



Volume 15 Number 2
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La Voz

Free
Gratis

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**FEBRUARY IS
HEART MONTH**



See Pages 8 and 9

RE-ELECT Margaret ★ Moore ★ TRAVIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Margaret Moore was elected Travis County District Attorney on November 8, 2016.

Moore, a fifth generation Texan, is a native of Waco. Her father, Tom Moore, Jr., was District Attorney for McLennan County from 1952-1960, which inspired her to pursue a legal career. She graduated from Richfield High School in 1966.

Moore earned a BBA in Accounting from the University of Texas at Austin in 1970 and a JD from the University of Texas School of Law in 1972. She was licensed to practice law in Texas in 1973.

Her employment history as an attorney includes: legal counsel to Texas House of Representative committees (1974, 1975); Travis County Juvenile Public Defender, appointed to that position by the Commissioners' Court in 1976; Travis County Assistant District Attorney (1977-1980); Travis County Attorney (1981-1984), and Assistant Attorney General, Civil Medicaid Fraud Division (2005-2014), where she was lead counsel in a case that resulted in one of the top jury verdicts of 2011.

Moore served as Precinct 3 Travis County Commissioner twice, appointed by the County Judge to serve unexpired terms (1999-1998, 2001-2002). Her public service also includes chairmanship of the Travis County Child Welfare Board and as a Commissioner on the Board of Emergency Services District #9.

Moore is married to Robert L. Oliver, a retired attorney. She is the mother of three children—Annie Meisel, married to Michael Meisel; Mark Oliver, married to Katie Oliver; and Tom, married to Jaime Oliver—and the proud grandmother of four—Sarah and Sadie Meisel, Annie Oliver, and Lyle Oliver?.

Contact the Campaign: MargaretForDA@gmail.com | Phone: (512) 571-3613 | Mailing Address: 3300 Bee Caves Rd., Suite 650-1253 Austin, Texas 78746



Among the many issues that Margaret is committed to:

Fighting Against Mass Incarceration

Margaret is ensuring that Travis County's criminal justice system adopts reforms to treat young people and those with substance abuse issues progressively. She believes that substance abuse should be handled as a public health issue and not a criminal justice burden.

To fight mass incarceration, D.A. Moore has:

- Increased the use of diversion for drug cases.
- Expanded diversion opportunities for first-time and youthful offenders.
- Reduced the number of people being incarcerated for felony offenses in order to stop mass incarceration.

Ending Cash Bail

Margaret is leading current efforts to ensure that no one stays in jail in Travis County just because they are poor. She knows that the only people who should be in our jail are those who are a threat to our safety or who have a high risk of failing to appear for court proceedings. Margaret has long stood for and supported Travis County's commitment to the use of personal recognizance releases instead of forcing folks to resort to cash bail. Counties all over Texas look to Travis County as the model for ending cash bail.

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

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Pensamientos

Donald Trump is not the Problem

It's easy to point the finger at the president and call him the bad guy. It's easy to call for his removal. But Donald Trump is not the problem. In fact, he probably likes people to point the finger at him. I think the real problem and the reason why he may be re-elected in November, has more to do with an increasing number of Americans who have given up on the experiment we call Democracy.

For Democracy to work, and to work well, it requires participation. When you look at voter turnout in some places around the country, it is in the pits. Here in Texas people call us a Republican state because Democrats have not won any statewide political offices since 1994. I disagree. I think the Republicans have managed to stay in office/power because we have become an increasingly non-voting state. And while the Republicans have been in power they have worked hard to draw state senatorial and representative districts so as to capture more of a demographic that they believe will vote for them.

As we know from the 2016 Presidential Election, Hillary Clinton received more votes than Donald Trump. Where she lost was in the electoral college. Will that happen again. Who knows? But to continue to point the finger at Trump after his three plus years in the White House is a mistake. We need to look at ourselves as Americans and ask if "we" are really serious about the experiment.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher

La Raza Round Table



Where friends and enemies come together for breakfast tacos every first and third Saturday and discuss the important issues of the day. We meet at Resistencia Book Store, 2000 Thrasher. in Austin, Texas 78741 at 10:00am.



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Welcome Home!

La Paradoja de La Vida

Dios Creo al Burro y Dijo:

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

El burro contesto: “¿Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero... 30 años es mucho, por qué no mejor 10?” Y así Dios creo al burro.

Después Dios Creo al Perro y Dijo:

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

El perro contesto: “¿Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero... 20 años es mucho, por qué no mejor 10?” Y así Dios creo al perro.

Luego Dios Creo al Mono y Dijo:

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

El mono contesto: “¿Señor, seré todo lo que mi pidas pero...15 años es mucho por qué no mejor 10?” Y así Dios creo al mono.

Finalmente Dios Creo al Hombre y Le Dijo:

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

El hombre contesto: “¿Señor, seré todo lo que quieras pero...30 años es poco, por qué no me das los veinte años que no quiso el burro, los 15 años que rechazo el perro y los cinco años que no acepto el mono?”

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

Reflejos de la Vida

Arcadio Viveros

Seventy-three (73) years ago precisely on a Sunday morning like today's, I was born in **Panindicuaró, Michoacán**. My mother was living with her mother at the time occupying a small room in the Inn (Mezon) my grandmother operated.

I was the fourth born in a family of six children. I was not born in a hospital rather my beginning in life was initiated in that small room in the mezon. Traveling merchants would come to town and stay in the mezon where their horses would be tended to by my grandmother and the older grandchildren would pitch in with the various chores.

Almost every two years my father would leave my mother in my grandmother's care. Every time he came to El

Norte (USA) my mother was left expecting a child. My father came to work the *campos* (fields) of **California, Texas, Colorado and Nevada**. I often think of the contributions made during the **World War II** by the **Baceros** like my father were invaluable to the wealth of this nation and equally important the tremendous sacrifices made by their families left behind in **Mexico**.

I did grow up without a father and often tear up thinking about it. The life of an immigrant often isolated without the closeness and warmth of the family is a heavy burden to carry. Living in hope that nothing terribly would happen in their journey. We know that many did not return to their loved ones. We often tell our veterans *"thank you for your service"* and to our **Baceros** *"No thanks"* were given.

I know my mother always lived in hope that we some day would live as a family again all together. That dream came a reality in the Summer of 1961. That's when we cross the border. Fourteen and a half years later from my birthday.

I consider myself very lucky and blessed for the many things God has permitted me to do. I have enjoyed every stage of my life and at 73 I fill good, energetic, and ready to discover new things, work hard, do my art, board volunteer at the clinic. Most important enjoy friends, family, my brothers and sisters, children and grandchildren. Life is Good, God is Great!



Central Health y Foundation Communities se unen para acabar con el temor a presentar la declaración de impuestos

Asistencia gratis disponible hasta el 15 de abril para preparar la declaración de impuestos

(Austin) – **Central Health** está trabajando con **Foundation Communities** para hacer la temporada de impuestos menos estresante para los habitantes del **Condado de Travis** de escasos recursos económicos – y con vidas muy ocupadas. Esta colaboración ofrecerá un lugar seguro para obtener ayuda gratis de expertos en la preparación de declaraciones de impuestos en el **Centro de Salud y Bienestar del Sureste de Central Health** ubicado en 2901 Montopolis Drive.

“Presentar nuestras declaraciones de impuestos federales puede ser confuso e intimidante para todos nosotros,” expresó el **Presidente y Gerente General de Central Health, Mike Geeslin**. *“Pero para las personas que encima tienen que hacer malabarrismos con sus trabajos, familias, estudios, y otras prioridades – y que además tal vez no hablan inglés con fluidez o no entienden los requisitos de las declaraciones de impuestos– la responsabilidad de presentar sus declaraciones puede ser total y absolutamente aterradora. Queremos acabar con este temor.”*

El Centro Comunitario de Impuestos localizado en el Centro de Salud y Bienestar del Sureste de Central Health al igual que otras seis ubicaciones alrededor del **Condado de Travis** abrieron sus puertas el 20 de enero y permanecerán abiertas hasta el Día de la Declaración de Impuestos, el 15 de abril. Estos servicios están disponibles para cualquier persona que gane menos de \$55,000 al año, pero la cantidad de ingresos para ser elegibles aumenta para familias compuestas de cuatro miembros o más.

Desde el año 2006, Foundation Communities ha ayudado a más de 250,000 habitantes del Centro de Texas a presentar sus declaraciones de impuestos. El año pasado, Foundation Communities ayudó a más de 20,000 familias a obtener más de \$35.3 millones en reembolsos de impuestos.

Todos los voluntarios están certificados por el Servicio de Rentas Internas (IRS, por sus siglas en inglés) y capacitados para ayudar a los habitantes a preparar y presentar sus declaraciones de impuestos, y contestar preguntas para asegurarse que todos los clientes reciban todos los créditos y deducciones de impuestos a los que son elegibles. Foundation Communities le recomienda a todos los contribuyentes que solicitan crédito por ingresos del trabajo (EITC, por sus siglas en inglés) y crédito tributario adicional por hijos (CTC, por sus siglas en inglés) que presenten sus declaraciones temprano debido a una nueva ley sobre impuestos que pretende prevenir el fraude. Sin embargo, esta misma ley también requiere que estas devoluciones se retengan hasta mediados de febrero.

*“Este es el quinto año que trabajamos junto a **Foundation Communities** y ofrecemos estos servicios en el Centro de Salud y Bienestar del Sureste de Central Health,”* explicó **Elizabeth Marrero**, la directora del programa. *“La temporada pasada ayudamos a preparar las declaraciones de impuestos de 1,442 familias que obtuvieron \$2.5 millones en reembolsos de impuestos. Sin embargo, creemos que hay más familias que se podrían beneficiar de estos servicios, si supieran que existen.”*

Los servicios están disponibles en español, inglés y lenguaje de señas americano. Los contribuyentes deben traer una identificación con foto, su tarjeta del seguro social, y un comprobante de que cuentan con seguro médico. Las citas en el Centro de Salud y Bienestar del Sureste de **Central Health**, localizado en 2901 Montopolis Dr. Austin, TX 78741, son conforme el orden de llegada. El centro abre de 11:00 a.m. a 8:00 p.m. los lunes, martes y jueves, de 1:00 a 8:00 p.m. los miércoles, y de 9:00 a.m. a 5 p.m. los viernes. Para obtener más información y el horario completo, visite la página de internet ProsperTaxHelp.org.



CENTRAL
HEALTH

Cristina Tzintzún Ramirez for United States Senate



I know that in this race one way I will be attacked is for my identity. And I'll be attacked from both sides- I know it will happen because it's already started.

Some people say I am too Latina, too Mexican. How can I represent the needs of all Texans given my background of working on behalf of Latino families? To them I answer: Yes, it's true. I have fought to protect the rights of Latino families— to make schools better, to tackle #studentdebt, to make jobs safer and better paid, to #keepfamilies together. But these aren't issues that just Latinos care about. They're issues that matter to everyone. So representing the needs of Latino families doesn't make me disqualified— it actually makes me uniquely qualified to be Texas' next Senator.

Others say I am not actually #Latina or Mexican at all because my father is white—that I am just using my mother's heritage to win votes.

But this isn't the first time I have heard comments like these. My whole life people have tried to label me a certain way, to try and put me in a box. I know there is no singular way to be Latina, no singular way to represent my heritage and roots. I am proud to be a MC-Mexican (Irish and Mexican). Soy orgullosa de mis raíces Irlandesas, Mexicanas, Europeas y Indígenas.

It's true I don't fit in any one box or one label. I am proud of where I come from and who it's made me. I know my story represents those of millions of people that don't fit into any particular box. By telling our stories and owning who we are, we change the ideas of who we can be and what we can do.

And in #Texas, a state so diverse as ours, we have so many great stories to tell of who we are and where we come from— it's what makes our state great.



Ryan Charles Duran

1975 - 2020

DURAN, Ryan Charles Ryan Charles Duran, 45 With heavy hearts we announce the sudden passing of our beloved Ryan on January 22nd at his home in Austin, Texas.



A native Austinite, Ryan was born January

8, 1975 to Mary and R.G. (Rabbit) Duran. He enjoyed his childhood playing West Austin Corsairs football, swimming at West Enfield pool, and going on travel adventures with his many friends. A proud graduate of his parent's alma mater, Austin High School, Ryan was a strong safety for the Maroons football team and served as the Senior Class President. Deeply committed to his education, he attended Cornell University, his grandfather's alma mater, where he played on the Rugby team and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Science in Hotel Administration.

After college, Ryan moved to Miami to work for Ernst & Young as a consultant. But, his love of family and community service brought him home to serve at the State Capital where he had run the halls as a child. Ryan served as the Legislative Assistant in Charge of Finance for State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos from 2001 to 2006. He also worked with Senator Ellis on the Senate Committee on Government Organization. Ryan spent 2007 proudly working as a coordinator for the Obama presidential campaign.

Devoted to his family's' business, Ryan successfully ran Rabbit's at 6th and Chicon, and was instrumental in preserving his father's legacy in a historic, but quickly evolving part of east Austin. He was a friend to all and was pleased to serve up a cold beer with some quick wit and a warm smile. He is preceded in death by his loving and devoted mother, grandparents and a brother, James Anthony. Ryan leaves behind his loving father, Rabbit; Sisters, Angela Duran, Catherine Ferrell and Lisa Blonkvist; Brother, George Fancher III; Nephews, Gabriel Maroney & Jacob Duran, Mark & Jonathon Gault, Brent & Brady Blonkvist, Douglas Ferrell, and Nieces, Alicia Roberts, Brittney Blonkvist and Stephanie Ferrell. Ryan's funeral was held on January 31st at noon. 2020

Never Give Up!



Black Nurses Rock

How I started didnt look promising.....

1989-Rejected from nursing program 1st attempt....grades to low

1994- Graduated Assoc. In Nursing

1994-Failed Nclex 3 times....geesh but wait

1995-Passed on 4th Attempt

1998-Grad. Of Bachelor Deg. Nursing

2000-Grad. Master's Degree in Nursing

2001-Nursing Instructor Tech College

2004-Director of Nursing School

2006-Nursing Entrepreneur

2008-Clinical Educator

2012- Graduate with PhD in Healthcare Leadership & Management

2016- President/CEO National HTC Nursing Organization & Business Executive of a Multi- Million Dollar Corporation

Doesn't matter where you start, only how you finish!

~Dr. Tracy McClelland

An Interview with Vaness Fuentes

10 Questions for Vanessa Fuentes

The month of February is traditionally associated with **Valentine's Day**. But it is also the month chosen by the **American Heart Association** to call for increasing awareness to issues having to do with heart health. **Vanessa Fuentes** has been working for the past five years for the **American Heart Association** in **Austin, Texas** and so we have chosen her as our interview person of the month.

La Voz: Although the title of this interview says 10 questions for **Vanessa Fuentes**, we understand that you have a new name?

Vanessa: Professionally, I have been known as **Fuentes** for my entire work career. I think many women who get married in the 30's now keep their maiden name because they have spent so many years in the workforce as that name. It would be different if was married right after college. Also my Latinidad is very much part of my identity. But I don't mind if people call us **Mr. and Mrs. Smith!**

La Voz: You are originally from **Brady, Texas**. Can you share with our readers what it was like growing in that small community? What kinds of school activities were your

involved in? What did your parents do for a living?

Vanessa: 1986 was a pivotal year for my family. While pregnant with me, my immigrant mother traveled to **Austin** to take her oath of allegiance and became a naturalized citizen of the **US**.

My dad, who is from **El Paso** and had been working as an electrician for many years, also decided to start his own electrical contracting business earlier that year. And 1986 was the year that I born, the youngest of five!

I was technically born in Brownwood because it was the nearest hospital

I was technically born in **Brownwood** because it was the nearest hospital that could deliver babies. I loved being raised in **Brady**, the Heart of **Texas** and also known as the geographical center of **Texas**. It's about 2 and half hours northwest of **Austin**, so close enough were I can make trips home every other month home to visit my parents, who still live in my childhood home.

Being raised in a Mexican immigrant family in a small,

rural town taught me a lot and gave me the values that I hold dear today. My Dad served our country as a **United States Marine** and fought in the **Vietnam War**. It's from him that I found my love for public service.

My mom also taught me the importance of education as an opportunity equalizer. I have vivid memories of being in 5th grade and going to school during the day and then seeing my Math and English teachers teach my mom English after school. My mom worked hard to obtain her GED. She's also a hard worker. Growing up she worked at the **Roddie Wool Plant**, a wool scouring plant, where she worked on an assembly line cleaning wool. The plant eventually closed, and

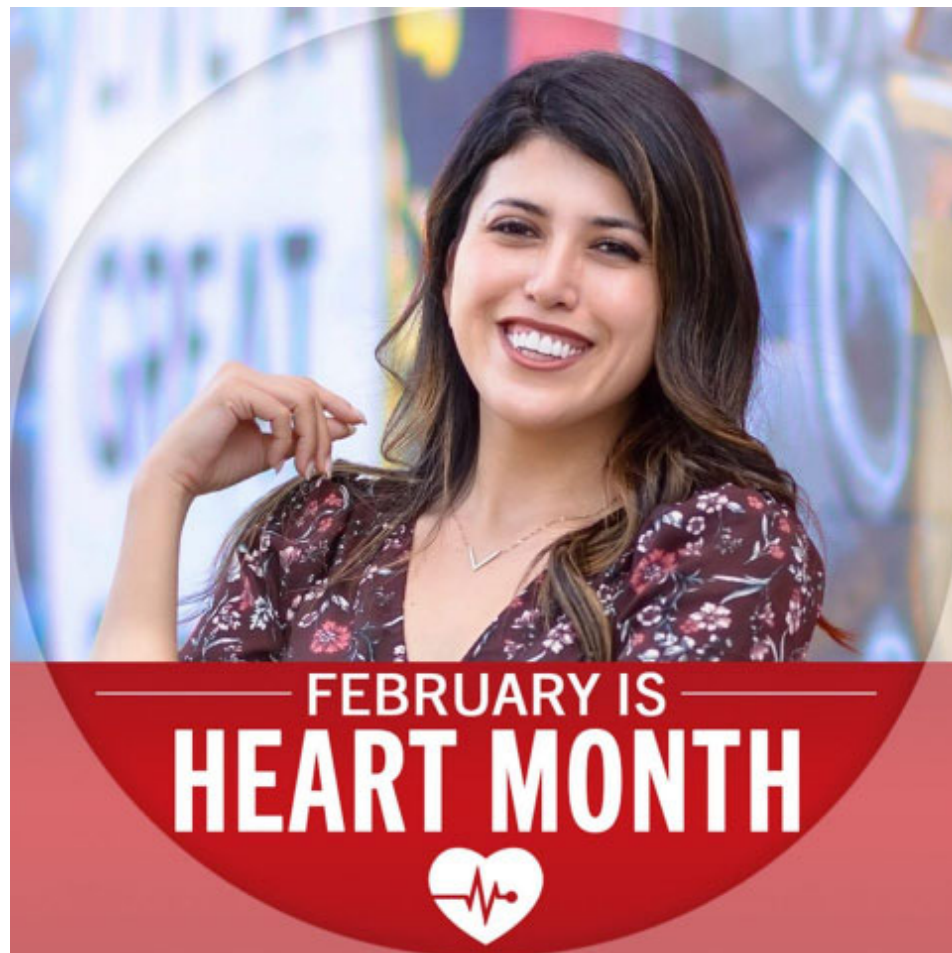
she now works at our local **Walmart**.

Both my parents taught me the values of hard work, education, and family. It wasn't always easy, especially growing up in a small town. There weren't many families that looked like mine, or talked like mine. But my parents always made sure we had a roof over our heads, clothes on our backs, and food on the table.

My brother is an electrician in **Brady** and my two sisters live in **San Angelo**. One works at a beef processing plant and my other sister works at **Walmart**. I also have two half-siblings who live in **El Paso**.

La Voz: When did you come to Austin? Was it for college?

Vanessa: Yep! I'm a proud first-generation college graduate and **Texas Longhorn**. Hook 'em! I first



February is Heart Month

10 Preguntas para Vanessa Fuentes

came to **Austin** in 2005 to attend **UT** and received my BS degree in Public Relations in three years. Thanks in large part because of dual credit courses in high school which provided me the opportunity to enter university as a sophomore.

I'm a firm believer that strong partnerships with community colleges are a huge benefit to our students. They allow people like me to graduate earlier and save on tuition costs.

La Voz: Tell us about your current job with **American Heart Association**

Vanessa: I worked at the **American Heart Association** for nearly six years, working in grassroots advocacy across the SouthWest region of the United States. I've had the best role because I was focused on getting the everyday person involved in the policymaking process and empowering them to share their story! I'm all about the process and always look for ways we can better engage the community to provide input and share their lived experience.

At the **American Heart Association**, our mission is to be a relentless force for healthier, longer lives. I've mobilized hundreds of volunteers to advocate for such causes as improved access to healthy food, quality and affordable health care, and to reduce health disparities. During this past legislative session, I testified before the House of Representatives about food access and how food deserts are affecting our **Southeast Austin** community.

La Voz: What is the biggest misconception people have when they think of the **American Heart Association**?

Vanessa: I think people have a perception that we are a big nonprofit focused on fundraising and research. What most people don't know is that 1) we are the largest volunteer-led health organization in the country and 2) and that we have a robust advocacy program. We are one of a few national organizations that

have a dedicated advocacy director in each state. This is because our organization truly believes that in order to improve and save lives, you need policy changes at the local, state, and federal levels. We also aggressively pursue progressive policies, like sugary drink taxes, and take on Big Tobacco and Big Soda. We do this because we know that we must focus on the preventive side of health and encourage healthier environments so that people have the opportunity to make the healthier choice. 80% of heart disease is preventable through lifestyle choices.

La Voz: Tell us something about you that we would have never guessed in a hundred years.

Vanessa: I was my high school mascot! My senior year I dressed up as "Champ" the **Brady Bulldog**.

La Voz: Who are some of your personal s/heros and why?

Vanessa: My sister, **Melaine JoAnn Fuentes**. She is actually the reason why I served as my high school mascot. **Melaine** was tragically killed

in a car accident in 1998, when she was a high school senior at 17 years old. **Melaine** was our high school mascot at the time. I wanted to honor her legacy by following in her footsteps. She loved to write poems and draw roses. She gave the best hugs. Everyday I strive to honor **Melaine** and do all that I can to keep her memory alive.

La Voz: Complete the following, If I had a chance to do it again, I would . . .

Vanessa: Honestly, I would probably say nothing. Everything happens for a reason and I believe God has a life journey planned for you.

La Voz: The last book you read?

Vanessa: The Road to Character by **David Brooks**. This book shows how people develop strong character through embracing the qualities of humility, self-discipline, and moral realism. The author suggests that the road map to building character is in the willingness to engage in the struggle between our virtues and vices towards the goal of living a more moral life.

La Voz: What animal best represents you?

Vanessa: The Lion. Lions symbolize strength, courage, and fearlessness. I'm often told that I'm not afraid to ask the tough questions, and also as a Latina, I believe we have that inner strength from our ancestors that guide us through and give us the *ganas* in all that we pursue!

La Voz: Are there any questions that we should have asked you but failed to do so?

Vanessa: Well, I can share with your readers that I am running for *Austin City Council District 2 to make change work for US*.

In a rapidly growing city, we must work to extend Austin's promise of a more livable community by ensuring that it is affordable, sustainable, and accountable to all who live here.

I strongly believe local government is closest to the people. When it comes to making decisions about the future of our community, we need a fresh perspective at City Hall. As the daughter of a Mexican immigrant, as a first-generation college graduate, and as someone who has championed and fought for equity in every workplace, board room, and organization I've been a part of, I stand ready to lead the Southeast community in this critical moment of change.



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A través de recorridos públicos mensuales, los visitantes pueden explorar el Edificio de Aprendizaje de la Salud de la Escuela de Medicina Dell y aprender sobre el creciente Distrito de la Salud de Austin. Los recorridos públicos se llevan a cabo cada tercer jueves del mes a las 10 a. m., y están disponibles en inglés y español. Hay opciones de recorridos en grupo disponibles para organizaciones de salud o de estudiantes.

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Selena's Life and Legacy

Being Taught at San Diego University

Although she passed away 25 years ago, **Selena Quintanilla** remains very much in the minds of those who knew her, listened to her music and regret being born too late to have seen her live and in concert.

But this spring, **Dr. Nathian Rodriguez**, Assistant Professor in the **School of Journalism at San Diego State University** hopes to bring her to life, at least for his students, in a new course that he will be teaching.

The purpose of the class he says, is to explore her identity and Latino representation in media and how **Selena's** rise to fame changed the media landscape. **Rodriguez** says **Selena** is the perfect icon to peg the class on due to the widespread cultural impact she had. *"She's still one of those enduring cultural figures that people can really understand and identify with,"* he said.

One of the ways he personally identifies with the star is through finding the balance with his Mexican and American identity. Like **Rodriguez**, **Selena's** first language was not Spanish, although she remains a Mexican cultural icon. He wants the course to teach students to understand how her cross-cultural identity allowed her to influence both the English and Spanish media landscape.

He also hopes the class will help students develop their critical analysis skills. It will take place in one of SDSU's Learning Research Studios, which allows for direct student engagement and collaborative work.

Students will look at representations of **Selena** in mainstream media, such as the movie "Selena," the Netflix original "Selena: The Series," which is set to stream next year, and the use of her image as advertising from brands like MAC Cosmetics and Forever 21.

Rodriguez says studying cultural iconography will allow students to understand that media has the ability to influence people's opinions about Latino culture, and give them the ability to dissect and analyze Latino representation in media. *"This isn't a class about a celebrity,"* he said. *"She's the pop culture hook we're using to explore Latinx representation in the media."*



Rodriguez told **Latin Post** that the course is a big step for the **School of Journalism and Media Studies** in terms of representation since the campus itself has a diverse student body. *"San Diego State University, like many universities across the southern border, is a Hispanic Serving Institution,"* **Rodriguez** said adding that he wants the students to know that the university does not count them as numbers but is looking at ways to further celebrate this diversity by creating content that is going to serve them.

When the award-winning artist was murdered by the president of her fans club in 1995 at the height of her career, it brought shock and grief to the world. But her early passing was not in vain because decades later, her fans continue to celebrate her life and she has become even more popular. Various platforms and entities immortalized her with their products and works that go beyond music. In 1997, the biographical film "Selena" starring **Jennifer Lopez** became a cult classic for fans.

Twenty years later, she was also honored with a star in the **Hollywood Walk of Fame**. Meanwhile, brands like MAC Cosmetics and Forever 21 recently launched product lines named after her. On 2020, Netflix will also release a series as a tribute to the singer starring Christian Serratos.

About the Professor

Dr. Nathian Shae Rodriguez, 37, specializes in critical-cultural and digital media studies. He grew up in **Balmorea, Texas** and was valedictorian of his graduating class. He attended the **University of Texas of the Permian Basin** where



he received a B.A. in Mass Communication. He went on to receive a **Masters of Journalism and Mass Communication** with a Concentration in Public Relations from **Kent State University** and a Ph.D. from **Texas Tech University**.

His hobbies include pop culture, reading, and **Spurs** basketball. His research focuses on minority representation in media, specifically LGBTQ and Latinx portrayals and identity negotiation, as well as pop culture, identity, radio broadcasting, and issues of masculinity. He has 10 years professional radio experience as on-air talent, sales, promotions, and social media marketing.

ROWLAND GARZA

for
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
House District 74

I am running for State Representative in **House District 74**. I would like to thank God, my family, and all those who have supported me along the way. I am running to help families with the rising cost of health care, to ensuring teacher pay raises are permanent to standing up for border communities and fighting for our fair share in rural **Texas**. I'm ready to put my experience to work for families in **House District 74**.

Rowland Garza was elected to represent the City of **Del Rio**, At-Large Place B on May 12, 2012. **Councilman Garza** was born and raised in **Del Rio, Texas**. He is a 1996 **Del Rio High School** graduate, a 1999 graduate with a Bachelors of Arts in Education from **Sul Ross State University-Rio Grande College** and a 2004 graduate of **Sul Ross State University** with a Masters of Arts in Public Administration with Honors.

Councilman Garza has been active in state, municipal, and county government; and multi-media marketing/mass communications over the last 19 years, working for the **City of Del Rio** as Marketing Coordinator, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director and Assistant to the City Manager, and as the Political Director/Community Office Director for the Honorable **Mayor Julian Castro** of **San Antonio, Texas**. **Councilman Garza** is the Emergency Management Coordinator for **Val Verde County**, as well as the Sales Manager for **MBM Radio** and Legislative Assistant, a duty he has held for various **Texas Lawmakers**, including **Pete P. Gallego**.

Garza is currently the **President** of the **Boys and Girls Club of Del Rio Inc.**, Board of Directors with the **Border Baseball Club**, **Del Rio Little League**, **President/Chair** of the **Del Rio Ram Football Alumni Association**, **President** of the **Box Scene Academy**, **Chair** of the **Val Verde Unmeet Needs Committee**, Vice President of the **Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition** and past President of the **Sul Ross State-Rio Grande College Alumni Association**. He has been the voice of the **Del Rio Rams** since 1999 as the public address and radio announcer.

He and his wife **Viviana**, a Registered Nurse, and Army Veteran, have been married for 10 years. They are the proud parents of 7-year-old daughter **Victoria**, 4-year-old daughter **Valeria**, and 2-year-old daughter **Veronica**.



Gracias por
su apoyo

ROWLAND
GARZA

for
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
House District 74



Hogg Foundation to Award \$2.1 Million in Grants for 2020 Census

AUSTIN, Texas – The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health is pleased to announce that it has awarded \$2.1 million for the Texas Communities Count initiative. The initiative supports complete count efforts in Texas for the 2020 U.S. Census. The primary focus is to aid collaborative approaches that will reach traditionally hard-to-count (HTC) populations, communities and geographic areas throughout the state. The goal is to encourage participation in the 2020 Census so that every person in Texas is counted.

Twenty-eight Texas organizations were awarded funds to support any of the following: (1) direct, local, on-the-ground complete count efforts; (2) regionally coordinated complete count efforts; or (3) statewide coordination of these local efforts. Award amounts range from \$6,900 to \$125,000 depending on the geographical scope and scale of proposed projects. All awardees have laid out strategies that focus on HTC populations and communities.

The local and regional grant projects (listed below) include organizations who operate affiliates in multiple regions of the state, or whose proposed projects encompass multiple regions. All told, 58 of the 254 counties in Texas will be touched in some way by the work of these grantees. In addition, the six grants awarded for statewide coordination (listed below) will further ensure that all of Texas is impacted in one way or another by this initiative. The 2020 Texas Communities Count grantees are:

City of Corsicana	(Corsicana)
City of Plainview	(Plainview)
City of Socorro	(Socorro)
Community Action Corporation of South Texas	(Alice)
Community Foundations of Texas	(Dallas)
Deep East Texas Council of Governments	(Jasper)
El Paso Coalition for the Homeless	(El Paso)
Galveston County Food Bank	(Texas City)
Housing Authority of the City of Austin	(Austin)
International Rescue Committee – Abilene	(Abilene)
International Rescue Committee – Dallas	(Dallas)
McCabe Roberts Avenue United Methodist Church	(Beaumont)
Montrose Center	(Houston)
Project Vida Health Center	(El Paso)
Rural Economic Assistance League, Inc.	(Alice)
Rio Grande Council of Governments	(El Paso)
Rio Grande Valley Equal Voice Network	(Brownsville)
Southwest Area Regional Transit	(Uvalde)
Tarleton State University	(Stephenville)
Texas Association of Community Development Corporations	(Austin)
The Health Collaborative	(San Antonio)
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	(Houston)

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CONJUNTO SENZZIBLE • LOS TELLEZ • FLAVIO LONGORIA Y LOS CONJUNTO KINGZ
LA FAMILIA CADENA • SANTIAGO GARZA Y LA NATURALEZA • BERNARDO Y SUS COMPADRES
LOS TREMENDOS ALACRANES • TONY "TIGRE" SAENZ Y LA ROSA DE ORO

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH 12PM - 10PM

CONJUNTO V • ANIMO • CONJUNTO CATS • LOS FANTASMAS DEL VALLE
RUBEN DE LA CRUZ Y SU CONJUNTO • LOS CUCUY'S DE RODNEY RODRIGUEZ •
RUBEN & HECTOR LOS 2G'S • LAZARO PEREZ Y SU CONJUNTO

* LINEUP SUBJECT TO CHANGE. THE MOST CURRENT LINEUP WILL BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY.

In the spirit of "Cultural Pride"

FORT BEND HISPANIC HERITAGE FORUM

Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, UT Austin Team Up to Close College Graduation Rate Gaps Across Income Levels

Beginning in the fall of 2020, incoming Pell-eligible freshmen from families with the greatest need will become part of the **Dell Scholars** program, a proven model that serves students from across the country. Each **Dell Scholar** will receive a financial award of \$20,000 over his or her time in college that can be applied to the cost of attendance, including room and board, transportation, supplies, and other expenses. For **Texas** residents, that funding will come on top of the university’s **Texas Advance Commitment**, which guarantees aid to cover the full cost of tuition and fees for **Texas** families earning \$65,000 or less each year.

Although financial support is critical, closing the graduation rate gap requires more than financial support. Along with this new class of **Dell Scholars**, all Pell-eligible undergraduate students at **UT Austin** will receive ongoing and individualized support from **UT** for Me – Powered by **Dell Scholars**, which will be designed to level the playing field for students from low-income backgrounds. This support includes:

- Personalized, multi-faceted support
- Financial aid coaching and financial literacy training
- Tutoring and textbook support
- A laptop computer
- Peer advising support
- Internship and career planning
- Connections to university resources and programming
- On-track graduation planning

With the enhanced financial support and services, the **Dell Foundation** and **UT Austin** embark on a shared commitment to raise six-year graduation rates for Pell-eligible students from 73% to 90%. This increase would surpass the university’s current overall six-year graduation rate of 86%. Nationally, only 1 in 5 students from a low-income background graduates from college in six years.

“A college education has the power to change the life of a student and the future of their family and community,” said **UT Austin President Gregory L. Fenves**. “As a result of our groundbreaking partnership with the **Michael & Susan Dell Foundation**, **The University of Texas at Austin** is poised to increase opportunities for thousands of talented students whose potential to achieve will be met with unprecedented commitment, resources and support.”

The program will begin serving freshmen this fall and add a new class of first-time college students each year. The university has committed to raising funds to maintain these services after 10 years, with programming fully integrated into **UT’s Student Success Initiatives** beyond 2030.

About UT Austin - Ranked among the best research universities in the country, UT Austin is home to more than 51,000 students and 3,000 teaching faculty members. The university, already considered one of America’s best educational values, became even more affordable with the expansion of its Texas Advance Commitment in 2019.

Teacher Profile of the Month



NAME: Gladys Reyna

POSITION: Spanis and
Enrepreneurship Teacher

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN
IN YOUR CURRENT POSITION:**
Five (5) years

**WHERE DID YOU GO TO
SCHOOL?:** The University of
Texas at Brownsville, B.B.A. in
Business Administration. I also have
a Master of Arts degee from Texas
State University in Spanish

**WHO WOULD YOU SAY IS
YOUR PERSONAL HERO?:** All
of the women in my life, especially
my mother and sister



Gladys Reyna

**WHATKINDS OF MUSIC DO
LIKE TO LISTEN TO?:** R&B, Pop, Hip Hop, Bossa Nova, Regaeton, Flamenco
and Jazz. I listen to a lot of music in Spanish.

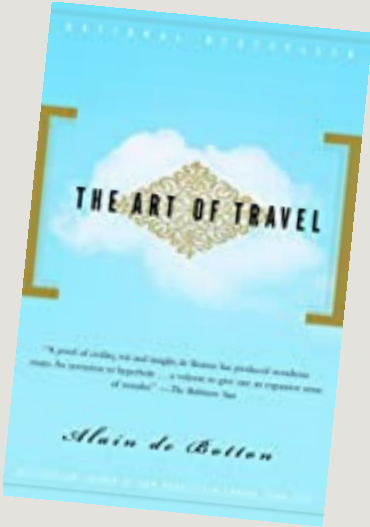
LAST BOOK READ”: The Art of Travel by alain
de botton

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST STRENGTH?: I
am passionate, creative and idealistic.

**TELL US AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT
YOU:** I don’t particularly enjoy sports, but I love
playing badminton!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?: Indian
food!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COLOR?:
Yellow, red and white



The Growth of La Raza Unida Party

50 years Ago - Part # 2

Following the victory of the **Raza Unida Party** in municipal elections in **Crystal City** and **Cotulla** in 1970, the party grew and expanded.

1972 Texas elections

The campaign run by **La Raza Unida** for the 1972 was extremely controversial because it was entirely racially based. The leaders of the party believed that change could only occur by 'shared by Mexican Americans. They also asserted that racism against Mexican Americans was so prolific that the entire political system would have to be reevaluated. **Mario Compean**, said *"Ours was a message of liberation from a corrupt political system anchored on the twin pillars of racism and discrimination, on the one hand, and social subordination imposed by capitalism on the other"*.

The candidate endorsed by **La Raza Unida** was an ex-Baylor football-player-turned-lawyer named **Ramsey Muñiz**. He was, at the time, a political unknown, who had been involved with **MAYO** since 1968 but had not really distinguished himself.

Muñiz ran an aggressive campaign, everywhere he went he hammered away at both parties, although the Democrats, who controlled the state legislature and the governor's mansion, received the brunt of the criticism. In a speech at **Del Mar College** in **Corpus Christi**, he said, *"Ya basta. Raza Unida offers the people an alternative and the days of being led to the polls to vote straight ticket for these two other parties are over... if it is not done this year, it will come next year or the next... as long*

as there are Mexican Americans there will be persons to replace people like me"

Muñiz ran on a campaign devoted to improving education in **Texas**, developing multilingual and multicultural curriculums, equal funding for all school districts, for local school boards to proportionately reflect their communities, free early childhood education, and a number of other services.



ABOVE: Ramsey Muñiz

Despite his immense popularity and recognition in the state as one of the leading Mexican-American political figures, his fellow LRUP candidates fell short in attaining the same level

of popularity. Despite obstacles, **Muñiz** campaigned tirelessly both in the state and outside – targeting areas with high numbers of migrant workers from Texas.



Similar to campaigns run previously in **Crystal City**, **La Raza Unida** distributed massive amounts of buttons, stickers, and posters along with holding huge vote drives on election day in the barrios.

Ramsay Muñiz lost his bid for governor in the 1972 elections. He obtained 6.28 percent of the vote, **Dolph Briscoe** – the **Democratic** candidate – received 47.8 percent of the vote, and **Republican Henry Grover** received 45.08 percent. An estimated 18 percent of Mexican Americans who voted in the 1972 election voted for **Ramsay Muñiz**. He

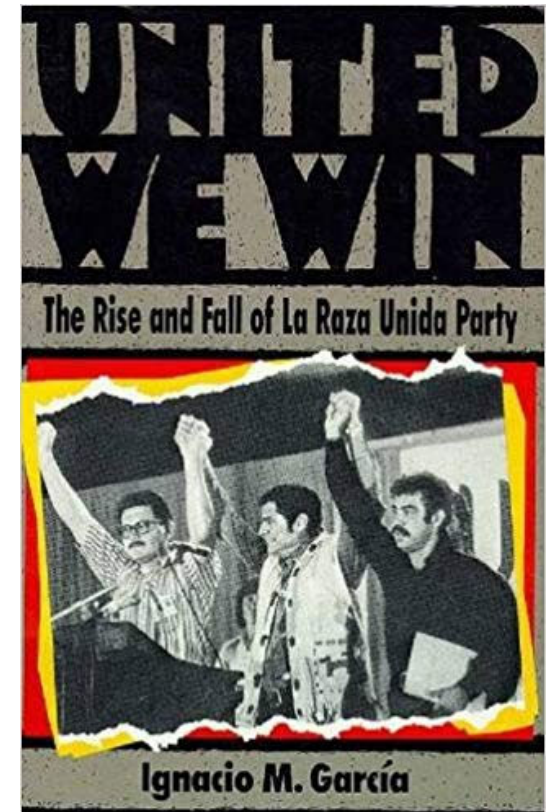
received very high voting rates in rural cities and counties with lower incomes. He received 51 percent of the vote in **Brooks County** and 46 percent in **Jim Hogg County**. In the

15 Mexican American counties, he received 30,020 votes compared to **Grover's** 31,641, and the winning Democrat, **Dolph**

Briscoe, who polled 60,697 votes. While they lost the gubernatorial election, **La Raza Unida Party** won fifteen local positions in several borderland counties: **La Salle**, **Dimmit**, **Zavala**, and **Hidalgo**.

Despite this success in the 1972 election, it could not be replicated at the state level again. However, several counties in **South Texas** continued to see candidates elected by **La Raza Unida** for years after the 1972 election, until 1978, when the party broke apart.

Women played a growing role in the party in **Texas** in the 1970s, holding party offices at various levels and running as political candidates, as well as doing campaign work in many localities. Among those who were very active in **La Raza Unida Party** were **L. Maria Elena Martinez**, who served at one time as the chairwoman of the party in **Texas**, **Alma Canales**, who ran for Lt. Governor. **Martha** and



Juan Cotera were also very active in the party as were **Irma Mireles**, **Linda del Toro** and **Maria Jimenez** out of **Houston**.

Political scientists have examined the 1972 gubernatorial race when **La Raza Unida Party** called for ethnic solidarity. There was deep alienation among Mexican Americans from Anglo-dominated politics. However, Mexican American support for **LRUP** was uneven across **Texas** and reflected differing levels of economic attainment and incorporation.

**To be Continued
with Part # 3**



WRITERS
SPEAKERS AND IDEAS
Spring 2020

El sueño de la razón produce monstruos



PIONEER MEXICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND VALLEY FEMINIST

CYNTHIA OROZCO PRESENTED BY
Professor of History and Humanities,
Eastern New Mexico University
Ruidoso Campus

NO MEXICANS WOMEN OR DOGS ALLOWED

AGENT OF CHANGE
Adela Soto-Vento
CYNTHIA E. OROZCO

Dr. Cynthia Orozco received her BA from UT-Austin in 1980 and her PhD from UCLA in 1992. She is a public historian/public intellectual and has written over 80 articles for newspapers and newsletters in New Mexico, California, and Texas. In 2012, she was recognized by New Mexico LULAC as Educator of the Year. Her writing focuses on the history of LULAC and the treatment of Mexican-Americans. She is the author of *No Mexicans, Women or Dogs Allowed, the Rise of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement* (2009).

THURS
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Sugar:	39 cents/5 lbs
Milk:	62 cents/gallon
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Beto's Mexican Restaurants began with a window of opportunity after co-owners Lupita Bermudez and Norberto Nolasco were offered to take over La Placita back in 2010. Five years later, Beto's #1, would be another opportunity thrown at the co-owners. They were already looking for something more, and that opportunity would have perfect timing, and they accepted without any hesitation. Lastly, Beto's #2 would be an unexpected opportunity yet again. Lupita and Beto would have only two hours to decide if they wanted to reserve a running restaurant and take over it or let it go. They accepted, and the restaurant would become Beto's #2.

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OWNER
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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.

Restaurant	Restaurante
Waiter	Mesero
Knife	Cuchillo
Spoon	Cuchara
Fork	Tenedor
Napkin	Servilleta
Table	Mesa
Glass of water	Baso de agua
Menu	Menú
Plate	Plato
Glass	Baso
Cup	Taza
Check	La Cuenta/Cheque
Tip	Propina
Manager	Gerente
Owner	Dueño

La Voz Newspapers is Looking for Writers

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

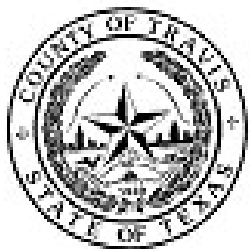
La Voz Busca Escritores

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

MEXICAN

ORALE
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ORALE

ENGLISH

I agree with you
Come on!
Bring it on!
Yes
Hurry up
That's amazing
I'm flabbergasted
There you go
OK
Exortation
It's your turn
Go ahead
I'm waiting for you
Watch it

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7600 o viste www.austintexas.gov/snbr.

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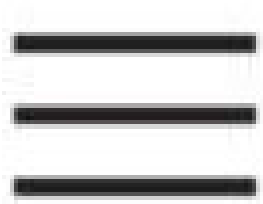
March 3rd, 2020

Roberto R.

“Beto” Alonzo

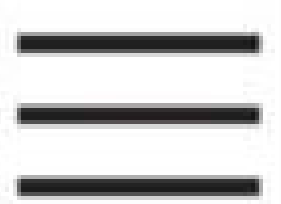


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