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Se Nos Fue El Esteban Jordan 1939-2010

People in the News



Jackie Soliz Chapa Goes to Corpus Christi

Jackie Soliz-Chapa, a member of the **Austin Tejano Democrats** and a recently elected as a member of the **State Democratic Executive Committee**, will be moving back to her hometown of **Corpus Christi, Texas** to help coordinate activities for the **Bill White for Governor Campaign**.

Soliz-Chapa, who graduated from **Texas A&M at Corpus Christi** in 1984 with a degree in political science brings many years of organizing to the **Bill White Campaign** and should prove to be a valuable asset in the coming months with regard to getting out the vote.



Gonzales to Lead Mendez Middle School

Ronald Navarro Gonzales was named the new Principal of **Mendez Middle School** on June 21st, 2010. Mr. Gonzales earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from the **University of Texas at Austin**, and a Master of Education from **Southwest Texas State University**.

He was principal of **Westview Middle School** in **Pflugerville** from 2007 to the present. Prior to that, he served as Principal at **Kealing Middle School** and **Harris and Reilly** elementary schools, and assistant principal at **McCallum High School**. He was also a mathematics coordinator and project specialist in the Department of Curriculum and Programs and taught middle school math at **Bailey** and **Mendez** middle schools.



Tejada Joins Faculty at Southern Methodist University

Following an international search, the **Department of Art History** at **SMU's Meadows School of the Arts** announced the appointment of **Dr. Roberto Tejada** as the new Distinguished Endowed Chair in Art History, effective August 1.

The new endowed senior position was made possible by a generous anonymous gift of \$2 million, intended to help launch a new Ph.D. program in art history at **SMU** in the fall of 2011. It will be the first art history Ph.D. program in **North Texas** and one of only a few in the state.

A well-known specialist in modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino/U.S. visual culture, **Dr. Tejada** is also a highly distinguished teacher, art critic, poet, curator and editor.

Dr. Roberto Tejada comes to **SMU** from **The University of Texas**

at **Austin**, where for the past two years he has been an associate professor in the art and art history department. Prior to that he taught for six years at the **University of California-San Diego**.

Professor Tejada also has lived in **Mexico City**, taught at **Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México**, and curated for the **Museo de las Artes in Guadalajara**. The recipient of numerous grants and fellowships, **Dr. Tejada** earned his Ph.D. at the **State University of New York-Buffalo** in interdisciplinary studies (art history, English, comparative literature and media studies) and his B.A. in comparative literature at **New York University**.

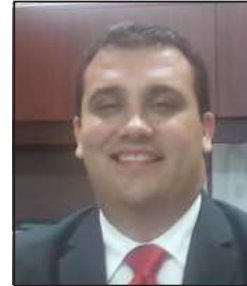


Dr. Hector Ruiz Named to Board of EDCO Ventures

Hector Ruiz, PhD, has joined the Board of Directors for **EDCO Ventures**. He is currently the Chairman and CEO of **Advanced Nanotechnology Solutions Inc. (ANSI)**. In 2000, he joined **AMD** as President and Chief Operating Officer and was named Chief Executive Officer in April 2002. In 2006, **FORTUNE Magazine** named him as one of the Top 25 Business Leaders.

Ruiz was born in the border town of **Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico**. As a teenager, he walked across the **Mexico - United States** border every day to attend a high school in nearby **Eagle Pass, Texas**, from which he graduated as valedictorian just three years after

beginning to learn English. **Ruiz** earned a B.S. and M.S. in electrical engineering from the **University of Texas at Austin** in 1968 and 1970 respectively and a Ph.D. from **Rice University** in 1973.



Ty Davidson is the New Principal at Travis High School

Ty J. Davidson was appointed the new principal at **Travis High School** in **Austin, Texas** in August, 2010. Originally from **Brownsville, Texas**, **Davidson** graduated from **James Pace High School** and then went on to graduate from **The University of Texas at Austin** in 1996 with a degree in sociology.

Returning to **Brownsville**, he taught at **Stell Middle School** for three years and then came back to **Central Texas** to work on his masters degree at **Southwest Texas State University San Marcos**. He graduated in 2007.

He has since held a number of positions in the **Austin Independent School District** including having worked at **Dobie Middle School**, 9th Grade - **VAST Academy** Director and Interim principal at **Crockett High School**.

Ty Davidson believes in the importance of forging relationships through open and honest communication and believes that the principal, staff and all those on campus contribute to the success of all the students on a campus.



Dr. Rene Garganta Named Director of School Improvement Projects for District

Dr. Rene Garganta was named the new Director of School Improvement Projects for the **Austin Independent School District** in August of this year. **Dr. Garganta** had been the Principal at **Travis High School** since 2006, and had served as principal at **University Middle School** in **Waco**.

Before that he worked as an administrator in the **Victoria School District**, and as an administrator, teacher and coach at the **Seguin School District**. **Dr. Garganta** received his Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the **University of Texas at Austin**, Masters of Education from **Southwest State University**, and his Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Administration from **UT at Austin**.

Oropez Appointed Associate Superintendent of High Schools

Edmund Oropez was appointed **Associate Superintendent for High Schools** by the **Austin ISD Board of Trustees**. **Mr. Oropez** has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the **University of Texas**, a Master of Arts degree in educational administration from the **University of Texas Pan American**, and is a doctoral student in the Cooperative Superintendency Program at the **University of Texas**.

PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher
Alfredo Santos c/s

Managing Editors
Yleana Santos
Kaitlyn Theiss

Graphics
Juan Gallo

Distribution
El Team

Contributing Writers
Dr. Cynthia Orozco
Gus Chavez
Ramon Hernandez
Mona Gonzales

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

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Pensamientos para septiembre

Editorial

Nos da mucho gusto compartir el contenido de este ejemplar de **La Voz de Austin**. Aunque planeamos que va llevar cada edición de La Voz, siempre nos cai sorpresas.

In this issue of **La Voz** we are pleased to bring you an array of stories. Even though we plan months in advance what we are going to include in each issue, it never fails that surprises pop up and we have to switch out stories.

On page 4 you will see an announcement about a symposium that will be held at **Texas State University** on the Mexican Revolution. This promises to be a very interesting event for two reasons. First, the year 2010 represents the 100 and 200 anniversaries of revolutions that have changed the course of history for Mexico.

Secondly, the professors at **Texas State University at San Marcos** are bringing in noted professors from Mexican Universities who will share their perspectives on the Mexican Revolutions. Again, check out page 4 for more details on this event.

The second story I wish to call to your attention is a story that we have run before. The **Touch of a Teacher** has become a classic because of its unique story structure and also because of the emotional toll it can take on a

reader. Read the story and if you like it, save it because we only print it every three years or so.

The next article in this issue of **La Voz** was written by **Mona Gonzales**, Executive Director of the **River City Youth Foundation**. **Mona** is one of the hardest working individuals I have met in my six years here in **Austin**. This woman works 18 hours a day in the largest Hispanic neighborhood in **Austin**. If there was ever an individual or organization that deserves our assistance, The **River City Youth Foundation** and **Mona Gonzales** should be at the top of our list. When ever you have a chance, go to barrio called **Dove Springs**, find the **River City Youth Foundation** complex at 5209 South Pleasant Valley Road and they will give you a tour of what they do and introduce you to the families they serve. When you leave, you will be hard pressed to ask yourself, what can I do to help this group?

The story that follows the **River City Youth Foundation** is not a pretty story, but is one that we have to face if we are serious about students getting a good education in safe schools. When you examine the **Austin Independent School District Disciplinary Report Card**, you may find yourself asking, how can there be so many disciplinary incidents in the school district? Data for the latest year available

shows that there were 28,828 disciplinary incidents in the **Austin Independent School District**. *¿Qué está pasando aquí?* Again look at the data and see what is going on a school closet to you.

Two individuals passed away recently who were giants in the Hispanic community. The first, **Mario Obledo**, who you can read about on page 14 was an attorney and pioneer in the Chicano Movement. **Mario** helped to set up the **Mexican American Legal and Education Defense Fund** in **San Antonio** that went on to sue school districts around the state for practices that kept Mexican Americans down. **Gus Chavez** talks about the impact that **Mario** had shutting down a "Mexican only" school in **Sonora, Texas**.

I remember **MALDEF** because **Mario** and his staff of attorneys came to our aid in **Uvalde, Texas**. They sued the **Uvalde Consolidated School District** right after our walkout in 1970 and got a Federal Judge to issue a set of court orders to monitor the school district. To this day, the **Uvalde Consolidated School District** continues to operate under that court order because of the way Mexicanos have been treated and continue to be treated. **Uvalde** is one of five school districts that have been under court order now going on 40 years.



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

The other individual who passed away was **Steve Jordan**. In terms of music, this guy was a genius. While his instrument was the accordion, he could play more than twenty instruments. Many people have said that what **Steve Jordan** did with the accordion, very few people have done since. He had a long career, more than forty years, and truly made a great contribution to the field of music. Que en paz descanse.

Por fin, check out the Calendar of Events and you will find many events going on around the city that contribute to what makes **Austin, Texas** a great place in which to live and work. Aquí uno no puede decir que no hay nada que hacer.

En el ejemplar de octubre, esperamos seguir con una cantidad de historias. Si usted tiene una sugerencia para una historia, no deja de hechanos un telefonazo. ¡Ya sabes!

se habla español

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Symposium explores impact of Mexican revolutions in Texas

SAN MARCOS – This year, **Mexico** celebrates the 200th anniversary of its 1810 independence from Spain and the 100th anniversary of its 1910 revolution—events that have influenced demographics, politics and economics on both sides of the border.

The continuing impact of these wars on Texas and Mexico's shared heritage will be the topic of a symposium 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at **Texas State University-San Marcos**. The symposium, featuring historians from **Texas** and **Mexico**, will be held in the **LBJ Student Center Teaching Theater**. It is free and open to the public.



Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla

Titled "Mexico's Wars in Texas: Independence and Revolution," the symposium will feature these speakers and topics:

• **Josefina Zoraida Vázquez, El Colegio de México**, "Mexico's War for Independence and Revolution of 1910 in U.S.-Mexican Relations"

• **Jesús F. de la Teja, Texas State University-San Marcos**, "The Mexican War of Independence: Training Ground of Tejano Leaders"

• **Martín González de la Vara, El Colegio de Michoacán**, "American Influence in the Mexican Insurgency in the Northern Frontier"

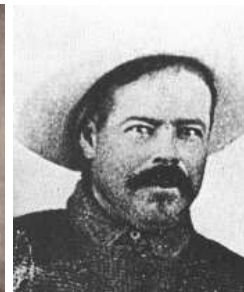
• **Miguel Angel González Quiroga, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo Leon**, "The Consul General and the Revolution: Philip Hanna in Monterrey (1910-1919)"

• **John Mason Hart, University of Houston**, "Border Culture and the Mexican Revolution"

The symposium is sponsored by **Texas State's Texas and Mexico 1810-2010 Committee**, Office of the Provost, and the Department of History. More information is available from www.txstate.edu/history/mexico2010.



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Amy Averett Departs from Austin Voices



Dear Friends,

I writing to share the big news that I am stepping down as Director of Austin Voices for Education and Youth at the end of August in order to take care of some family health issues.

I founded Austin Voices in 2003 and it has truly been a labor of love. I'm so proud of the work we have done to develop new student, parent, and community leaders who have played a major role in improving our public schools in Austin. I'm proud of the over \$2 million in funding, curriculum, and training we have brought into the school district. And I'm very proud of the team of people with whom I've had the pleasure to work.

As you all know, Allen Weeks joined Austin Voices as my co-director in February and he will continue to lead the organization moving forward. He has a great vision for this work and is an inspiring, committed leader. I have no doubt that Austin Voices will continue to thrive with Allen at the helm.

So many friends have donated their time, energy, and dollars to Austin Voices over the years, so I really feel like this is something we built together. I hope you will continue to support this great organization. I will definitely still be around and doing what I can to support them!

Thanks for all you do to help ensure that every child in Austin has access to an excellent education!

Best,

Amy

Austin Musicians Throw Benefit Concert for Accordion Queen Eva Ybarra

Austin, Texas – A star-studded line up of Austin musicians will gather to help a queen of Conjunto - **Eva Ybarra** of **San Antonio**. **Joel Guzman** and **Sarah Fox**, **Bradley J. Williams** (Los Pinkys, Polkasónicos, Gulfcoast Playboys), **Clemencia Zapata** (Cerronato, Conjunto Aztlan), **Bubba Hernandez**, **Susan Torres** and others will perform at a benefit concert on Sunday September 12th at **Jovita's Restaurant**. The evening promises to be dazzling with all these performances which will also include the undisputed Queen of Tex-Mex accordion, **Eva**, herself.

In a genre dominated by men, **Eva Ybarra** has done more than hold her own — she has become a master. Born in **San Antonio**, **Ybarra** is a self-taught accordionist who began playing in clubs and restaurants at age six. Her fluid style and fast, melodic runs set her apart and earned her the nickname, "*La Reina del Acordeón*" (queen of the accordion.) Today, after years of performing solo and with her own group, she teaches accordion and inspires the next generation of conjunto musicians.

This summer **Ybarra** suffered several setbacks when her home in **San Antonio** was robbed of \$15,000 worth of musical equipment. Because she has been such a mother figure for many musicians, and because of her dedication to the music, culture, fans and students, many local musicians and cultural activists feel compelled to help her out.

The benefit concert at **Jovita's** promises to be an evening of great fun and music and offers the general public an opportunity to help an important icon of the **Texas** music scene. Admission to the concert is \$10 but more donations are welcome. For more information contact **Greg Goodman** at (210) 313-6850.



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Austin Interfaith

On August 8th, 2010, over 600 community activists gathered at **San Jose Catholic Church** parish hall to declared their commitment to social justice and action for the fall elections.

Numerous elected officials, including **Mayor Lee Lefingwell**, **U.S. Congressman Lloyd Doggett**, **Travis County Sheriff Greg Hamilton** and others participated in the 3 hour meeting.

Austin Interfaith, which is made up of numerous churches and activists in **Austin** is part of the **Industrial Areas Foundation** group that was formed many years ago by **Saul Alinsky**. Today, **Ernesto Cortes** helps direct the organizations efforts in the Southwest.

At their recent statewide convention in **San Antonio, Texas** the group is promising to turn out 225,00 voters for the fall elections.



BELOW: Angelia Peña, a member of San Jose Parish and an Austin Interfaith



Promises to Get Out the Vote



ABOVE: Ofelia Zapata, an Austin Interfaith leader from Dove Springs, directed the meeting on August 8th, 2010

BELOW LEFT: U.S. Congressman Lloyd Doggett addressed the 600 plus who present at the Austin Interfaith meeting at San Jose Catholic Church parish hall.



The Touch of a Teacher

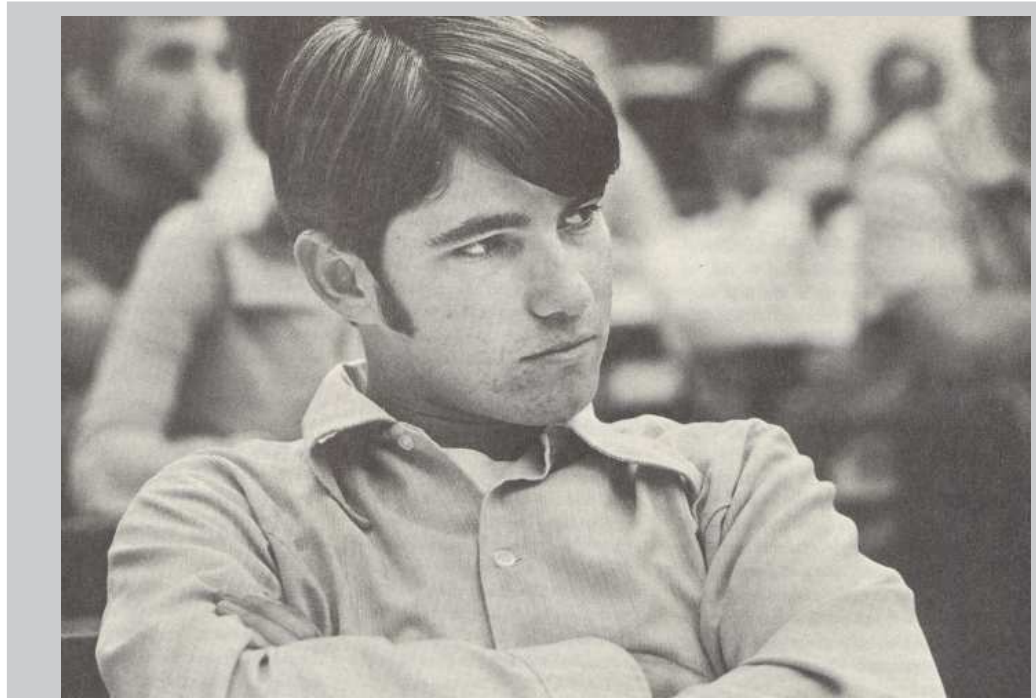
How a little time in the life of a child can make all the difference in the world

Texas schools have opened their doors for the 2010-2011 academic year. Most students will begin the year with new clothes and all the nervousness that comes from advancing to the next grade. But not all the children will begin the school year at the same time. Those that have spent the summer up North with their parents who work in the agricultural fields will not be arriving until mid September or even October.

The story you are about to read concerns one of these students. It was written by his fifth grade teacher. If you are a teacher, you may have had a student like **Juan Garza** in your class or maybe you knew a student like him when you were going to school.

Juan's letter came today and now that I have read it, I will place it in my cedar chest with the other things that are important in my life. The letter started out with: *"I wanted you to be the first to know."*

I smiled as I read the words he had written and my heart swelled with a pride that I have no right to feel. I have not seen **Juan Garza** since he was a student in my class some 17 years ago. It was early in my teaching career. I had only been teaching two years but from the first day that he stepped into my classroom, I disliked **Juan**.



Teachers are not supposed to have favorites in a class, but most especially they are not to show a dislike for a particular child. I thought I was quite capable of handling my personal feelings along that line until **Juan** walked into my class.

I'm sorry to say it, but **Juan Garza** was one student I did not care for. First of all he was dirty. Not just occasionally, but all of the time. Second, he smelled. He smelled like the crops he and his family were picking. And of course the smell varied with whatever was being harvested. His hair hung low over his ears and he actually had to hold it out of his eyes as he worked on assignments in class.

By the end of the first week of school, I knew he was hopelessly behind all the others. And not only was he behind, but he was also just plain slow. As each day passed, I began to withdraw from him. While I didn't actually ridicule the boy, my

attitude was obviously apparent to the rest of the class for he quickly became the class goat, the outcast, the unlovable, the unloved.

He knew I didn't like him but he didn't know why. He also knew that other teachers in the school didn't like him either. As the days rolled on we made it through the fall festival, Halloween and Thanksgiving. By the time the Christmas season arrived I knew **Juan** was going to have to repeat the entire school year.

**To justify holding him back,
I went to his cumulative folder
from time to time.**

To justify holding him back, I went to his cumulative folder from time to time. He had very low grades for the first four years but no grade failures. How he made it . . . I do not know. I closed my mind to the per-

sonal remarks that had been written by other teachers over the years. Remarks like:

1st grade - Juan shows promise but has a poor situation at home.

2nd grade - Juan could do better, but his mother is terminally ill. He receives little help at home.

3rd grade - Juan is a pleasant boy, but misses too many days of school. Mother passed away at the end of the school year.

4th grade - Very slow but well behaved. Show some talent for art. Father absent often. Believed to be working in California.

Well they passed him four times, but he will certainly repeat the fifth grade. "Do him good," I said to myself.

The day before the holidays arrived we had a school Christmas party. Teachers always get gifts, but for some reason this party seemed bigger and more elaborate than ever. There wasn't a student who hadn't brought me a gift. And each unwrapping brought squeals of delight as the students tried to guess who it was from.

Juan's gift wasn't the last one I picked up . . .

Juan's gift wasn't the last one I picked up. In fact, it was somewhere in the middle of the pile. It's wrapping was accomplished with a brown paper bag. For decorations he had colored Christmas trees and bells all around it and used masking tape to hold it together. The tag said: For **Miss Johnson** from **Juan**.

The class was completely silent as I began to unwrap **Juan's** gift. As I removed the last bit of masking tape, two items fell out and onto my lap. One was a gaudy rhinestone bracelet with several stones missing. The second item was a bottle of dime store cologne that was half empty. I could hear the snickering and whispers of the other children. At first I was embarrassed. Then I thought no . . . there is no reason for me to be embarrassed.

I looked at Juan and said "Isn't this lovely?"

I looked at **Juan** and said "Isn't this lovely?" I placed the bracelet on my wrist and asked him to help me fasten the clasp. There were a few oohs and aahs as I dabbed the cologne behind my ears. I continued to open gifts until I reached the reached the bottom of the pile. We drank our refreshments and played games until the bell rang signaling the end of school for the holidays. Everyone gathered their belongings and filed out of the room with shouts of Merry Christmas. Everyone except **Juan**. He stayed behind.

With just the two of us in the room, **Juan** walked toward my desk clutching his books. "You smell just like my mother," he said softly. "Her bracelet looks real pretty on you too. I'm glad you like it." Then he quickly left the room.

I was stunned! I locked the door to my classroom, sat down at my desk and wept quietly for what must have been 5 minutes. When the tears stopped I realized what I had done. For months I had deliberately deprived him of a teacher who truly cared. I resolved to make up for the way in

which I had been treating him.

Beginning in January, I stayed after school every afternoon with **Juan**. We did extra problems in math. We did extra work in reading and spelling. Slowly but surely, he started to improve. By April, he was really moving along. Even the other students



noticed that something was very different about **Juan**. Only once did I panic when he missed several days of school. It turned out that had to go work in the fields.

When the school year ended Juan had one of the highest averages in the class.

When the school year ended **Juan** had one of the highest averages in the class. And even though I knew he would be leaving for **California** to work in the strawberry fields, I believed that he had found a new confidence and outlook on who and what he could be.

I continued to teach and never again heard from **Juan** . . . until seven years later. He wrote me a letter from **Watsonville, California** that started out:

Dear Miss Johnson,

I wanted you to be the first to know, I will be graduating from high school next month, second in my class.

Very truly yours,

Juan Garza.

What a surprise! I sent him a card of congratulations and a small pen and pencil gift. **Juan Garza**, I wondered what he would do after graduation?

Four years later, **Juan's** second letter came. It had a postmark from **Ann Arbor, Michigan**:

Dear Miss Johnson,

I wanted you to be the first to know that I was informed I'll be graduating first in my class. The University has not been easy. Although I received a small scholarship from the farmworkers union, I had to work part-time all four years to help cover the costs. But I loved every minute of it.

Very truly yours,

Juan P. Garza

Juan is graduating from college? I thought back for a moment at how quickly the years had passed and the fact that he still remembered me. I also recalled that Christmas party. I decided to send him a nice pair of sterling silver monogram cuff links and a card. I was so very proud of him. The **University of Michigan at Ann Arbor** is one of the best schools in the world. He was doing good, very good!

Today, I received **Juan's** third letter with a postmark from the **Boston** area. Like his other letters he started it with:

Dear Miss Johnson,

I wanted you to be the first to know, that as of this writing I am now Juan P. Garza, M.D.. How about that! Harvard was hard but I have no regrets. I will be returning to California to do a residency at UCLA and work on pesticide issues as they effect farmworkers.

And, I am going to be married in July . . . the 27th, to be exact. I wanted to ask you if you could come and sit where Mom would sit if she were here. I'll have no family present as Dad died last year. It would mean a lot to me. I can send you the plane tickets.

Very truly yours,

Juan

I'm not sure what kind of gift one sends to a doctor upon completion of medical school. I'll have to think about it for a moment But my note cannot wait.

Dear Juan,

Congratulations. You did it by yourself in spite of those like me, and not because of me. This day has come for you. God Bless you.

I'll be at that wedding with great joy.

Very truly yours,

Miss Johnson

We know there is a **Juan Garza** in every school in America. We know there are students who cry out for teachers who truly care. Look carefully and you might be able to find a **Juan Garza** in your school. But an equally important question is whether or not there is a **Miss Johnson** in every school. Where are the **Miss Johnson's**? Just a little time, a little more caring, that's all some children need.

This story was adapted from an anonymous letter that passed out many years ago at a teacher conference. The original author is to be commended for an excellent story structure.

by Mona Gonzales

River City Youth Foundation provided an exciting array of services this summer for over 300 youth from **Dove Springs** in **Austin**. Sessions for youth ages 5 through 17 years focused on healthy choices, safety, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), counseling, recreation, sports, community service projects, and free nutritious lunches through a partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank.

To reach every corner of **Dove Springs**, one of the fastest growing neighborhoods in Austin with high rates of neighborhood crime, **RCYF** collaborated with area churches, schools, and universities to provide services in four locations to conduct activities that promoted safety, healthy life styles and prosperity.

The programs were located at the **RCYF Success Center**, 5209 South Pleasant Valley Road for the **iChoose Summer Camp**, which housed the **MY Hero! Mentoring Partnership** in **Dove Springs** and the **Case by Case Strengthening Families** program that provides counseling and case management; at **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church** in far south Dove Springs which housed the **RCYF SOS** (Summer of Safety) camp; at **Teri Road Baptist Church** in the northwest area of **Dove Springs** which hosted "Love and Logic" parent trainings through a partnership of **RCYF** and **AISD**; and for children transitioning from area elementary schools, **RCYF** provided services at **Mendez Middle School**.

Summer activities engaged at risk youth in hands-on projects that not only helped them gain new skills but also taught them to care about their community. Activities included design and construction, resulting in **RCYF** youth building soccer goals and catapults using physics and math. Students adopted safety skills by learning the Olympic sport of Fencing, how to play chess focusing on strategy and math, and community service learning projects including a campaign to increase children's safety near dangerous area creeks. Youth constructed "Turn Around, Don't Drown" safety signs with the goal of saving young lives. Youth also refurbishing a church outdoor amphitheater worked to rebuild **McKinney Falls State Park** trails and helped to open a Horse Farm for disabled children. Key collaborators included the **Well Bible Church**, **Theater Action Project**, **Catholic Heart Work Camp**, **UTeach**, the **Austin Police Department**, and the **Austin Fire Department**.

One of the highlights of **RCYF's Summer Activities 2010** was the **Fair on the Square (FOS)**. Supported by the **Dell Foundation**, FOS is the only neighborhood based venue in **Dove Springs** that recognizes the technology skills development of youth. Multimedia projects are judged by peers, parents, families and **RCYF** instructors. The winners are awarded prizes for categories including Desktop Publishing (PowerPoint, Keynote), Multimedia (ArtRage computer paint, Comic Life), and Web Design.

Funding for **RCYF** best practices programs comes from the **City of Austin**, **Travis County**, **Governors Office Criminal Justice Division**, **Dell Foundation**, **New York Life**, **NFL Alumni**, Local Independent Charities, contributions, and fundraising that includes an upcoming golf tournament.

Visit www.rivercityyouth.org for more information on how you can support **RCYF's** year-round neighborhood-based youth development services and community events through donations, volunteering, or mentoring a youth.

River City Youth 2010 Summer



Soccer was a favorite family sport to stay fit and healthy this summer



Taking pride in cooking nutritious and tasty foods!



Staying cool while learning rafting on a hot summer day

th Foundation

er Activities



Smart Fun!



Carnival ride for future astronauts!

Healthy Choices!

Nutritious Meals!



Fair on the Square Best of Show prize winner was among a group of more than 80 youth who created computer portraits for the annual RCYF Fair on the Square Tech competition, funded by the Dell Foundation

Community Service!

Safety!



RCYF youth enjoy summer lunches provided by the Capital Area Food Bank.

by
Alfredo Rodriguez Santos c/s

Here in Austin, Texas y otros pueblos en el estado, some students go to school to learn and some students go to school to disrupt the learning of others. *Eso es la pura verdad. Tal vez algunos de ustedes no estan de acuerdo,* but disruptive students are making it next to impossible for teachers to teach and for students to learn.

A lot of school district officials don't like to talk about the students who disrupt classes. But the fact of the matter is that there are students in the public schools who are assaulting teachers, harassing students, committing felonies and fighting with other students. These students, through their actions, are pulling down test scores and creating unsafe environments for other students.

The Austin Independent School District states in its latest strategic plan, *"With our limited resources, we need to be focused on the goals and strategies that will best prepare all our students for college, career and life in the globally competitive economy."* This is a good and well meaning statement, but in order for this statement to come true, something has to be done about those about those who come to school and refuse to get with the program.

One of the first things that people need to understand is just how big a problem disruptive students are in the **Austin Independent School District**. The **Disciplinary Report Card** on these two pages provides a snapshot of the most recent disciplinary activity in the district. During the 2008-2009 academic year, there were a total of 28,828 disciplinary incidents.

A disciplinary incident occurs when a student violates a rule as defined by Chapter 37 of the **Texas Education Code** or a policy adopted by the **Board of Trustees** of the school district. A single student through their conduct can generate multiple disciplinary actions. According to the **Texas Education Agency**, a total of 9,564 students in the **Austin Independent School District** were responsible for the 28,828 disciplinary incidents during the 2008-2009 year. (Table # 1)

Table # 2 contains the types of incidents that students were involved in during the 2008-2009 academic year. As the table shows, student violations of the local code of conduct accounted for 22,107 of the 28,828 incidents. Another 1,822 incidents were for fighting or mutual combat.

Austin Independent Disciplinary

Table # 1
Reported Disciplinary
Incidents in 2008-2009

Total number of students who were enrolled in the Austin Independent School District during the 2008-2009 school year.	89,640
Total number of disciplinary incidents committed during the the 2008-2009 school years	28,828
Total number of students involved in disciplinary incidents during the 2008-2009 school year	9,564

Source: Texas Education Agency, Disciplinary Data Products, 2010

Table # 2
Types of Disciplinary
Incidents in 2008-2009

Type	Count
Conduct punishable as a felony	27
Controlled Substances/Drugs	578
Alcohol Violation	62
Public Lewdness/Indecent Exposure	9
Retaliation Against a District Employee	5
Title 5 Felony Off Campus	42
Non-title 5 Felony Off Campus	8
Illegal Knife	8
Prohibited Weapon	17
Violation of Local Code of Conduct	22,107
Criminal Mischief	47
Emergency Placement	299
Terroristic Threat	21
Assault - District Employee	69
Assault - Nondistrict employee	184
Aggravated Assault - Non district Employee	10
Tobacco	51
School Related Gang Violence	42
Felony Controlled Substance	15
Fighting/Mutual Combat	1,822
Truancy - Parent Contributed to	96
Truancy - 3 unexcused	121
Truancy 10 unexcused	181
Non-illegal knife	118
Other	2,889
Total	28,828

Source: Texas Education Agency, Disciplinary Data Products, 2010

Tables 3a and 3b provide a ranking by campus in the **Austin Independent School District** of disciplinary incidents and the number of students who were responsible for those incidents. The numbers "999" means the count was less than 5.

Table 3a
Disciplinary Incidents in
2008-2009 by Campus in AISD

CAMPUS NAME	INCIDENT COUNT	STUDENT COUNT
BURNET M S	1512	380
MCCALLUM H S	1302	456
LAMAR M S	1260	308
WEBB M S	1174	309
PEARCE M S	1166	311
AKINS H S	1130	532
FULMORE M S	1043	303
TRAVIS H S	1023	425
LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	1002	381
MENDEZ M S	998	325
PAREDES M S	989	317
DOBIE M S	930	270
GARCIA M S	883	291
KEALING M S	857	234
CROCKETT H S	802	407
ALTERNATIVE LEARNING CENTER	773	367
LANIER H S	758	368
REAGAN H S	714	313
MARTIN M S	692	279
AUSTIN H S	617	329
BAILEY M S	586	202
COVINGTON M S	559	213
ANDERSON H S	522	263
BEDICHEK M S	518	251
EASTSIDE MEMORIAL HS AT THE JOHNSTON CAMPUS	377	185
MURCHISON M S	368	190
BOWIE H S	322	213
SMALL M S	313	167
O HENRY M S	291	147
COOK EL	119	59
INTERNATIONAL H S	78	52
WOOTEN EL	78	52
RODRIGUEZ EL	78	52
COWAN EL	65	42
PECAN SPRINGS EL	59	36
ANDREWS EL	55	23
GOVALL EL	53	33
BLANTON EL	48	29
WALNUT CREEK EL	47	30
MAPLEWOOD EL	46	13
RIDGETOP EL	45	16
ZAVALA EL	45	27
JORDAN EL	44	31
ALLISON EL	43	27
KOCUREK EL	42	43
ACES- ALTERNATIVE CENTER FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	39	35
MCBEE EL	38	19
PEREZ EL	38	17
HARRIS EL	37	27
WOOLDRIDGE EL	37	22
SIMS EL	36	26
BLACKSHEAR EL	34	19
HOUSTON EL	34	23
HART EL	34	26
BRENTWOOD EL	32	16

School District Report Card

**Table 3b
Disciplinary Incidents in
2008-2009 by Campus in AISD**

CAMPUS NAME	INCIDENT COUNT	STUDENT COUNT
SANCHEZ EL	31	22
BOONE EL	31	26
PALM EL	31	23
TRAVIS COUNTY J J A E P	29	29
TRAVIS HTS EL	29	17
ODOM EL	29	18
LASA HIGH SCHOOL	28	26
OAK SPRINGS EL	28	20
LANGFORD EL	27	16
CASEY EL	27	18
BECKER EL	26	16
CUNNINGHAM EL	25	14
NORMAN EL	25	20
LINDER EL	25	20
PICKLE EL	25	11
PLEASANT HILL EL	23	17
RICHARDS SCH FOR YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS	22	18
SUMMITT EL	22	11
OVERTON EL	22	13
CAMPBELL EL	21	16
WILLIAMS EL	21	12
GALINDO EL	20	17
ORTEGA EL	19	12
SUNSET VALLEY EL	16	10
MATHEWS EL	15	10
PEASE EL	15	7
PILLOW EL	15	11
REILLY EL	14	9
BARRINGTON EL	14	14
WINN EL	14	12
GRAHAM EL	14	9
WIDEN EL	14	12
OAK HILL EL	13	7
BROOKE EL	12	8
ST ELMO EL	12	10
PATTON EL	12	8
DAVIS EL	12	7
BLAZIER EL	12	9
BROWN EL	11	11
HIGHLAND PARK EL	11	6
LEE EL	9	-999
ALLAN EL	9	9
METZ EL	8	8
ZILKER EL	7	5
BARANOFF EL	7	5
BARTON HILLS EL	6	-999
GULLETT EL	6	-999
DAWSON EL	5	5
DOSS EL	5	-999
GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	-999	-999
TRAVIS COUNTY DAY SCHOOL	-999	-999
BRYKER WOODS EL	-999	-999
MENCHACA EL	-999	-999
HILL EL	-999	-999
KIKER EL	-999	-999
CLAYTON EL	-999	-999

**Table 4
Disciplinary Actions by
Students Status**

Status	Count
Mandatory in School Suspensions	41
Mandatory Out of School Suspensions	902
Discretionary in School Suspensions	12,651
Discretionary Out of School Suspensions	12,418
Economically Disadvantaged Students Suspended In School	10,261
Economically Disadvantaged Students Suspended Out of School	10,143
At Risk Students Suspended in School	10,288
At Risk Students Suspended Out of School	10,760

Source: Texas Education Agency, Disciplinary Data Products, 2010

Table 4 provides information on the number of students who were disciplined by status. Tables 5 and 6 looks at suspensions by race and ethnicity. As can be seen from the tables, Hispanics and African Americans represent the largest group being disciplined.

The good news though comes from looking at disciplinary data over time. In Graph # 1 below, it is observed that the number of disciplinary incidents in the **Austin Independent School District** begins to decrease in the 2006-2007 academic year. The graph also shows that the number of disciplinary incidents continues to decrease for the next two academic school as well. The second line in the graph shows the number of students who were involved in disciplinary incidents. This number is also showing a decline.

**Table 5
In School Suspensions
by Race/Ethnicity**

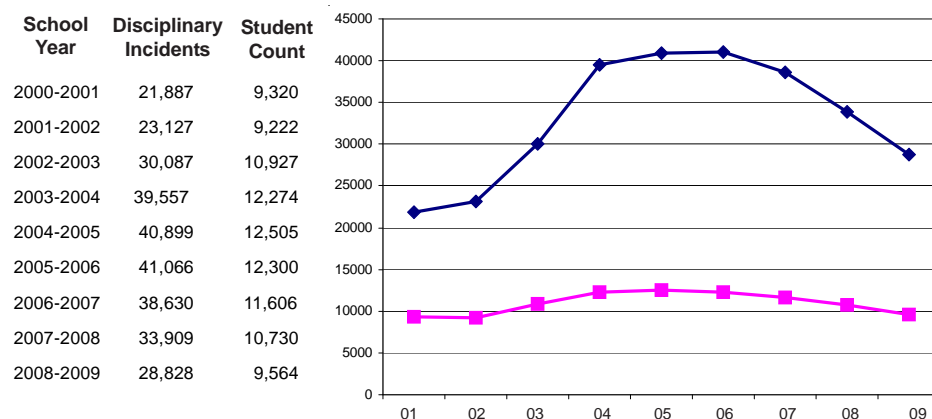
Group	Count
African American	3,417
Asian	36
White	1,199
Hispanic	8,020
Native American	20
Total	12,692

**Table 6
Out of School Suspensions
by Race/Ethnicity**

Group	Count
African American	3,957
Asian	52
White	1,161
Hispanic	8,117
Native American	33
Total	13,320

Source: Texas Education Agency, Disciplinary Data Products, 2010

**Graph # 1
Disciplinary Incidents in AISD from 2000 to 2009**



Source: Texas Education Agency, Disciplinary Data Products, 2010

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17 (Friday) 3pm-7pm	18 (Sat.) 10am-2pm	19 (Sun.) 10am-2pm	20 (Mon.) 3pm-7pm
------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	----------------------

Check www.MileStation.com for October signup days

Questions? Call Patrick at (512) 695-5136

* Paid for by non-profit Mile Station. It aims to show how using cents-per-mile rates in the minimum insurance market makes it possible to keep all cars insured year-round.

** The insurance company used by Mile Station charges 4¢ per mile in advance for minimum liability on cars with adult drivers. This means that each time 1,000 miles of insurance is added to your car's odometer, Mile Station will pay the company \$40 online by credit card.

CMAS Presentation: Harvest of Loneliness

Wed, September 15, 2010 • 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM • Theatre (UNB 2.228),
Texas Union, The University of Texas at Austin

Hidden within the historical accounts of minorities, workers and immigrants in American society is the story of the millions of Mexico's men and women who experienced the temporary contract worker program known as the Bracero Program. Established to replace an alleged wartime labor shortage, research reveals that the Program intended to undermine farmworker unionization. *Harvest of Loneliness: The Bracero Program* shows how several million men, in one of the largest state managed migrations in history, were imported from 1942 to 1964 to work as cheap, controlled and disposable workers. The documentary features the men speaking of their experiences and addresses what to expect from a new temporary contract worker program.

Harvest of Loneliness: The Bracero Program also centers the voices of wives and families who were left behind as an untold number of villages were virtually emptied of men. Villages were forced to adjust as they supplied workers for the largest US agricultural corporations. As the villages emptied of men who left to be contracted (successfully or not), wives and families, not knowing if or when they would return or where they were going to work, were deeply distressed. Family separation became an ongoing periodic experience for many villages, and for many the separation became permanent. Many speak of wives/mothers crying at night, hiding their loneliness and sadness from their children. Over the 22 years of the Bracero Program the economy and living standards of the villages remained virtually unchanged.

Gilbert G. Gonzalez, one of the co-directors and professor emeritus in the School of Social Sciences at the **University of California at Irvine**, will be in attendance and participate in a Q&A session after the screening of *Harvest of Loneliness: The Bracero Program*.

A Tribute to Mario Obledo

By Gus Chavez

The passing of **Mario Obledo** and celebration of life services were held in **Sacramento California** and helped to remind us of the importance of acknowledging and thanking those who struggled and sacrificed for the betterment of our community.

Mario Obledo is one of many who gave it their all to bring justice and equality not only for the Latino and Latina community but for all affected by the ravishes caused by racial, political and economic class discrimination in our country. **Mario**, a co-founder of **MALDEF**, (Mexican American Legal and Defense Education Fund) was a Tejano who also became an incredible public servant in **California**. A Chicano/Tejano activist, together with his family, **Mario** fought for our civil rights for over forty-two years. His legacy and contributions are well documented and without question, his imprint on the Latino and Latina community will always be remembered.

I, as well as the other members of the Chicano community in **Sonora Texas**, know personally of the impact **Mario's** work and commitment to social justice. It was many years ago when **Mario** was the **MALDEF** General Counsel in **San Antonio** when a group representing our community presented him and **Pete Tijerina** with signed petitions gathered by the **Sonora American G.I. Forum** requesting legal assistance.

The request for legal intervention against the school district for having separate and unequal schools for "Mexican" pupils up through the eighth grade. We felt it was un-American, especially since the Supreme Court had ruled sixteen years earlier in **Brown vs. Board of Education** that this kind of school setting was unconstitutional.

Sad to say, but this illegal "Mexican" school, later named **L. W. Elliott School** (La Elliott), operated for thirty four years and would have kept on "educating" pupils for many more years if **MALDEF** had not stepped in and filed legal action.

On June 16, 1970, in CIVIL ACTION NO. 6-224, the **U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, San Angelo Division** ruled in favor of the Mexican American plaintiffs and against the **Sonora ISD**. The court decision closed the school. Soon after the ruling in this case, the public swimming pool was opened

to everyone, barriers to residential living areas came down and social interaction among all communities began to change.

While the **Sonora** case has not received the national attention as other school desegregation education cases have, to those of us originally born or raised in this town prior to 1970, this was the turning point in history for the total community. This was especially true for the young Mexican American children attending school thereafter in **Sonora, Texas**. Unfortunately, the omission of this piece of history, has not, until now, been documented. The result is that many of these same children and those that came after them probably have never heard of **Mario Obledo**, **Pete Tijerina**, **MALDEF** or La Elliott School.

So today as people who knew **Mario Obledo** celebrate his life and contributions to our country, there is one sector in **Sonora, Texas** who will forever remember his service to Mexican American community.

We value and consider his role as a risk taker, visionary, brilliant legal scholar and leader who always believed in the spirit and desire for justice for our people. As **Dr. Henry Casso**, another founder of **MALDEF**, told me "we need to take the time to recognize and write about people like **Mario** and others; otherwise our youth will grow up with a mind that is empty of knowledge on whom and what our leaders have sacrificed so that others can succeed."

We mourn with those who knew **Mario**, but more than that, we from **Sonora Texas**, thank him for being there when we needed him. We will remember him in silence on September 11, 2010 when we erect a historical marker at the former site of the "Mexican" school officially named **L.W. Elliott School** but known to us as "La Elliott." **Mario Obledo PRESENTE!!**

Gus Chavez

Gus Chavez, co-founder

Defend The Honor

San Diego, CA

Steve Jordan Left His Fans a Spiritual Letter

Photo and story by Ramón Hernández

"Carta Espiritual was **Steve Jordan's** musical good-bye letter since it was his most recent production before he died on Friday the 13th in his S. San Joaquin Street home in **Southside San Antonio**. He was 71.

"I helped him cross to the other side," said **Azeneth Dominguez**, who had been by his side for 27 years. And it was she and **Juanita Castillo**, a hospice nurse, who were at **Jordan's** bedside when he exhaled his last breath at 11 p.m. as two of his daughters, **Anita** and **Mary Ann**, read Scriptures. "He died with a beautiful smile on his face," **Anita** recalled. "My dad would often say, 'I already played for the world, now I want to play for the Man upstairs,'" said **Mary Ann**, who is a Christian singer.

In December 2005, the squeezebox wizard was diagnosed with liver cancer, but **Jordan** was a fighter and he lived three years passed what doctors expected. But the late frail weak-boned **Jordan** was a fighter because he didn't want to go. However, he did realize he was mortal, had previously given his life to our Lord and Savior and a priest gave him the last rites Thursday at 1 p.m.

The music genius had committed to a performance in **Chicago** and he never failed to show up for a gig, so once he was aware of his imminent death, he said his last good-bye to **Richard** and **Steve III** and sent them off to fulfill his contract with **Nicholas Galvan**, drum; and their cousin **Robert Perez**, filling in for **Jordan** on accordion. "It was a hard thing to do, but it was something we had to do," **Steve III** said. "That was my dad's philosophy and he wouldn't have it any other way."

TESTIMONIALS FROM OTHER ARTISTS

Sabio and *sabiduría* are among the first Spanish words that peers

use to describe the man with the musical Midas Touch. *Sabiduría* translates to knowledge and wisdom gained from learning and experience.

As for testimonies, **Salvador "El Pavo" García** said, "*Esteban Jordan era un sabio*. I have to give credit where it's due and *Esteban* dominated the accordion more highly than anyone else because of his love for the art. He was a musical inventor."

Sabio translates to sapient, wise, all-knowing and skillful. A few months ago, **Flaco Jiménez** commented that, "*Steve plays a lot of jazz and rock'n'roll, which I can do, but his style is more progressive and precise because he knows where he's going when I am more spontaneous. And I admire his sabiduría. The difference between him and me in spite of my knowledge of jazz and rock and roll is that I am more rancheron (rural) and he is more urban. Many can imitate him, but few can compare*

because what they are lacking is originality."

"**Steve Jordan** was ahead of his time; and when he was progressive in an era of straight forward tradition *conjunto*, people just couldn't understand him," explained **Héctor Ríos**, executive producer of "Las Dos Amigas" on **Telemundo**.

Accordionist **Joél Guzmán** and **Bravo**

Combo, among others, say **Jordan** was a musical genius and **Sunny Saucedá** often raved about **Jordan's** technical knowledge which allowed him to take his music to a higher level.

STEVE JORDAN 101

While many state that his music stands alone and he was his own genre, **Jordan's** first love was jazz. As a result, he performed at the **Monterrey and Berlin Jazz** festivals. Rock and roll also had a special place in his heart and he was so good at improvising on the spot. He performed alongside **Carlos Santana** and the **Grateful Dead's**

Jerry Garcia plus **Poncho Sánchez** — all on stage at the same time.

To be called "the best accordionist" by other accordionists is the highest of accolades and **Jordan** earned it. As a result, he was inducted into virtually every Tejano music and conjunto hall of fame and last year, he was selected for induction into the **Premios a La Música Latina Hall of Fame**. However, for reasons unknown, the revolutionary musician turned down the honor.

In addition, the **Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum** had a special **Steve Jordan** display as a part of its "Sabor Latino" exhibit which ran from February to May of this year.

THE PERSONAL SIDE OF A MUSICAL GENIUS

The world famous squeeze box man's roots stemmed from his father **Antonio**, who — when not playing baseball — played harmonica and guitar. **Steve** named after **Antonio** dad began honing his craft when he

was seven. After the **Elsa**-native mastered a couple dozen musical instruments, he taught his siblings how to play an instrument so they too could leave the fields as a part of his group.

While **Saluté International Bar**, a cozy little hangout on the **North St. Mary's Street** strip, lost its most famous performer, the rest of **Jordan's** band will carry on.

The day following the hall of famer's death, there was a festive atmosphere at **Steve's** house where family, this writer, poets such as **Nephtali De León**; and musicians gathered to celebrate his life because, as **Anita** said, "We should cry when a baby is born because he is entering a life of trials and tribulations. While my father has gone to heaven and is at peace singing for our Lord 24/7."

Steve's body was cremated and a memorial service was held on Thursday, August 19 at **San Martínez de Porras Catholic Church** in **San Antonio**. For more photos, go to www.rivercityattractions.com.



ABOVE: Steve Jordan's children



ES RARA LA VEZ QUE LA DISCRIMINACIÓN SEA TAN OBVIA COMO EN ESTE CASO, PERO ES IGUAL DE REAL E IGUAL DE ILEGAL.

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"Ya se rentó el apartamento sobre el que usted pidió informes por teléfono."
"Solamente aceptamos gente que hable bien el inglés."
"No aceptamos adolescentes."

"El anuncio está equivocado: la renta en realidad es \$50 más."
"No le puedo asignar un lugar de estacionamiento para gente discapacitada."

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La Ley de Equidad de Vivienda prohíbe la discriminación basada en la raza, el color, la religión, la nacionalidad, el sexo, el tipo de familia, y discapacidad.

El trabajo que facilita la base para esta publicación fue apoyada por fondos de una concesión por el Departamento de la Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD en inglés). Los resultados y substancia del trabajo están dedicados al público. El escritor y publicador estará solamente responsable por la exactitud de las declaraciones y interpretación en esta publicación. Tales interpretaciones no necesariamente reflejan las vistas del gobierno federal.

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Dan Arellano

The Felix Longoria Story

The Latino/Latin American Studies Center Austin Community College Riverside Campus and the Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin present the Felix Longoria Story.

Felix Longoria sacrificed his life so that others could be free yet those same freedoms he died fighting for were denied him in his home town of **Three Rivers Texas**. **Felix Longoria** was killed in the Philippines during World War II, after the war his body was shipped to his home town of **Three Rivers** and the only funeral home in **Three Rivers** refused his widow the right to have him admitted because the "whites would not like it." Then **Senator Lyndon B. Johnston** intervened and had his body buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Scheduled to speak are **Dr. Pat Carroll** author of "The Felix Longoria Story," **Wanda P. Garcia** daughter of Dr Hector P Garcia founder of the American G.I Forum and Jim Akers son in law of **Dr. Hector P. Garcia**. The event begins at 3 P.M Saturday September 18 in the Auditorium at **Austin Community College Riverside Campus** 1020 Grove Blvd. The event is free and open to the public, refreshments will be provided. For More Information contact: **Dan Arellano**, President, Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin 512-826-7569 darellano@austin.rr.com

"Celebración de La Independencia"

**Thursday, September 16, 2010 • 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM •
Main Mall, The University of Texas at Austin**

This year marks the third annual "Celebración de La Independencia" on the campus of **The University of Texas at Austin**. The "celebracion" is co-hosted by **Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.**, **Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.**, and the **Mexican American Culture Committee**.

Although the 16th of September is Mexico's Independence Day, eight other Latin American countries also gained their independence in the month of September and will also be recognized at this event. These eight countries include **Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Chile, Brazil and Belize**.

The celebration of Latino history, culture, and heritage will be showcased throughout the event with various organizations presenting the different histories of each country. There will be free

food and entertainment provided by different Latino organizations, including the **Tex-Mex Conjunto Ensemble**, the **University of Texas' Ballet Folklórico** and **Texas Latin Dance**. A dance contest as well as a "Grito de Dolores" contest are also scheduled.

Sponsored by **Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority, Inc.**; **Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.**; the **Mexican American Culture Committee of the Texas Union**; the **University Co-Op**; the **Teresa Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies**; and the **Center for Mexican American Studies**.

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hay espacio en la nuestra**

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La Paradoja de La Vida

Dios Creo al Burro y Dijo:

"Serás burro, trabajarás de sol a sol, cargarás sobre tu lomo todo lo que lo pongan, y vivirás 30 años."

El burro contesto: *"¿Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero.... 30 años es mucho, por qué no mejor 10?"*

Y así Dios creo al burro.

Después Dios Creo al Perro y Dijo:

"Serás perro, cuidarás de la casa de los hombres, comerás lo que te den y vivirás 20 años."

El perro contesto: *"¿Señor, seré todo lo que me pidas pero... 20 años es mucho, por qué no mejor 10?"*

Y así Dios creo al perro.

Luego Dios Creo al Mono y Dijo:

"Serás mono, saltaras de árbol en árbol, harás payasadas para divertir a los demás y vivirás 15 años."

El mono contesto: *"¿Señor, seré todo lo que mi pidas pero... 15 años es mucho por qué no mejor 10?"*

Y así Dios creo al mono.

Finalmente Dios Creo al Hombre y Le Dijo:

"Serás el más inteligente de la tierra, dominaras al mundo y vivirás 30 años."

El hombre contesto: *"¿Señor, seré todo lo que quieras pero... 30 años es poco, por qué no me das los veinte años que no quiso el burro, los 10 años que rechazo el perro y los cinco años que no acepto el mono?"*

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

Brief History of LULAC in Austin

by Dr. Cynthia E. Orozco



In 1920 **La Raza** made up 2% of **Austin's** population but by 1930 they were 10%. In 1910 most of **La Raza** lived around the Central Business District but by the 1920s about 80 families lived in **East Austin** homes and converted railroad box cars. And by 1929 the all white **Austin City council** developed a city master plan to move **West Austin Mexicans** to **East Austin**.

Segregated racial residential patterns began to take hold. All members of the city council were European American men. **Austin** had around 80,000 residents in 1940. In 1941 signs appeared in **South Austin** protesting **La Raza** moving into the neighborhoods; they read *"Go Home, Mexicans."*

Comal School was a segregated four room house school for first and second graders

Schools were also racially segregated. **Comal School** was a segregated four room house school for first and second graders. Mexican American teachers were few; **Consuelo Herrera Mendez** was the first Mexican American to teach in the **Austin Independent School District**. In 1937 the **Lorenzo de Zavala School** was constructed for higher grades.

Under the leadership of **Dr. J.T. Saldivar**, **Austin Mexican Americans** organized **LULAC** in 1938 as **Council #85**. In 1939 officers included **G.A. Martins**, president; **Alfred Munguia**, vice-president; **Ezequiel Acevedo**, secretary, and **J.A. Santos**, treasurer. Members included **Nash Moreno**, **Dr. J.T. Saldivar**, **Roy Velasquez**, and **Dr. Alberto G. Garcia**.

Dr. Garcia started **Austin's** first Spanish-language newspaper, **La Vanguardia**, in 1920. **Nash Moreno**

opened his auto repair service in 1927 and **Roy Velasquez** began **Roy's Taxi** in 1931. They were part of **Austin's** small Mexican American middle class.

In August 1939 **Austin LULAC** sponsored the publication of **LULAC News**, the official monthly publication since 1931. It included an article about **Austin** by **Martins**. Members sponsoring ads included **Ted Valdez** of **Ted's** who sold barbecue, Mexican dishes, and beer direct from the keg and **Valdes Brothers, Quality Meats/Staple Groceries**.

Other ads supporting **LULAC** came from **A. Cisneros, Jr.**, cartoonist, illustrator, and designer; **Capitol Theatre**, from which "The finest Spanish Language films are brought to **Austin** every Saturday night for Mid-night Shows"; and **Ignacio Galvan**, a tailor with 30 years experience in making fine wearing apparel for ladies and gentlemen. **Council 85** sponsored **Boy Scout Troop No. 6**, headed by **Nash Moreno**.

Eva Carrillo and other women organized a separate LULAC council for women in 1938

Eva Carrillo and other women organized a separate **LULAC** council for women in 1938. They worked to desegregate movie theatres, swimming pools, and

schools. They also encouraged Latinos to buy property, pay their poll tax, vote and defend their rights.

In 1941 **Dr. George I. Sanchez** of **New Mexico**, and a professor at **UT**, became the national president of **LULAC**. In 1947 the national convention was held in **Austin, Texas**. **LULAC** member **Patricio Mendez** was the first Mexican American to run for public office in 1951. His wife, **Consuelo**, chaired **Ladies LULAC** at the state level in 1961. **Consuelo** and other women worked on political campaigns, getting voters to the polls, and scholarships.

LULAC has existed in **Austin** since 1938. In the 1970s **Council #85** existed for men; **Council #202** was for women; and **Council #650** included both men and women. By the 1970s it was common for men and women to organize together. By the 1970s **The University of Texas at Austin** began to impact **Austin** politics with more Latinos making **Austin** their permanent home and with the city leaving its more overt racist politics behind.

Austin LULAC became more progressive over time. More professionals and state employees joined. **Raul Vasquez** of **El Paso** became a resident of **Austin** in 1977 and became state director of **LULAC** in 1979. **Austin LULAC** helped elect Latino officials such as **Richard Moya** to county commissioner in 1970; **Gus Garcia** to the school board in 1972; **John Trevino** to city council in 1975; and **Margaret Gomez** commissioner in 1980. **Garcia** became the first Mexican American mayor in 2001.

Today, **LULAC** has 27 chapters in **Austin** and continues to provide scholarships, impact policy, and affect elections. **Austin LULAC** has empowered **La Raza**.

Note: *Raul Vasquez provided info about the 1970s.

Calendar of Events

September 4th, 2010 - Son y no Son at El Sol y La Luna from 10:00pm to 12:00 midnight. 600 East 6th Street in **Austin, Texas** For more information please call: (512) 444-7770

September 7th, 2010 - People in Defense of the Earth & her Resources (PODER) presents **30 Days to Save 300 Acres**: a presentation on reclaiming indigenous ancestral land in Ecuador with special guest Flavio Santi, Shuar/Quichua healer and leader of the Amazanga people. Event starts at 7:00pm at Resistencia Book Store 1801 "A" South First Street **Austin, Texas** For more information call: (512) 416-8885

September 11th, 2010 - Symposium on the Mexican Revolutions at Texas State University - San Marcos Event starts at 9:00am goes to 3:00 pm with featured historians at the **LBJ Student Center Teaching Theater**. Event is free and open to the public. See story on page 4 or visit the website: www.txstate.edu/history/mexico12010

September 11th, 2010 - Flamenco performance at **El Sol y La Luna** 600 East 6th Street in **Austin, Texas**. For more information please call (512) 444-7770

September 12th, 2010 - Benefit Concert for Eva Ybarra at Jovitas Restaurant 1619 South First St. in Austin, Texas. Event starts at 6:00pm Admission is \$10.00. See story on page 5.

September 15th, 2010 - Harvest of Loneliness, a presentation by the Center for Mexican American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. Event begins at 6:30pm in the Theatre (UNB 2.228) in the Texas Union. For more information please call: (512) 471-4557

September 16th, 2010 - The **Center for Mexican American Studies** will host it's third annual Celebración de La Independencia on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin. Free food and entertainment. Event will take place on Main Mall beginning at 6:00pm For more information please call: (512) 471-4557

September 18th, 2010 - The Felix Longoria Story presented by the **Latino/Latin American Studies Center** Austin Community College Riverside Campus and the Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin. Event begins at 3 P.M Saturday September 18 in the Auditorium at Austin Community College Riverside Campus 1020 Grove Blvd. The event is free and open to the public, refreshments will be provided. For More Information contact: **Dan Arellano**, President Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin 512-826-7569 darellano@austin.rr.com

September 23rd, 2010 - Early Vote Launch Party and Fundraiser for Texas State Representative Eddie Rodriguez. Event starts at 6:30pm at Nuevo Leon Mexican Restaurant at 1501 East 6th Street in Austin, Texas.

September 29th, 2010 - U.S. Hispanic Contractor's Association Annual Golf Tournament at the Onion Creek Country Club. Event starts at 8:30am. For more information call: : 512.394-6193

October 8, 2010 - The Mexico-US Solidarity Network presents: **The Bracero Story: Stolen Wages and the Struggle of Mexican Guest Workers** with guest speakers Norberto Flores of the National Assembly of Braceros & Stuart Schussler of the Mexico Solidarity Network. Event will be held at Resistencia Book Store 1801 "A" South First Street Austin, Texas For more information call: (512) 416-8885

Fiestas Patrias of Austin presents the 32nd annual Diez y Seis de Septiembre fiesta on September 11-12, 2010 at Fiesta Gardens.



This City of Austin park is located on the north shores of Town Lake east of I H 35. Commemorating Mexico's declaration of independence from Spain in 1810, **Fiestas Patrias of Austin** invites the **Austin** community to the Diez y Seis fiesta to celebrate and recognize the national holiday of **Mexican Independence Day**. This year marks the bicentennial anniversary of fight for independence that began on September 15, 1810.

This fiesta will bring the Mexican and Mexican-American communities together as they celebrate the rich heritage, history, and culture of their Mexican ancestors who fought for their independence from the Spanish government during the early 1800's. The determination to succeed in seeking liberty, equality and correcting social injustices imposed by the Spaniards inspired **Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla** to proceed and execute his plans for revolution on September 15, 1810.

A re-enactment of the famous "Grito de Independencia" speech that was given by **Fr. Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla** on September 15, 1810 will take place on September 11, 2010.

The two-day event will feature a variety of Tejano, Conjunto, and Norteno bands that will bring the extraordinary sound of the accordion to life through various levels of rhythms and beats. The unique sound that is incorporated using different types of stringed, horned, and electronic instruments along with the vocal harmony of these colorful bands brings the heart and soul of Mexico to life on the stage at **Fiesta Gardens**.

Headlining this year's event on Saturday, September 11, is **Gary Hobbs** and the **Hometown Boys**. On Sunday, September 12, TBA. Ballet folklorico dancers will perform a medley of Mexican dances that have originated from various regions of **Mexico** on Sunday afternoon Sept. 12. This exiting dance group has a variety of dancers of different ages who perform with colorful costumes from the different regions of **Mexico**.

On Saturday September 11, **Mariachi TBA** will perform and on Sunday September 12, Mariachi TBA will perform with both groups comprising up to eight talented musical performers.

The Show Ur Ride Ese' that will be held on Saturday, September 11, from 12pm until 5pm. There will be nine classifications of vehicles at this annual car show event. The success of previous car shows has made this years upcoming car event a show to look forward too. There will also be many different booths with games, face painting, and arts & crafts.

Many of the countries throughout Latin America, South America, and the Caribbean are also celebrating their independence during the month of September. During the month of September, National Hispanic Month is observed throughout the United States as Latinos celebrate the independence of their ancestral country from Spain.

Fiesta Gardens is located at 1901 Bergman St. Coming south on I H 35 take the Cesar Chavez exit. Take a left on Cesar Chavez St. to Comal St., which will be your second traffic light. Take a right on Comal St. heading south for six blocks to the parking area located behind **Martin Jr. High**.

For further information about this event contact the Diez y Seis hotline at 512-538-1351 or view or web-site at www.diezysesis.org or contact by email julius@diezysesis.org

Texas Renaissance Festival

Saturdays, Sundays
and
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October 9th - November 28th

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- Feria de Educación
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