



Volume 6 Number 7
A Bilingual Publication
July, 2011

La Voz

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ABOVE: Erica Ojeda, Congressman Lloyd Doggett and Benjamin Mendoza

U.S. Congressman Lloyd Doggett Helps Secure Medals for Mendoza

During **World War II**, military recruiters went to the high school in **Hebbronville, Texas**. They found a number of young men who were willing to answer the call for duty including, a 17 year old named, **Benjamin Mendoza**. With permission from his parents, **Mendoza** join the Army and was sent to **Camp Roberts** in **California** for 17 weeks of boot camp training.

Upon completion of boot camp, **Mendoza** and his fellow soldiers were put on a ship headed to the front lines when word came down that his father was seriously ill back in **Texas**. **Mendoza** was taken off the ship, given a one week leave of absence and a bus ticket to go see his father.

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People in the News



Constable Canchola Picks Up Award at Conference

Maria Canchola, Constable for Precinct 4 in Travis County was awarded the **2011 Best Practices Award**. This took place at the 2011 annual **Justice of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas** conference which was held in **Whichita Fall, Texas**.

Canchola's award was based primarily on her work in helping to establish the **Travis County Veterans Intervention Project**. (VIP) There are 254 counties in **Texas** with 690 elected constables. **Canchola** is the first female of Hispanic descent to win this award. Past recipients from Travis County for the Constable award include **Bruce Elfant**.



Acevedo Running for State Democratic Party Chair

Fidel Acevedo is running for the chairmanship of the **Texas Democratic Party**. As a longtime political activist in **Travis County** and for that matter around the state, **Acevedo** believes he is up for the job.

Retired from working the technology industry, **Mr. Acevedo** has been delegate to the **Texas Democratic**

Party Conventions from 1996 to 2008. In 2006 and 2008, he was a member of the **State Executive Committee** and has served as a Co-Chair of the Progressive Hispanic Delegation.

Mr. Acevedo is also a proud member of the **Mexican American Democrats LULAC** and other community based organizations. The **State Democratic Convention** will be held in **Houston, Texas** at the **George R. Brown Convention Center** from June 6-9, 2010. To contact **Fidel**: (512) 775-7276



NALEO Elects New Board Members and Board Leadership

The **National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials** (NALEO) announced the election of six new Board members, and the unanimous re-election of its President, **Sylvia R. Garcia**, Chair of the **Houston Independent Police Oversight Board**.

The Board members were elected at the organization's Board of Directors Meeting on June 26 in **San Antonio, Texas** following the group's **28th Annual Conference**. Also elected to the **NALEO Board** from **Texas** were, **Edinburg** School Board Member **Robert Peña**; and **Arlington** Deputy Mayor Pro Tem **Robert Rivera**.

"I am proud that this board of directors continues to reflect the diversity and high caliber of Latino policymakers who serve our nation,"

said **NALEO President Sylvia R. Garcia**. *"I look forward to working with our members across the country as they work on the front lines to strengthen our communities and our nation,"* she concluded. The **National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials** is the leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.



Romo Appointed to President's Commission

Ricardo Romo, president of **The University of Texas at San Antonio**, has been appointed by President **Barack Obama** to serve on a commission that will advise the president and **U.S. Secretary of Education** on ways to improve education for Hispanics. **Romo** traveled to **Washington, D.C.**, on May 26-27 for the commission's inaugural meeting and swearing in.

The **President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics** was created through an executive order signed by **President Obama** on Oct. 18, 2010, and is charged with "expanding educational opportunities, improving education outcomes and delivering a complete and competitive education for all Hispanics."

Dr. Romo is a graduate of **The University of Texas at Austin** and earned his Ph.D. in History from the **University of California at Los Angeles**.



Joaquin Castro to Run for Congress in District 35

Texas State Representative Joaquin Castro has announced that he is running for the **United States Congress** in the new **District 35**. This is the **Congressional District** that runs from **San Antonio** to **Austin**.

"I am running for Congress to make sure we're all ready for the jobs of tomorrow," **Castro** stated. *"By investing in higher education and job training, reforming public schools, and lowering taxes on small businesses, we can build an Infrastructure of Opportunity for the people of Central Texas. Just like roads and bridges help you get where you need to go, we need to create pathways so we can all reach a prosperous and secure future."*

Castro is the brother of **San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro**. Being identical twins they were born on the 16th of September in 1974 and both attended **Stanford University** before going on to graduate from **Harvard Law School** in 2000.

Joaquin was first elected to the **Texas State Representative** in 2002 and is currently serving his fifth term. In addition to his work in the **Texas Legislature**, **Joaquin** practices law in **San Antonio**. He has also taught as a visiting professor of law at **St. Mary's University** and as an adjunct professor at **Trinity University** in **San Antonio**.



Priest Killed in Crossfire with Drug Gangs

Father Marco Antonio Duran Romero was killed on July 3rd, 2011 in cross fire between rival drug gangs in **Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico**. **Duran** was widely known throughout the city because of a television show he had on a local channel where he discussed a wide variety of topics.

The **Matamoros Dioceses** issued a statement expressing their deep pain at the loss of **Father Duran**. "The Diocese of Brownsville, its clergy, religious and faithful, expresses its profound sorrow upon hearing the news of the violent death of **Father Marco Antonio Duran Romero**, of the **Diocese of Matamoros**. We join our prayers to those of the clergy and faithful of **Matamoros** at this moment of sadness and loss.

"The Catholic Church is one body throughout the world, united in our communion in the blood of Christ; the suffering of one part of the body affects us all. Many innocent people have been killed as a result of the violence in Northern Mexico, and **Father Duran Romero** is among the most recent. A priest should be with his people in times of trial, and **Father Marco Antonio's** death witnesses to this solidarity.

"We continue to pray for the Church of Matamoros, for all those who live in circumstances of great danger. May God protect them, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, and may the soul of **Father Marco Antonio** and all the faithful departed rest in peace."

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La Voz de Austin is a monthly publication. 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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pregunta,
llamanos:**

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Why Mexican Americans Should be Concerned With Immigration

First they came for the communists,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a communist.
Then they came for the trade unionists,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a trade unionist.
Then they came for the Jews,
and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a Jew.
Then they came for me
and there was no one left to speak out for me.

The famous statement above is often attributed to **Pastor Martin Niemöller** about the inactivity of **German** intellectuals following the **Nazi** rise to power and the purging of their chosen targets, group after group.

Fast forward to today

It seems as though every few weeks a new report or study is released by the **Census Bureau**, the **Pew Hispanic Center** and other groups which show that the United States is changing demographically. The latest news is that the Latino population has now surpassed the 50 million mark.

Increasingly we see Latino community activists calling press conferences, standing up on chairs and making predictions about the coming Latino voting power, the growing presence of Latinos in the public schools and celebrating how we are quickly becoming the majority/minority in this or that arena.

Watching from not too far away are another group of activists and they do not see any reason to

celebrate. In fact, they read the same reports and are appalled that the Hispanic population in **North Carolina** has doubled in size from 2000 to 2010. They are aghast that Hispanic population in **Arkansas** went from 17,904 in 1980 to 86,866 in 2000. And many are shocked that the number one first name for babies born in **Texas** in 2009 was **Jose**.

"Browning of America."

The truth of the matter is that yes, Latinos are moving into places all over the United States and bringing with them a culture and language that is making a growing number of Anglos worried, mad and fearful.

These sentiments are manifested by the number of people who participate anonymously in radio call-in shows with derogatory remarks about Latinos. It is seen in the letters to the editor in many mainstream newspapers. And in a growing number of legislatures around the country, the resentment of immigrants is seen in the new laws that are being introduced and passed that make it harder and harder for people to participate in the economy.

So what does this have to do with Mexican Americans? What does the immigration problems of Mexicans have to do with Mexican Americans who have ostensibly made it in America?

The answer rests in the quote above. Today it is the dark skinned immigrant who lives in fear of being picked up by the INS. It is the immigrant who works in the shadows of America to try and feed his family who must always look over his shoulder.

But as the anger, hate and resentment of brown skin immigrants grows, there will be no differentiation between those who are here legally and those who have just arrive. And it is at this point when the Mexican American will realize that they too are moving targets just like the guy who just arrived yesterday from **San Luis Potosi**.

The immigration issues in the United States need to be dealt with in a serious manner. The problems of one group of people, if not addressed, will in time, become the problems of another group of people.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

It is a grave error for Mexican Americans to think that the problem of immigration does not and will affect them because they are 5th generation Tejanos or because they hold a college degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

History has shown that when economic times become tough, people will look for someone to blame. In the 1930s, right here in the United States of America, over one million Mexican were forced to leave the country without due process. Many were put on trains and shipped to the border.

That will probably not happen again but it can happen in other ways. The show me your papers movement is just the start of a series of events that come under slogans such as "Secure Borders." The show me two forms of identification is another example of how things are beginning to change in civic life.

The question of who will speak out as the United States under goes dramatic changes in the 21st century will be the 64,000 dollar question.



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Profesor boricua elegido a junta de periodistas hispanos

WASHINGTON - El profesor puertorriqueño Federico Suberví ha sido elegido como representante de la academia estadounidense en la **Junta Directiva de la Asociación de Periodistas Hispanos** (NAHJ).

Suberví fue elegido sin oposición como el primer representante de la academia en la dirección de la organización que reúne a los periodistas hispanos que trabajan en medios de **Estados Unidos y Puerto Rico**.

“Mi tarea es mejorar los enlaces con las universidades, profesores y estudiantes”, indicó **Suberví**, catedrático y director del **Centro para el Estudio de los Medios y Mercados Latinos en la Universidad Estatal de Texas**.

Al presentar su candidatura, **Suberví** indicó que una de sus metas es “vincular a colegas profesores que puedan ofrecer talleres locales y regionales, y realizar investigaciones” que puedan beneficiar a los miembros de la Asociación de Periodistas Hispanos.

*“También espero representar a la **Asociación de Periodistas Hispanos** en todas las organizaciones naciones e internacionales de las que formo parte con la intención de abrirle nuevas puertas de oportunidades a todos nuestros miembros”,* agregó **Suberví**.

Nacido en **San Germán**, **Suberví** fue el primer graduado del programa de maestría de la Escuela de Comunicaciones de la **Universidad de Puerto Rico**. Su doctorado lo completó en la **Universidad de Wisconsin, en Madison**. Por 29 años ha sido profesor en universidades de Estados Unidos.

Ha publicado más de 40 ensayos sobre comunicación y etnia, así como el libro *“The Mass Media and Latino Politics. Studies of U.S. Media Content, Campaign Strategies, and Survey Research: 1984-2004”*, publicado en 2008 por la casa editora Routledge. **Suberví** ha estudiado también las condiciones de trabajo y los retos profesionales de los periodistas latinos en Estados Unidos. El profesor boricua, además, suele ser comentarista de asuntos políticos y



Dr. Federico Subervi

Letters to the Editor

Castro & Doggett - I am for Castro

Shame on the Republicans

Dear Politically Astute Friends -

I know each of you are aware of the news surrounding **CD 35** and a potentially explosive Democratic primary between **St. Rep. Joaquin Castro** and **Rep. Lloyd Doggett**.

I greatly admire and appreciate **Rep. Doggett's** service to **Travis** and surrounding counties. He has served with dignity and relentlessly championed progressive causes - either by casting the correct vote or with his voice on the House floor. However, based on the growth of this state and the future of the **Democratic Party** and of Texas, I believe it is time for new leadership. I feel very strongly that the time has come for people like **Rep. Castro** to lead us and I want to be on the ground floor helping him.

We all know the profoundly awful statistics that most people use to define the Hispanic community - highest teenage pregnancy, highest number of drop outs, 2nd lowest median income, etc., etc. My hope is that leaders like the **Castro Brothers, Anchia, TMF, Alvarado**, etc. will have the platform to inspire our community and push us all forward.

I can share more with you about my feelings concerning **Doggett** and his staff based on my past experiences, if you would like. I know there will be many emotions around this race and maybe even some political payback, but for me the goal is clear and time is now to elect **Rep. Castro** and I hope we can all work together to do so.

I respect what all of you have done and continue to do for our community and I wanted you to hear from me that I feel very strongly and passionately about this race.

Thanks for listening,

Crystal Viagran
Austin, Texas

Shame on the **Republicans** who worked on this deplorable map. Using this deceptively manipulating strategy just goes to show how low they will stoop to gain more political power. Putting aside for now the map's illegality, they purposely and brazenly factored in race in deciding where to redraw the lines in order to take votes and power away from Blacks and Latinos. This new congressional boundary is also a direct response to the growing number of Latinos. This was a racist and elitist endeavor if it was driven by feelings of superiority to working-class "minorities." How arrogant of them to think we are that stupid to not see through their conniving scheme.

Even though racism is not as blatant as it was back when my great-great grandparents lived here in **Austin**, to me this subtle one feels more insidious and evil. The discrimination of Mexicans in **Texas** goes much further back in history. Encroaching Anglos used the **Manifest Destiny** theory to justify their killings and land grab. Then in 1848 the U.S. waged an illegal and unjust war against **Mexico** and seized half of it. Land continued to be confiscated from Mexicans through fraud and lynching.

Now some **Republicans** seem to think that they have the God-give right to take away the legal rights we fought so hard for in the civil rights movement. The Senate needs to establish a set of guidelines for a fair redistricting process. A rule this important and sensitive should be written by intelligent and reasonable politicians and not self-righteous and bigoted ones.

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Duncan Calls The Dream Act “Common Sense Legislation in Keeping with Core American Values

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan told **Congress** on June 28th that the Administration supports passage of the **Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act**, or **DREAM Act**, for two basic reasons: it's crucial for meeting our national goals and future workforce needs, and also sends the right message about the value of hard work and our Nation's basic sense of fairness.

In testimony at the first-ever Senate hearing on the **DREAM Act** before the Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugee, and Border Security, **Duncan** said, *“The DREAM Act is a common-sense piece of legislation that is in keeping with core American values. It will open the doors of higher education to those individuals who were brought to America by their parents as undocumented children. And in the process we will sustain our economic competitiveness into the future.”*

The **DREAM Act**, which creates opportunities for young people to attend college or serve in the military even though they don't have documentation, requires a rigorous process to qualify: they must prove they came to the United States before the age of 16, have lived here for at least five years, graduated from high school or received a GED, possess good moral character, and been admitted to an institution of higher education or to serve in the military. Only once they're in college or serving in the armed forces will they have the chance to earn a legal status. *“These are demanding standards that demonstrate academic achievement and personal integrity,”* **Duncan** said.

It is estimated that each year, 65,000 young people graduate from high school in the U.S. and find themselves unable to work, join the military or go to college because of their immigration status. Approximately 800,000 young people would be eligible for the **DREAM Act** upon passage. **Duncan** discussed the **DREAM Act** in relation to the President's 2020 goal for America to once again be the country with the highest proportion of college graduates, pointing out that students served by the DREAM Act will help grow our workforce and fill shortages in STEM jobs and other high-demand fields.

He called higher education “an economic growth engine and a ticket to a middle-class lifestyle,” and outlined the many benefits of attending college, including higher earnings and by extension, tax revenue; lower unemployment, and greater likelihood to vote and do volunteer work.

In his testimony, Duncan also dispelled several misconceptions about the **DREAM Act**: it does not create an amnesty program with an easy path to citizenship; it will not affect the availability of federal student loans or Pell Grants for citizens, or create incentives for an increase in undocumented immigration. *“Simply put,”* **Duncan** concluded, *“educating the individuals who would be eligible under the DREAM Act would benefit our country.”*



Declaración del secretario de Educación Arne Duncan sobre el proyecto de ley DREAM Act

“El DREAM Act es una ley de sentido común que cumple con los valores fundamentales de Estados Unidos. Cuando le damos la oportunidad de asistir a la universidad a estos brillantes y talentosos jóvenes, no sólo tendrán la oportunidad de realizar el sueño americano, sino que también podrán fortalecer la economía y la fuerza laboral de nuestro país.

“Los estudiantes acogidos por el DREAM Act son algunos de los mejores y más brillantes de nuestro país, y es importante tener en cuenta que el proceso de legalización no es de ninguna manera automático. El DREAM Act acoge a jóvenes que reúnen una serie de estrictos requisitos que demuestran éxito académico e integridad, y que cumplen un riguroso proceso que dura varios años. El DREAM Act libera todo el potencial de los jóvenes que ejemplifican los valores que todo estadounidense aprecia –una fuerte ética de trabajo, servicio al prójimo, y profunda lealtad a nuestro país.

“El camino a la prosperidad mediante la educación superior es particularmente importante para nuestro criterio de igualdad –la noción de que cualquier persona, independiente de su origen o quiénes son sus padres, puede prosperar con fuerte dedicación al trabajo. Me siento muy apasionado sobre la necesidad de aprobar el DREAM Act, porque ofrece grandes oportunidades a los jóvenes prometedores. Pero esta legislación es también crucial para alcanzar nuestros objetivos nacionales y nuestras futuras necesidades de mano de obra. La ley DREAM Act nos dará una nueva generación de graduados universitarios que ayudarán a fortalecer nuestra economía y añadirá futuros contribuyentes que contribuirán mucho más al erario público como graduados

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Travis County Constable Maria Canchola Monthly Column

In the first article of this series we explained what **Texas Constables** do. The next few articles will focus on different units within the Precinct Four Constables Office and the services they provide to the community. This installment will focus on the **Criminal Warrant Unit**.



Once the court issues warrants, our deputies assigned to the **Criminal Warrant Unit** start working the case. The deputies have several investigative tools at their disposal to locate individuals. We prefer people to pay their fines and fees rather than having to put them in jail so we mail a postcard to their home

and also make attempts to reach them by phone.

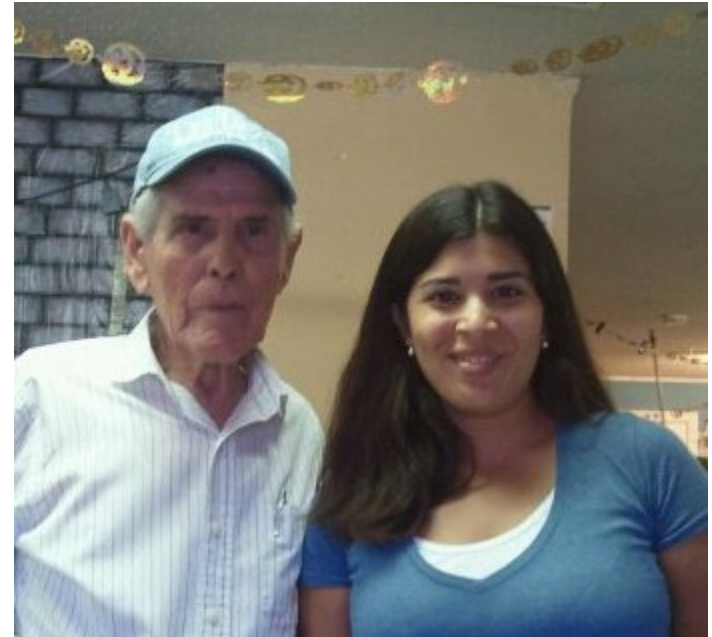
We explain the various options available to resolve the case; however, when people choose or refuse to take care of their case... our deputies must track them down at their home or work. Once the deputies are knocking at the door with an arrest warrant, there are only two options. The deputy has an order issued by the court commanding them to arrest the person and take them to jail unless they can pay their fines and fees at that time.

It is very sad to see so many hard working individuals increase their burdens by not taking care of their cases. Not dealing with a ticket is costly and can result in incarceration if it goes all the way to warrant status. Please drive safely and obey all laws. If you do receive a citation, come to the court and work out terms to take care of your case. If not... we may come looking for you with a warrant for your arrest.

The actions of Texans are regulated by various statutes, laws, and ordinances. When a police officer, deputy, **TABC Agent**, **DPS Trooper**, Game Warden, or School Resource Officer sees a Class C Misdemeanor violation of the law, they sometimes issue citations which require the violator to appear before a Justice of the Peace who has jurisdiction over the area where the offense occurred. Unfortunately many people don't come to the Justice Court to answer the charges filed against them.

This is a costly mistake because when a person does not come to the Justice Court within the allotted time, they have committed another violation of the law and an additional charge of Failure to Appear is filed against them. The fine associated with Failure To Appear is \$202.00. In addition, the judge will issue an arrest warrant for each of the charges and each warrant carries a \$50 Warrant Fee. The driver, who shirks their responsibility by not going to the court, has increased the cost of his No Driver's License ticket from \$79 to a whopping \$381.00 in fines and fees.

Perla Cavazos' Grandfather Passes Away in the Valley



Alonzo Cavazos Sr., 88, Passes Away in the Valley

Alonzo Cavazos Sr., 88, passed away on Friday, June 24, 2011 with family members by his side. **Alonzo** was born into humble beginnings in **Brownsville, Texas** and lived through the depression era in **Willacy County**. But together with his wife, **Maria**, he achieved the American Dream as a successful business and real estate owner and raised six children and three grandchildren.

Leaving school at fifth grade, he worked several jobs to help support his family. He spoke fondly of the many years he worked at a **Ford Car Dealership** servicing and delivering cars throughout the State.

In 1978, he and **Maria** took a risk by selling their home to start **Maria's Restaurant**. **Alonzo** could be seen every day at the front counter of the restaurant taking customer orders, working the cash register, and being his usual friendly self. The business was a community favorite until they retired in 1995.

In his late years, **Alonzo** cherished the friends and staff at **Circle of Friends Adult Care Center**, where he played loteria and enjoyed dances until his last days. **Alonzo** was an early riser with strong work ethic, a devoted husband and family man, a friendly and charismatic gentleman, and had a strong faith in God. He was known to say on several occasions that he had everything in life he could wish for because of God and the ambition of his wife, **Maria**.

He is survived by his two daughters, **Sara Verner** (Morrie) of **Brownsville** and **Alejandra Cavazos** of **Berkeley, CA**; four sons, **Alonzo, Jr. (Rose)** of **Harlingen**, **Daniel (Helen)** of **Harlingen**, **Ramiro (Maria)** of **San Perlita** and **Jose Alonzo**; fourteen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, **Barbara Rodriguez** and **Juanita Montez** of **San Benito** and **Maria Cavazos** of **Harlingen** and brother-in-law, **Simon Montez** of **Houston**. **Mr. Cavazos** was **Perla Cavazos** grandfather.

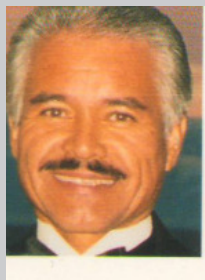
He was preceded in death by **Maria M. Cavazos**, his wife of sixty years; his son, **Arturo Cavazos**; his daughter-in-law, **Rosalinda Lerma**; his granddaughter, **Crystal**; his parents, **Primitivo** and **Severa Cavazos**; and his brothers, **Esequiel**, **Alberto**, **Samuel**, **Emilio**, and **Santiago**.

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An Interview with Dr. Federico Subervi

Professor at Texas State University-San Marcos

Dr. Federico Subervi is Full Professor and Director of the **Center for the Study of Latino Media & Markets** at the **School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Texas State University-San Marcos**. Since the early 1980s, he has been conducting research, publishing and teaching on a broad range of issues related to the mass media and ethnic minorities, especially Latinos in the United States.

He is the editor and an author of the book *The Mass Media and Latino Politics. Studies of U.S. Media Content, Campaign Strategies and Survey Research: 1984-2004* (NY: Routledge, 2008).

In 2010, he authored a report entitled "*An Achilles Heel in Emergency Communications: The Deplorable Policies and Practices Pertaining to Non-English Speaking Populations.*" This interview is based on that report.

La Voz: Most people don't think of what to do in an emergency until they faced with the reality of such an event. In a report you recently completed for the **McCormick Foundation**, you state that there is an "Achilles Heel" in emergency communication in **Central Texas**. Share with our readers what exactly you are referring to.

Dr. Subervi: I purposely used the term "Achilles Heel" because it denotes the weakness of what would otherwise seem to be a strong entity. In this case, the expected strength of the government's emergency management system is vulnerable to the weakness of the infrastructures and at times even the structures pertaining to non-English-speaking populations. That weakness is detrimental to society at large, because a community as a whole is only as safe as its least informed citizens.

La Voz: One of the first objections to providing emergency communication information in Spanish is that it would be an extra cost for

government? What would be your response to this concern?

Dr. Subervi: Consider this comparable situation: vaccinations are costly to society. But what is the even higher cost of having people without protection against infectious diseases? The fewer the people protected, the greater the risk, and potential cost to society if a polio or some other infectious disease

breaks out. Likewise, the fewer the people who are well informed regarding emergency situations, the greater the risk for society at large, not just those with limited or no information. Their lack of knowledge about what to do can be very detrimental to others who do know what to do and where to go.

La Voz: From your research, what has been the experience of people from other countries with respect to how they received notification in their home countries of impending emergencies?

Dr. Subervi: I have not conducted international research on this topic.

La Voz: What kind of cooperation did you get from the various governmental agencies you might have contacted with regard to this project?

Dr. Subervi: It was a mixed bag. Some agencies were very responsive and shared their plans, views, and concerns; others never follow-up or responded to my calls or e-mails. The same was the happened with the radio and TV stations I tried to inquire about. Some managers were friendly and shared their insights; others were not even allowed by their corporate offices to talk to me.

La Voz: Having lived in **Houston, Texas** for 20 years, I remember seeing Spanish speaking television reporters on the **CBS**, **NBC** and **ABC** affiliates providing the viewing



audience with information in Spanish during weather emergencies. Do the local television affiliates here in central Texas, have contingency plans to do the same?

Dr. Subervi: I would venture to say that whatever plans they have, are not sufficient. The exception might be with the *Austin Telemundo* station because of its affiliation with **K-EYE-TV**. The management of Univision

refused to share with me their contingency plans; meanwhile **TV Azteca** can't interrupt in satellite feeds from **México** without 28 hours advance notice. That is not conducive to prompt relaying of any type of rapid emergency crises information.

La Voz: Looking at emergency communication from a different perspective, does the Federal Government provide information for dissemination to the public in Spanish?

Dr. Subervi: The Federal government does have some emergency preparation plans in multiple languages, depending on the demographics of the city. The key issue for keeping **Latinos a Salvo** is not printed information disseminated in advance because people tend to forget or ignore that information. What is crucial is on the spot up to the minute accurate information prior, during, and after an unexpected unfolding crisis. In those situations, most government agencies that I know of in this region are prone to be short-handed when it comes to Spanish spokespersons.

La Voz: Where is the advocacy going to come from to insure that people are informed in the event of an emergency?

Dr. Subervi: Without strong advocacy from Latino community leaders, the government will not act on policies to improve the current situation in emergency communications.

Likewise, without community and government pressure on the Latino-oriented broadcast media, they will also not take major steps to assure that their audiences are well informed when they need it most: late nights and weekends, when most stations are transmitting pre-recorded or piped in content.

La Voz: Who here in **Travis County** is responsible for altering the population of an imminent danger such as a tornado?

Dr. Subervi: The main coordinating agency is the **Office of Emergency Management**. But depending on how broad or how hyper local the particular crises at hand, emergency alerts could be made by other government entities. Regardless of which agency tries to send out alerts, the challenge remains on how Spanish-speakers will be reached when the infrastructure is not set up or available, especially when radio and TV stations don't have the personnel to assist in such efforts 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

La Voz: What sparked your interest in this topic?

Dr. Subervi: When I was a professor at the **University of California-Santa Barbara**, a colleague from **UCLA** brought to my attention the need for research related to emergency communication issues pertaining to non-English-speaking populations in that state. With his guidance, in 1989, I obtained a grant and conducted the first study of this type ever. In 1993, the **Assembly of the State of California** passed a resolution to accept the recommendations of that study. Since then, I maintained my interest in this topic and was eager to do a similar study in Texas.

La Voz: What's next on your agenda with this topic?

Dr. Subervi: Assembling a team of local collaborators to obtain grants that will help set up the infrastructure to assure that Spanish-speakers in **Central Texas** will have access to emergency alerts, news and information when needed, any time or day of the week.

The Saga of Eastside Memorial

Once again the story of **Johnston High School** or **Eastside Memorial High School**or . . whatever name is currently being touted, is in the news again.

A recent article in the **Austin American Statesman** discussed how some people want the name “Johnston” put back in whatever reference is made to the school located at 1012 Arthur Stiles. Others want the name “Johnston” to return for what it means to those who went to school during the **Vietnam War**. The fact of the matter is that Johnston High School died in 2008 when it was closed by the state of **Texas** for poor academic performance.

When **Johnston High School** opened in 1960, it was the pride of the Eastside. Many good things happened at that school. But as time

moves on the world changes. The city of **Austin** has changed, people have changed, and **Johnston High School** has changed.

In its last years, the **Austin Independent School District** tried different approaches to breath oxygen into the school. It tried different principals, it tried different approaches to parental involvement and it tried different ways to just get the students to come to school. But nothing seem to produce the kind of results the **Texas Education Agency** wanted to see.

On May 31st, 2007, a year before **Johnston** closed, **Dr. Celina Estrada Thompson**, the school principal, told a room of some 200 interested citizens who had assembled in the cafeteria, that one

of the challenges related to bringing up test scores at the struggling campus was getting students to come to school.

She said that of 780 students enrolled at **Johnston**, more than 600 had missed 10 or more days of class. **Estrada** asked, “How are we suppose to teach when students do not come to school?” The crowd fell silent. When she shared with the crowd that there were already over 300 truancy cases filed with the **Justice of the Peace Court**, one could hear a pin drop.

To be sure, the **Austin Independent School District** has spent thousands of dollars and brought in many people with a variety of ideas about what to do with the school located at 1012

Arthur Siles, but it continues to struggle.

On June 20th 2011, the school district entered into a partnership with **IDEA Public Schools**. This is a charter school outfit based in the **Rio Grande Valley** that currently has 5,000 students and hopes to have 22 schools up and running by next year. Now in its tenth year of operation, this organization has been very successful in terms of student preparation for college.

The **Austin Independent School District** is also exploring the idea of creating in-district charter schools with the **Gates Foundation**. This is also an interesting idea. Meanwhile, across the street from the school located at 1012 Arthur Stiles is **Southwest Key** which currently operates a charter school for middle school students. **Southwest Key**

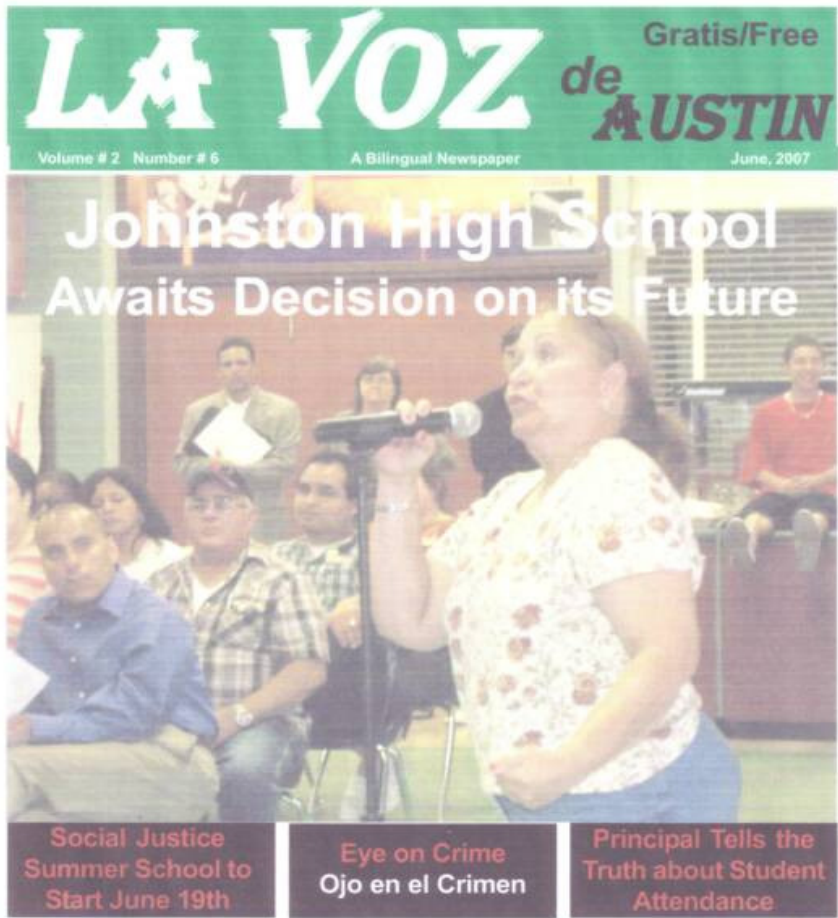
has tried to engage the **Austin Independent School District** in some sort of collaborative effort going on two years now. Specifically, **Southwest Key** wants to operate a charter school on the campus of **Eastside Memorial High School** which is basically across the street from its national headquarters. Thus far, it has been unsuccessful.

What will happen to the school located at 1012 Arthur Siles? No is exactly sure. But what is certain is that the school remains a battleground for those to want to fight for education in the name of students or ex-students. The photos below are a perfect example.

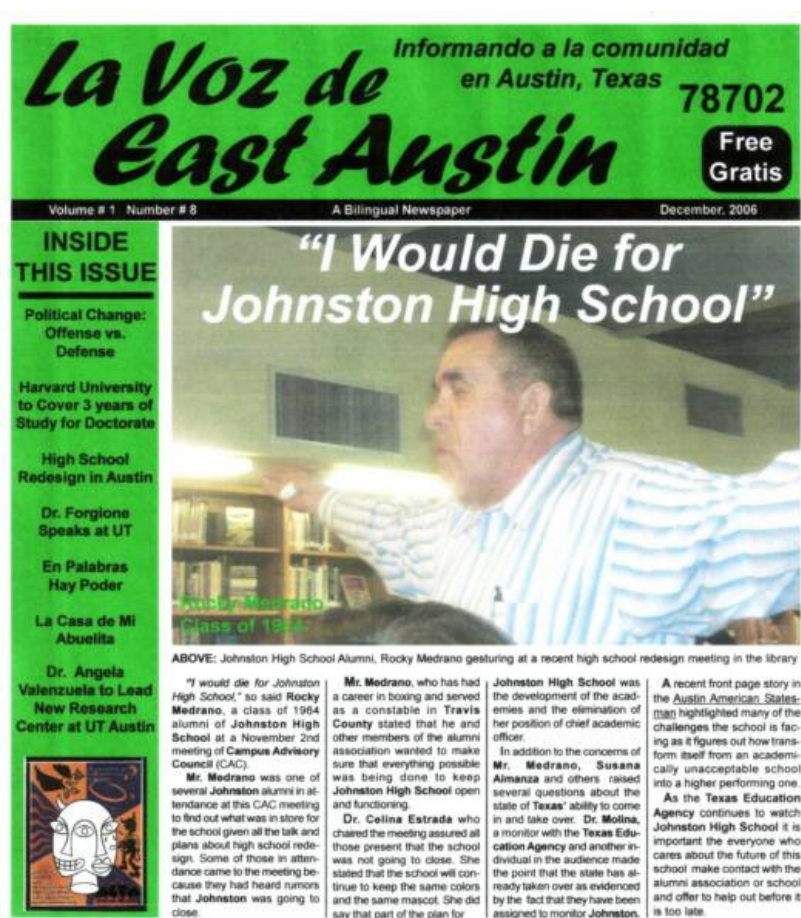
On June 16th, 2011, different factions of the community lined up across from each other to shout their respective truths. Some are for and some are against.

Unos en contra





ABOVE: The June, 2007 cover of La Voz de Austin



ABOVE: The December 2006 cover of La Voz.

Visit www.lavoznewspapers.com to read back issues of La Voz de Austin

Unos en favor



Community Organization Profile

Launch PAD

by Monica Peña

LaunchPad (LP) programs reach out to disadvantaged youths that are at academic crossroads due to at-risk behavior which could determine whether they engage or disengage from school.

LP has been active for the third year in a row at **Dobie Middle School** and in the surrounding **Northeast Austin Community**, an area registered by the **Austin Police Index** for the highest crime for aggravated assaults, theft, drugs etc.

LP empowers students by providing intervention strategies and equipping them to succeed through strategic partnerships with school administrators, educators, community partners and local law enforcement. Last school year, **Dobie** was one of two middle schools in **Austin** that received a **TEA RECOGNIZED Award** for its high scores in the TAKS testing (Texas Assessment on Knowledge & Skills). The principal of **Dobie** recognized **LaunchPad** as a key partner on the campus.

David Contreras explains the passion that drove his wife and him to start **LP**, *"LaunchPad was birthed in our hearts and minds in the early months of 2001 while working in Washington, DC. Rebecca [Contreras' wife] was working at the White House during that time and I was a Deputy Director in the President's Faith Based Office."*

Contreras added, *"We have always believed that everything we have learned and experienced in our personal and professional lives is to transfer back into the Hispanic/Latino community. Rebecca's background as a teenage mom on welfare and my history of drug abuse and a life without boundaries or a*



David and Rebecca Contreras

vision for the future is what drives us to reach back, lift-up and equip at-risk students and challenged families."

The program includes: character education, for teaching students that core values for personal success; financial literacy, which is key for empowerment and financial management; leadership, a quality that will make them stand-out; life-skills, which are essential in everything we do; and living a drug-free lifestyle, that allows for the students to accomplish their goals and personal dreams.

David Contreras further elaborates on the service **LaunchPad** provides its students, saying, *"We serve the community through various outreach initiatives to meet the basic needs and open the hearts of the families in the communities we serve."*

While **David** is a native **Austinite**, his wife **Rebecca**, moved here at the age of 9 from

El Paso, TX. The couple met at an inner-city outreach program in the **Montopolis** area of **Southeast Austin**. **David** reflects on their history of together saying, *"We both come from single parent homes and with abuelitas that helped to raise us, my father was a Captain in the U.S. Army during WWII but was killed in an accident when I was five years old,"*

Contreras continued, *"Rebecca and I have both been actively involved in community outreach since the early years before we were married. We were working with a Faith-Based ministry called 'Power Source' with Youth Pastor Dave Molina, reaching out to the three major gangs in East Austin to end the violence in our community."*

Reflecting on the challenges of starting a new organization, **Contreras** stated, *"Starting a new organization takes passion and drive and the right people. We've done 'a lot' on a shoe string budget and a handful of good people. but we also know that we are just getting started. When we first started LaunchPad our first significant grant came from the Glimmer of Hope Foundation. They provided us with the 'fuel' for lift-off."*

Since then, the church **Iglesia Celebración**, local business owners, **Walmart**, and even **Google**, provided financial donations toward the work in the community. **David** finishes with the same message that he repeats to the students he works with, *"It doesn't matter what you don't have, it's what are you doing with what you do have! We completely understand what it means to Dream Big, Aim high, work hard and persevere to change direction and destiny!"*

Visit www.launchpadthecenter.org

Preguntas y Respuestas

Por: Jose M Olivero

Relaciones Públicas del Seguro Social

Pregunta: No puedo encontrar mi tarjeta de Seguro Social. ¿Necesito obtener una de reemplazo?

Respuesta: En la mayoría de los casos, saber su número de Seguro Social es suficiente. No obstante, si solicita y recibe una tarjeta de reemplazo, no debería llevar la tarjeta consigo. Manténgala con sus papeles importantes. Para obtener más información acerca de su tarjeta y número de Seguro Social y cómo solicitar un reemplazo, visite www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/SP_SSN/. Si cree que es la víctima de robo de identidad, lea nuestra publicación El robo de Identidad y su número de Seguro Social, en www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/10964.html.

Pregunta: Mi esposo no tiene suficiente trabajo bajo el Seguro Social para tener derecho a beneficios de Seguro Social por jubilación o Medicare. Pero yo estoy completamente asegurada y tengo derecho. ¿Puede él tener derecho en mi registro?

Respuesta: Si. La respuesta aplica tanto a esposos como a esposas. Aún si su cónyuge nunca trabajó bajo el Seguro Social, él (o ella) puede, a la plena edad de jubilación, recibir un beneficio que iguala a la mitad de su cantidad total en la jubilación. Su cónyuge tiene derecho a beneficios reducidos como cónyuge tan temprano como a los 62 años de edad, siempre y cuando usted esté recibiendo beneficios. Para informarse mejor, visite www.segurosocial.gov y seleccione el indicador que dice «Jubilación». Si su cónyuge recibirá una pensión por trabajo que no está cubierto por el Seguro Social tal como empleo con el gobierno, la cantidad de sus beneficios de Seguro Social en su registro podría ser reducida. Para informarse mejor, lea la hoja informativa *Ajuste por pensión del gobierno*, Publicación 05-10907 en www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/10907.html.

Pregunta: ¿Por cuánto tiempo una persona necesita trabajar para tener derecho a beneficios por jubilación?

Respuesta: Todos los que nacieron después del 1929 necesitan 40 «créditos» de Seguro Social para tener derecho. Puede ganar hasta cuatro créditos por año. Por eso, necesitará por lo menos 10 años de empleo o de trabajo por cuenta propia con cobertura para tener derecho a beneficios por jubilación. Durante sus años de trabajo, anotamos sus ganancias cubiertas por el Seguro Social en su registro. Usted gana créditos basados en esas ganancias de trabajo. La cantidad de las ganancias de trabajo para un crédito aumenta cuando el nivel promedio de las ganancias aumenta. En el 2010, y el 2011, usted recibe un crédito por cada \$1,120 de ganancias hasta el máximo de cuatro créditos al año. Para obtener más información, visite nuestro sitio de Internet en www.segurosocial.gov.

Su Voto Es Su Voz

Hispanic Male Symposium at The University of Texas at Austin

On June 24, 2011, **Project MALES** (Mentoring to Achieve Latino Educational Success) hosted a one day **Latino Male Symposium** at The University of Texas at Austin. **Dr. Victor Saenz**, one of the organizers of the symposium stated, "The original impetus for convening this Latino Male Symposium was a research grant from **TG**, which continues to support a joint research effort ("Boys in Peril") between **UT-Austin** and the **University of Florida**."

Dr. Saenz went on to add, "My **Florida** colleagues—**Dr. Mary Ann Clark** and **Dr. Luis Ponjuan**—have been exceptional research collaborators on this dynamic research partnership between our two universities. Our research work on Latino males in education has already had an indelible impact in the field, and our hope is that it will continue to into the coming years."

The event which was expected to draw 50 participants saw instead 250 people show up. **Patrick L. Valdez**, a fourth year graduate student in Higher Education Administration, and project manager of **Project MALES**, guided the days activities which included panel discussions and break-out sessions.

Among the speakers at the symposium were, **Armando Ponce** from **South Texas College**, **Dr. Julie López Figueroa**, a professor at **California State University - Sacramento** who has been doing a lot of research on the academic experiences of first generation minority students, **Alphonso Rincón**, the founder of **Fathers Active in Communities and Education (FACE)** **Sandy Alcalá**, the Executive Director of **Con Mi Madre**, and **Dr. Shaun Harper**, an Associate Professor from the **University of Pennsylvania** who examines race and gender issues in higher education.

Dr. Saenz stated during closing remarks that, Latino males represent a precious resource for our community, a resource that is encountering great challenges throughout our educational and social systems. The first goal of our Symposium was to build greater awareness about the growing crisis facing Latino males in education and what it could portend for Texas' future. A second goal was to engage each other in meaningful and respectful dialogue about this critical and sensitive issue that affects us all. A final goal for this Symposium was to enlist the support of multiple stakeholders from across the community and educational spectrum that are committed to an action agenda to address the growing crisis facing Latino males and other males of color in Texas and beyond. The fact that over 250 people from throughout the state attended our event speaks to how much this issue resonates for so many within our community.



ABOVE: from left to right, **Dr. Shaun Harper**, Associated Professor at the **University of Pennsylvania**, **Dr. Luis Ponjuan**, Assistant Professor at the **University of Florida** and **Dr. Victor B. Saenz**, Assistant Professor at **The University of Texas at Austin**.



LEFT: Participants at the **Latino MALE Symposium** in the Texas Ballroom.

Business Profile

by Monica Peña

Gilbert Saucedo and the Color Factory

Founded on November 2, 2008, **The Color Factory** started out as a T-shirt printing company with the idea to grow into a full marketing house. *“This happened faster than we anticipated and the change was initiated by our clients when they recognized that our strength were far bigger than just designing and printing their t-shirts,”* says co-founder and co-owner **Gilbert Saucedo** with his wife **Mary Saucedo**. Both have been helping small to medium sized businesses with their marketing efforts. *“Businesses do not have a marketing department that can plan and implement these strategies. That is where we come in. We specialize in helping create, communicate, and then dominate in their market through print media, social media, or even TV media,”* stated **Saucedo**.

Raised in **Harlingen, Texas** (Rio Grande Valley), **Gilbert Saucedo** studied at the **Art Institute of Houston** for graphic design. *“My true love has always been my relationship with a paintbrush and a blank piece of canvas. I have been painting for many years and have illustrated children’s book, magazine covers, book covers, and paintings on many walls.”*

After finding it hard to paint cultural art, **Gilbert** found his passion for sports, music, and car paintings. *“I decided to just paint the painting I would like, and if a sold a couple then that would be a plus. If I never sold a single*

painting, well my walls would be full of paintings I liked. To my surprise they started to sell, so I kept painting,” stated **Saucedo**.

Gilbert Saucedo also serves as a part of the board of directors for **Restore a Voice**, a global community to giving neighborhoods and nations a passionate, responsive ear to hear their call for freedom, opportunity, and life-giving resources. *“In east Austin we are working with Eastside Arthouse and will be tutoring and mentoring children and young adults with the purpose of getting them a higher education. We strongly believe that leaders are built from within and lives are changed only when community takes a role in the leadership building,”* reflects **Saucedo**. Another initiative of the group is to team up with other non-profits to combat and raise awareness of human trafficking. One of the goals is to open a safe house and a program to rescue and place the victims, *“we want to be the voice for the voices that are not heard.”*



Mendoza Story from Page One



ABOVE: Benjamin Mendoza and Congressman Doggett

Mendoza’s father pulled through and he returned to **California** for deployment and was sent to **New Guinea**. But unknown to him at the time, was that the ship he was supposed to be on was sunk by the Japanese.

As the war moved to the **Philippines**, **Mendoza** recalled how he was in a foxhole when a mortar round exploded just above him. He said he crawled out of that fox hole with dirt in his mouth, eyes and ears and his head ringing. He didn’t notice the blood coming from the shrapnel wounds to his body.

When his major saw him later at a base hospital he reminded him to fill out the forms to get his decorations. **Mendoza** replied, “Sir, with all due respect, I came here to help win a war. I didn’t come here trying to be a hero.”

The medals **Congressman Lloyd Doggett** helped to secure for **Mr. Mendoza** were destroyed in a fire that burned his house down. His daughter, **Erica Ojeda**, was the one who made the call to the Congressman asking for help.

The presentation of the Mr. Mendoza’s medals took place and **Juan in a Million Restaurant** in **Austin, Texas** on June 30, 2011.

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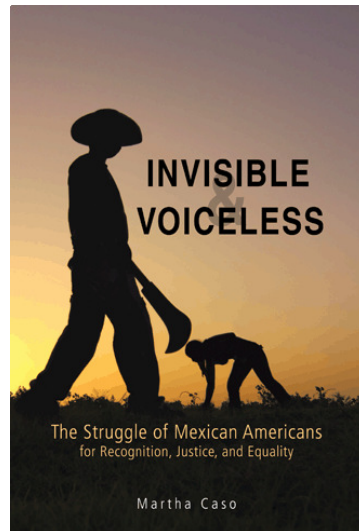


Summer Reading

Mexican American History Teaches Lessons for Today

New book covers discrimination against Mexican Americans, analyzes centuries of history

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Recent years have seen a steady rise in Hispanic immigration, and it's long been a hot-button issue for politicians and pundits alike, but little discussion is given specifically to Mexican Americans, many of whom have lived in the U.S. for generations, and a great deal can be learned from studying Mexican history and the struggles that its people endured. Here with a thoroughly researched account of **Mexico's** history, an analysis of Mexican American subculture and an overview of the problems still facing both comes ***Invisible and Voiceless: The Struggle of Mexican Americans for Recognition, Justice, and Equality*** (published by [iUniverse](http://iUniverse.com)), a historical nonfiction by **Martha Caso**.



Invisible and Voiceless begins in 1492, when **Columbus** arrived to the Caribbean islands in Spanish ships and wasted no time enslaving the native people. Spaniards invaded and conquered other places in the Americas, plundering and ravaging the land, searching for gold and other precious valuables; but most important, they deprived indigenous people of their freedom, killed them in horrendous ways and cruelly mistreated them. This devastation and servitude also took place in lands conquered by other European powers: **England, Portugal, France, and Holland** (Caso refers to this genocide as "An Indigenous American Holocaust"). As territories were lost and populations were decimated, indigenous Americans grew powerless, impoverished and segregated.

The Spanish Conquest of **Mexico** in the early 1500s saw thousands of casualties and enslavement of native people as well. The territories that are today the Southwestern United States were part of northern **Mexico** after its independence from the Spanish crown; but shortly afterwards those lands were overrun by Anglo-Americans and secession took place. Those actions led to the Mexican American war, which **Mexico** lost. Peace brought the signing of the document known as Treaty of **Guadalupe Hidalgo** in 1848; wherein **Mexico** ceded approximately half of its territory.

Invisible and Voiceless goes on to discuss the marginalization of U.S. citizens of Mexican descent and the often-ignored but commonplace lynching of Mexican Americans in **California** and the Southwest after **Guadalupe-Hidalgo**, hate crimes that intensified a segregation that would come to a head after World War II when Mexican American soldiers returned home to demand equal rights from the country they had risked their lives to defend.

Despite advancements in civil rights throughout the 20th century, 21st-century Mexican Americans still live in poverty in what **Caso** aptly calls a "separate sub-culture." Her proposed answer to the problem is simple: Education. Knowledge is power, and "It is the duty of all Mexican American parents to demand great schools," **Caso** passionately argues. "They must sacrifice so their sons and daughters remain in schools and must demand to be treated as first-class Americans."

About the Author:

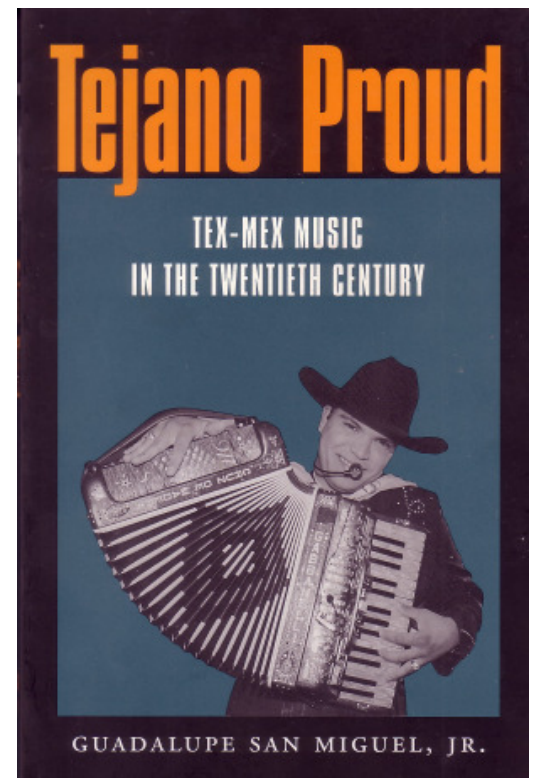
Martha Caso has a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees, one of which is in Latin American and Spanish literature. A native Texan, Caso grew up in a Mexican American community and worked in migrant fields as a teenager. Her personal and academic background combined to give her the inspiration for *Invisible and Voiceless*.

Tejano Proud Tex-Mex Music in the Twentieth Century

By **Guadalupe San Miguel Jr.**

From the dance halls to the main stage, from small town **Texas** to the big cities, and from treasured local cultural traditions to the national display of **Mexican Texas'** finest talent, *música tejana* is rapidly becoming known as a rich and vibrant form of American music. In *Tejano Proud: Tex-Mex Music in the Twentieth Century*, **Guadalupe San Miguel, Jr.**, chronicles the many dimensions of this important musical form.


Rooted in Mexican culture and shaped by influences from the United States and the rest of the world, the diversity and complexity of this music give an expression to the people and the borderlands culture from which the music grew. **San Miguel** provides an engaging history of the evolution of *música tejana*—its ups and downs and its importance to **Mexican Texas** culture in the context of Anglo-Mexican relations. He also discusses the more recent development of the Tejano recording industry and the role women have begun to play in an industry long dominated by men.




The twentieth century has seen **Texas Mexican** music balance between the traditional and the modern, remaining rooted in **Mexico** while taking nourishment from Africa, **Europe**, the **Caribbean**, and the United States. This music has helped shape the daily experiences of Mexican Texans. Today, the music's biggest stars are seen as affirming representations of Tejano ethnic pride.

About the Author:

Guadalupe San Miguel, Jr., danced and listened his way across **Texas** to write this book. He currently resides with his family in **Houston, Texas**, where he is an associate professor of history at the **University of Houston**.



Seedling
FOUNDATION



The Seedling Foundation responds to the needs of public schools in Texas by providing resources, assistance and programming. We do this by focusing on: Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents and Campus Beautification.

Calendar of Events

July 7th, 2011 - Meet and Greet for Joaquin Castro at Juan in a Million Restaurant 2300 Cesar Chavez Street in Ausitn, Texas from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Castro is running for Congress in the new 35th Congressional District.

July 8th, 2011 - Nationally recognized Latino Poets from across the U.S. offer a free public reading in **Austin, Texas**. at 7:30 p.m. at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center** 600 River Street **Austin, TX** 78701 Free. Open to the public.More than 20 nationally recognized Latino poets from across the U.S. will gather for **CantoMundo**, a national poetry workshop dedicated to supporting and developing Latina/o poetics.

July 8th and 9th, 2011 - Tejas Storytelling Conference at the **University of Texas San Antonio Downtown Campus** from 10:00am to 2:30pm in the Buena Vista Building.

July 14th, 2011 - Social Media Coffee Talk 09:00 am - 10:30 am GAHCC Event Location TBD Social Media Coffee Talk can assist you in any areas of Social Media that you still not comfortable and can help you strategize goals for using the right tools for your business. This Coffee Talk will help social media users improve by working hands on:

- Setting up Twitter, Linked In, or Facebook fanpage
- Assisting on any areas still not comfortable
- Strategizing on goals for using social media
- Time management
- Consider who are the best viewers for the information the business is wanting to target

Facilitator Monica Pena, Escobar Construction, LLC www.escobarconstruction.com (512) 627-3943

July 15 and 16, 2011 - Save Texas Schools Conference at the United Methodist Church See page 15 for more details. (512) 450-1880

July 16th, 2011 - Grand Baile at Little Mexico Restaurant 2304 South First Street in Austin, Texas. Van a tocar Los Texas Wranglers. \$10 pre-sale tickers

July 16th, 2011 - Tish Hinojosa at El Sol y La Luna in Austin, Texas. 600 East 6th Street Austin, Texas 78701 (512) 444-7770

July 25th, 2011 - Ruben Ramos Celebrity Golf Classic in San Antonio, Texas. For more information visit the website: www.rubenramos.com

July 29th, 2011 - San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists will celebrate its 13th annual scholarship gala at the Grand Hyatt. This year’s award will go to Mexican journalists killed in drug war. Eva Longoria may receive first-ever Corazon de Oro award, and \$20,000 in scholarships will be awarded. Tickets are \$100, Call (210) 250-3402 for more information



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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 de Austin*.

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 de Austin* una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Chicano slang from the 1960s in South Texas.

¿Qué ondas loco?

What’s up crazy?

Naranjas ese

Nothing dude (oranges)

¿No has visto a Paco?

Have you seen Paco?

Nel

No

Supiste que le

Did you know that

cantaron a Felipe

they sang to Phillip (wanted to fight)

alla en billar?

over at the pool hall?

Se agarron pero bien

They got into it but real

feo. Al fin el Felipe le

ugly. In the end Phillip

avento una patada

threw a kick

al Juan que se le sonó

at John that rang

la campana.

his bell.

Cuando oyeron que

When they heard that

venia la jura,

the police were coming

se descontaron todos

they discounted (took off)

en la ranfla del Moe.

in Moe’s car.

Dicen que se quedo el Juan

They say that Juan was left

preguntando por su gatito.

asking for his kitty.

¿Dejando?

Really?

A la grande, a la madre!

The big and the mother!



SAVE TEXAS SCHOOLS



Take Back Texas! Statewide Conference

We're Watching, We Remember & We Vote!

Friday evening, July 15, and Saturday, July 16

First United Methodist Church Family Life Center - Austin TX

12th and Lavaca Streets

Public education in Texas is under attack in a way not seen in generations. As students return to school in August, they'll find tens of thousands of their teachers gone, subjects and extracurricular programs cut, and support services for our neediest children reduced. And this is just the first round in what will be the "new normal" according to our legislators. Texas is now headed from 44th in our investment in children to last place in the nation.

On March 12th, over 12,000 of us rallied and showed that parents, teachers, students and community care. Counting other education rallies, over 25,000 folks spoke out at the Capitol for strong education in Texas this past spring. Though our voices had an effect, it was not enough. And make no mistake, there are legislators who championed these cuts and who are ready to dig even deeper in the next round.

We must make sure that the legislators who return to our Capitol in 2013 believe in children and public schools.

WE CAN STOP THIS DOWNWARD SPIRAL. According to our governor, the state of Texas is creating jobs and revenue. We are resource rich. The \$27M state budget deficit was not created by a falling economy, but by the actions of our own legislators who knowingly created a structural deficit in 2006 through changes to the tax laws, which can be undone. In short, Texas has no valid reason to cut education, except for the desire by some to stop investing in all children.

LET'S START TAKING BACK TEXAS! Please join **Save Texas Schools** at our first statewide conference on Friday evening, July 15, and Saturday, July 16. Including a panel discussion with pro-education legislators, hands-on workshops, strategic planning by areas, and student performances, this will be an informative, productive experience - and a strong first step toward getting the change we need in our state legislature. Your registration also includes a conference notebook and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Get equipped and get empowered!

The cost is just \$30 - or free to any teacher or school staff member who has lost his or her job. Please visit www.savetxschools.org for more details and to register NOW. If you'd like to attend the Friday evening session only, we request a \$10 donation to cover the cost of a light dinner, but you'll still need to register at www.savetxschools.org.

Please register early, as space is limited. Spread the word to others - and we'll see you in Austin on the 15th!

Questions? Contact us at info@savetxschools.org or call [\(512\) 450-1880](tel:5124501880)

www.savetxschools.org