first met in a home owned by William Greifenstein, whom the Seguin City Council paid monthly for the house's use. In 1906, William Blumberg arranged with the City Council to build a school house on North Pecan Street (later East Cedar Street).

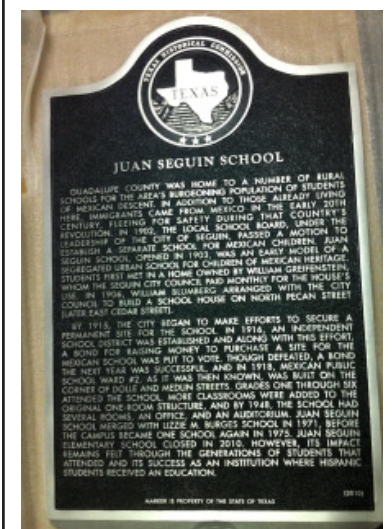
By 1915, the City began to make efforts to secure a permanent site for the school. In 1916, an independent school district was established and along with this effort, a bond for raising money to purchase a site for the Mexican school was put to vote. Though defeated, a bond the next year was successful, and in 1918, Mexican Public School Ward #2, as it was then known, was built on the corner of Dolle and Medlin Streets. Grades one through six attended the school. More classrooms were added to the original one-room structure and by 1948, the school had several rooms, an office, and an auditorium. Juan Seguin School merged with Lizzie M. Burges School in 1971, before the campus became one school again in 1975. Juan Seguin Elementary School closed in 2010. However, its impact remains felt through the generations of students that attended and its success as an institution where Hispanic students received an education.

The public is invited to attend. Please help us disseminate information about this event as we are looking forward to making contact with former **Juan Seguin** students, teachers, aides administrators and other utility staff (clerical, cafeteria workers, maintenance etc.)

During the fall of 2009, a community committee (Preserve Juan Seguin School Committee) was formed. The committee has been meeting since then to review and gather historical documents, including school board minutes, city council minutes, newspapers, official maps, tax roll data, etc. that documented the **Juan Seguin School** history. One of the goals, obtaining an official **Texas Historical Marker**, has been achieved.

Many individuals have provided input and/or have done research and for that the committee wishes

to express its appreciation. The Committee's Chair is **Leonardo Molina Jr.** and other members include **Thalia Patlán Stautzenberger, Edward Davila, Julian Leal, Ana Maria Gonzalez, Javier Cuevas, Joe Palomo, Vickie De La Rosa, Louis Q. Reyes III** and **Ramon Salazar**.



by José Maria Cortez
as told to
Alfredo R. Santos c/s

This story first appeared in *La Voz de Uvalde County* on September 1, 2002.

My father, mi papa, **Jose Maria Cortez** loved music. There is no other way to characterize his relationship *con la música* except to say, that *después de la familia, su amor, su interes, su vida, era la música.*

A mi papa le decian "Chema." Fue el primer hijo de **Lorenzo Cortez y Damiana Juarez** y nacio en **Ramos Arizpe Coahuila, Mexico** el nueve de abril de 1905. Antes de su primer birthday, la familia decidio cambiar la residencia y se vinieron a **San Antonio, Texas.** Esto fue poquito antes de la revolucion Mexicana.

Once the family was settled in **San Antonio**, my father began to show an unusual interest in music. At parties and fiestas he would get close to the *músicos* and stare at their hands as they played their instruments. He watched with particular interest as the string musicians moved their fingers back and forth.

Con el tiempo he began to tap his feet to the beat of the music. Believing that my father might have a predisposition to music, his parents pulled him out of school in the second grade and scraped together the funds to enroll him in the **Conservatory Music School of San Antonio.** At the conservatory, *la música se*

enseñaba usando el Solfeo Method which is the singing of the notes. (**Julián Carrillo Trujillo** is the Mexican composer most associated with this method.) The certification from the conservatory during that time was equivalent to a college degree in music. It was at the conservatory that my father learned to play the violin.

The Violin

With the instrument tucked under his chin, he would press the strings with his left hand in such combinations that the most beautiful notes came from the strokes of the bow which he held with his right hand.

As he gained proficiency with this instrument at a very early age, he soon found himself being asked to accompany several famous individuals from **Mexico** and other touring groups which came to **San Antonio** to perform in local theaters. My father was a developing a reputation that and was sought after by those who had heard about the young boy from **San Antonio** who could produce the most beautiful notes from the violin. But that was soon to change.

El primer accidente

One day my father was coming home from school. He

was around 14 or 15 years of age. Off the path where he was walking he saw a small metal capsule. He picked it up and decided to take it home. As he played with it he poked a wire into one of the holes in the capsule and without warning, it exploded and blew off three of the fingers on his left hand.

Screaming in pain, he ran inside the house where my grandmother immediately assessed the wound and rushed him to the hospital. It turned out that the capsule was an explosive fuse used by the military. It didn't take long for the doctor to come into the waiting room with the bad news. Young **Chema** would loose three of the fingers on his left hand. There was nothing they could do to save them. Faced with the realization that his days of playing the violin were over, my father shook his head in disbelief.. *Ya despues de tantos años de practica*, and now it had all come to this.

Pensando en su futuro

As he convalesced at home and his hand slowly healed, he found it difficult to accept the fact that he would no longer be involved with music. The days passed and tears became fewer and fewer. He began to think, if he couldn't play the violin because it required two hands, what about another

instrument? Surely there was something else. Then it struck him! Why couldn't he play the trumpet? This instrument would

only require one hand. While the trumpet did not sound as beautiful as the violin it was still a respectable instrument. *Y es*



for his Music

Cortez, Músico de Cristal



más, the trumpet was a way for him to come back into la música. The more he thought about the more he liked the idea. *Con el tiempo y con muchas ganas*, my father mastered the trumpet and began playing with different groups. He was back in the game and once again making a name for himself with the trumpet.

El accidente en Cristal

It was the 1940s, and the war was going on. Every week young men were leaving to join the war effort. My father was working as a farm worker somewhere just outside of **Crystal City, Texas**. One day he was coming home from work, riding in the back of a big truck with a bunch of other farm workers. A vehicle coming in the opposite direction crossed the line in the highway and slammed into the truck.

As the truck absorbed the impact of the collision it rolled to its side into a ditch and kept rolling. Everyone was thrown out. Several farm workers were killed

and others were left bleeding and bruised. When my father came to he realized that he too had been hurt. The pain came from all over but especially from his side. He had broken several ribs and one of them had punctured his lung. He was taken to a hospital and attended to by a doctor.

The following day the doctor appeared at my father's bedside with bad news. The doctor told my father he had a punctured lung and would have to remain in the hospital. The doctor said that breathing was going to be difficult for a while. After my father was discharged from the hospital he came home to heal and after a couple of weeks he asked for his trumpet. My mother brought him the instrument and my father decided to play a few notes. But to his astonishment he did not have the strength in his lungs as he did before. He couldn't even blow a single note.

He went back to the doctor and the told him what he had discovered. The doctor sat him down and said this was one of the consequences of the injury he had suffered. My father asked what could be done and the doctor slowly shook his head indicating that there was nothing to treat his condition. Devastated by the news my father remembered how he had felt

when he was told his days of playing the violin were over. Now here he was again being told that his days of playing the trumpet were gone.

El tololche

The days passed and my father was left to ponder his fate. If he couldn't play the trumpet what could he play? He began thinking of all the musical instruments and then it hit him. What about *el tololche*? (The stand up bass) Yes, he said to himself, *el tololche*! *Con el tiempo* my father figured out how to play this instrument. He told me how people would stare at him as he played. They remembered him as the man who had once played the violin and the trumpet and now here he was with the stand up bass.

By standing in front of people with part of his hand missing, he was walking proof that nothing was going to keep him from his love of music. His determination showed people

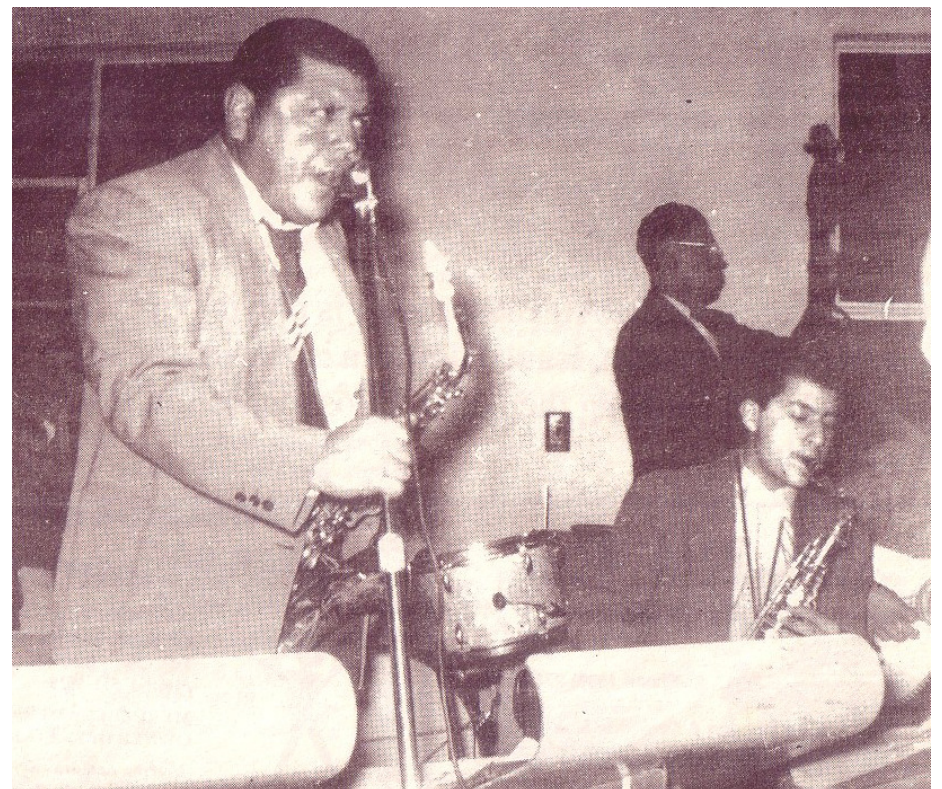
that *venga lo que venga y pasa lo que pasa*, there is always a way to overcome challenges. Needless to say, I am very proud of my father and the example he put forth. As the years went by, my father began to teach others how play music. People would come to our house in **Crystal City** for lessons. Some were young and some were older. As he opened the door to greet his students he would say, "*¿Listos?*"

My father retired from music in the early 1960s when both of his brothers moved to **St. Paul**,

Minnesota. But even after the good old days were coming to an end, I would hear and see my father always singing to himself. He determination and the fact that he ignored his handicap has always been an inspiration to me. I am very proud to be his son. I just wish I knew one fourth of what he knew about music.

Although my father died on October 7th, 1993, there is not a day that goes by when I don't think of him. And when I am listening to the radio there is always a song that reminds me of him. Sometimes when I hear a particular song on the radio, I can see my father tapping his foot to the beat. I sure do miss my father.

BELOW: La Orquesta Cortez in the 1950s. **Jose Angel Cortez** is play the sax, his son **Bobby** is playing the one sitting down and my father is playing the tololche in the background.



In the Community



ABOVE: Thanks to all supporters and friends for a great TechComunidad launch at River City Youth Foundation in Dove Springs! From left to right: Jill Bradshaw, Council Member Laura Morrison, Kim Hibler, Mona Gonzalez and Greg Mendoza at TechComunidad Sat March 31, 2012.



ABOVE: Mayor Lee Leffingwell and friends at Sabino and Lori Renteria's home, 2012.



RIGHT: The Tejano Conjunto Festival is coming next month. Stand by for details and the line up.

LEFT: Richard Franklin and his crew on the campaign trail for County Commissioner Precinct # 1.



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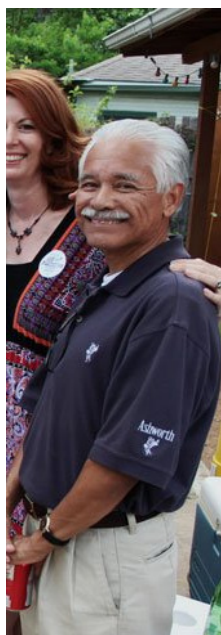


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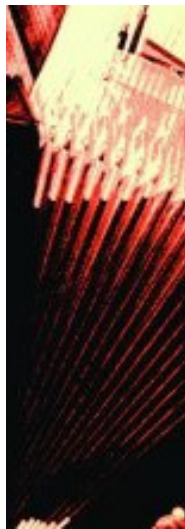
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(800) 445-0778 Office**

En la comunidad




s home on April 2,



ABOVE: Former Texas State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos, Austin City Councilmember Kathy Tovo, Rene Lara, Texas State Representative Eddie Rodriguez, Austin City Councilmember Mike Martinez and Austin Mayor Lee LeFingwell at the Cesar Chavez March and Rally on March 31st, 2012.

LEFT: Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition member speaking to the crowd at the launch of the East Austin Voter Mobilization Initiative



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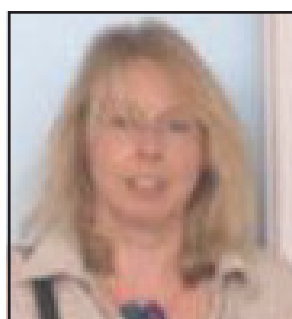
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Spotlight on the History Department

The discipline of history represents a dialogue between the past and the present. Through the study and interpretation of the past the historian attempts to reconstruct and represent the course of human developments, thereby shedding light on current concerns. The student of history learns to look for information, interpret its meaning, and through a careful consideration of the sources, reach thoughtful and informed decisions.

A major in history provides students with the **skills required to seek out knowledge, analyze complex issues and present conclusions** in a clear and thoughtful manner. The history department offers specialization in **liberal arts** and **pre-law** as well as minors in history and **business methods for historians**. Students often pursue **graduate work** in other fields such as business administration, political science, communications, or theology.

Meet the Faculty



Angelika E. Sauer, professor of history and chair of department; M.A., **University of Augsburg** (Germany); M.A., **Carleton University** (Canada); Ph.D., **University of Waterloo** (Canada).

Dr. Sauer has lived, studied and taught in **Germany, Canada and Australia**. She has testified as an expert witness on immigrant security screening in a war crimes trial in the Federal Court of Canada. Her research has been in the areas of international relations and migration history of the 19th and 20th century. Her latest publications include two chapters in a book on migrants and migration in modern North America published by **Duke University Press**, and as essay on transnational strategies of 19th century feminists that will be included in a forthcoming book published in France. In her teaching, **Dr. Sauer** emphasizes issues of gender and ethnicity in a continental and global context.



Richard L. Milk, professor of history; B.A., **The University of Texas at Austin**; M.A., **California State University, Los Angeles**; Ph.D., **Indiana University**.

Dr. Milk's professional focus is on the western hemisphere. His academic preparation, research and teaching have focused on the culture, politics and history of Latino people both in the U.S. and Ibero-America.



Rebecca A. Kosary, Associate Professor of History and Director of African American Studies. B.A. **Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi**, M.A. **Texas State University**, Ph.D, **Texas A&M University**

Dr. Kosary's research focuses on 19th and 20th century race relations, with a particular emphasis on racial and gendered violence in the **United States**. In addition to both North American History courses, **Dr. Kosary** teaches a variety of courses that deal with such topics as gender, slavery, genocide, **African American** literature, and the **History of Heavy Metal Music**.

Dr. Kosary is an avid cyclist who participates in numerous charity cycling events throughout the year including the **Austin LIVESTRONG Challenge**, the **American Diabetes Association's Tour de Cure**, and the MS 150. She also enjoys spending time surfing, kayaking, and snow skiing

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Erasmus Wilivaldo Andrade passed away peacefully at home with his family on Friday, March 30, 2012, following a very short but gallant battle with cancer.

He was born to **Wilivaldo** and **María Nieto Andrade** at the family ranch near **Bruni, TX**, on May 12, 1931. **Erasmus** grew up in **San Antonio**, graduated from **Fox Tech Vocational School**, and then joined the **U.S. Navy**. Serving during the **Korean War**, he travelled throughout the **North Atlantic, Mediterranean** and **Caribbean**, visiting many countries.

After an honorable discharge as a **Machinist Mate III**, he graduated from **St. Mary's University** in **San Antonio** with a bachelor's degree in International Relations. He subsequently earned his Juris Doctorate from the **Thurgood Marshall School of Law** in **Houston**.

As a young professional, **Erasmus** taught English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) to military officers at **Lackland Air Force Base**. He subsequently spent three years in **Turkey** and **Iran** teaching **ESL** for the **U.S. Department of Defense**.

On returning to the U.S., he began working as a union organizer for migrant workers, garbage collectors, and other disenfranchised groups. **Erasmus's** early activism on behalf of social justice was notable in **San Antonio** and **South Texas**. As a staff member of **Bishop Robert E. Lucey's Committee on the Spanish Speaking**, one of his major achievements was the organization of the **Valley Farmworkers Assistance**

Committee and the coordination of the **1966 Farmworkers March** from **Rio Grande City** to **Austin** on behalf of safe work conditions and a state minimum wage of \$1.25.

He played an active role in the battle for voter rights in the **Winter Garden** area and was the first director of federal projects for the **Crystal City Independent School District**. Funding from the **Hogg Foundation for Mental Health** helped him to create the **Zavala County Mental Health Outreach Program**, in cooperation with the **Department of Psychology, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**.

In 1973, the family moved to **Austin** so that **Erasmus** could join the staff of the **Texas Legislature's Joint Committee on Prison Reform**, led by **State Senator Chet Brooks** and **State Representative Mickey Leland**. The **Austin Independent School District** subsequently hired him as director of a community education program for five years funded by the **Charles Steward Mott Foundation**.

He returned to the classroom and taught economics, government and history at **Lanier** and **Austin High Schools**. Two of his accomplishments included developing student conflict peer mediation teams at both campuses, and assisting **Lanier** students to advocate for renaming a downtown street to honor **César Chávez**, leader of the **United Farmworkers**.

Erasmus and the family relocated to **El Paso** in 1993,



where he taught social studies courses at **Riverside High School** until 2002. **Erasmus** always demonstrated his deep commitment to community service. In **Austin**, he actively volunteered with numerous social service organizations, as board member of **Development & Assistance in Rehabilitation, Austin Resource Center for Independent Living**, and **Texas Partners of the Americas**, in addition to being President of the **Austin Child Guidance Center Board** and a member of the **Austin-Travis County Mental Health-Mental Retardation Center Advisory Committee on Aging**.

He was one of the three co-chairs who led the **Tri-Ethnic Desegregation Community Committee** of the **Austin** school district. His family belonged to the **Cristo Rey Catholic Church**, where he served as Usher, as well as on the Parish Council and Finance Committee, for many

years. **Erasmus** believed that his most important contribution in **Austin** was providing leadership to the **Move It! Campaign** for relocation of the airport to the city's outskirts.

In **El Paso**, **Mayor Ray Caballero** appointed **Erasmus** to the City's Civil Service Commission, and at the time of his death, he was a member of the **Appraisal Review Board of the El Paso County Appraisal Board**, as well as the **Project Bravo Board of Directors** and the **Advisory Committee of the Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging**.

He belonged to the **Peace & Justice, Tarahumara Sierra and Annulment Ministries at St. Pius X Catholic Church** and was coordinator of Eucharistic Ministers for the Spanish Masses. He also served as a volunteer with the **St. Vincent de Paul Society, AARP, Mission Hills Association, and Las Américas Immigrant Advocacy Center**, as well as numerous other community organizations.

He belonged to the **Paso del Norte Chapter 58** of the **American Legion**. Active in Democratic politics, he was elected precinct chair in **Austin** for many years; served as a member of the **Travis County Democratic Party Executive Committee**; and was honored to be a member of **Governor Ann Richards'**



May 12th, 1931

March 30th, 2012

Inaugural Committee. In **El Paso**, **Erasmus** served as a precinct chair and election judge until his death; coordinated the local campaign for **John Kerry** in 2004; and participated in the **2008 Texas Democratic Convention** as an **Obama** delegate.

A member of the **Texas State Teachers Association** and the **National Education Association**, **Erasmus** attended several state and national conventions as an **Austin** and **El Paso** delegate. Through **Partners of the Americas**, he organized several projects to bring **Peruvian** young people to **El Paso**.

Erasmus was proud of all his high school students, especially those from **Riverside**, always encouraging them to continue their education with high aspirations for their future and our community.

Erasmus was preceded in death by his brother, **José Andrade**. He is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, **Sally**; dedicated children **Marisa Andrade** and **Carlos Andrade**. A private burial will take place at **Ft. Bliss National Cemetery**. In lieu of flowers, **Erasmus** requested memorial contributions to **Las Américas Immigrant Advocacy Center** at 1500 E. Yandell, El Paso 79902, or to Hospice of El Paso at 1440 Miracle Way, El Paso 79925.

Fotos del Tejano Monument Event



ABOVE: Dr. Cynthia Orozco and her sister Sylvia.



ABOVE: Rodrigo Castilleja, Jr. and his father Rodrigo Castilleja.



LEFT: Roberto Martinez and former Austin Mayor Gus Garcia



ABOVE: Local Austin Attorney Gloria Leal.

BELOW: Students from Wooten Elementary School who participated in the Tejano Monument unveiling at the Texas Capitol.



Photos from the Tejano Monument Event



ABOVE: Dr. Enrique Romo, Dr. Rose Martinez, Ms. Erica Sanez, Ms. Audra Strubbe and Dr. Victor Saenz.



ABOVE: Sabino Renteria con su sombrero at the Tejano Monument unveiling at the Capitol.

BELOW: A shot of the crowd at the Tejano Monument Unveiling on March 29th, 20102 in Austin, Texas.



¿Cómo te llamas?

A Look at the Growth of the Hispanic Population Through Popular Baby Names in Texas

There are lots of ways to examine the growth and impact of the Hispanic population in the United States. Certainly the **Census Bureau** provides a vast array of data through its many surveys and the decennial census. But there are other data sources which also paint a portrait of what is going on with respect to population growth both in a quantitative and qualitative sense.

In 1986, as part of the **Tax Reform Act**, the **Internal Revenue Service (IRS)** began to require dependent children's Social Security numbers on income tax returns. This led to an increase in the number of parents who sought social security numbers for their children.

The data for the graph to the right comes from the **Social Security Administration** and is for the **State of Texas**. It shows, among other things, that from 1960 until 2009, the name, "**Jose**" has been one of the most popular first names given to boys. In fact, the name "**Jose**" ranked as the number one name given to boys in **Texas** from 1996 until 2009.

From 1960 until 2003 the name, "**Maria**" has been among the top 25 names given to girls born in Texas. As the graph and table on the opposite show, some Spanish first names have seen a drop in popularity over time.

