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People in the News



Stephanie Reyes Promoted in San Marcos HR Dept.

Stephanie Reyes has been promoted to Assistant Director of Human Resources for the **City of San Marcos**. She will report to HR Director **Linda Spacek** and assist in city employment processes, training, safety, pay and benefits management, and performance evaluations.

Reyes has served as Assistant to the City Manager since joining the city in 2001, acting as a liaison to the City Council and directors. She recently worked on special projects including **Core Four Education Committee** and the **City's First Youth Master Plan**.

Reyes has served on the **Texas State University MPA Advisory Board** and was the past **President of Leadership San Marcos Board**. She currently serves as the Vice-Chair on the Board of Directors for **Community Action, Inc. of Central Texas**.

A **San Marcos** native, **Reyes** is a 1996 graduate of **San Marcos High School** and received a bachelors's degree in Criminal Justice from **Texas State University** in May of 2000. She is married to **Andrew Reyes** and they have an 18 month son, **Andrés**.



El Obispo que no tiene miedo de hablar la verdad

Bishop Raul Vera from the state **Coahuila** in **Mexico** is speaking up and denouncing the violence that has swept Mexico for the past five years.

Stepping before some 7,000 faithful gathered in a baseball stadium in **Monclova**, he led the gathering through the rituals of his Mass, reciting prayers echoed back by the massive crowd. And then his voice rose.

"Politicians are tied to organized crime", **Bishop Raul Vera** bellowed while inaugurating the church's Year of Faith. Lawmakers' attempts to curb money laundering are intentionally weak. New labor reforms are a way to enslave Mexican workers.

"How", **Vera** asked, *"can Mexicans follow leaders who are the ones who have let organized crime grow, who have let criminals do what they do unpunished, because there's no justice in this country!"*

Vera arrived in **Saltillo** in 2000, after serving as the co-bishop in a deeply divided diocese in the southern Mexican state of **Chiapas**, where **Zapatista** rebels were battling government troops. He came with a reputation as a social crusader.

What's drawn perhaps the most controversy has been **Vera's** stand on gay rights, which even called **Rome's** attention. In 2001, the **Rev. Robert Coogan**, an American priest in **Saltillo** ordained by **Vera**, suggested starting an outreach program to gay youth, after a teenager came to him when his parents threw him out of the house. **Vera** lent his support to the program, called **Comunidad San Elredo**, and later escaped reprimand when called to the **Vatican** to explain it. "It flows out of his conviction: The church is for everyone," **Coogan** said.

Parishioner **Julia Castillo**, of **Saltillo**, said **Vera** wasn't just making headlines with his bold stands. He was also inspiring Mexicans at a time when many are feeling besieged. *"He talks about all of the injustice there is right now, of all the danger there is, that we have to stick together to fight against the corruption, above all in the government and the police,"* **Castillo** said. *"We like the way he is."*



Barbara Gonzalez Out of Hospital and Recovering in Austin, Texas

San Antonio based writer **Barbara Renaud Gonzalez** was diagnosed with a tumor, underwent surgery and is now recovering with family members in **Austin, Texas**. (The tumor weighed in at 8 pounds!)

For those who do not know **Barbara**, she is a long time community activist and writer who lives and works out of **San Antonio**. Her most recent work is the book called The Boy Made of Lightning: The Story of Willie Velasquez. She is also the author of, Golondrina, Why Did You Leave Me?

Like many writers, **Barbara** did not have enough insurance coverage to cover all the medical bills that are coming in. For those who would like to contribute to her recovery fund the address:

Barbara Renaud Gonzalez
PO Box 200084,
Austin, Texas 78201

Visit her on Facebook for more details.



Dr. Victor Saenz Granted Tenure at The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Victor B. Saenz, Associate Professor in the **College of Education** recently announced that he has been awarded tenure at **The University of Texas at Austin**.

Dr. Saenz stated, *"I am deeply honored and humbled to work alongside some amazing colleagues, mentors, and friends. I am truly grateful for the love and support I have received throughout this process from my life partner Erica Saenz, from my family, and from my work partners Luis Ponjuan, Sylvia Hurtado, Mitch Chang, Gregory Vincent, and countless other colleagues and graduate students."*

Dr. Saenz is originally from the **Rio Grande Valley** and earned his bachelors degree at **The University of Texas at Austin** in 1996. He also graduated from the **LBJ School of Public Affairs** with a masters degree (1999) before heading out to **The University of California at Los Angeles** where he earned another masters degree (2002) and a Ph.D in Higher Education and Organizational Change in 2005.

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¿Qué pasa con Ken?

EDITORIAL

El **Señor Ken Mory** es el auditor de la ciudad de **Austin Texas**.

También es el encargado del nuevo proceso para solicitar miembros para una comisión independiente de ciudadanos del plan llamado 10-1.



Esta comisión que va consistir de 14 miembros son los que van dibujar las líneas de los nuevos distritos para el city council de **Austin**. (A very important task)

El problema que tenemos con **Ken** es que no tiene mucho interés en informar a la raza de como va trabajar este proceso. Según la lista de presentaciones en el website, casi no tiene lugares en lo que se llama el **Eastside** o en **Southeast Austin**. Además, no quiere anunciar públicamente donde se van a llevar a cabo las pocas presentaciones que teine programado.

¿Qué paso **Ken**?

Activistas en la comunidad han tenido que empujar al **Señor Ken** con recuerdos de que tan importante este asunto es para todos. Ellos llaman cada rato para pedirle información.

Ultimamente, estos activistas han tenido que organizar sus propios presentaciones en la comunidad porque el **Ken** aparentemente no conoce la ciudad muy bien.

En este ejemplar de *La Voz*, puede encontrar una lista de todas las presentaciones que se van a llevar a cabo en los proximas semanas. Trata de asistir se acaso tiene interes en participar.

Cambiando de tema

Ahora vamos al inglés. I have been fortunate to have lived all over the United States and have seen how community activists tackle issues and share information with others. One of the things that helps to keep community activists informed are regularly scheduled platica sessions.

I am happy to report that as we enter 2013, there are a number of new initiatives to improve the information sharing in the Latino community in **Austin**.

First, **HABLA**, a network of business and community leaders formed in 2005 after the **Daniel Rocha** shooting, are launching a one a month platica session at **Juan in a Million** on **Cesar Chavez Street**. Their first session is set for January 23rd, at 8:00am. Stop by and join the discussion.

Every other Wednesday, **Roberto Martinez**, who is a Deacon in the **Roman Catholic Church**, holds a **Kitchen Table** breakfast meeting at **Austin Community College** at the **Fiskville Campus**. His group started more than three years ago and always welcomes new members. The meetings usually start around 7:30am and he provides the breakfast tacos and drinks.

Every Saturday at 10:00am the **Raza Round Table** meets at **Mexitas Mexican Restaurant** at 1109 North IH 35. This is buy your own breakfast get together of community activists from **Central Texas**. As with the other



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

meetings, todos estan invitados.

The other thing that is ongoing in **Austin, Texas** with respect to information sharing in the Latino community is that on any given day of the week, there are meetings of the some 150 plus community based organizations in the city. These groups have their individual interests and projects that they are working on.

So what am I leading to? I would argue that the Latino community in **Austin, Texas** is very much alive, vibrant and working hard to improve its position in the city. If you ever get tired of watching TV or cruising the internet, think about getting involved with a group or organization.

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Austin, TX 78723

Raza Round Table in Austin, Texas

Every Saturday at 10:00am at **Mexitas Mexican Restaurant** 1109 I-H 35 in **Austin, Texas**, community activists gather for a weekly *platica* and information sharing session. The event is open to the public and everyone is invited.



For more information about the **Raza Round Table** contact **Alfredo R. Santos** c/s at (512) 944-4123

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PROFILE Dionisio Salazar

Dionisio Salazar is an organizational change strategist and certified facilitator of **Technology of Participation (ToP)®** methods and workshops. He is also a **ToP® Apprentice Trainer** and a member of the **ToP® Trainers Network**.



Prior to joining Partners as an Associate, **Dionisio** served as a staff person for the **General Board of Global Ministries** which is the mission development agency of the **United Methodist Church**. It's primary focus is congregational, community and leadership development. **Dionisio** was responsible for a Hispanic/Latino ministries portfolio.

In this capacity, he facilitated over thirty-five major strategic planning workshops for Annual Conferences throughout the denomination. He also led leadership training retreats for missionaries, clergy, consultants, lay and staff members of the church.

Dionisio facilitates workshops, seminars and retreats that build teamwork, form consensus, develop leaders and achieve organizational transformation. He builds capacity of organizations and leaders through workshops and training seminars in the areas of community development, leadership development, congregational development, spiritual formation, program design and development, grant writing, evaluation and cultural competency.

Dionisio is committed to a just and better world. He participated in the **People's Global Action forum on Migration, Development and Human Rights** that was held in **Mexico City** in 2010. He facilitated

action learning dialogues and workshops for the **United Methodist Church Taskforce on Immigration** in meetings in **Washington DC** and the **United Nations Plaza** in **New York City**. He represented the **City of San Antonio** in a comprehensive community initiative (CCI) of the **Annie E. Casey Foundation** known as "Making Connections." The goal of this innovative initiative was to strengthen families,

develop social capital and build better neighborhoods on the city's west side. He founded and directed an **Austin-based** non-profit organization known as the **Wesley Center for Family and Neighborhood Development**.

Dionisio has over thirty years experience working in state and local government as well as faith and community based organizations. Government agencies in which **Mr. Salazar** has served include: **City of San Antonio**, Department of Community Initiatives; **Texas Attorney General's Office**; **Texas General Land Office**; **Colorado Department of Social Services** and the **Colorado Legislative Council**. He has taught state and local government at **San Antonio Community College** and **Austin Community College**.

Mr. Salazar holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** and a Bachelors degree in Political Science from **Southern Methodist University**. He has also completed coursework at the **Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary**. **Dionisio** lives in **Austin, Texas**. He is married to **Sylvia** and has three children (**Cristina, Carlos & Marina**). He enjoys mountain bike riding, camping and meditation retreats.

Dionisio Salazar

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Organizing for the Save Texas School Rally in Februray, 2013

An Open Letter

I want to take this opportunity to share with all my readers that in addition to publishing **La Voz Newspapers**, I am a member of the advisory committee for **SAVE TEXAS SCHOOLS**. This is the group that put together the march and rally two years ago to call attention to the legislative budget cuts that were being proposed and which were eventually passed by the **Texas Legislature**. That first march and rally brought close to 14,000 people to the Capitol.

The Texas legislature is coming into session once again, and once again we are going to see the attack on public education. There are those legislators who see the changing demographics of **Texas** and among themselves and their friends, have decided that investing in public education is no longer important. These people have decided that rather than making public education a priority and making sure that teachers have the resources they need to do a good job, they are going to walk away from public education.

This is unacceptable! This is not going to happen without someone speaking up! The **SAVE TEXAS SCHOOLS** movement has decided that once again we must organize to bring thousands of people to the Capitol. We have to continue to put a face on this issue.

This year we are going to bring 25,000 people to Capitol. Now, I know there are those who say, rallies and marches don't matter. I disagree. Having been part of the Chicano and Anti-War Movement in the 1970s in **California**, I saw first hand what masses of people can do to effect public opinion. It is important to understand that rallies and marches are not just one-time events. They served to garner attention and educate people about the issues in question. **Cesar Chavez** understood this and was very effective in using these tools to call attention to the cause of the farm worker.

My specific task in helping to make this march and rally on February 23rd, 2013 a success entails turning out 10,000 from **Austin, Texas**. Can we get 10,000 people from **Austin, Texas** to come to the Capitol? Of course we can. We saw this in 2006 when thousands of Austin students walked out of school and marched to the Capitol to show their concern over pending anti-immigrant legislation that was working its way through Congress.

Here is what we are going to do. There are 124 schools in the **Austin Independent School District**. There are 86,100 students enrolled. I believe we can identify and organize 100 students, parents, teachers, custodians, and administrators from 100 schools in the district. (100 x 100 = 10,000)

One of the ways we are going to this in the next 39 days is by working with PTAs, community based organizations and any other groups that have a membership base. This is not an impossible task especially if others are willing to help. The dismantling of public education in Texas is not going happen without a fight.

For those of you who have children in school, for those you who have a family member who works in public education, the time has come to show those members of the **Texas Legislature** who have voted to cut funding over the years that we refuse to be silent lambs. We are not going to just stand by and watch as classroom sizes increase, teachers are let go, and the testing monsters are let loose in the name of accountability.

If would like to learn how to organize, if you would like to be the point person for a particular school, join me on Saturday, February 2nd, 2013 at noon at **Mexitas Mexican Restaurant** (1109 North IH 35) **Austin, Texas** 78702 to hear the rest of the plan. For more information or to alert friends and family who do not live **Austin**, visit the **SAVE TEXAS SCHOOLS** website at: www.savetxschools.org or call me at (512) 944-4123

Alfredo R. Santos c/s



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Tejano Filmmaker Challenges Texas History As She Honors Her Heritage *Independent Film "Atanasia"*

The mythic image of the **Texas** frontier is made more complex by the newly released indie film "*Atanasia*." Written and directed in **South Texas** by **Austinite Alicia Villarreal**, (who also stars as the title character) the film is now available on the newly launched website **It Will Be Told.com**, where her family's company, **VAMOS, Inc.**, also sells books and videos on **Tejano** history and culture.

*"The iconic image of the Texas frontier is incomplete. There were many dark atrocities committed against **Tejanos** in order to create the **Texas** ranching empire, and certainly in **South Texas**," comments **Alicia**. "It is a part of American history that is not being taught, yet it is a part of my people's story."*

*"'Atanasia' is the culmination of 16 years of grass roots effort and sacrifice on the part of nearly 300 persons from **South Texas**, **Austin**, **Houston** and the **Rio Grande Valley**. It was inspired by the true story of my great-great-grandmother **Atanasia Escobedo** and her journey from **Mexico** to **South Texas** in search of a better life. Fleeing from the **French** invasion of **Mexico** in the 1860's, **Atanasia** and her family struggled to survive the tensions and violence of the era and make a life in a land that was once their own."*

Currently a graduate student at **The University of Texas at Austin**, **Alicia** is launching the website not only to honor her heritage but to contribute to **Texas** and American culture. *"Not being included in mainstream popular culture—film, books, TV, etc.—marginalizes a person, makes one feel left out, unaccepted. We at **VAMOS, Inc.** want to join others who are working to remedy this situation and honor our heritage as we do so. It is a story of struggle and ultimate triumph, as we seek to be and are a part of what makes America great. We are grateful to the nearly 300 Texans who worked—mostly unpaid—to make this film possible, and we now invite the public to visit our website and check us out."*

Grammy-winning Cast Members

Included in the cast are the late Grammy winning singer **Freddy Fender**, five time Grammy winner **Flaco Jimenez** and Grammy Winner **Augie Meyers** of the **Texas Tornados**, and country singer **Johnny Rodriguez**. *"They all believed in the film and worked for free," comments **Alicia**. "We are very grateful for their support."*

Independent Marketing: Raising Funds on Indiegogo.com

Starting today, the production team is also raising money on the website Indiegogo.com to finance further publicity efforts. **Alicia** explains, *"We hope to market the film both in **Austin** and other key cities in **Texas**."* Indiegogo.com is an Internet platform for "crowdfunding." Projects of a wide variety are showcased on the site and visitors pledge and donate funds to a project of their choice. The "*Atanasia*" fundraising campaign will last for 30 days. Contact: **Alicia Villarreal**, Writer/Director vamosprod@yahoo.com (361) 389-6257

Reaffirming Our Cultural Heritage With Tejano Music

By **Sylvana Avila-Alonzo**
Contributing Writer



Music was a big part of my upbringing. My mother turned on the radio before starting her morning routine of making *tortillas*, brewing coffee, and cooking traditional **Tejano** meals like *chorizo*, *papas con huevo y frijoles refritos*. I would wake up to the sounds of **KHER AM** radio station that mostly played regional *norteño* music.



It was the late 1960s in the *barrio* known as **Mexico Grande** in **Crystal City, Texas**. As I close my eyes, I can still hear the sounds of the vehicles passing, the dogs barking and the distant twelve o'clock siren. I can smell the wet dirt after my mother watered the barren earth. I remember thinking, "Mami keeps watering the yard and nothing ever grows." I later found out that she would water the dirt to keep the dust from flying up.



I close my eyes and I can see our home, the neighborhood and the people. I can taste the flavors of *ama's* cooking and the *goma* from the mesquite trees. I can feel the hot dirt under my bare feet as I run across the barren yard and the dusty linoleum on our house floor.

We had no television. We had no central heating or air conditioning. We didn't even have a fan and I think that window units weren't

invented yet because I don't remember ever seeing one. Our two room shack had no insulation and no sheet rock. Small rays of sunlight would find their way inside through the cracks of the old, gray wood that our home was made of. The memories are so vivid in my mind. I distinctly remember the unfiltered sounds. Everything seemed so close. It was like all the neighborhood's combined sounds connected us and formed our community.

Back then our lives revolved around the radio. Most of the songs that were played were in Spanish, but I do remember a particular song that I replay in my mind. It was an English song that was sung by a Chicano with a very heavy Mexican accent. Do you remember the chorus, "Please call me baby?"

In my teenage years, my friends and I listened to the **American Top Forty** almost exclusively. Mexican music and **Norteño** music became secondary. They were the sounds that belonged to the house or to the kitchen or to our parents' radio. But then, I discovered *la onda Chicana*, the wave -that's what Chicano music was called back then.

When I turned fifteen, the most

popular form of entertainment was Quinceañera dances. There were no activities outside of family celebrations and school activities. My friends and I flocked to the only dance hall in **Crystal City – El Campestre**. We learned to dance cumbias, polkas and rancheras. We listened to **Mazz**, **Little Joe**, **Laura Canales**, **Magic**, and **Gary Hobbs**. The Chicano bands sang songs of love in Spanish. We listened to the lyrics and learned the words. We sang the songs we thought were new and written just for us.

It wasn't until many years later that I realized that many of the songs were in fact remakes. The Chicano bands were interpreting classic songs by famous Mexican singers like **Jose Alfredo Jimenez** and **Javier Solis**. And, I also realized that if it wasn't for Chicano music, I would not know Mexican music.

Chicano musicians were my link to the past. The songs they sang had also been my parents' and grandparents' songs. The background music that I and my friends thought belonged to the house, or to the kitchen, or to our

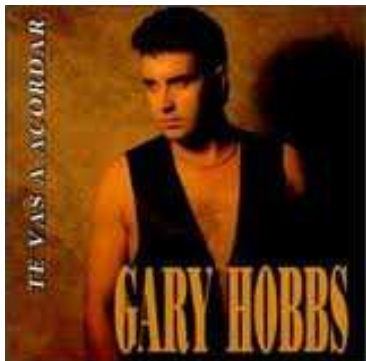


parents' radios had become our songs. As we asserted our own identity, unknowingly, we were also reaffirming our cultural heritage that had been passed down to us from generation to generation through music.

Today, Chicano music is called **Tejano Music**. The labels change but the musical roots remain the same. Tejano artists are still remaking the classics and integrating new sounds. You might say that they keep up with the new waves – *las nuevas ondas*.

We need to keep our traditions and culture alive. Let out a Tejano shout! *Que se oiga el grito!* Ayyy, Ayyy, Ayyy!

Sylvana Avila-Alonzo may be reached through Facebook or by email sylvanatiny@gmail.com.



Latino Healthcare Forum

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Phone (855) 873-5578

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The walls to healthcare access, the walls of bureaucracy, the walls of communication for Latinos and the disparities these walls create in the evolution of healthcare in the era of mobile health communications are part of what the Latino Healthcare Forum addresses in its work in Central Texas. For more information contact Jill Ramirez at: 512-484-1507



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Happy Birthday Lupe Saenz

Lupe Saenz is a major player in keeping **Conjunto Music** alive. His radio programs



and interviews *con los músicos han servido para mantener el interés en Conjunto*

Here are some words by **Lupe** on his 65th birthday. *"As I close the day on this my 65th birthday, and all the well wishers, I say thank you all for the gracious wishes from all of you. I thank God for allowing me to do achieve all that I have wanted to do in life as far as my journalistic skills are concerned. I have done tv, radio, and newspaper, military service in US Air Force, US Naval Reserve (24 yrs), (Vietnam vet) and 34 years education, 18 yrs classroom teacher and the rest administration in two school districts and still doing it."*

I still do grants, tv, and radio, online radio (10 yrs), local media, newspapers for school districts and myself and so on. I am responsible for 14 awards shows, and 15 yrs of the **South Texas Conjunto Association**. Again, thank you, to all my family and friends.



Dr. Juan Sanchez Named Best CEO By Austin Business Journal

Southwest Key CEO/el Presidente

Dr. Juan Sanchez was honored by being named **Best CEO** in the non-profit category at the **Austin Business Journal's 2012 Best CEO Awards** party. The event, according to **ABJ Editor Colin Pope**, was the culmination of a months-long process steered by a panel of esteemed business leaders. Judges evaluated all aspects of a CEO's performance — from revenue to company culture.



In **Dr. Sanchez's** acceptance speech from the event, he praised his team proclaiming, *"good staff make you look good,"* and seized the opportunity to pitch his nonprofit's cause to a roomful of **Austin's** most influential business leaders. *"Austin is a wonderful place,"* he told them, *"but there are pockets in our city that have a lot of challenges and that need some work."*

In a special 2012 Best CEOs feature, **Dr. Sanchez** answered questions about his success in working with underprivileged kids in **East Austin** and across America. In signature form, he frankly discussed the mixed reactions his activist style has received and how it ultimately led to **Southwest Key's** success over the long run. *"My strategy of being a community activist with a raised fist has had its drawbacks. On occasion I have upset the local school district and City Council members by pointing out their underperformance and for neglecting this impoverished community. But in my commitment to securing funds to transform this community, I have won the support we needed from businesses in Austin, government organizations, and local, state, and federal grants to build the Southwest Key's \$8 million **El Centro de Familia** complex and the \$3 million **Social Enterprise Complex**."*

Indeed **Dr. Sanchez's** results speak for themselves. Today **Southwest Key** serves over 6,000 young people and their families in six states. Quite an accomplishment from humble beginnings in a basement in **San Antonio** in 1987.

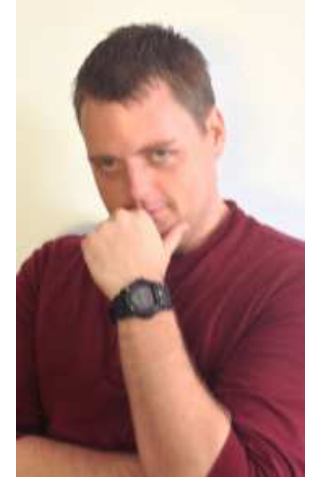
"I think it's a tremendous honor," said **Alexia Rodriguez**, **Southwest Key Vice President of Immigrant Services**. *"One that Juan deserves considering the amount of energy and passion he's put into growing this company for the past 25 years. All of us at Southwest Key are proud to be part of his team."* www.swkey.org

TEACHER PROFILE



Kevin Cunningham

Teacher of 9th Grade Social
Students at
East Austin College Prep,
www.eaprep.org



I have been in education for the past twelve years and in that time I have taught all of the high school social studies subjects.

After graduating from **Charter Oaks State College** in **New Britain, Connecticut**, I decided to get into the family business: both of my parents are teachers, two of my triplet sisters are teachers, and my brother-in-law is also a teacher, so apparently it's in the blood! My goals for **East Austin College Prep**: make it the best college prep school in the world!; provide others with the help I received when I was young; and see our first class of students graduate and take on the mantle of responsible adults.

My personal goals in education are to finish my M. Ed program at **Concordia**, and start a PhD program at the **University of Texas**. Outside of education I love coaching sports and teaching Mixed Martial Arts.

Degrees: B.S. in Speech Communications/Geography; Current enrolled at **Concordia University** Masters of Education program

Favorite Activity: Working out, teaching mixed martial arts, reading

Favorite Books: *Influence: The Psychology of Persuasion*; *Tao of Jeet Kune Do*; *Hound of the Baskerville*

Favorite Historical Figure: Ron Burgundy

What animal best represents you and why? A 'liger' because it's a strong and magical creature, and it took **Napoleon** three hours to draw one.

What is your greatest strength? My natural sense of humor, sarcasm, and mojo.

Interesting fact about yourself: I can take any random set of items/ things and form them into a coherent lesson in less than five minutes.

Why do you work at EAPrep? Because I believe in helping out others, and I believe in what EAPrep's mission is trying to accomplish.

Keep Your Eye on *Luz Valenzuela Zamora*

Luz Valenzuela Zamora, the sixteen year old daughter of **Emilio Zamora** and **Angela Valenzuela** and gifted singer, shares vocals with **Mason Ables**, for a high school rock band named **Bare Feat**.

She has been performing in theater and musical venues in **Austin** since 2004. Although she mostly spends her time a vocalist with the **Bare Feat**, she sings Tejano, Mexican, religious, and pop and has participated in local Mexican American theater productions by **Teatro Vivo**. **Luz** will be performing with the **Bare Feat** at **Antone's** on Sunday, January 20, at 3:30 as part of the **Battle of the Bands** completion in support of **Band Aid**.

Their biographical statement on facebook: A nine piece **Austin** band hitting the music scene with an incredibly fresh sound. Their full horn section, two robust male and female vocalists, tight rhythm section, and new approach and innovation to funk music give them a unique and larger than life sound.

The intense and almost overwhelming sound they produce live is unrivaled by many bands their age. All of the members are students at **Austin High** and are also dedicated musicians in The **Austin High** Orchestra, Band or Choir.



The Name of the Band: *The Bare Feat*

Texas State Representative Eddie Rodriguez Sworn in for 6th Term

Texas State Representative Eddie Rodriguez was sworn in for his 6th term on January 8th, 2013. He was first elected to the **State Legislature** in 2002. He was re-elected in November 2012 as the Representative from District 51, serving **East Austin** and **Southeast Travis County**.



Currently **Representative Rodriguez** serves as Vice-Chair of the House Select Committee on Transportation Funding, as well as on the House Committee on Public Safety and the House Committee on Technology, Economic Development & Workforce.

Representative Rodriguez was born on July 1, 1971 in **McAllen, Texas**. He graduated from **McAllen Memorial High School**, and studied two years at **St. Mary's University** in **San Antonio** before earning his B.A. in government from the **University of Texas at Austin** in 1995. He earned his J.D. from the **University of Texas School of Law** in **Austin** in 2008.

Maria Canchola Sworn In As Constable - Precinct 4



ABOVE: Maria Canchola stand before Justice of the Peace Raul Gonzalez to take her oath of office.

Senator Judith Zaffirini Sworn In for New Term, Marks Beginning of 83rd Texas Legislative Session



Senator Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, the second highest-ranking **Texas** state senator, was sworn in for a new term representing **Senatorial District 21**, which includes all or part of 18 counties and stretches from the **Rio Grande** to the **Colorado River** and to the **Port of Corpus Christi**. **Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst** presided during Opening Day Ceremonies, officially gaveling to order the **83rd Texas Legislative Session**.

*"The new legislative session provides countless opportunities to make a difference in the lives of SD 21 families," Senator Zaffirini said. "I welcome the exciting challenges of representing them in the **Texas Senate** and especially look forward to prioritizing their needs and interests. These include higher and public education and health and human services, especially for the very young, the very old and persons with disabilities."*

Senate District 21 has changed dramatically. It includes the majority of the rigs, the majority of production and the highest producing counties in the **Eagle Ford Shale** and the **Circuit of the Americas** in southeast **Travis County**. *"The changes in our district mean that new issues must be addressed," Senator Zaffirini said. "We must collaborate to reap the benefits of these economic development treasures and to resolve their related problems and challenges."*

First elected in 1986, the senator has received more than 670 awards and honors for her legislative, public service and professional work, including more than 160 awards for excellence in communications. Her legendary work ethic is reflected in her 100 percent voting record in the **Texas Senate**, where she has cast more than 47,580 consecutive votes since 1987. She has sponsored and passed 725 bills and 52 substantive resolutions and co-sponsored and passed another 384 bills. A member of the Energy Council since 2009, she is particularly active in addressing opportunities and challenges presented by the **Eagle Ford Shale**.

Senator Zaffirini pre-filed 31 bills before the 2013 session began, including many relating to higher education, public education, health and human services and public safety. *"I look forward to working with my legislative colleagues this session to pass meaningful legislation that strengthens our state's economy, prioritizes families and improves the quality of life for all Texans," she said.*



HISPANIC ADVOCATES BUSINESS LEADERS OF AUSTIN (HABLA)

HABLA is a "THINK TANK" group and forum made up of local Hispanic/Latino community and business leaders committed to discussing and developing sustainable solutions on current affairs, public policies and quality of life issues impacting our local **Austin** Hispanic/Latino community.

Let's amplify the political voice of our Latino community. Using a variety of tactics, we can provide ways for our community and **HABLA** members to take action on the issues we care about. This includes providing calls to action via email, social networks, text message, coordinating on-the-ground events, organizing house parties, running radio and television ads, and doing anything else we can think of that helps our communities and voices be heard. Let's continue to seek opportunities to be a centralized organizing hub for issues facing Latinos, with a focus on online presence and activism.

HABLA will be an organization and platform to support one another NOT divide. Participants of **HABLA** are encouraged to utilize this forum to raise the level of visibility on any particular current affair and/or issue you feel deserves our attention.

While political discussions are significant, **HABLA** is a non-partisan, non-endorsement forum and we ask that you respectfully refrain from posting endorsements of any particular candidates. Political issues for discussions however are certainly welcomed.

Together, let's amplify our voices...VALOR LATINO, PODEMOS HABLAR!

Paul M. Saldaña, Founder

HABLA

www.facebook.com/groups/HABLA-AUSTIN/members/

HABLA has initiated a new annual tradition by taking a look back at the previous year and ranking the Top 10 Austin Hispanic/Latino Issues, Stories and People. Thanks to your involvement and support, **Austin Latinos** certainly amplified our voices in 2012. Here is our list for the past year.

1

Voters and Latino Leaders Played A Significant Role in the 10-1 Single Member Districts Plan

In 2011, the **Austin City Council** re-created and appointed a new 15-Member Charter Revisions Committee that included four Latino leaders: Former Senator **Gonzalo Barrientos**, **Kathy Vale**, **Delia Garza** and **Fred Cantu**. The charge of the committee included revisiting the issue of single member districts that previously failed six times on the ballot.

Parallel to the **Austin City Council's** discussions about potential Charter Election items, a new grass roots organization entitled **Austinites for Geographic Representation** (**AGR**) was successfully gaining momentum and the support of a

diverse group of civic, political, community, neighborhood and business leaders while spreading the word about the **Citizens Districting 10-1** plan for geographic representation. **AGR's** leadership also included Latino Leaders like **Eliza May**, **Alicia Perez**, **Susanna Almanza**, **Richard Arriola**, **Lupe Sosa**, **Teresa Perez-Wisely**, **Cynthia Valadez, Sr.**, **Gilbert Rivera**, **Daniel Llanes**, **Alicia Del Rio**, **Dom Chavez**, **Albert Gonzalez**, **Lulu Flores**, **Carmen Llanes**, **Andy Ramirez**, **Marcelo Tafoya**, **Frank Fuentes**, **Kathy Vale**, **Fred Cantu**, **Delia Garza**, **Senator Gonzalo Barrientos** and others.

The **Citizens Districting 10-1** plan for geographic representation plan called for ten, geographically city council districts, drawn up by a non-partisan, independent, citizens' redistricting commission; with the Mayor still elected at-large. In early February 2012, after grueling months of public testimony and contentious debates, the **Charter Revision Committee** led by Chairman of the **Committee Senator Gonzalo Barrientos** and fellow Committee Members **Fred Cantu**, **Kathy Vale**, and **Delia Garza** prevailed on an 8-7 vote to recommend a 10-1 single member districts plan to the **Austin City Council**. The advocacy and leadership demonstrated by **Barrientos**, **Vale**, **Cantu** and **Garza** was nothing short of spectacular.

On July 16, 2012, **AGR** held a press conference to announce the successful collection of over 30,000 signatures forcing the **Citizen's 10-1 Plan** on the November 2012 election ballot. Despite diverse and community-wide support for the 10-1 plan, in early August 2012 the **Austin City Council** voted to place a competitive 8-2-1 single-member-districts measure on the ballot.

Over the next 4 months the **Citizen's Plan** quickly evolved into the **TRUST AUSTIN PLAN** gaining overwhelming support and endorsements leading up to the November 6, 2012 election. The Latino campaign slogan for the **TRUST AUSTIN 10-1 PLAN** became **AQUI ESTAMOS, Y NO NOS VAMOS! THE MORNING AFTER ELECTIONS, "EL CHANCLASO" AWARD WENT TO THE PEOPLES' 10-1 PLAN!** "This is a historic moment," said retired **State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos**, who chaired the 2012 Charter Revision Committee. *"I have never seen the people of Austin come together like they did on this campaign—that is truly American."*

Prop 3 got 142,615 votes while **Prop 4**—the 8-2-1 hybrid plan—got 118,855 votes. Because **Prop 3** got more votes it will be implemented while **Prop 4** will be rejected. **Prop 3's** wide winning margin of nearly 24,000 votes was a strong rebuke of the City Council's action to add **Prop 4** to the ballot.



2

The East Austin Community Takes Back Their Beloved and Neighborhood Allan Elementary School

On December 19, 2011, despite overwhelming opposition from parents, students, teachers, and community leaders in **East Austin District 2**, the **AISD Board** voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to close down **Allan Elementary School** and enter into a multi-million dollar contract with the **IDEA Charter School Organization** from **South Texas**. Six trustees (including **District 2 Trustee Guzman**) rammed through the contract over the objections of many who staged protests at board meetings. Many **East Austin** residents were forced to stand outside in cold weather at those meetings as decisions were made about their children, neighborhoods and tax dollars.

AISD FAILED MISERABLY. The decision making process leading up to the now infamous December 19, 2011 vote was not inclusive and/or transparent. **AISD** failed to inspire trust that community voices were valued and that input mattered. **IDEA Allan** failed in its stated original purpose: to provide a new educational opportunity for kids in

the **Eastside Memorial** vertical team. According to **AISD's** data, only 14% of its students came from the **Allan** attendance zone, and only 16% from **East Austin's District 2**. Although extremely disappointed, the community of **East Austin's District 2** vowed to continue the fight for accountable, responsible, and transparent **AISD** decisions.

On November 6, 2012 the **East Austin** community kept their promise and voted in new **AISD Trustees**: The **Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias** defeated incumbent **District 2 Trustee Sam Guzman** and **Gina Hinojosa** was elected as the **At-Large Place 8 Trustee**. Two additional Trustees were elected: **Ann Teich** was elected as the **District 3 Trustee** and **Amber Elenz** was elected as the **District 5 Trustee**. The **IDEA Allan** issue permeated through out the **AISD Trustees'** campaign and all eyes were centered on the pendulum shift on the dais. On December 17, 2012, the **AISD Board** on a 5-4 (New Trustees **Hinojosa, Mathias** and **Teich**, joined Veteran Trustees **Barksdale** and **Schneider**) voted to end **IDEA's** contract with the **Austin** district reversing the controversial board decision last year.

The **Statesman's Editorial** after the December 17, 2012 vote of the new **AISD Board of Trustees** put the issue into perspective: "*Monday's decision helps the*

district move swiftly beyond an issue that drained time, resources and attention from many other more pressing concerns, such as improving high school graduation rates. Ending the IDEA contract permits the board to find its voice, pace and purpose as a team. The IDEA decision had greatly undermined the former board's ability to work together because it thrust trustees into two camps — those supporting Carstarphen's IDEA initiative and those opposing it. Those divisions blocked progress on key issues."

3



NUESTRA CULTURA NO SE VENDE! – Protecting the Integrity of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center:

In 2012, our Latino community reminded City officials that our culture was not for sale. We amplified our political voices, took action by initiating community petitions, initiating phone calls and emails to City Hall, attended

board and City Council meetings, initiated media stories to demonstrate our presence and activism to address ongoing parking issues at the **ESB-MACC**, our request to complete future phases of the **ESB-MACC** and to demand that we protect the integrity of our cultural center by securing enough Council votes to cancel the sale of a city-owned parcel of land located at the entrance of the **ESB-MACC**.

As a result of our activism, we have brought back a much needed focus on the historical significance of the **Rainey Street Neighborhood**,... known as the first Mexican American Neighborhood in **Austin**. We were reminded of the demolition and destruction of the **Juarez Lincoln University** building and **Los Elementos Mural** that once stood in the **Rainey Street Neighborhood**. **Juarez Lincoln** served as our cultural center before being demolished in 1983 to make way for an **IHOP Restaurant** and a gravel/dirt parking lot that continues to exist today.

Nearly 50 years ago, our Mexican American community initiated efforts to build a permanent **Mexican-American Cultural Center** located in the **Rainey Street** Neighborhood. Once a Hispanic neighborhood of aging bungalows on the southeast edge of downtown, **Rainey** is rapidly turning into a mix of bars

and high rises that threaten the loss of our culture and beloved **ESB-MACC**.

Thanks to ALL of our **HABLA** Members and Hispanic/Latino community leaders that continue to lend their hearts and voices to protecting our culture and history. There will be more work in 2013 but we're off to a solid start thanks to all of your hard work and efforts in 2012! "

There are some things that are more valued than money and progress, and that is our history and our culture". **NUESTRA CULTURA NO SE VENDE! SPECIAL THANKS TO:** **Peggy Vasquez, Perla Cavazos, Alicia Perez, Frank Fuentes, Valerie Menard, Catherine Revilla, Martha Cotera, Velia Ruiz, Andy Ramirez, Sylvia Orozco, Juan Oyervides, Anita Quintanilla, Delia Perez Meyer, Julio Trevino, Dr. Emiliano Zamora, Jaime Beaman, José A. Velásquez, Ruben Cubillos, Korina Jaimes, Briana Garcia, SolAna Renteria, Pio Renteria, Dr. Angela Valenzuela, Marion Sanchez, Fred Cantu, Eliza May, Gloria Mata-Pennington, Cynthia Valadez-Mata, Jr, Blanca Zamora-Garcia, Alberto Garcia, Lupe Sosa, Randy Moreno, Delia Garza, Senator Gonzalo Barrientos, Alicia Barrientos-Lee, the ESB-MACC Advisory Board, and the over 1,000 Austinites that signed our community petition.**



4

Juan Castillo, Austin American Statesman Reporter and Somos Austin Blogger on Latino news, happenings, culture and more.

Juan grew up in **McAllen, Texas** just a few miles from the Mexican border. He is the proud father of two daughters **Monica Elizabeth** and **Maya Xitlali**. **Juan** has been a journalist for over 30 years, writing, reporting, editing, managing, supervising and blogging. He has a degree in Mass Communications from **Pan American University** (now UT-Pan Am) and was a **John S. Knight Journalism Fellow** at **Stanford University**.



He arrived in **Austin** to return to reporting serving as the national and foreign editor. He later created a race and immigration beat focusing on race, minorities, shifting demographics, immigration trends and their impacts and implications.

Juan currently serves as the community affairs reporter, a beat that allows him to write about people and diversity. In 2009, **Juan** introduced **Austin** to the "Somos Austin" blog he wrote "Welcome to *Somos Austin*, a new forum about things Latino in **Austin**. *Somos* is Spanish for "we are." My hope is that "Somos Austin" is a name befitting this blog's spirit of inclusiveness. **Austin** is a great city made up of many diverse parts, including Hispanics, and **Somos Austin** intends to reflect that...But while this online corner will focus on Hispanic news, observations, happenings and culture, it will seek to resonate with everyone who appreciates the city's rich multicultural mosaic and history and the ever-evolving contributions of Latinos."

Gracias to **Juan** for utilizing the power of your words and reporting to tell our stories and for highlighting the important contributions and impacts of Latinos in **Austin**. Con tu apoyo, "SOMOSAUSTIN".

You can find **Somos Austin** at www.statesman.com/go/somosaustin Here are just some

of **Somos Austin** blogs' from 2012:

- **Our Lady of Guadalupe** events celebrate hope, faith and culture
- Forum to explore how to get more people involved in a changing city
- **Tejano** acts give toy drive for low-income kids a hand
- Latino support for **Obama** highest for a Dem since 1996
- **UFW** leader to speak in Austin as **Chavez** joins Walk of Heroes
- **Alvarez** says he'll fast for East Austin affordability campaign
- **Austin** firm honored for Social Revolución campaign
- **Joe's Bakery** celebrates a milestone today with community
- For mariachi lovers, a treat tonight at *Crockett High*
- **Austin** firm designs poster for anticipated **Castro** speech
- **Dove Springs** embraces a grass-roots celebration for dads

Austin American-Statesman
statesman.com

Somos Austin

5

Celebrating 50 Years of Service, Dan's Hairstyling and Joe's Bakery & Coffee Shop

Dan Ojeda Sr. of **DAN'S HAIRSTYLING** celebrates 50 years of doing business in the heart of **East Austin**. **Dan's Hairstyling** is an **Austin** tradition. For the past 50 years, this family-owned barbershop and hair salon has served generations of loyal clientele who count on **Dan's** for their hair grooming needs. Located at 1618 East Street, owner **Dan Ojeda, Sr.** and his family marked his shop's 50th anniversary with a celebration on Saturday, August 4, 2012 in the afternoon after the shop closed for the day.

On September 24, 2012 at **Fiesta Gardens**, the **Avila** family along with the **Austin** community celebrated the 50th Anniversary of **Joe's Bakery & Coffee Shop** an iconic institution and family restaurant in **East Austin**. Known for the outstanding



atmosphere, Mexican food and pan dulce, **Joe's Bakery** is an amazing beacon of hard work, dedication, and service to the **Austin** community. Over the last 50 years, local politicians have worked diligently to earn the support of the **Avila** family and the right to hang political pictures within the family restaurant. Congrats to both the **Ojeda** and **Avila** families

6

40th Anniversary of the election of Gus Garcia, the First Latino Elected to the AISD Board of Trustees and the List of 17 Demands for Quality Education for Mexican-Americans

On Wednesday, May 9, 2012 the **U.S. Hispanic Contractors Association** hosted a luncheon to recognize and celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the election of **Gus Garcia**, the First Latino Elected to the **AISD Board of Trustees**. The event took place at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American**





Cultural Center located at 600 River Street **Austin, Texas**.

In April of 1972, parents and community leaders mobilized by **J. Pete Reyes, Bella Caballero, Gabriel Gutiérrez, Bruce Hupp, Ernest Perales** and others developed the "Green Book" addressing quality of life issues and produced a list of "17 Demands" for quality education for Latinos in **Austin**. This grassroots movement led to the successful election of **Garcia** to the **AISD** Board. The list ultimately became the agenda for **Garcia** during the six years that followed.

7

Celebrating 20 years of success,

Con Mi MADRE provides bilingual services to keep 6th through 12th grade Hispanic girls in school and on track to achieve academic success by focusing on college and gaining the skills necessary to get there; all while strengthening the family relationship by involving their mothers in these goals. Since 1992, over 2,069 mother-daughter teams have participated, with 73% of 592 graduating seniors going on to a two or four-year college. About 60% of girls are the first in their family to attend college, and two thirds come from low-income families.

Congrats to the leadership team and Board of Directors of **Con Mi MADRE** for truly making an impact in the quality of life of so many of our Hispanic/Latino families in **Austin**. <http://conmimadre.org>

8

Abriendo Brecha- Making Our Way, Documentary highlighting Mexican- American Trailblazers in Austin, TX

On Mar 13, 2012 the **Austin History Center** published a short documentary about **Austin's** Mexican-American community. The film is also part of the 2012 Faces of Austin selection. Entitled **Abriendo Brecha-Making Our Way**, the documentary highlights MEXICAN - AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS such as: The FIRST Austinites counted in **Austin's** first census in 1875 were Mexican-Americans **Jose Lopez** and his wife **Lizzie Lopez**.

In 1875, 297 Mexican-Americans called Austin home living along **Lady Bird Lake** near the **Seaholm Power Plant** and **Green Water Treatment Plant**. In 1927 **Consuelo Herrera** became the first Mexican-American school teacher in **Austin's** public schools. During the early years of the great depression ...Mexican-



Americans like **Mr. Roy Velasquez** started **Roy's Taxi Service**. On March 22, 1939 **Mr. Velasquez** was officially issued his Taxi Driver's License. In the early 1940s Mexican Americans sought access to City services and established a library outlet program at **Palm Park** giving (for the first time) Mexican-American children access to library books. "Knowledge is beginning, knowledge has no end, knowledge is forever, knowledge is living..." This powerful short documentary about Mexican Americans in **Austin** begins with the poetic words of **Raul Salinas'** "Feel Good Song" poem.



In the background the video shows the demolition and destruction of the **Juarez Lincoln University** building and **Los Elementos Mural** that once stood in the **Rainey Street** Neighborhood (the first Mexican-American Neighborhood in **Austin**

Texas). **Juarez Lincoln** served as our cultural center before being demolished in 1983 to make way for an **IHOP Restaurant** and a gravel/dirt parking lot that continues to exist today.

9

The Raza Round Table

In August 2012, **Alfredo Santos** and **Gilbert Rivera** launched the **The Raza Round Table**, a weekly Saturday morning breakfast information sharing session or "platica" modeled after successful events that took place in **Houston, TX** in the 1980s called **Latinos Unidos**.

While social media such as **Facebook, Twitter** and the are currently very popular, nothing beats an old fashion face to face conversation with people who are activists in the community.

The round table is open to anyone and is an opportunity for emerging community activists who live or work in **Austin** to come together to discuss social issues to get to know each other.



10

Cross Roads Event

The Mexican American Experience & Bellas Artes Alliance - The Pan Americana Festival, March 14, 15, 16 & 17, 2012 at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center**.

This year these two groups organized and produced two successful cultural art and music festivals showcasing Grammy award winners, legends and future rising stars offering the best of Tejano and Latino music influenced by our Mexican-American culture and Hispanic/Latino roots.

Both events showcased incredible talents and reminded all music lovers that Latino culture is here to stay! Congrats to both event organizers!



Rancho Alegre Conjunto Festival

Austin Moose Lodge in the Live Music Capital of the World!!

Lineup subject to change:

Friday (2/1/13):

8 PM - Conjunto Volcan - San Antonio, TX
 9 PM - Noel Hernandez - Fort Worth, TX
 10 PM - Moses Garza y Los Hermanos Garza - San Antonio, TX
 11 PM - Ricky Ruiz y Los Escorpiones - Laredo, TX
 MIDNIGHT - Susan Torres y Conjunto Clemencia - Austin, TX
 1 AM - Baraja De Oro - Midlothian, TX

Saturday (2/2/13):

1 PM - Los Morales Boyz - Dallas, TX
 2 PM - Conjunto Calidad - Seguin, TX
 3 PM - Conjunto Kidz - Victoria, TX
 4 PM - Tina White y Grupo Tormenta - San Antonio, TX
 5 PM - Randy Garcia y Conjunto Estrella - Refugio, TX
 6 PM - Crystal N Crew - Pasadena, TX

7 PM - Special recognition ceremony for Agapito Zuñiga and Austin legends

8 PM - Rene Ramirez y Poder de Tejas w/Pico Ramirez - San Diego, TX
 9 PM - Mando y La Venganza - Corpus Christi, TX
 10 PM - Los Enmascarados - Kingsville, TX
 11 PM - Smiley y La Fuerza Musical - Refugio, TX
 MIDNIGHT - Los D Boyz w/Alfredo De La Rosa (health permitting) - Kingsville, TX

Sunday (2/3/13):

1 PM - Conjunto Cats - Seguin, TX
 2 PM - Los Pinkys - Austin, TX
 3 PM - Conjunto X - Houston, TX
 4 PM - Bernardo y Sus Compadres - Laredo, TX
 5 PM - Austin's Own Los Texas Wranglers with special appearance by Roberto Pulido

6PM - Moose Lodge Superbowl Party

There will be a photo exhibit by Rolando Medina and other items for sale all three days.

As is our tradition, we will also be recognizing a non-profit for their contributions to our community. This year we have chosen Emancipet, which offers free and low-cost veterinary services to the Austin area.

3-day passes will be \$30, individual days will be \$12 presale, \$15 at the door. Available at Estrada's cleaners in east Austin, Turntable Records, and online at ranchoalegretexas.com.

Sponsorships (individual and/or business) are a very affordable \$100 and include tons of recognition at the event and online; a spot on the final poster and t-shirt; our undying gratitude; and two 3-day passes (worth \$60 themselves).

Time: February 1, 2013 at 7pm

Date: February 3, 2013 at 5pm

Location: Austin Moose Lodge - Austin TX

Street: 2103 EM Franklin Ave

City/Town: Austin, Texas

Phone: 512-609-9208

Event Type: festival

Organized By: Rancho Alegre Radio



Susan Torres y Conjunto Clemencia - Austin, TX



Honoring Mario Gallegos, Jr.

ABOVE: Texas State Representative **Carol Alvarado** stated, "In a very personal and moving ceremony, we passed a memorial resolution today honoring my dear friend, the late **Senator Mario Gallegos**. Today his family sat at ...his desk, and my colleagues and I told them how much he will be missed in the **Texas Senate**. Afterward, we posed for this picture with his loved ones."



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Calendar of Events

January 17th thru 20th, 2013 - Mexican American School Board Association -15 Annual Conference and Expo at the Wyndham Garden Hotel 3401 South IH-35 Austin, Texas 78741



The Mexican-American School Board Members Association (MASBA) is committed to help school board members come together to find solutions, discuss legislature and current affairs as it relates to education and the Mexican-American culture. We know that Texas school districts are experiencing an unprecedented growth and in many cases lack the understanding and resources associated with ensuring the most appropriate and effective curriculum implementation, as it directly relates to the Mexican-American culture. Therefore we have designed a very special targeted conference held in January of each year which offers Texas school board members the opportunity to understands these challenges and to assists school board districts as a whole, or as individuals, to present, discuss, promote the advancement and relevance of the Mexican-American culture in public education as it impacts your local school operations and administrative growth.

January 18th, 2013 - Seminar on FIGHTING WAGE THEFT sponsored by the Workers Defense Project and the Austin chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Location: 5604 Manor Road from 8:30am to 12:45pm. Speakers will include **Patricia Zavala** on “Ethical Considerations of Working with Immigrant Laborers,” David Van Os discussing “Case Study: Legal Advocacy and Organizing for Systemic Change,” **Edmond Moreland** on “Handling Your First Wage Claim,” and **Brian McGiverin** and **Chris Kaiser** on “Welcome to JP Court: What to Expect in Justice and Small Claims Court.”

January 19th, 2013 - Art Exhibit: Heaven and Earth at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River Street Austin, Texas 78701. Time: 6:00 to 8:00pm. Music by: Oscar Martinez

January 19th, 2013 - Raza Round Table at Mexitas Mexican Restaurant, 1109 North IH-35 Austin, Texas

January 23rd, 2013 - HABLA Platica at Juan in a Million, 2300 East Cesar Chavez Austin, Texas **Time:** 8:00am

January 26th, 2013 - Feria Para Aprender (The Learning Fair) is the largest Spanish-language education fair in Central Texas. Since launching in 2007, **Feria Para Aprender** has served nearly 100,000 parents and students. **Location:** North Austin Event Center 10601 N. Lamar 78753

January 29th, 2013 - Community Meeting at the **Dove Springs Recreation Center**, 5801 Ainez Drive Austin, TX 78744 at 6:30pm to discuss issues in the neighborhood. For more information contact **George Morales** at (512) 854-9196

February 2nd, 2013 - Raza Round Table at Mexitas Mexican Restaurant, 1109 North IH 35 78702.

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.

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Time to let | Es tiempo para |
| Legislature | legislatura |
| Know that | saber que |
| Tests | Exámenes |
| Students | Estudiantes |
| To Death | hasta la muerte |
| is no way | no es la manera |
| to run | para operar |
| public schools | escuelas públicas |
| The time | El tiempo |
| has come | ha llegado |
| for every | para que cada |
| Voter to | Votante |
| Stand Up and | ponga de pie |
| Let their | dejar que su |
| Voice be Heard | Voz sea escuchada |
| It can be done | Si se Puede |

The 10 - 1 Campaign: An Update

Background

The Austin City Auditor is tasked with initiating and widely publicizing an application process for an Applicant Review Panel and a Citizens Redistricting Commission. The City Auditor has established this 10-ONE website as a central portal to provide information about this process including the qualifications and applications for each of these two entities.

What is 10-ONE?

On November 6, 2012, City of Austin voters approved a City Charter Amendment commonly known as "Proposition 3" or "10-1." This Charter Amendment ([click here for text](#)) provides for the election of City Council Members from 10 geographic single-member districts, with the mayor elected from the City at-large beginning with the November 2014 election. The Amendment also provides for the creation of two entities:

- A 3-member Applicant Review Panel, and
- A 14-member Citizens Redistricting Commission.

The Applicant Review Panel selects a pool of the most qualified Commission applicants, from which the Commission is created. The Citizens Redistricting Commission is empowered to establish the boundaries of the 10 new council districts for the City of Austin.

Why should I apply to serve on the Citizens Redistricting Commission?

Members selected to serve on the Citizens Redistricting Commission will make history as the first citizen-initiated, independent entity to establish the boundaries of the 10 new City Council districts. Citizens Redistricting Commissioners will reflect the diversity of Austin and empower the citizens of Austin to have a voice for how our one City government represents us all.

Why should I apply to serve on the Applicant Review Panel?

Members selected to serve on the Applicant Review Panel will also make history by independently reviewing and selecting the most qualified applicants for service on Austin's first Citizens Redistricting Commission. Austin voters entrusted independent audit professionals with the duty to evaluate the Commission applications. The independent auditors selected to serve on the Applicant Review Panel will demonstrate and promote the auditing profession's core values of objectivity, independence, competency, and professionalism that drive their everyday work and service to our community.

APPLICATION WORKSHOPS and INFORMATION SHARING SESSIONS

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013, 7 – 8:30 p.m.:

University Hills Branch Library, 4721 Loyola Ln., Austin, TX 78723. Phone: 512-974-9940

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2013, 7 – 8:30 p.m.:

Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center, Austin, TX 78731. Phone: 512-974-8860

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013, 7 – 8:30 p.m.:

Gorzycki Middle School, 7412 W. Slaughter Ln., Austin, TX 78749. Phone: 512-841-8600

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, 10:30 a.m. – noon:

Manchaca Branch Library, 5500 Manchaca Rd., Austin, TX 78745. Phone: 512-974-8700

February 2nd, 2013 10:00am Info session and workshop at the Dove Springs Recreation Center, 5801 Aniez Dr. Austin, Texas 78744. For more information contact George Morales at 854-9196

Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, Starting at 10:00 a.m., a number of community based organizations will come together to host an information sharing and application workshop regarding the 10-1 Commission at Mexitas Mexican Restaurant, 1109 N. IH-35, Austin, 78702. For more information contact: Fred Cantu at 698-4805, Alicia Perez at 736-8449 or Martha Cotera at 444-7595



**PRIDE
OF THE
EASTSIDE**



**Austin Latina
Policy Coalition
AGR**



SAVE TEXAS SCHOOLS

March & Rally

Feb. 23, 2013

Austin, TX

**Say NO to Funding Cuts,
Vouchers and a Broken
Testing System**

**Say YES to Great Schools
for ALL Texas Children**



**March: Congress Ave. at 11 am
Rally: State Capitol at Noon**
For more information about speakers and transportation:
savetxschools.org