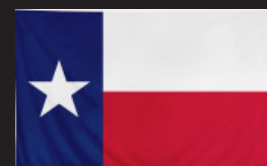




Volume 17 Number 6
A Bi-Cultural Publication
June, 2022

La Voz

Free
Gratis



Solamente el que carga el saco sabe lo que lleva a dentro

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Irma Garcia

Eva Mireles

4th Grade Teachers at Robb Elementary School
Uvalde, Texas

People in the News



Nicole Nieto Receives Lifetime Service Award from UT

Nicole Nieto, Executive Vice-President of the **National Hispanic Institute** based in **Maxwell, Texas**, was selected for the **William C. Powers, Jr. Lifetime Service Award** by **The University of Texas' Center for Community Engagement** for her work and service in the Latino community.

The **Center for Community Engagement** serves as **The University of Texas at Austin's** central resource for those interested in volunteerism and service-learning throughout the **UT** and **Austin** communities. Its goal is to connect the resources of the university to the community to meet community priorities.

Nieto, a native of **Austin, Texas** holds an MBA from **The University of Texas at Austin**, another MBA from **El Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey** and a BA, Latin American Studies from **Vassar College**.

She is also a 1986 alumna of the **Lorenzo de Zavala** program of the **National Hispanic Institute** and a graduate of **Johnston High School** from **East Austin**.



José Velasquez Named Volunteer of the Year by Latinitas

José Velasquez has been helping **Latinitas** for years with both muscles and creativity. As a former board member and **East Austin** native, **José** is a true advocate for equity and his community.

He is most known at **Latinitas** for his "Cumple", a birthday fundraiser he has thrown for the last 4 years which has raised over \$10k for **Latinitas'** programs. *"We couldn't be more grateful for him and his contributions."* said **Laura Donnelly, Executive Director of Latinitas**. *"Jose, we couldn't do it without you!"*



Linda Medina-Lopez Honored by TAMACC

A total of 12 Latina Leaders from across the **State of Texas** will be recognized at this year's June 17th luncheon at the **Austin Southpark Hotel** by the **Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce**.

One of those will be **Linda Medina Lopez** who serves as the **Executive Director** of the **Phfugerville Foundation** in **Round Rock**. She has a long history of working in the field of education after having been a school teacher herself.

TAMACC was founded in 1975 to promote business leadership, create economic opportunities and provide legislative advocacy for the Hispanic business community in **Texas**. **TAMACC** serves as the organizational umbrella for Hispanic chambers of commerce and business organizations statewide. It is the leading advocate for over 700,000 Hispanic owned businesses across the state. See page x for information about this event on June 17th.



Bertha Rendon Delgado Receives Award from LULAC

East Austin community activist **Bertha Rendon Delgado** received the **Woman of the Year Award** at the **93rd Texas State LULAC Convention** in **South Padre Island** on May 21st, 2022.

The award was presented by **Texas LULAC Director Rodolfo Rosales**. **LULAC The League of United Latin American Citizens** is the oldest Latino community based organization in the country. Her work has helped preserve the culture and history of **East Austin**.



Abel A. Chávez, PhD, the 10th President of Our Lady of the Lake University

Our Lady of the Lake University's (OLLU) 10th president will be **Abel Antonio Chávez, PhD**, a successful leader with a unique blend of higher education, business, engineering and global research experience. He will begin his work at **OLLU** on July 16, 2022, following eight years at **Western Colorado University** where he is currently serving as **Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success** and previously served as **Dean of Graduate Studies**.

The son of immigrants, **Dr. Chávez** grew up in **Denver**, collecting discarded items to repair and sell at flea markets. Though he had an affinity for mechanics, his father wanted him to get an education. **Dr. Chávez** obliged, becoming a first-generation student who earned three degrees, including an MBA and a doctorate in Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Chris Strachwitz Inducted into the Conjunto Music Hall of Fame

Chris Strachwitz the founder of **Arhoolie Records** out of **California** and a long time music archivist was inducted into the **Conjunto Music Hall of Fame** during the **40th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival** in May.

This award and honor was presented to him by **Juan Tejeda** at the **Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center** in **San Antonio**. It is a well deserved recognition not only for his very important documentary **Chulas Fronteras** about border music which came out in the 1970s, but for salvaging and documenting hundreds of thousands of records that are part of the **Texas/Mexico** music tradition.

This music was digitized and is available at the **UCLA Frontera Collection** website. **Chris** is responsible for the preservation of all forms of vernacular music that would have otherwise been lost if not for his passion and commitment to this endeavor.



PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher
Alfredo Santos c/s

Associate Editors
Diana Santos
Yleana Santos

Contributing Writers
Alicia Perez-Hodge
Tom Herrera
Dr. Rogelio Saenz
Dr. Cynthia Orozco

Distribution
Tom Herrera
Anna Valdez
Sergio Porras
Madison Miller

Email Address:
lavoztexas@gmail.com

**PUBLISHER'S
STATEMENT**

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

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Pensamientos

Masacre en Uvalde

Comentario Editorial de **Samuel Orozco**, Director de Noticias de Radio Bilingüe

Amanecemos tratando de despertarnos a la cruda realidad de haber padecido otra brutal, inconcebible masacre. Esta vez en una escuela elemental, la Primaria **Robb**, en la ciudad de **Uvalde**, en **Texas**. 19 de las víctimas niños, junto con dos maestros. Casi todos los niños de la escuela son latinos, igual que la población de la ciudad. Gente de medios modestos, familias trabajadoras. Un pueblito ubicado a medio **Texas**, a donde llega por cierto de lleno este nuestro servicio.

Se reporta que esta es la más mortífera matanza de estudiantes desde **Newtown** y ocurre 10 años después de **Sandy Hook** y a más de dos décadas de **Columbine**. En otras palabras, esta historia de horror no tiene fin. La pesadilla parece interminable. Esta tragedia es un verdadero y enorme desastre. Este de tipo no natural, sino totalmente social, que por lo tanto en teoría deberíamos ser más capaces de controlar.

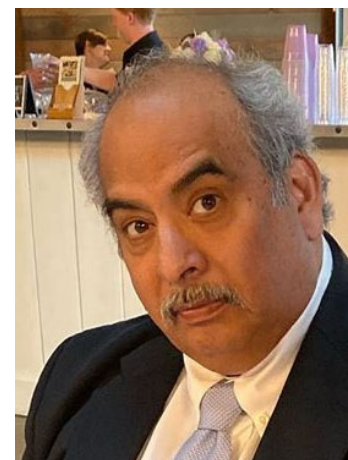
Comienza la búsqueda de los causantes, los responsables. En este momento de buscar culpables habrá que pedirle por favor a los comentocratas dejarse de buscar a los perpetradores al sur de la frontera. Igual que en **El Paso**, que en **Buffalo**, que en **Dallas**, el matón no viene del sur: es de aquí, es hecho en casa, fue formado aquí. No es una amenaza que viene de afuera como nos quieren hacer creer los embaucadores para distraernos de los verdaderos males internos.

Más tarde y en la semana le entraremos a fondo a reportar y comentar sobre esta noticia que tiene acongojada y angustiada a toda nuestra sufrida comunidad ... Por lo pronto los dejo con una pregunta: ¿Quién sale ganando con esta nueva y abominable matanza? A modo de pista les comparto un dato: Hoy los precios de las principales acciones de armas subieron de repente. Una hora después de la apertura del mercado, **Smith & Wesson** subió casi un 10 por ciento, **Sturm Ruger** subió un 4 por ciento y **Vista Outdoor** ganó más del 8 por ciento. Esto pasa siempre: los precios de las acciones de las empresas de armas y municiones aumentan siempre que pasan estas matanzas.

Es cuestión de Seguir la Pista del Dinero, Follow the Money, como dice la frase famosa de los que investigaban a los corruptos. Hoy las familias en **Texas** lloran desconsoladamente a sus hijos muertos. Al mismo tiempo, hoy la industria y el lobby de las armas están de plácemes por el aumento en sus jugosos dividendos.

El presidente **Biden** declaró que era “hora de convertir este dolor en acción” y los legisladores demócratas despejaron el camino para forzar la votación de una legislación que fortalecería las verificaciones de antecedentes para los compradores de armas. Desde el **Vaticano**, el **Papa Francisco** se suma al coro de los que piden acción. Además de rogar por los niños y adultos asesinados y sus familias, el sumo pontífice hizo una convocatoria: “es hora de decir ya basta al tráfico indiscriminado de armas”.

EDITORIAL



Alfredo Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher
of La Voz Newspapers

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M.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.S., Ph.D.
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10:30 a.m. English Mass in the Chapel
12:00 p.m. Misa en Español en la Iglesia

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Welcome Home!

Dr. Christopher Carmona Remembers Chinese Exclusion Act Signed into Law

On May 6, 1882, **President Chester A. Arthur** signed into law the **Chinese Exclusion Act**. The first major law restricting voluntary immigration to the U.S., the act banned all immigrants from **China** for 10 years, prohibited Chinese immigrants from becoming American citizens, and restricted the entry and re-entry of Chinese nationals.

As Chinese people joined the flow of migrants to the West Coast of the U.S. after the **Gold Rush** of 1849, many white Americans resented economic competition from Chinese workers, denounced Chinese people as racially inferior, and blamed them for white unemployment and declining wages. The **Exclusion Act** kept many Chinese nationals from entering the U.S. and fueled mistreatment of Chinese people in America. Soon, anti-Chinese violence in states like **Wyoming** and **Idaho** left Chinese immigrants dead, wounded, and fleeing their homes in fear.

Though initially authorized to last 10 years, the **Exclusion Act** was extended and strengthened over the next 80. In 1892, Congress extended the act for another decade, and in 1902, lawmakers made the act permanent and added more discriminatory provisions. The legal ban on immigration from **China** was slightly loosened in 1943, but large-scale Chinese immigration was not restored until the passage of the **Immigration Act of 1965**. Like Chinese immigrants did for generations, other hopeful immigrants to the U.S. continue to struggle against unjust laws and harmful abuse rooted in racial prejudice.

7TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE SUMMIT ON MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Saturday, June 11, 2022
9am-1pm

Join us for a one-day summit to share, celebrate, and strategize Mexican American Studies in TX schools.

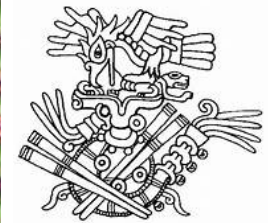
Sessions will include conversations about Mexican American Studies in:

- Politics & Policy
- Elementary Education
- High School Social Studies
- High School Literature
- Middle School Education
- Arts Education
- Higher Education
- Community-based Education

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Registration!





“TAMACC, a 47-year-old organization has many significant accomplishments and milestones. Our Women of Distinction award and the recognition of very accomplished women is one of the most notable. The recipients this year and of past years are truly an inspiration,” said **Samuel Guzman**, TAMACC Chairman.

“Year after year we are honored to recognize and celebrate the outstanding successes and contributions that women make in our Hispanic communities, state, and nation,” said **Pauline E. Anton**, TAMACC President and CEO. *“We are honored to induct these women into TAMACC’s Women of Distinction. We look forward to the recipients sharing their stories; they are incredibly motivational. These women are role models, and their stories inspire us all to do more.”*

For additional information, event tickets, or sponsorship opportunities, please visit our website at www.TAMACC.org or telephone (512) 444-5727.

TAMACC is a nonprofit 501 (c) 6 organization founded in 1975 to promote business leadership, create economic opportunities and provide legislative advocacy for the Hispanic business community in Texas.

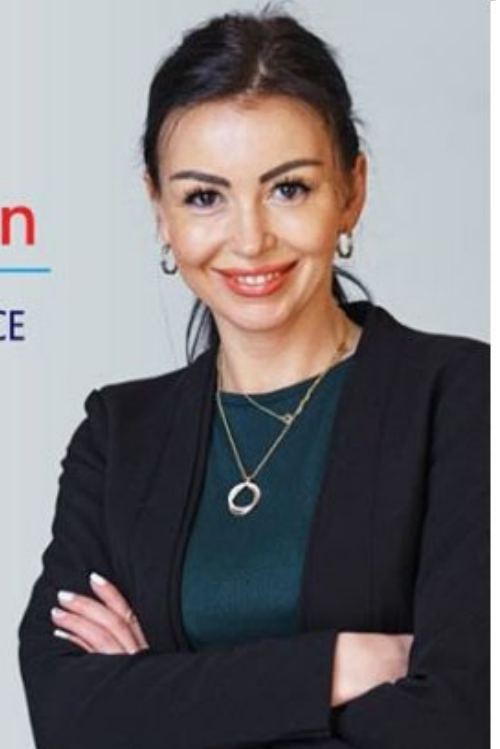
Originally TAMACC was composed of fewer than 20 business owners and professionals from three Texas cities, TAMACC’s members are now throughout Texas. Since its incorporation, TAMACC has grown into the most active state Hispanic association in the country which focuses on Legislative Advocacy, Procurement Programs, Training and Development of its members and Hispanic businesses in Texas. TAMACC is strategically headquartered in Buda, Texas and serves as the organizational umbrella for member Hispanic chambers and business organizations statewide. With a membership of over 15,000 business and is the leading advocate for over 700,000 Hispanic owned businesses in Texas.



Women of Distinction
AWARDS
TEXAS WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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The 2022 Women of Distinction are:

Esmeralda Adame, CEO, Consulting Firm, LLC, Mission

Barbara Armendariz, General Manager, Subaru of El Paso, El Paso

Yvonne “Bonnie” Garcia, Founder / CEO, MarketVision, San Antonio

Carmen Gutierrez, Community Advocate, Del Rio

Myra Leo, Principal, Husch Blackwell Strategies, Austin

Crystal Martinez, Owner / Agent, State Farm Insurance, El Paso

Linda Medina-Lopez, Executive Director, Pflugerville Education Foundation, Round Rock

Merida May Mendoza, Owner / Agent, Mendoza Insurance and Financial Services Agency, Corpus Christi

Della Fay Perez, Attorney, Angels of Love, McAllen

Dr. Ana Rush, Executive Director of Academics and Accountability, Del Valle ISD, Del Valle

Kerlin Sabogal, Founder and Executive Director, The Courage to Bee, Inc., Spring

Alejandra de la Torre, Owner / Agent, State Farm Insurance Agency, Round Rock

Carlos Hernandez, Ed.D., Appointed as interim president of Sul Ross State University

AUSTIN, TX – Texas State University System Chancellor Brian McCall has appointed Carlos Hernandez, Ed.D., as interim president of Sul Ross State University. Dr. Hernandez, who has served since 2014 as chief financial officer and senior vice president for operations at Sam Houston State University, will assume office on June 4, 2022.

“Dr. Hernandez brings more than 30 years of higher education experience and expertise to his new role at Sul Ross,” said Chancellor McCall. “As chief operating officer at Sam Houston State, Carlos has played a central role in the university’s growth and success over the past eight years, and I am confident that he will make a similar impact at Sul Ross.”

In his current role at SHSU, Dr. Hernandez oversees the university’s budget, financial reporting, human resources, facilities, risk management, compliance, and campus security and police programs. He has more than 34 years of public higher education experience, including leadership positions at The University of Texas at El Paso, the University of North Texas System and SHSU.

Dr. Hernandez is currently president of the Texas Association of State Senior College and University Business Officers (TASSCUBO), a position to which he was elected by his peers across the state. A West Texas native, Hernandez attended The University of Texas at El Paso from 1984 to 2009, earning a BBA Accounting, a Master of Education and a Doctorate of Education.

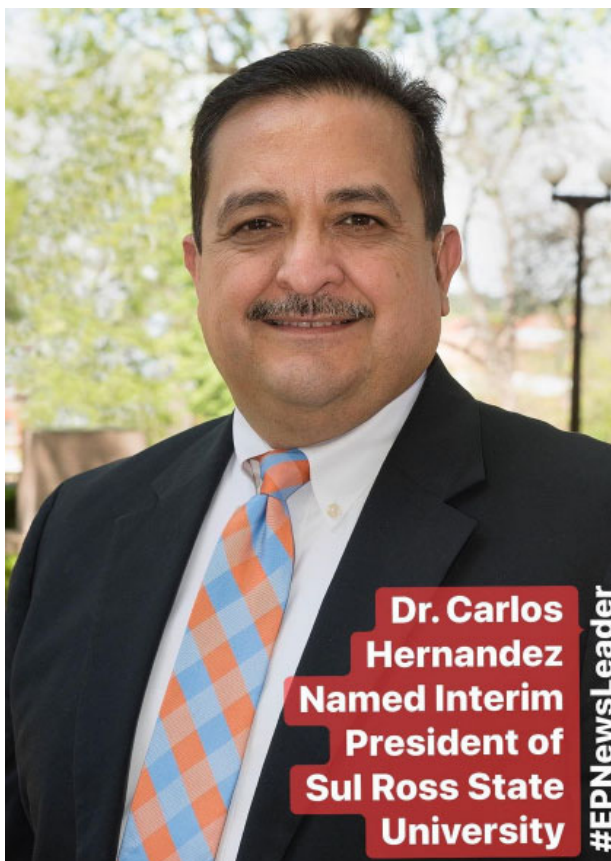
“I am thrilled and humbled by the opportunity to join Sul Ross State University, to serve our students in Alpine, Del Rio, Eagle Pass and Uvalde and to be a part of their Sul Ross experience,” said Hernandez.

Dr. Hernandez will work to further strengthen SRSU’s academic programs, enhance the university’s student recruitment and student success efforts across all campuses, and continue to fine-tune institutional operations. He will also work with the System Administration on legislative and budgetary priorities in advance of the 2023 Legislative Session.

Dr. Hernandez will succeed Sul Ross State University President and Alumnus Pete Gallego, who is leaving the university next month.

About TSUS

The Texas State University System, founded in 1911, is Texas’ first university system. TSUS member institutions currently serve more than 87,000 students on 13 campuses from far West Texas to the Gulf Coast. Member institutions include Lamar University, Sam Houston State University, Sul Ross State University, Texas State University, Lamar Institute of Technology, Lamar State College Orange, and Lamar State College Port Arthur.



Latinitas Purple Party

Laura Donnelly, found and is the Executive Director of Latinitas, stated “My blood bleeds purple and hitting 20 years is humbling, but also exciting because the talent coming up the pipeline from clubs, camps, conferences, coding and journalism certifications, interns and staff is INSPIRING, IMPRESSIVE and passionately equipped to tackle the world’s challenges with media, tech and culture. Honorees this year for Latinitas Purple Party are some of the sung, but also unsung women warriors of this city shedding light on equity in so many ways. Get your ticket to support them, us and a better Austin! www.latinitaspurpleparty.com



Somos una organización 501c(3) sin fines de lucro enfocada en empoderar a las niñas para que innoven a través de los medios y la tecnología. Ofrecemos una variedad de oportunidades para que las niñas descubran su voz, desarrollen habilidades en medios y tecnología y construyan una base sólida para su futuro.

¿QUÉ HACE LATINITAS?

A través de clubes extraescolares, campamentos, eventos, publicaciones y canales, brindamos un espacio, tanto físico como en línea, para que las niñas se expresen, desarrollen sus habilidades, aprendan sobre su cultura y descubran su voz única.

¿CUÁLES EL PROPÓSITO DE LAS LATINITAS?

Las latinas están subestimadas y subrepresentadas. Es hora de que las latinas sepan que son importantes; merecen ver sus experiencias reflejadas con honestidad y precisión.

¿POR QUÉ LATINITAS ESTÁ ENFOCADA EN LA JUVENTUD?

1 de cada 7 adolescentes latinas intenta suicidarse. Las niñas hispanas lideran a las niñas en todo el país en la tasa de intentos de suicidio.

(Fuente: Campaña Nacional para la Prevención del Embarazo Adolescente)

LATINITAS AUSTIN

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Pierce Burnette**

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Alice Ming Fei Yi



Reji Thomas



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MASSACRE IN UVALDE, TEXAS

**12:47 p.m.: The caller in Room 112
says *"Please send police now."***

Nunca Vamos a Olvidar



UVALDE SCHOOL SHOOTING

‘Please send the police now’

Children inside the school called 911, begging for help. About 80 minutes passed before police entered the classrooms. ‘It was the wrong decision. Period,’ DPS chief says

An 18-year-old gunman named Salvador Ramos entered an elementary school in Uvalde on Tuesday and killed 19 fourth graders and two teachers. At least 17 people were injured. According to a timeline from Steven McCraw, head of the Texas Department of Public Safety, one hour and 20 minutes elapsed between the first call to 911 and police finally confronting the shooter, who had fired at least 142 rounds in the school. What happened in between at Robb Elementary School has ignited public outrage over whether police could have saved lives by acting more quickly. The following is a timeline outlined by McCraw at a news conference Friday.

Elizabeth Souder

11:30 Teacher calls 911 and reports a car crash and a man with a gun.

11:32 Ramos begins shooting into classrooms from outside the school.

11:33 Ramos enters the school and begins shooting into room 111 or 112. He shoots more than 100 rounds.

11:35 Three Uvalde Police Department officers enter the school through the door Ramos used, followed by four more.

The three officers who first arrived go to the door of the classroom. The door is closed, and two receive grazing wounds from the shooter.

11:37 Ramos fires 16 more rounds.

11:51 Police sergeant and sheriff's department agents start to arrive.

12:03 Officers continue to arrive in the hallway; 19 officers are in the hallway by this time.

12:03 First 911 call from inside the classroom from a girl who whispers that she's in room 112.

12:10 Second 911 call: She calls back and says multiple people are dead.

12:13 Third 911 call: The same girl calls again.

12:15 More law enforcement arrive with shields.

12:16 Fourth 911 call: The same girl calls and says eight or nine students are still alive.

12:19 Fifth 911 call: A different girl in classroom 111 calls. She ends the call when another student tells her to hang up.

12:21 Ramos fires again; he's believed to be at the door. Police find 142 rounds of spent cartridges after the shooting ends.

12:36 Sixth 911 call: The initial caller in classroom 112 calls and is told to stay on the line and be very quiet. She says: "He shot the door."

12:43 She asks 911 to "please send the police now."

12:46 She says she can hear the police outside the door.

12:50 Law enforcement officers open the doors with keys they got from janitor. They kill Ramos.

12:51 Children leave the classrooms.

STORY, 5A

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE

9A "So much pain": A heartbroken community grieves at the memorial in the main square of Uvalde.

10A At the NRA convention in Houston, leaders reject the call for gun restrictions. For others, Uvalde was not top of mind.

11A Gov. Greg Abbott delivers taped remarks to the NRA, saying that no law would have stopped the Uvalde gunman.

1B The school shooting is only the latest source of anxiety, keeping North Texas parents up at night.

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MASSACRE IN UVALDE



Irma Garcia, 48

Eva Mireles, 44



READ THEIR STORIES, PAGE A26



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More



'IT'S THE SAME THING'

Tragedy ripples through the small towns near Uvalde

SABINAL — Nora Herrera recognized the faces. They weren't her children, but she used to joke with their parents that they were raised on her cooking. Truck drivers from Uvalde Estates would stop by Herrera's food trailer, and they grew to love her fajitas, molletes and potato-and-egg tacos — so much that they brought their families back on weekends.

Over the years, Nora's

MIKE FINGER

COMMENTARY
restaurant, and those families grew, too. Herrera remembers serving pregnant women, who later were

MASSACRE IN UVALDE

Grief grips victims' family members from near and far. **A3**

Protesters turn out another day at NRA convention in Houston. **A3**

A closer look at the teachers and students killed in the shooting. **A9**

Editorial: Honor the victims by doing something to prevent the next massacre. **A1A**

Leaders stress initiatives after Santa Fe, not stricter gun laws

By Cayla Harris and Jasper Scherer
AUSTIN BUREAU

A year after a gunman killed 19 people at Santa Fe High School in 2018, state lawmakers convened in Austin and passed the most comprehensive school safety package in modern Texas history.

The bills extended mental health initiatives in schools, established threat assessment teams to identify possibly dan-

gerous students, and required the number of school employees who could carry guns on campus. Schools were newly required to train students to use "bleeding control stations" during emergencies.

Some of the changes restricted firearm access. And some of them helped save lives in Uvalde, where a gunman killed at least 21 people, including 19 children, at an elementary school on Tuesday.

It was the third deadliest school shooting in American

In a mass casualty event on May 24, one man shot and killed 19 children and two teachers, and wounded at least 17 others at Robb Elementary School. Those victims have now been identified by family members.

They consist of co-teachers Eva Mireles and Irma Garcia, who taught fourth-grade, family accounts indicate both women died trying to protect their students.

EVA MIRELES

Mireles was married to a Uvalde Consolidated Independent School Dis-

trict officer, and had a daughter. She had been an educator for over 17 years, including working at Benson Elementary. She had been co-teaching with Garcia at Robb school for five years. According to her UCISD biography, she was certified in special education, and as a bilingual generalist in Spanish. Her profile says she loved running and hiking, and had taken up bicycle riding.

IRMA GARCIA

Garcia had been teaching for approximately 23 years at UCISD, and in correspondence with Leader-News staff in

35-39-year-old division in 2015, with a race time of 25 minutes. In a tribute written by her daughter, Adalynn Ruiz, on Facebook, she spoke of her mother being an early riser and an avid CrossFit buff who adored the family pets. She said her mother was her best friend, and an inspiration who raised her to be strong.

Garcia had been teaching for approximately 23 years at UCISD, and in correspondence with Leader-News staff in

2019, she said, "I can't say enough about Ms. Mireles. I am truly blessed to have such an amazing partner." She was married for more than 24 years to Jose Garcia, who died just days after the shooting of a suspected heart attack, which the family described as a broken heart, on May 26. The couple have four children, including a son training to be a U.S. Marine and another attending Texas State University. Her eldest daughter is a sophomore in high school and her youngest is in seventh grade. In an awards ceremony held

May 2, 2019, at the Willie De Leon Civic Center, Garcia was recognized as an elementary education top teacher; she was also recognized as a top teacher during the 2008-09 school year. In addition to being named campus teacher of the year on numerous occasions, she was a 2019 Trinity Prize for Excellence in teaching finalist. In a news article published Feb. 3, 2019, Garcia said she considered her peers at Robb school family. She said she found inspiration in her mother's words regarding edu-

cation. "My mother always said that an education is something that no one can ever take away from you," she said. "It's more valuable than any possession you will ever own." Garcia said in the story she shared that sentiment with her students.

MAITE YULEANA RODRIGUEZ

Maite Yuleana Rodriguez, 10, was the daughter of Ana Rodriguez and Adrean Rodriguez. According to her mother, her favorite color was green, and she loved both

PLEASE SEE 21, PAGE 11A



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AREA DEATHS/PAGE 7A

Andrew Allen
Robert Copenhaver
Amerie Jo Garza
Maranda G. Mathis
Jaliah N. Silguero
Hortencia Vara

2022 TO DATE: 2.55
2021 SAME PERIOD: 2.55
2020 SAME PERIOD: 2.55
11A YEAR AVERAGE: 2.55
EDWARDS ADJUSTED: 2.55
PREVIOUS LEVEL: 2.55
2021 SAME PERIOD: 2.55

TODAY: 99
73

OBSERVED
HIGH LOW RAIN
99 73 0.00
73 67 0.00
99 73 0.00
73 67 0.00

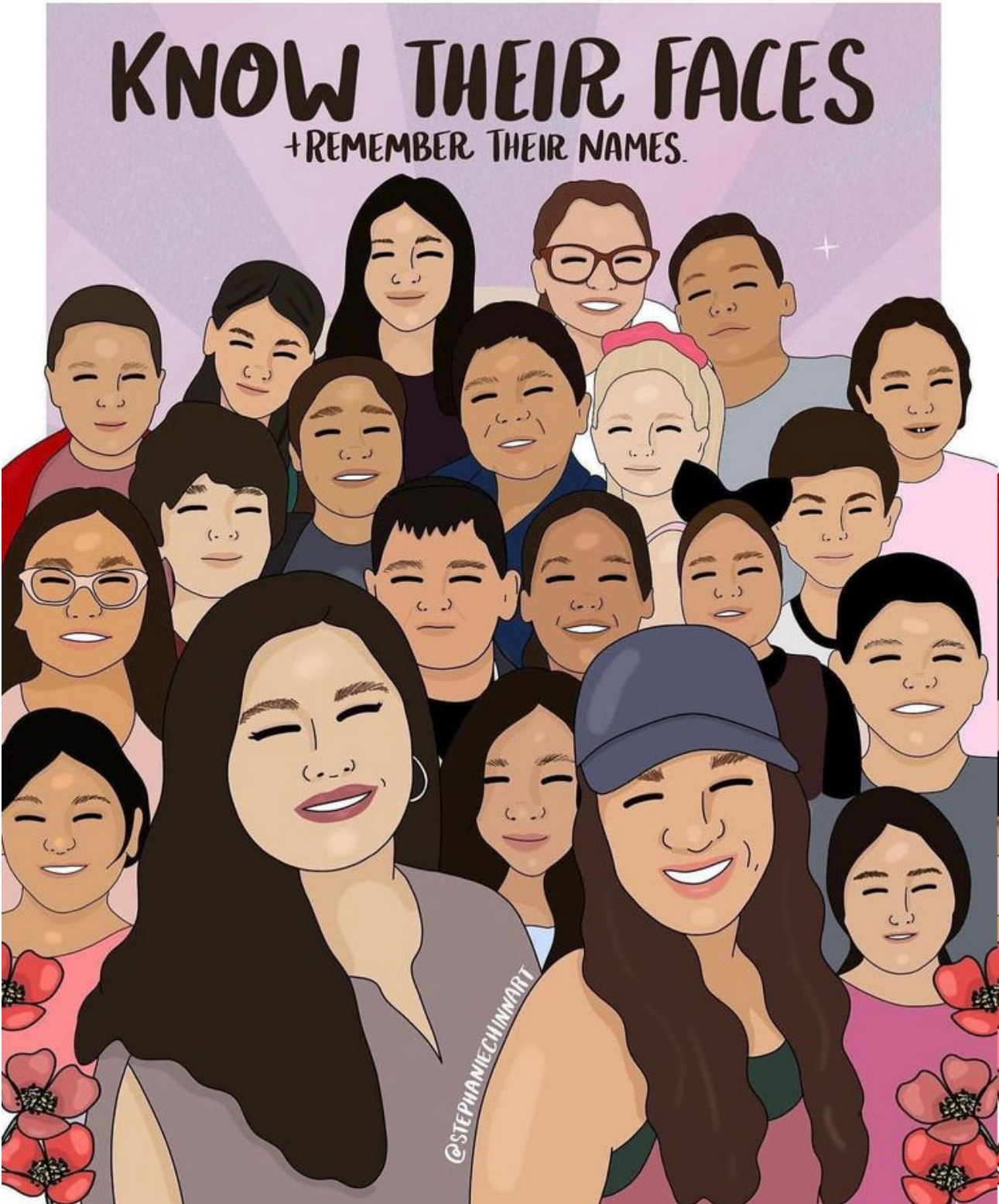
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- Nevaeh Bravo 10 años
- Jacklyn Cazares, 10 años
- Makenna Elrod, 10 años
- Jose Flores, 10 años
- Ellie Garcia, 10 años
- Irma Garcia, 49
- Uziah Garcia, 8 años
- Amerie Jo Garza, 9 años
- Xavier Lopez, 10 años
- Jayce Carmelo Luevanos, 10 años
- Tess Marie Mata, 10 años
- Miranda Mathis, 11 años
- Eva Mireles, 44
- Alithia Ramirez, 10 años
- Annabell Guadalupe Rodriguez, 10 años
- Maite Yuleana Rodriguez, 10 años
- Alexandria “Lexi” Aniyah Rubio, 10 años
- Layla Salazar, 10 años
- Jailah Nicole Silguero, 10 años
- Eliahana Cruz Torres, 10 años
- Rojelio Torres, 10 años

Las lágrimas de cocodrilo de los republicanos

por Rogelio Sáenz

El martes, 24 de mayo, empezó el día en Robb Elementary School en Uvalde con los alumnos llenos de excitación ya que en dos días terminaba el año académico, llenos de planes que tenían para el verano, y llenos de vida y esperanza. No se sabía que Salvador Ramos, un hombre que recientemente cumplió 18 años, tenía planes que les robará sus vidas preciosas y futuros brillantes a 19 alumnos jovencitos y dos maestras de la escuela primaria. En un instante desgarrador, las vidas de muchas personas inocentes y de sus familias cambiaron trágicamente. Un dolor profundo e incomparable para las familias que perdieron sus preciosos niños y niñas y madres y esposas. Un golpe al alma y al corazón que no nos podemos imaginar. La comunidad de Uvalde, el estado de Texas, y la nación está en luto.

Desafortunadamente, las políticas públicas de Texas empujadas por el gobernador Greg Abbott, el gobernador teniente Dan Patrick, y el partido republicano han creado un ambiente que pone en riesgo no solamente a jóvenes en las escuelas del estado de Texas, pero también al público en general. Abbott, Patrick, y los republicanos han promovido y promulgado con gran entusiasmo leyes que facilitan la adquisición de armas en Texas. En su última sesión, la asamblea legislativa de Texas promulgó 22 leyes asociadas con armas,

muchas de ellas limitando restricciones sobre las armas y expandiendo el acceso a las armas en el estado. Mallory Falk, una reportera de la estación pública de Houston KERA, ha compuesto una lista de estas leyes. Por ejemplo, HB 1927 permite que tejanos cargan pistolas en público sin licencia y sin investigación de antecedentes y entrenamiento. HB 2622 prohíbe agencias estatales y gobiernos locales de hacer cumplir con nuevas reglas federales sobre las armas.

¿A quién se le ocurre crear tal leyes que ponen en riesgo y peligro de ser víctimas de armas a la población del estado de Texas? ¿Y por qué lo hacen?

Abbott, Patrick, el fiscal general de Texas Ken Paxton, y los republicanos han creado leyes liberales sobre las armas para apoyar sus partidarios políticos, incluyendo la Asociación Nacional del Rifle, y para ganar el favor del campo político de la extrema derecha asociada con el expresidente Trump. Es dolorosamente obvio que los tres republicanos que corren la política de Texas priorizan sus propios futuros políticos y el partido republicano en vez del cuidado de la seguridad del pueblo y del público general.

Como lo han hecho tantas veces previas cuando hay una tragedia debida a las armas en

el estado o en la nación, los políticos republicanos crean un circo político con lágrimas y palabras insinceras, echándole la culpa a todo menos sus leyes que han creado que resultan en los masacres y las tragedias. Las leyes liberales limitando las restricciones y aumentando el acceso a las armas son insostenibles. Muchas personas inocentes han sido las víctimas y las personas que han pagado con sus vidas el precio que cobran las leyes que han promulgado Abbott, Patrick, Paxton, y los republicanos. ¡Basta con sus lágrimas de cocodrilo! Si los niños y las niñas y maestras que perdieron sus vidas en la masacre en Uvalde que sus leyes facilitaron, les importan a estos políticos sinvergüenzas, que tomen acción para deshacer las leyes sobre armas que ellos han creado.

Al fin, no podemos olvidar las 21 personas hermosas que perdieron sus vidas preciosas en Uvalde el 24 de mayo de 2022. Digamos sus nombres y los recordamos a ellos y ellas y a sus familias en nuestros pensamientos.

Que nunca jamás pase una tragedia como esta.

Rogelio Sáenz es Profesor en la Universidad de Texas en San Antonio.

Robb Elementary School

Time line

Texas Department of Public Safety Director Col. Steven McCraw gave a detailed timeline of the mass shooting at **Robb Elementary School** on May 24 that left 19 children and two teachers dead.:

September, 2021 - **Salvaador Ramos** asks his sister to purchase him a gun. She refuses.

February 28, 2022 - In a four person chat on Instagram, **Ramos** discussed being a school shooter

March, 1, 2022 - In a four person group chat on Instagram, a user says to **Ramos**,
"Word on the street is you're buying a gun"
Ramos replied, *":Just bought something, RN."*

March 14, 2022 - **Ramos** posts on Instagram, *"10 more days."*
 A user replied, *"Are you going to shoot up a school or something?"*
Ramos reponds, *"No. And stop asking dumb questions. You'll see."*

May 9, 2022 - A young girl in **Germany**, referred to as **"Cece."** meets **Ramos** on Yubo, a social media app described as a dating app for teens. The two begin a dialouge and exchange cell phone numbers, **Cece** told **ABC** news.

May 16, 2022 - **Ramos** turns 18, accorrding to the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives**,

May 17, 2022 - **Ramos** buys a semi-automatic rifle at a sporting goods store called Oasis Outback in Uvalde, Texas

May 18, 2022 - **Ramos** purchases 375 rounds of ammunition for the rifle , according to **Texas Department of Public Safety director Col. Steven McCraw**. It is not known where he purchased that ammunition.

May 20, 2022 - **Ramos** purchases another semi-automatic rifle again at the **Oasis Outback**

May 24, 2022 - Sometime Tuesday morning - An Instagram accout that law enforcement sources tell **ABC** news they believe is connected to Ramos sent another user on the social media platform a photo of a gun lying on a bed according to a user who shared direct messages from the suspect's alleged account with **ABC** news. Sometime around 11:00am, **Ramos** allegedly sends test message to **Cece** the young girl in **Germany** whom he met earlier, claiming that he was about to "do something" to a his grandmother, Law enforcement sources said these messages are part of the ongoing investigation. Shortly after 11:00am, **Ramos** shoots his grandmother (**Sally**) "in the face" according to **Steven McCraw, Director Texas Department of of Public Safety** and flees his grandmother's home. At some point after shooting his grandmother, **Ramos** sends another message to Veve announcing that he shot his grandmother and was heading to a school. **Ramos** wounded grandmother, runs across the street to a neighbor's home to report **Ramos** to the police. She was then taken to the hospital and then transported via helicopter to **San Antonio**.

11:27 a.m.: Video shows that an exterior door to **Robb Elementary School** that gunman **Salvador Ramos** entered was propped open by a teacher.

11:28 a.m: **Ramos** crashes a vehicle near the school into a ditch, gets out and begins firing upon two people who came outside to see the crash near a funeral home. Civilians are not struck by gunfire. Multiple law enforcement sources said **Ramos** had a total of seven 30 caliber round magazines with him in the classroom and an additioal 15 magazines were found in a backpack.

11:30 a.m.: The first 911 call is made to **Uvalde** police reporting a car crash and a man with a gun outside the school.

11:30 a.m.: The **US Marshals Service** says it received a call from a **Uvalde** police officer requesting assistance.

11:31 a.m.: The shooting suspect reaches the last row of cars in the school parking lot and shooting begins outside of the school. Patrol vehicles reach the funeral home, and a patrol car drives by shooter, who is hunkered down by another vehicle. **Ramos** jumps the fence and approaches the school through a parking lot, firing multile rounds at the school building. Patrol vehicles arrive at the scene of the funeral home shootings. A **Uvalde ISD** officer who is not on campus hears the 911 call about the shooting near the school and immediately drives to the area. The ISD officer approaches a person he believes is the suspect but in fact is a teacher at the school. In doing so the ISD officer drives by **Ramos** who is crouching behind parked vehicles.

Time line

- 11:33 a.m. **Ramos** enters **Robb Elementary** through its west entrance - the same one that was propped open by the teacher moments earlier. After entering the building, **Ramos** walks approximately 20 to 30 feet before turning right down a corrido. After walking an additional 20 feet, **Ramos** enters a classroom door to his left. Once inside, **Room 111** or **112**, he fires off more than 100 rounds at students and teachers. The two classrooms are connected internally.
- 11:35 a.m.: A total of seven officers are on the scene, and three officers enter the school, later followed by an additional team of three more officers and a sheriff. Two of the initial officers received grazing wounds from the suspect while the classroom door was closed.
- 11:37 a.m.: Sixteen rounds were fired from 11:37 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.
- 11:43 a.m.: **Robb Elementary** announces on **Facebook** that *"Robb Elementary is under a Lockdown Status due to gunshots in the area."*
- 11:51 a.m.: More officers arrive.
- 11:55am - Onlookers gathered at the school grow restless and encourage officers to enter the building, according to live stream video posted on social media. At one point a woman yells, *"Get in [there]! I'm gonna go, I am gonna f***king go."* Moments later the woman confronts officers again: *"It's one person, take him out . . . do the parents got to go in there? I'm ready if I have to."*
- 12:03 p.m.: As many as 19 officers are in the school's hallway. A 911 caller whispers that she is in **Room 112**. She remains on the phone for a minute and 23 seconds.
- 12:10 p.m.: A 911 call is received from the same girl in **Room 112**, reporting multiple people are dead. The first group of Deputy U.S. Marshalls from Del Rio, nearly 70 miles away arrive on site.
- 12:13 p.m.: The girl makes another 911 call.
- 12:15 p.m.: **Border Patrol's** tactical unit **BorTac** team arrives on scene.
- 12:16 p.m.: The same girl makes another 911 call, reporting there were *"eight to nine students alive."*
- 12:17 p.m.: **Robb Elementary** announces on **Facebook**: "There is an active shooter at **Robb Elementary**. Law enforcement is on site. *"Your cooperation is needed at this time by not visiting the campus. As soon as more information is gathered it will be shared. The rest of the district is under a Secure Status."*
- 12:19 p.m.: A different 911 call is received from a caller in **Room 111**, but the caller hung up after another student told them to.
- 12:21 p.m.: Suspect fires again. Another 911 call is received, and three shots fired are heard. Officers move down the hallway.
- 12:30pm - **Uvalde Fire Department** scanner traffic calls on "additional firemen need to respond to Mill Street to establish a perimeter to assist Uvalde EMS and Uvalde PD, once again we need to respond to South Grove and Mill Street."
- 12:36 p.m.: The initial 911 caller in **Room 112**, described as a *"student child"* calls back and is told to stay on the line and be quiet. The caller says *"he shot at the door."* The call lasts 21 seconds,
- 12:43 and 12:47 p.m.: The caller in **Room 112** says *"please send police now."*
- 12:46 p.m.: 911 caller can hear police next door.
- 12:50 p.m.: Shots are heard being fired over the 911 call. Law enforcement officers breach door using keys from a school janitor. Officers shoot and kill **Ramos** in the classroom. Immediately after killing **Ramos**, officers engage in a "rescue operation" to save remaining children.
- 12:51 p.m.: 911 call, it sounds like officers are moving children out of the room.
- 1:06pm. Police announce on social media that the suspected shooter was killed by officers on the scene.

Reflejos y Tributos

Blandina Cardenas Flores

President Biden's visit to **Uvalde** today reminded me of the visit 52 years ago that **Walter Mondale** made to **Uvalde**. He went there, with **Richard Avena** as his guide, because of the walkout and the lawsuit at the time. While in **Uvalde** he had coffee with **Genoveva Morales** in her home. She told him what her children had endured in the segregated schools of **Uvalde** and how that was her reason for standing with the students who had walked out and why she was a plaintiff in the law suit. **Robb Elementary** was the MEXICAN SCHOOL at the time it is situated some distance from the other district schools at the time.

The visit affected him deeply. From **Uvalde** he came to the **Edgewood ISD** where **Jose** and I and luminaries like **Josue Gonzales, Gloria Zamora, Becky Barrera, Max Castillo, Bertha Perez,** and **Tina Guerra** were developing truly visionary programs that valued what MEXICAN AMERICAN students brought to the school.

He went back to **DC** a changed policymaker. He now had in his mind's eye the tragedy of the problem and the promise of some solutions. **Genoveva** had a direct influence on educational equity policy. He would always talk about her with watery eyes. Of course it also impacted my life because I ended up on his staff and I was the only one who understood why he cried. He became my champion.

I pray that **President Biden** will carry **Uvalde** in his mind's eye and in his heart's voice and that in ALL the policy that he advocates these good people, their strength and their needs, will be at the forefront. And I hope that **Senator Cornyn** comes to have a conversation with the parents of **Uvalde** so that they will be in his mind and in his heart as he works on Gun Safety Policy

My beautiful, “City of shady trees” hometown, has been wounded by a senseless act of violence, my friends and family are heartbroken.

I was born and raised in **Uvalde Texas**, graduate of **UHS, SWTJC,** and **Texas State**. In 1984 my late husband **Eloy Reyes** and I relocated to **New Mexico**. We never stayed away too long from **Uvalde**, because that is where our heart and soul is.

While raising our kids in **New Mexico**, we made sure we were in **Uvalde** during the holiday’s, family events, and going to visit just because. They learned the importance of family time, whether at the river, going hunting, or eating some of Grandma’s delicious meals, but mostly they learned about the simplicity of life, and the goodness in peoples hearts in our small town. There was always a helping neighbor.

When I think of **Uvalde** I think of all these things, and I remember my childhood, walking to **Anthón** elementary with my siblings. We never worried about school shootings, we were carefree children. Today children are asking “are we safe at school”? We must demand change to protect our people.

My heart hurts for all,

Pat Luna Reyes

Emilio Zamora, Ph.D.

Angela and I drove down to **Uvalde** Saturday and Sunday to pay our respects to the families suffering unimaginable losses to gun violence and incompetent authorities. The grief and sorrow were palpable as was the frustration with gun violence and the senseless defense of guns by conservative state and local leaders. Inspiring and instructive moments were also evident. Teachers shielded their children, parents, teachers and youth bore brave witness. The Archbishop from **San Antonio** held a moving Sunday service, and crosses, flowers, veladoras (candles) and words of righteous love lifted spirits. Parents rescued and consoled their children, and everyone reflected and prayed over the departed, injured and traumatized with abundant love.

Angela and I shared in the many mixed emotions, but were struck by the familiar and dismissive attitude towards Mexicans and Latinos in **Texas**. The majority of the persons appearing in the media reports—including newscasters, pubic officials, and newspaper reporters—failed to say much of substance regarding the Mexican/Latino people from **Texas**, including that they are among the poorest in our state, with chronic levels of unemployment, low-paying jobs, low educational attainment levels, mapping onto related critical needs in the areas of public health, counseling and political representation. This, despite a long history of protest against discrimination. **Uvalde** itself has a history of student walkouts against discrimination and inequality in our schools, a court-ordered ruling on integrating schools, and a failure to consider that these problems and the violence associated with them have been constant, if unfortunate, companions in our history throughout the state.

Acknowledging the continuous socioeconomic burdens in Mexican/Latino communities is not enough. Rather we must also examine the direct causal relationship between what we might refer to as “social trauma” and violence in our communities. Consider the pain associated with our community’s experience with high dropout rates and the anxieties this creates in our youth. This is not to excuse the actions of the killer, but rather to acknowledge sources of social trauma that disproportionately damage our youth with few, if any, persons in positions of authority seeming to care.

Little, if anything, was said in the public discourse about the violence against families taking place along the nearby border, the erasure of our history in our standard state curriculum, or the high levels of gun ownership along immigration corridors and in places with high concentrations of Mexican and Latino people. We were also personally bothered by the general absence of Mexicans and Latinos among the newscasters, journalists, and public officials (except among the different polices forces that are important sources of employment), and the constant mispronunciation of Spanish-language names and terms. One would expect such linguistic ignorance to prevail among foreigners but not from persons who have lived among us their entire lives or who purport to speak about “minorities” and “communities of color” throughout the country. We may have to start calling them cultural foreigners.

In short, a denial of who we are socio-historically and the use of supremacist language that erases us from the discourse continues to deny our humanity. May the beautiful children who died rest in peace and may the families who continue to suffer find the strength to continue living peaceful, productive lives.

Reflections and Tributes

Dr. Angela Valenzuela

We just got back from **Uvalde**. My husband, **Emilio** and I, took a quick, weekend trip to pay our respects. What happened in **Uvalde** felt painful, deeply personal, and much too close to home. My emotions run the gamut between petrifying sadness at the tragic loss of so many children and their teachers, and gut-churning outrage at our republican leadership that do not want to see the truth before their very eyes that—but for their greed, love of money, power, and guns—expressed in harmful policies and priorities—this tragedy could have been avoided.

There is so much gun violence in America that **President Joe Biden** and **Vice-President Kamala Harris** had to split up to cover the horrific, recent shooting in **Buffalo, New York**—that took the lives of 10 people in the Black community—so that he and **Jill** could make it to **Uvalde**. **Emilio** and I indeed found it comforting to be sitting close to them both in yesterday's Sunday mass at **Uvalde's Sacred Heart Catholic Church** where I got the chance to thank them for coming. "*Your welcome*," he responded quietly.

I appreciated that **Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller** officiated in English, intermixed with Spanish, with the **Bidens** in attendance, receiving, along with the rest, his words of solace and reassurance. This apparent decision to not have **Biden** speak assured that the service would be centered on a community's healing rather than politics. Although he did speak to the families afterwards in a private session, I imagine that as a **Catholic** himself, he likely preferred to be consoled rather than to console as he often does.

A wonderful gesture by the archbishop was his calling all of the children attending mass to the front of the church where he expressed words of support and comfort to them all in a soft-spoken, loving voice. At least one small child near us sobbed throughout inconsolably with his mother having to pull him out of the service earlier than the rest. It's all so heart breaking.

For all of us who have children, grandchildren, or who work closely with children, all of this must surely have special resonance. In our case, we have a grandson who is the same age as many of these children at **Robb Elementary**. He knows about what happened and said to us on Saturday that "*It's sad*," adding that "*this shouldn't happen to children*." We work closely with this age group and their families at our Saturday school, **Academia Cuauhtli**. We are planning a healing ceremony for the children and families that we work with that is tentatively for next Sunday morning on June 5, 2022.

Our intentions are to listen to what our children and youth have to say about all of this since we know it's affecting them, perhaps making them fearful of attending school. Such thoughts are sure to lurk in many teachers' minds, as well, such that we all need to do what we can to embrace them while simultaneously advocating for meaningful gun reform legislation at this crucial point in our history as a country.

To be sure, the trauma that **Uvalde** is experiencing right now is reverberating across the country with children and teachers, respectively, fearing schools as potentially dangerous places to attend and work. These survivors will need every penny to become not so much "whole," since that's impossible for survivors, but at least "more whole" with effective counseling and therapy.

In the meantime, let's all hug our children and their teachers even as we contemplate how a world without guns is actually a much safer world than one with them. Collectively, let's commit to changing not just gun laws, but also our hideous culture of gun violence.

Educational Equity, Politics & Policy in Texas

This blog on Texas education contains posts on accountability, testing, K-12 education, postsecondary educational attainment, dropouts, bilingual education, immigration, school finance, environmental issues, Ethnic Studies at state and national levels. It also represents my digital footprint, of life and career, as a community-engaged scholar in the **College of Education at The University of Texas at Austin**.



We have got your back little Bro

PFC Cristian García, the town of **Uvalde**, the state of **Texas** and the entire nation stands with you in the aftermath of the **Robb Elementary School Massacre** and the loss of both your parents. They were so proud of you on the day you earned the title of **United States Marine**.

Your mother even baked you a special **Marine Corps** themed cake and cookies on the day you left for boot camp. She was a true **Mother of a Marine (MoM)** and died a hero! When facing a threat she stood her ground, protected her students, and in doing so sacrificed her own life in shielding those children with her body so that they could live. After 24 years of marriage, your father, **Joe Garcia**, who loved her so much left this world of a broken heart. She was the love of his life. It is the end of a beautiful love story, and they are together forever. As their legacy will live on in our hearts forever as an example and light in the darkness against the evil in this world.

You are now the eldest son of four children, a young leader in our Corps, in mourning with the backing and support of the entire country behind you. On behalf of a grateful nation, our heartfelt condolences to you and your entire family on behalf of your **Marine Corps** family. Don't give up! We will stand with you, just as they did on this day to fight this battle with you!

Jackal

Joaquin Castro

I went to Uvalde today to pay my respects and meet with family members of the victims and community members. I told them that San Antonio and the nation grieve with them. I promised to get to the truth about what happened to their loved ones and why it took so long to stop the shooter. And I said I would do everything possible to keep more American communities from suffering in the same way because of senseless gun violence. They all demanded change.

Reflejos y Tributos

I’m from Uvalde. I’m not surprised this happened.

Originally published in the: **THE WASHINGTON POST** on May 29, 2022 at 1:42 p.m. EDT
Neil Meyer, a retired lawyer, is a fifth-generation Texan. He now lives in Bethesda, Maryland.

I was born in **Uvalde, Tex.**, lived there recently and love its complex history and people. Like most, I’ve been struggling under the weight of grief to understand the violence that left 19 children, two teachers and a young killer dead last week. But I’m not surprised.

First, you would be challenged to find a more heavily armed place in the **United States** than **Uvalde**. It’s a town where the love of guns overwhelms any notion of common-sense regulations, and the minority White ruling class places its right-wing Republican ideology above the safety of its most vulnerable citizens — its impoverished and its children, most of whom are Hispanic.

Second, at news of the shooting, I was struck to hear the words “**Robb Elementary**” because I knew of its centrality to the struggle in **Uvalde** over the past half-century to desegregate its schools. **Robb** sits in the city’s southwest quadrant. So I knew the victims of the shooting would largely be Hispanic. They have been locked into that school for decades.

In **Uvalde**, simply put, everything north of Highway 90 is primarily White Republican, and everything south is mostly Hispanic Democrat. The city has about 15,000 residents; more than 80 percent identify as Hispanic or Latino.

Most of Uvalde’s political leadership and the heads of the largest employers are White. At the center of town on the courthouse grounds, you’ll find a monument to **Jefferson Davis**, the Confederate president — installed when the **Ku Klux Klan** dominated **Uvalde** politics. (Some of us tried to get the monument removed after the murder of **George Floyd**, but that’s a story for another day.)

By **Neil Meyer**

When I heard reports about the shooter, a young Latino, I winced at the reflexive disclaimer that he wasn’t an “illegal immigrant.” It wasn’t surprising to learn that he was bullied for a speech impediment, may have come from a broken family struggling with drug use and had experienced problems in school. Drug use plagues the city, and the courts struggle under the weight of young people’s encounters with the legal system. About 1 in 3 **Uvalde** children live in poverty.

The killer allegedly bought his guns at the **Oasis Outback**, a popular lunch spot for wealthier Uvaldeans, known for its large buffet, hunting supplies and gun shop. On most days you’ll also see groups of **Border Patrol** agents and local law enforcement there. It’s a monthly meeting place for groups such as the **Uvalde County Republican Women**, whose **Facebook** page includes posts decrying “the border invasion.”

The **Oasis** reflects the establishment’s deep cultural reverence for guns, hunting and the **Wild West** mythology. I wasn’t surprised that an 18-year-old could walk in and easily buy tactical weapons without anyone being concerned.

I wasn’t surprised to see the Republican panel of politicians at a news conference the day after the shooting, almost all White and in top positions of power in the community and the state, taking the lead. In **Uvalde**, the custodians of order — the chief of police, the sheriff, the head of the school district police — are Hispanic, but here they were largely silent. Unsurprisingly, they now bear the primary blame for the disastrous response at the school.

Finally, I wasn’t surprised to see victims being flown to **San Antonio** for treatment. The **Uvalde** hospital was converted in recent years to a critical access facility, limiting its number of beds. The hospital benefited

financially, but many residents seeking health care must now travel to distant locations. The negative impact on a community with high rates of poverty — families who can’t afford this burden — is obvious.

President Biden and the first lady visited **Uvalde** on Sunday to offer comfort to the families of victims at **Robb**. But **Uvalde** and other towns like it need more than comfort — we need to know that American leaders will take the overdue steps necessary to keep these communities safe.

Let’s start with banning assault weapons and limiting young people’s access to firearms. The freedom to own weapons that facilitate mass murder is less important than the safety of our children, they’re not needed for hunting, and they don’t need to be sold to 18-year-olds. Most Americans and many Texans agree, despite the rhetoric of Republican leaders.

Let’s also recognize that **Uvalde** has a sufficiently large law enforcement presence, between the police department, the sheriff’s office, the **Texas Department of Public Safety**, the **Texas Rangers**, **Customs and Border Protection** and the **FBI**. We won’t succeed in creating “hardened targets” by arming teachers and other civilians.

Finally, the social conditions that gave birth to deadly violence and the killer’s mental condition can be addressed through our support of community organizations, health-care systems and schools — by supplying resources and legal avenues to identify and deal with emerging threats such as the one posed by this young man.

The deaths at **Robb Elementary** were predictable and avoidable. **Uvalde**, the state of **Texas** and the **United States of America** failed the children and teachers who died there. We owe it to their memory and to current and future generations to avoid yet another, similar tragedy.



Reflections and Tributes



Cristina Tzintzun Ramirez

I am in **Uvalde, Texas** visiting the site where 19 children and their two courageous teachers were tragically taken from us. As a mother, and as a leader of **NextGen America**, the country's largest youth voting rights organization, the failure of policymakers is so clear, and has caused such massive unnecessary pain.

I graduated from high school the year of the **Columbine** shooting, and instead of passing gun safety legislation that the majority of Americans support, like not allowing weapons of war into the hands of ordinary citizens, we decided to teach a generation of children to learn to play dead in their classrooms.

#Uvalde is one of many tragic consequences of total policy failure. So yes, send your thoughts and prayers, elected officials. But take action. Because you were elected to act... And to enact the policies that we know will save the lives of children. Now is the moment to make sure that another **Uvalde** doesn't happen.



This is **Jacob Albarado**, he had just sat down for a haircut when he received a horrifying message from his wife, **Trisha**, a fourth-grade teacher at the **Uvalde, Texas**, elementary school. "*There's an active shooter,*" she wrote. "*Help,*" she sent before sending a chilling: "*I love you.*" He immediately leaped out of his seat, borrowed a shotgun from the barber and sped off toward **Robb Elementary** where his daughter was also locked down at the school. "Everyone was trying to get to the school. People were trying to get everything situated. I was just trying to get towards my wife's room and my daughter's room."

As an off duty Border Patrol agent, he charged into the school while 19 police officers, already on the scene, stood outside. "*Uvalde is a small community. My wife works at Robb. Everyone at Robb knows me,*" he said. "*Pretty much all local law enforcement knows me or I know the majority of them, so I was able to go in and I announced who I was and made my way through.*"

Albarado says he worked with other officers to get children out of the school, learning later this his wife and daughter had hidden under desks, while his daughter even had to hide in a locked bathroom. His wife and eight year old daughter were inside and he wasn't wasting any time. He got his family to safety and then he went back in to find and help stop the bad guy.

Olga Muñoz Rodriquez

It is with a sad heart that I write about the tragedy in **Uvalde** on May 24, 2022. Those beautiful children and the two teachers paid the price for easy access to assault weapons. As if our country did not have enough challenges with the **Covid** epidemic, the high cost of gasoline, groceries, and all vital necessities, now we have this inconsolable sorrow of the grieving families in Uvalde and in all those other mass shootings in our country.

We will learn more about the tragedy in **Uvalde** in the coming days, but regardless of the course the investigation takes, we must all be vigilant and participate in preventing another massacre.

Refusing to Forget

BETWEEN 1910 AND 1920 ETHNIC MEXICANS LIVING ON THE TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER WERE TARGETS OF STATE-SANCTIONED VIOLENCE. ALTHOUGH HISTORIANS ESTIMATE THAT SEVERAL THOUSAND MEXICAN NATIONALS AND AMERICAN CITIZENS WERE KILLED, THIS PERIOD OF VIOLENCE HAS RECEIVED LITTLE PUBLIC ATTENTION.

REFUSING TO FORGET, AN AWARD-WINNING EDUCATIONAL NON-PROFIT, HOPES THAT IN BRINGING PUBLIC AWARENESS TO THIS OFTEN FORGOTTEN PERIOD, WE CAN ALSO RAISE THE PROFILE OF A STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE AND CIVIL RIGHTS THAT CONTINUES TO INFLUENCE SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS TODAY.

The Refusing to Forget Project

The **Refusing to Forget Project**, an interdisciplinary project co-founded by **John Morán González**, **J. Frank Dobie Regents Professor of American and English Literature** at **The University of Texas at Austin**, and **Monica Muñoz Martínez**, an associate professor of history at **UT Austin** and recipient of an **MacArthur** “genius grant”, has received a grant from the **American History Association (AHA)**. The grant, which is part of a \$2.5 million distribution to history-related organizations across the country, is supported by funding from the **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**. *“I am thrilled that the AHA and the NEH are investing in public history in Texas and supporting collaborations between historians and museums,”* **Martínez** said.

Refusing to Forget is a collaborative, interdisciplinary project with members from across **Texas**. It was founded in 2014 when a group of professors met to discuss ways to commemorate the centennial of a period of widespread and state-sanctioned anti-Mexican violence along the **Texas-Mexico** border. Since its founding, the project has worked to bring this and other neglected histories back into public awareness in myriad ways, including through lectures and museum and online exhibits. This work also enables **Refusing to Forget** to engage with and inform the public about civil rights issues that span the last century and beyond.

“We here at UT Austin are excited that the NEH grant awarded funds to support this important project,” said **Daina Berry**, chair of the **Department of History** and **Oliver H. Radkey Regents Professor of History**. *“The collaboration on our campus with faculty in multiple units, including Refusing to Forget and COLA, as well as partnerships with other institutions, represents community building at its best. It also guarantees that we will never forget this important yet painful history. This grant came at the perfect time, and I’m pleased that our colleagues will continue to preserve this vital history.”*

In 2016, **Refusing to Forget** worked with the **Bullock Texas State History Museum** to organize the award-winning exhibit “Life and Death on the Border, 1910-1920.” Now, with support from the **AHA**, **Refusing to Forget** will create a traveling version of that exhibit. *“We’ve been working for several years to find the funding to convert the Bullock Museum exhibit into a more widely-accessible, state-wide experience,”* said **González**. The **AHA** grant will allow the project to restart the exhibit’s development, with the aim of raising awareness of this important history and its civil rights legacies.

“This grant means more Texans will be able to learn of some tremendously important events in their history that also resonates with today’s concerns over law enforcement practices such as racial profiling, use of excessive force, and qualified immunity,” **González** said. *“It also will enable us to make connections in communities where we haven’t had the opportunity before. In particular, we seek to connect with familial descendants of such violence as they have often carried the burden of seeking justice for over a century.”*

“I was honored to work with the Refusing to Forget team and the Bullock staff to develop ‘Life and Death on the Border, 1910-1920,’” said **Martínez**. *“The exhibit marked the first time a cultural institution acknowledged state responsibility for a period of racial terror over 100 years ago. Before that, the history had been disavowed or, worse, celebrated. The exhibit was on display for 10 weeks in 2016, but over 40,000 people traveled from across the country to view it. Now, thanks to the American Historical Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities, we are able to develop a traveling exhibit to reach people where they are.”*

Media Contact: Lauren Macknight,
lauren.macknight@austin.utexas.edu



Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez,
originally from Uvalde, Texasa.



John Moran González,
originally from Brownsville,
Texas





CENTRAL HEALTH

Travis County Healthcare District d/b/a Central Health
1111 E. Cesar Chavez Street
Austin, TX 78702

Solicitud de Propuesta (RFP) 2204-005: Servicios de Corretaje de Seguros Empresariales
Fecha de Vencimiento: 6/24/2022 a las 2:00 PM CT

Alcance del Trabajo: Central Health busca obtener Propuestas de Consultores calificados capaces de brindar servicios de corretaje de seguros a la Empresa, que incluye tres entidades relacionadas Central Health, CommUnityCare y Sendero Health Plans. Los consultores brindarán recomendaciones de cobertura y evaluación de riesgos basados en los servicios y operaciones cambiantes de los socios empresariales en función de un proceso de planificación anual formalizado realizado cada año por la firma de corretaje.
Instrucciones para realizar pedidos: Todos los paquetes de solicitud se pueden descargar desde:

<https://prod.bidsync.com/central-health>, O
<http://www.centralhealth.net/finance/purchasing> O
<http://www.txsmartbuy.com/sp>

Tejano Conjunto Hall of Fame



ABOVE: At the 40th Anniversary of the Tejano Conjunto Music Festival in San Antonio, Texas, Susan Nevarez was inducted into the Conjunto Music Hall of Fame. Also inducted were Las Hermanas Garza, Mr. Isidro Samilpa, el mero pinky del Conjunto Los Pinkys. Congratulations to all the inductees and to the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center



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Gracias.

A CELEBRATION AND DANCE

FOR THE

2022 CONJUNTO HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

PRESENTED BY THE GUADALUPE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



YSIDRO SAMILPA



LAS HERMANITAS GARZA



LALA GARZA

MUSIC BY
CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS & FRIENDS
SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022 1-5PM

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TEJANO MUSIC ALLIANCE OF TEXAS

PRESENTS

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11 JUN
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LA-45

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This event is supported by the Cultural Arts Division of the
Department of Economic Development of the City Of Austin.

First African American Studies degree coming soon to San Antonio university

The University of Texas at San Antonio will offer a Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies (AAS) beginning fall 2022 through its Department of Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality Studies (REGSS). Through the new degree program, UTSA will prepare graduates in the historical, economic, cultural and sociological factors impacting Black individuals and communities.

"This is the fourth B.A. in African American Studies in the state of Texas and the only one in San Antonio," said Alejandra Elenes, chair of the REGSS department, which is housed in the UTSA College of Education and Human Development. "The development of this degree is the result of student, faculty and community efforts."

Final approval for the degree was granted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) this year.

"It's a discipline that is growing quickly, and we want to be able to stand out and differentiate ourselves from the rest," Jasmine Harris, associate professor and UTSA's African American Studies program coordinator, says the new bachelor's program is unique because it is grounded in student-centered, transformative pedagogy where students and professors contribute to the creation of knowledge.

Harris attributes the new degree program to years of work by past program coordinator and current faculty member Mark Giles, past program coordinator Karla Broadus, and African American Studies professor Marc Perry. Their work, the university's existing AAS courses and AAS programs at other universities collectively served as guides for the new degree program, she said.

As an interdisciplinary and intersectional field of study, UTSA's program will prepare students to become insightful, intellectual and innovative thinkers and leaders who can work effectively in diverse and challenging contexts. Students will develop critical thinking, social analysis, theoretical knowledge and the practical skills related to working with diverse populations. As learned researchers who can develop, analyze and evaluate policies and practices the influence the African American community, they will be able to contribute to both academic and public discourse on Black experiences.

"Literally from the first day that my email was up and running, I started to get emails from community members and organizations in the area that focus on Black people and the needs of Black people, and they're all clamoring to be connected to the program," Harris said she has received requests for student interns and offers to speak and present to classes as well as offers of donations of art and other community and cultural artifacts. She also sees the program helping the UTSA Institute of Texan Cultures promote African American culture in Texas.

Celebrating El Parque Zaragoza in Austin, Texas

Over 90 years ago our Mexican-American leaders petitioned the City of Austin for a recreational facility for our community. **Parque Zaragoza** has continuously served the surrounding neighborhood, as well as Austin's larger Mexican American community. As physical evidence of Mexican American Austinites' successful advocacy against institutional racism, the park symbolizes the power of grassroots organizing and persistence.

On Saturday May 14, 2022, from 1pm to 5pm, the community celebrated the 90th Anniversary of **Parque Zaragoza**. It's an important milestone to commemorate the important role **Parque Zaragoza** and the **Zaragoza Recreation Center** have played in the history of **East Austin**, our Mexican-American Community and our lived experience in the **City of Austin**.



ABOVE: Joining in the celebration of the 90th Anniversary is Theresa Alvarez, Johnny Degollago and form Austin City Councilman Raul Alvarez



ABOVE: Paul Saldaña, United States Congressman Lloyd Doggett and Precinct 4 Constable George Morales, III

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA PLAN ANNUAL PHA 2023 DEL CONDADO DE BRAZORIA

Una audiencia pública se llevará a cabo el miércoles 8 de junio del 2022 a las 9:00 a.m. y el miércoles 22 de junio del 2022 a las 5:30 p.m. en la oficina de la Autoridad de Vivienda del Condado de Brazoria localizada en 1524 E. Mulberry, Angleton, Texas. El objetivo de la audiencia será para recibir comentarios de los ciudadanos y aportes relacionados al Plan Anual PHA 2023 del Condado de Brazoria.

Una copia del Plan Annual PHA 2023, esta disponible para el publico en nuestra pagina de web en la siguiente direccion:

<http://brazoriacountytx.gov/departments/housing-and-urban-development/public-notice>

Personas que no hablan Ingles, necesitan lenguaje de señas, y cualquier otra persona necesitando adaptaciones especiales y decean atender esta audencia publica deben comunicarse con Nancy Friudenberg al (979) 864-1860, antes de la audiencia para que se puedan hacer las adaptaciones.

Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse a la Autoridad de Vivienda del Condado de Brazoria, 1524 E. Mulberry, Suite 162, Angleton, Texas 77515 o por fax al (979) 864-1089. Envie sus comentarios antes de las 4:00 p.m. del 1 de julio del 2022. Para información general, por favor llame a Nancy Friudenberg al (979) 864-1860.

Written comments can be submitted to the Brazoria County Housing Authority, 1524 E. Mulberry, Suite 162, Angleton, Texas 77515 or by fax to (979) 864-1089. Please submit any comments by 4:00 pm July 1, 2022. For general information, please call Nancy Friudenberg at (979) 864-1860.



Interesting!

How did the reclusive 18-year-old Uvalde school shooter, who worked a day-shift at Wendy's and was staying on a couch at his grandparents, come up with the \$2,500 to \$3,000 to buy two AR-15 style rifles, a pistol (\$500+), 350 rounds of expensive 5.56 mm ammo (\$400+), extra magazines (\$125+) and a tactical vest (\$600+)?

How did this kid learn how to shoot them? You just don't magically know how to successfully engage in a gun battle with trained officers.

We're told he didn't have a driver's license (so what ID did he use for the weapons purchases?) and didn't know how to drive - he crashed his grandparents' pickup near the school before running in - so who drove him to the local gun dealer? Did someone take him out shooting?

Someone's not telling the whole story. Big Shocker

Never heard of Joan Baez's dad? Now you have.



**HISTORY
HUSTLE**

You probably know Joan Baez, 1960's folk singer and civil rights activist. Her father was Albert Baez, Mexican-American physicist who co-invented the x-ray reflection microscope still used today, developed optics for an observatory telescope, and was the first director of the science education program for UNESCO. He turned down lucrative positions with the Defense industry, devoting his career to education and humanitarian work.

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas



AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD Y EL INTENTO DE OBTENER PERMISO PARA LA CALIDAD DEL AGUA RENOVACIÓN

PERMISO NO. WQ0013355001

SOLICITUD. La ciudad de Sugar Land P.O. Box 110, Sugar Land, Texas 77478 ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para renovar el Permiso No. WQ0013355001 (EPA I.D. No. TX 01101915) de Sistema del Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no subrebase un flujo promedio diario de 1,350,000 galones por día. La planta esta ubicada en 902 Tara Boulevard, Richmond, en el Condado de Fort Bend, Texas 77469. La ruta de descarga es del sitio de la planta a Bayuco Rabbs, de allí al Canal de Diversion del Bayuco Rabbs, y de allí a Middle Bayou hasta Rio Brazos abajo del Rio Navasota. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 5 de abril de 2022. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leer y copiar en Sugar Land City Hall, 2000 Town Center Boulevard North, Sugar Land, Texas. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. <https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=db5bac44afbc468bbdd360f8168250f&marker=-95.687777%2C29.547222&level=12>

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviado a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean recibir avisos de esta solicitud. Elav

so
dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso. Una audiencia

administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea

proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión.

La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en

relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o mas de las listas de correo siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

INFORMACIÓN DISPONIBLE EN LÍNEA. Para obtener detalles sobre el estado de la solicitud, visite la base de datos integrada de los comisionados en www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Busque en la base de datos utilizando el número de permiso para esta solicitud, que se proporciona en la parte superior de este aviso.

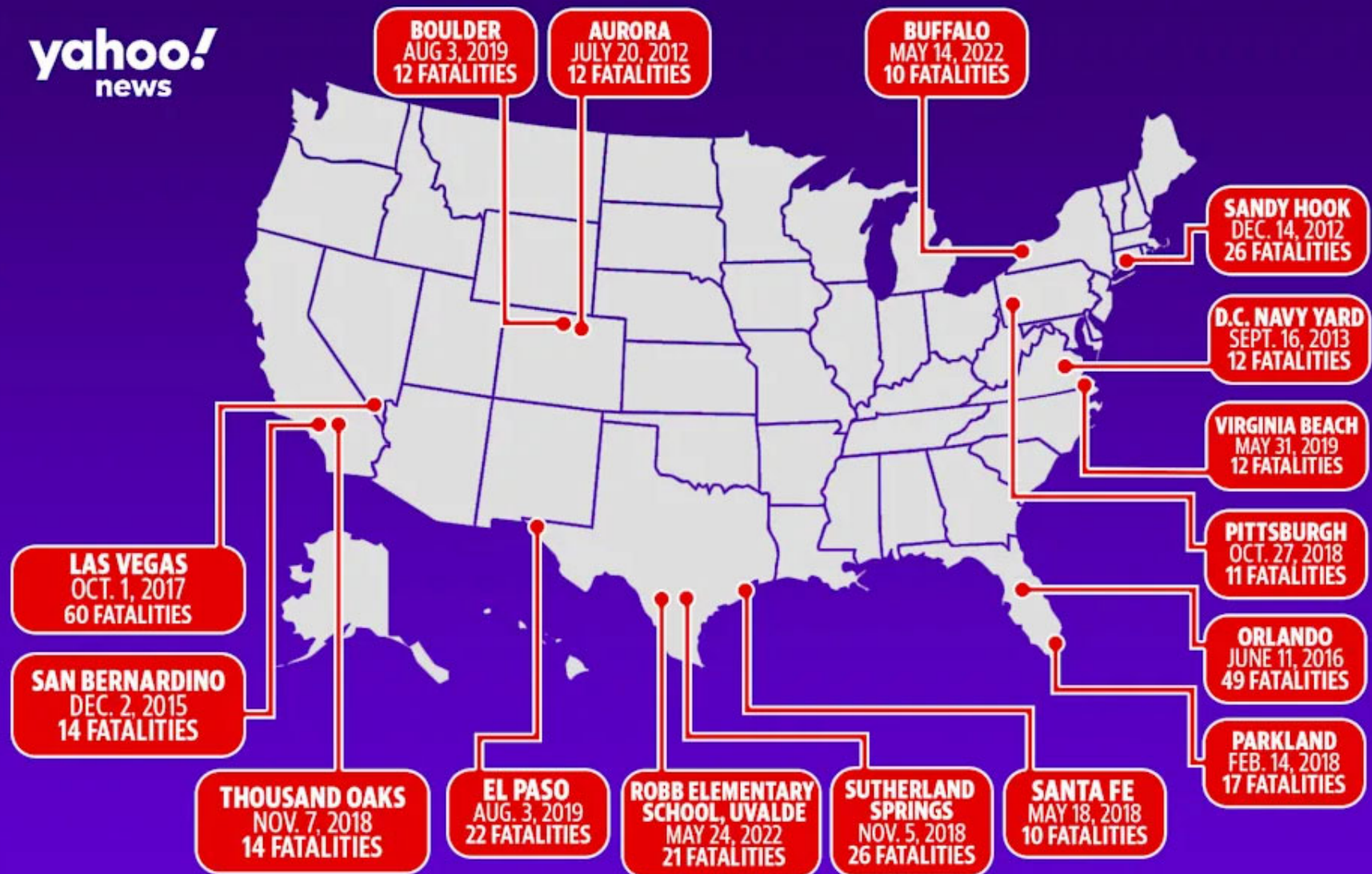
CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN A LA AGENCIA. Todo los comentarios públicos y solicitudes del deben ser presentados electrónicamente via <http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, o por escrito dirigidos a la Comisión, Oficina del Secretario (Office of Chief Clerk) MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasaran a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Para obtener mas información acerca de esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al programa de educación pública de la TCEQ, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También puede obtener información adicional de la Ciudad de Sugar Land en la dirección arriba o llamando Ms. Cathy Dominguez, Brazos River Authority, en 254-761-3176.

Fecha de emisión: 28 abril, 2022

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Established 2005, the Fort Bend Hispanic Heritage Forum is a 501(c)3 Non-profit Corp., that advocates for higher education. Monetary donations are welcomed or become a "Friend of the Forum" by sponsoring a Scholarship in your Company/Family Name.

Calendar of Events

June 4th, 2022 - A Celebration and Dance for the 2022 Conjunto Hall of Fame Inductees presented by the **Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center** of San Antonio, Texas. The event will be held at the **Sagebrush, 5500 South Congress** in Austin, Texas. Free Admission. For more details see page 23

June 11th, 2022 - 7th Annual Statewide Summit on Mexican American Studies from 9:00am to 1:00pm. For more details see page 5 in this issue of *La Voz*.

June 11th, 2022 - Latinitas will be hosting the 20 Anniversary with a **Purple Party** at **Cirrus Logic**, 800 West 5th Street in Austin, Texas 78701 from 6 to 9 pm See page 12 in this issue of *La Voz*. For more details see page 7. Get your tickets for the **Purple Party** for Chica Power. 2022 marks **Latinitas'** 20th anniversary- 20 years of inspiring over 40,000 girls, teens, non-binary students and some parents and grandparents to innovate with media and technology; 20 years of being **Austin's** only 100% bilingual STEM education nonprofit; and 20 years teaching the latest in 21st century technologies, uniquely through the lenses of gender and cultural empowerment.

June 17th, 2022 - The Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC) will honor twelve (12) outstanding leaders at the eighth annual **Women of Distinction Awards** luncheon at the **Austin Southpark Hotel**, 4140 Governor's Row, **Austin, Texas**, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.



Word Power

En las palabras hay poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of *La Voz*.

Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de *La Voz* una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Incredible	Increíble
Surprise	Sorpresa
Fear	Miedo
Angry	Enojado
Suspect	Sospechar
Revenge	Venganza
Support	Apoyo
Comfort	Consuelo
Unity	Unidad
Help	Ayuda
Sorrow	Dolor
Faith	Fe
Funeral	Funeral
Bury	Enterrar
Children	Niños
Teacher	Maestro
Survival	Supervivencia
Casket	Ataúd
Church	Iglesia
God	Dios



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minus emotion. An
opinion is information
plus experience.
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opinion lacking
information. And,
stupidity is an opinion
that ignores a fact.**

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Las clases de verano comienzan el 31 de mayo
Las clases de otoño comienzan el 22 de agosto

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JUNE 5, 2022

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**MEET AT GUADALUPE
CULTURAL ARTS
CARAVAN DEPARTS AT 10:30AM**



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