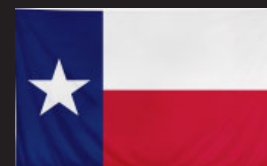




Volume 20 Number 7
A Bi-Cultural Publication
July, 2022

La Voz

Free
Gratis



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

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**En palabras
hay poder**

de Uvalde County



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**.



Kristen Cruz Lights Up America's Got Talent

Cristen Cruz is a 19 year old from **Crowley, Texas** who recently appeared on **America's Got Talent**. Singing the song *I See Red*, she wowed the judges and the audience with her rendition of **Everybody Loves an Outlaw**,

Cruz received four yeses from the judges and stands a chance of performing in the live shows in August 2022, taking her one step closer to winning the \$1 million prize and headline **Vegas** slot.

She also has her own music available to listen to now on **Spotify** and **Apple Music**. According to her Spotify page, she already has 25,300 monthly listeners.

In 2020 she released her first two singles *"Essence of the Moment"* and *"Ride"*. Earlier this year, she released a follow-up, *"Dancing in the Sky."* The judges absolutely loved her performance, with **Cowell** calling her audition "unbelievable." **Cruz** shared that her dream is to *"inspire people, to make them feel that you don't have to be anything but yourself. I don't have to be the industry standard."*



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 Tejada** 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.



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.



Senator Roland Gutierrez Speaks Out for Uvalde

Roland Gutierrez, his wife **Sarah**, and their daughters **Izabella** and **Victoria** live in the **Mission San Jose** neighborhood, where they are members of the **Mission San Jose Parish** and are active in a variety of community projects.

Born and raised in **San Antonio, Texas**, **Gutierrez** is a 1989 graduate of **Central Catholic High School**. He earned his BA in Political Science from the **University of Texas at San Antonio** in 1995 and his Law degree from **St. Mary's University School of Law** in 1998. He is the Founder and President of the **Gutierrez Law Firm**, specializing in immigration law.

Since the **Uvalde** shooting on May 24th, **Gutierrez** has spent a lot of time in **Uvalde** trying to get answers as to how the situation was handled and who did and did not do their job.

On July 1st, he co-signed a letter to **Texas Governor Greg Abbott** with **Uvalde Mayor Don McLaughlin** asking that major changes take place in the way the current investigation is being handled by the local district attorney in **Uvalde**.

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La Voz is a monthly publication covering Uvalde County. The editorial and business address is 416 W. Nopa; Street Uvalde, Texas 78801. (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

In a **Uvalde City Council** meeting on June 21, **Councilman Chip King** attacked the journalists in the room. *"I want to say something to all of you guys in the back with these cameras, with the microphones and the telephones. You guys need to stop doing the clickbait. The clickbait is destroying this town."* After citing a specific headline that he found to be misleading, he said: *"Let us heal and let us move on."*

The headline **King** referred to seems to have appeared only in fringe conservative news sources like **The Post Millennial** and the **BizPac Review**, outlets that spread other kinds of disinformation and repackage reporting from more reputable outlets while assaulting the reader with **MyPillow** ads. The headline also appeared on **BitChute**, a video-hosting service known for far-right content, conspiracy theories, and hate speech. It is unlikely that staff from these outlets were among the reporters **King** singled out.

It is rarely a good sign when an elected leader attacks the press in a desire to "move on." That's because the press, for all its faults, holds the powerful accountable. Is there any question how little we would actually know about the **Robb Elementary** shooting if it were not for media scrutiny? Does anyone think our leaders would willingly have offered information that cast them in a bad light? Who doesn't wonder now what else might be going on when a giant magnifying glass isn't focused on our city?

We are all exhausted from media exposure. It was especially bad in those first days, when camera crews accosted any child they saw or roved up and down church aisles. But there are bad actors and good actors in any industry. Yes, it is gross to see news crews hovering around cemeteries, hoping for funeral footage. But it is more disturbing to see reports of biker gangs harassing journalists and blocking cameras, apparently with the blessing of law enforcement, who aren't exactly disinterested observers right now.

It is a little strange to see city leadership so shy of media interest and national exposure. When migrant caravans began arriving at the border in 2019, **Mayor Don McLaughlin** found the matter so urgent that he traveled to **Washington, DC**, and had himself interviewed by **Tucker Carlson**. Since then his appearances on **Fox News** have become a habit. But in the aftermath of the **Robb** shooting he left it to grieving families and pediatrician **Roy Guerrero** to stand for **Uvalde** at the **US Capitol**.

It has been said that a newspaper's purpose is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. May **La Voz** help serve this purpose as a reawakened voice for the people of Uvalde. In the past weeks, we have all learned something about how our city and state are run. Let us not forget the lesson.

Michael Luis Ortiz
Associate Editor for La Voz de Uvalde County

EDITORIAL



Dr. Michael Luis Ortiz
Associate Editor
La Voz de Uvalde County

On the Return of La Voz de Uvalde

We are pleased to announce that **La Voz de Uvalde County Newspaper** will return once again beginning in July, 2022. **La Voz de Uvalde County** was started in 1994 by **Molly** and **Alfredo Santos c/s**. They ran it for 8 years until 2002 and then sold it to **Dr. Juan O. Sanchez** who ran it for 10 years until 2012. Now after a 10 year absence, **La Voz de Uvalde County** returns once again. Look for it at restaurants, doctor's offices and at the library in **Uvalde**. It will also be available on-line at www.lavoznewspapers.com. Anyone with questions or desiring to advertise should contact **Alfredo Santos c/s** at 512-944-4123. *Muchas gracias!*

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.

You can't make this up!

TO SELL A TACO IN TEXAS,

You Need:

- Obtain a Permit from State Health Services.
- Obtain County/City Permit
- Obtain "Food Manager Cetificate"
- Take a course in "food handling" and get a certificate.
- Maintain all meat/produce in approved storage containers at correct temperatures.
- Cook to a specific temperature.
- Use only approved water sources.
- Have Insurance.
- Maintain clean surfaces and work environment at all times.
- Be subject to regular and surprise inspections from the Health Department.



TO BUY AN ASSAULT RIFLE IN TEXAS,

You need:

- An ID
- Fill out one form
- Cash

Walk out with as many guns and ammo as you want, same day.



@fox_dirty_laundry

Pablo Avila Passes Away

JUDGE PABLO AVILA, age 72, passed away in **San Antonio, Texas** while attending a **Continuing Legal Education** conference on June 16th, 2022.

Pablo was born on September 25th, 1949 in **Crystal City, Texas** to **Julian M. Avila** and **Gregoria Guerra Avila**. He graduated from **Crystal City High School** in 1968 and went on to receive his bachelor's degree from **The University of Texas at Austin** in 1972 before completing law school at the **University of Houston** in 1975.

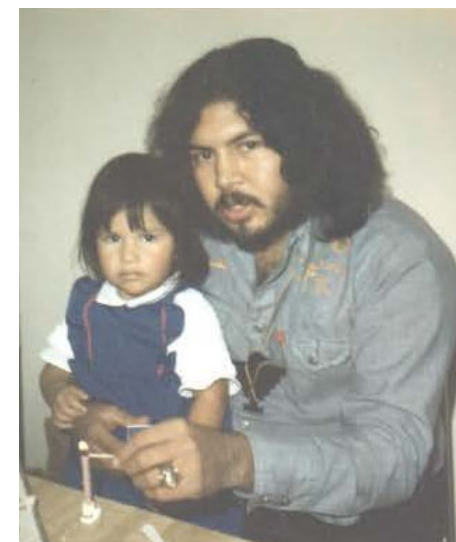
Pablo retired from public service on December 31st, 2002, after 28 years of service to the **State of Texas** and **Zavala County** as County Attorney and then as **County Judge**. **Pablo** continued to practice law and perform wedding ceremonies. He lived in **Austin, Texas** with the love of his life, **Judy**.

During his life **Pablo** was an active member of **La Unida Party** and was a member of the **2012 Planning Committee** that organized the **40th Anniversary of La Raza Unida Party** in **Austin, Texas** in July of 2012. He was also a big fan of **Little Joe Hernandez** of **Little Joe y La Familia** and was responsible for bringing him to the 40th year reunion in **Austin**.

Pablo is survived by **Judy Pearl Cortez**, four children (**Viva Mahogany Garza**, **Amerio Isaac Avila**, **Valerie Ann Avila** and **Byanka Alexandra Sendejo**) and three grandchildren (**Sophia Amaris Garza**, **Matthew Jay Benavidez** and **Eleya Claire Sendejo**). **Pablo** was preceded in death by his parents, **Julian M. Avila** and **Gregoria Guerra Avila** as well as his brothers **Oscar G. Avila** and **Julian Avila**.

Pablo loved spending time with his family and enjoyed traveling and sharing experiences with his loved ones. **Pablo** especially loved watching the **New York Yankees**. **Pablo** had an observational sense of humor and always went out of his way to ensure that those around him were comfortable. He touched the lives of many people through his public service and his willingness to serve the underprivileged through his legal practice.

Funeral services were held on Thursday June 30th, at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church**.



ABOVE: Pablo in the early 1970s

KVOU Radio in Uvalde Closes Down

KVOU Radio, one of **Uvalde's** oldest, continuously operated business, ceased all operations on Wednesday, June 29. The station's owners, **South Texas Radio LLC**, made the announcement



KVOU was one of five stations owned by **Moises Abraham Gonzalez's South Texas Radio**. All of them ceased operations. Collectively the company operated **Hot AC "Power 92.7" KINL** and **"Tejano y Mas 1270" KEPS** in **Eagle Pass** and **Hot AC "Hits 93.9" KBNU**, **"Tejano y Mas 102.3" KUYA**, and **"Coyote Country 104.9" KVOU-FM** in **Uvalde**.

In filings for each station noting their cessation of operations, the company claimed that all five stations lost their tower site leases and needed to find new sites before resuming operations. The **Eagle Pass Business Journal** stated that it was due to current economic conditions on

the **United States-Mexico** border and that all employees were terminated. **Gonzalez**, then operating as **Roca Radio**, purchased all five stations in March 2016 for \$800,000.

KVOU-AM 1400 signed on in 1947 by founders **E.J. and Mary Harpole**. Since that time, other frequencies were added - FM 104.9, FM 102.3 and FM 93.9.

Long time radio morning host **Mario Rangel** stated, *"I would like to thank all who have supported Uvalde's radio stations over the years, especially the advertisers whom without them, none of this would have been possible. It's been a long, wonderful run, but having hosted morning shows for many years, the time has come to sleep in (at least I hope I can), I want to thank you for listening. You are truly wonderful people, as are the staff I've worked with throughout the years both in Uvalde and Eagle Pass."*



Alternative Radio is Still Available in Uvalde

If you haven't tried **UvaldeRadio.net**, **Robert Miguel** asks please give us a listen. Internet radio that can be streamed at our website or download one of these apps to your phone and connect via Bluetooth. We have a country station **Uvalde Radio** and a rock station **Uvalde Radio ROCKS!** This is **INTERNET** radio and **NOT** available on FM or AM,



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Uvalde, Hondo, Kerrville, Boerne, Eagle Pass, Del Rio, Brackettville, Crystal City, Carrizo Springs, Rocksprings, Leakey, San Antonio, Pearsall, Jourdanton.

MASSACRE IN UVALDE, TEXAS

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

July 4th, 2022

Letter to Governor Greg Abbott from Texas Senator Roland Gutierrez and Uvalde Mayor Don McLaughlin



TEXAS STATE SENATOR
ROLAND GUTIERREZ



UVALDE MAYOR
Don McLaughlin

July 4, 2022

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin Texas 78711

Dear Governor Abbott:

Nearly a month ago, you announced the opening of the Uvalde Together Resiliency Center (UTRC) that was to provide information, support, and resources to residents directly affected by the Robb Elementary School shooting, including financial support in victim's compensation funds. In order to provide these victims services, the Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) made an initial \$5 million investment to establish the long-term UTRC. In addition, you empowered the District Attorney Christina Mitchell Bushee to oversee victim's compensation in addition to other services.

In the past month, we have heard numerous troubling reports from our constituents about the UTRC and the District Attorney, including the failure to timely deliver victim's compensation resources to those in need. One Uvalde family was in danger of having their power cut off in their home at the same time they were praying and caring for their daughter in the hospital. Other families have been offered a meager bereavement benefit for only two-weeks of pay. This, simply, is insufficient. These families cannot begin to heal unless they are given time to grieve free from financial worry. There is no worse pain imaginable than losing a child. This pain is made all the more severe because of the way these children were killed and injured. In short, the State of Texas ought to use every available resource in law to make these families whole.

We, the undersigned, request that you remove District Attorney Mitchell Bushee from her oversight of the UTRC. The District Attorney's Office is not equipped or staffed to provide these services. Instead, we ask that you place the Texas Department of Emergency Management in charge of this important and valuable service. These victims deserve maximum compensation and they deserve it immediately.

Sincerely,

Roland Gutierrez,
State Senator - SD

Don McLaughlin,
Mayor of the City Uvalde

Testimony of Dr. Roy Guerrero

Delivered in Washington, D.C. on Uvalde Masacre

*My name is **Dr. Roy Guerrero**. I am a board certified pediatrician and I was present at **Uvalde Memorial Hospital** the day of the massacre on May 24th, 2022 at **Robb Elementary School**. I was called here today as a witness. But I showed up because I am a doctor. Because how many years ago I swore an oath — An oath to do no harm.*

*After witnessing first hand the carnage in my hometown of **Uvalde**, to stay silent would have betrayed that oath. Inaction is harm. Passivity is harm. Delay is harm. So here I am. Not to plead, not to beg or to convince you of anything. But to do my job. And hope that by doing so it inspires the members of this House to do theirs.*

*I have lived in **Uvalde** my whole life. In fact, I attended **Robb Elementary School** myself as a kid. As often is the case with us grown ups, we remember a lot of the good and not so much of the bad. So I don't recall homework or spelling bees, I remember how much I loved going to school and what a joyful time it was. Back then we were able to run between classrooms with ease to visit our friends. And I remember the way the cafeteria smelled lunchtime on **Hamburger Thursdays**.*

*It was right around lunchtime on a Tuesday that a gunman entered the school through the main door without restriction, massacred 19 students and two teachers and changed the way every student at **Robb** and their families will remember that school, forever. I doubt they'll remember the smell of the cafeteria or the laughter ringing in the hallways. Instead they'll be haunted by the memory of screams and bloodshed, panic and chaos. Police shouting, parents wailing. I know I will never forget what I saw that day.*

*For me, that day started like any typical Tuesday at our Pediatric clinic – moms calling for coughs, boogers, sports physicals – right before the summer rush. School was out in two days then summer camps would guarantee some grazes and ankle sprains. Injuries that could be patched up and fixed with a **Mickey Mouse** sticker as a reward.*

*Then at 12:30 business as usual stopped and with it my heart. A colleague from a **San Antonio** trauma center texted me a message: 'Why are the pediatric surgeons and anesthesiologists on call for a mass shooting in **Uvalde**?'*

*I raced to the hospital to find parents outside yelling children's names in desperation and sobbing as they begged for any news related to their child. Those mother's cries I will never get out of my head. As I entered the chaos of the ER, the first casualty I came across was **Miah Cerrillo**. She was sitting in the hallway. Her face was still, still clearly in shock, but her whole body was shaking from the adrenaline coursing through it. The white **Lilo and Stitch** shirt she wore was covered in blood and her shoulder was bleeding from a shrapnel injury.*

*Sweet **Miah**. I've known her my whole life. As a baby she survived major liver surgeries against all odds. And once again she's here. As a survivor. Inspiring us with her story today and her bravery. When I saw **Miah** sitting there, I remembered having seen her parents outside. So after quickly examining two other patients of mine in the hallway with minor injuries, I raced outside to let them know **Miah** was alive. I wasn't ready for their next urgent and desperate question: 'Where's **Elena**?' **Elena**, is **Miah**'s 8-year-old sister who was also at Robb at the time of the shooting. I had heard from some nurses that there were "two dead children" who had been moved to the surgical area of the hospital. As I made*

*my way there, I prayed that I wouldn't find her. I didn't find **Elena**, but what I did find was something no prayer will ever relieve.*

Two children, whose bodies had been so pulverized by the bullets fired at them, decapitated, whose flesh had been so ripped apart, that the only clue as to their identities was the blood spattered cartoon clothes still clinging to them. Clinging for life and finding none.

*I could only hope these two bodies were a tragic exception to the list of survivors. But as I waited there with my fellow **Uvalde** doctors, nurses, first responders and hospital staff for other casualties we hoped to save, they never arrived. All that remained was the bodies of 17 more children and the two teachers who cared for them, who dedicated their careers to nurturing and respecting the awesome potential of every single one. Just as we doctors do.*

I'll tell you why I became a pediatrician. Because I knew that children were the best patients. They accept the situation as it's explained to them. You don't have to coax them into changing their lifestyles in order to get better or plead them to modify their behavior as you do with adults.

No matter how hard you try to help an adult, their path to healing is always determined by how willing they are to take action. Adults are stubborn. We're resistant to change even when the change will make things better for ourselves. But especially when we think we're immune to the fallout.

*A colleague from a **San Antonio** trauma center texted me a message: 'Why are the pediatric surgeons and anesthesiologists on call for a mass shooting in **Uvalde**?'*

*Why else would there have been such little progress made in **Congress** to stop gun violence? Innocent children all over the country today are dead because laws and policy allows people to buy weapons before they're legally even old enough to buy a pack of beer. They are dead because restrictions have been allowed to lapse. They're dead because there are no rules about where guns are kept. Because no one is paying attention to who is buying them.*

The thing I can't figure out is whether our politicians are failing us out of stubbornness, passivity or both. I said before that as grown ups we have a convenient habit of remembering the good and forgetting the bad. Never more so than when it comes to our guns. Once the blood is rinsed away from the bodies of our loved ones, and scrubbed off the floors or the schools and supermarkets and churches, the carnage from each scene is erased from our collective conscience and we return once again to nostalgia. To the rose tinted view of our second amendment as a perfect instrument of American life, no matter how many lives are lost.

I chose to be a pediatrician. I chose to take care of children. Keeping them safe from preventable diseases I can do. Keeping them safe from bacteria and brittle bones I can do. But making sure our children are safe from guns, that's the job of our politicians and leaders.

In this case, you are the doctors and our country is the patient. We are lying on the operating table, riddled with bullets like the children of Robb Elementary and so many other schools. We are bleeding out and you are not there. My oath as a doctor means that I signed up to save lives. I do my job. And I guess it turns out that I am here to plead. To beg. To please, please do yours."

Testimonio del Dr. Roy Guerrero entregado en Washington, D.C. del Masacre en Uvalde

Mi nombre es el Dr. Roy Guerrero. Soy un pediatra certificado por la junta y estuve presente en el Hospital Uvalde Memorial el día de la masacre el 24 de mayo de 2022 en la Escuela Primaria Robb. Hoy me llamaron aquí como testigo. Pero me presenté porque soy médico. Porque hace cuántos años hizo un juramento, un juramento para no hacer daño.

Después de presenciar de primera mano la carnicería en mi ciudad natal de Uvalde, permanecer en silencio habría traicionado ese juramento. La inacción es daño. La pasividad es daño. El retraso es daño. Así que aquí estoy. No para suplicar, no rogar o convencerlo de nada. Pero para hacer mi trabajo. Y espero que al hacerlo inspire a los miembros de esta casa a hacer la suya.

He vivido en Uvalde toda mi vida. De hecho, asistí a la escuela primaria Robb cuando era niño. Tan a menudo es el caso con nosotros adultos, recordamos mucho de lo bueno y no tanto de lo malo. Así que no recuerdo la tarea o las abejas deletrea, recuerdo cuánto me encantó ir a la escuela y qué momento tan alegre fue. En aquel entonces pudimos correr entre las aulas con facilidad para visitar a nuestros amigos. Y recuerdo la forma en que la cafetería olía a la hora del almuerzo los jueves de hamburguesas.

Fue justo a la hora del almuerzo un martes que un hombre armado entró en la escuela a través de la puerta principal sin restricción, masacró a 19 estudiantes y dos maestros y cambió la forma en que cada estudiante de Robb y sus familias recordarán esa escuela, para siempre. Dudo que recuerden el olor de la cafetería o la risa que suena en los pasillos. En cambio, serán perseguidos por el recuerdo de los gritos y el derramamiento de sangre, el pánico y el caos. Gritos de la policía, padres que lloran. Sé que nunca olvidaré lo que vi ese día.

Para mí, ese día comenzó como cualquier martes típico en nuestra clínica pediátrica, las madres que piden tos, mocos, físicos deportivos, justo antes de la fiebre del verano. La escuela salió en dos días y luego los campamentos de verano garantizarían algunas pastas y esguinces de tobillos. Lesiones que se pueden reparar y fijar con una pegatina de Mickey Mouse como recompensa.

Luego, a las 12 30, como de costumbre se detuvo y con él mi corazón. Un colega de un centro de trauma de San Antonio me envió un mensaje de texto "¿Por qué los cirujanos pediátricos y anestesiólogos están llamando a un tiroteo masivo en Uvalde?"

Corrí al hospital para encontrar padres afuera gritando los nombres de los niños en desesperación y sollozando mientras rogaban cualquier noticia relacionada con su hijo. Los gritos de esas madre nunca saldré de mi cabeza. Cuando entré en el caos de la sala de emergencias, la primera víctima que encontré fue Miah Cerrillo. Estaba sentada en el pasillo. Su rostro estaba quieto, todavía claramente en estado de shock, pero todo su cuerpo estaba temblando por la adrenalina que lo atravesaba. La camisa blanca de lilo y puntada que llevaba estaba cubierta de sangre y su hombro estaba sangrando por una lesión de metralla.

Dulce Miah. La he conocido toda mi vida. Como bebé, sobrevivió a las principales cirugías hepáticas contra viento y marea. Y una vez más ella está aquí. Como sobreviviente. Inspirándonos con su historia hoy y su valentía. Cuando vi a Miah sentado allí, recordé haber visto a sus padres afuera. Entonces, después de examinar rápidamente a otros dos pacientes míos en el pasillo con heridas leves, corrí afuera para hacerles saber que Miah estaba vivo. No estaba lista para su próxima pregunta urgente y desesperada "¿Dónde está Elena?" Elena, es la hermana de 8 años de Miah que también estaba en Robb en el momento del tiroteo. Había escuchado de algunas enfermeras que había "dos hijos muertos" que habían sido trasladados al área quirúrgica del hospital.

Mientras hice mi camino allí, rezé para que no la encontrara. No encontré a Elena, pero lo que yo encontré fue algo que ninguna oración aliviará.



Dos niños, cuyos cuerpos habían sido tan pulverizados por las balas que les disparaban, decapitadas, cuya carne había sido destrozada tanto, que la única pista sobre sus identidades era que la ropa de dibujos animados de sangre todavía les aferraba a ellos. Aferrarse a la vida y no encontrar ninguno.

Solo podía esperar que estos dos cuerpos fueran una trágica excepción a la lista de sobrevivientes. Pero mientras esperaba allí con mis compañeros médicos de Uvalde, enfermeras, socorristas y personal del hospital para otras víctimas que esperábamos salvar, nunca llegaron. Todo lo que quedaba eran los cuerpos de 17 niños más y los dos maestros que los cuidaban, que dedicaron sus carreras a nutrir y respetar el increíble potencial de cada uno. Tal como lo hacemos los médicos.

Te diré por qué me convertí en pediatra. Porque sabía que los niños eran los mejores pacientes. Aceptan la situación como se les explica. No tiene que convencerlos

para que cambien sus estilos de vida para mejorar o suplicar que modifiquen su comportamiento como lo hace con los adultos.

No importa cuán duro intente ayudar a un adulto, su camino hacia la curación siempre está determinado por lo dispuestos que están a tomar medidas. Los adultos son tercos. Somos resistentes al cambio incluso cuando el cambio mejorará las cosas para nosotros mismos. Pero especialmente cuando creemos que somos inmunes a las consecuencias.

¿Por qué más habría habido tan pocos progresos en el Congreso para detener la violencia armada? Los niños inocentes en todo el país hoy están muertos porque las leyes y la política permiten a las personas comprar armas antes de que tengan legalmente la edad suficiente para comprar un paquete de cerveza. Están muertos porque se ha permitido que las restricciones laven. Están muertos porque no hay reglas sobre dónde se guardan las armas. Porque nadie está prestando atención a quién los está comprando.

Lo que no puedo entender es si nuestros políticos nos están fallando por la terquedad, la pasividad o ambos. Dije antes, como adultos, tenemos un hábito conveniente de recordar lo bueno y olvidar lo malo. Nunca más que cuando se trata de nuestras armas. Una vez que la sangre se enjuague de los cuerpos de nuestros seres queridos, y se quita los pisos o las escuelas y los supermercados e iglesias, La carnicería de cada escena se borra de nuestra conciencia colectiva y regresamos una vez más a la nostalgia. *A la visión teñida de Rose de nuestra Segunda Enmienda como un instrumento perfecto de la vida estadounidense, sin importar cuántas vidas se pierdan.*

Elegí ser pediatra. Elegí cuidar a los niños. Mantenerlos a salvo de enfermedades prevenibles que puedo hacer. Manteniéndolos a salvo de las bacterias y los huesos quebradizos que puedo hacer. Pero asegurándose de que nuestros hijos estén a salvo de las armas, ese es el trabajo de nuestros políticos y líderes.

En este caso, usted es el médico y nuestro país es el paciente. Estamos acostados en la mesa de operaciones, plagados de balas como los niños de Robb Elementary y muchas otras escuelas. Estamos sangrando y tú no estás allí.

Mi juramento como médico significa que me inscribí para salvar vidas. Hago mi trabajo. Y supongo que resulta que estoy aquí para suplicar. Rogar. Para que por favor haz el tuyo "

**UVALDE
STRONG**

by Dr. Michael Luis Ortiz

Tuesday, May 24

The **Uvalde Police Department** posts on **Facebook** states that gunman is in custody at 1:06 p.m.

UCISD police chief **Pedro “Pete” Arredondo** holds two press conferences in which he states that the gunman is deceased but offers little further detail and refuses to answer questions.

Texas Department of Public Safety spokesperson **Erick Estrada** states that the gunman wore body armor, was engaged by two **UPD** officers and one **UCISD** officer outside the school, but was able to make entry into the school.

Wednesday, May 25

DPS spokesperson **Chris Olivarez** states in a **CNN** interview that the gunman was engaged by law enforcement officers before entering the building, that two officers were wounded, but that the gunman gained entry to a classroom and locked the door, at which point they were at a disadvantage because they did not have sufficient manpower. He says that the gunman did not have body armor. He states that law enforcement acted within a moment’s notice but is vague about the timeline.

Travis Considine, **DPS** communications chief, tells the **Washington Post** that the gunman encountered a school police officer, that they exchanged gunfire, and that the officer was wounded. Olivarez states the same in a separate interview.

At a press conference, **Texas Governor Greg Abbott** states that “The reason it was not worse is because law enforcement officials did what they do: They showed amazing courage by running toward gunfire for the singular purpose of trying to save lives. And it is a fact that because of their quick response ... and eliminating the gunman, they were able to save lives. Unfortunately, not enough.”

Uvalde Timeline

DPS director Steve McCraw states that, “a brave consolidated independent school district resource officer approached” the gunman and engaged him outside the school. “Gunfire was not exchanged, but the subject was able to make it into the school.” He further states that a team of **Uvalde** and **UCISD** police officers “immediately breached, because we know as officers, every second’s a life.” He states that “the officers that arrived on scene and put their lives in danger, they saved other kids, they kept him pinned down, and we’re very proud of that.” He states that “bottom line is that law enforcement was there,

they did engage immediately, they did contain him in the classroom, and they did put the tactical stack together ... in a very orderly way, and breached and assaulted the individual.” He is vague on the timeline.

At the same press conference, **Beto O’Rourke** confronts **Abbott**, saying, “You are doing nothing. You are offering up nothing. You said this was not predictable. This was totally predictable when you choose not to do anything.” **Uvalde Mayor Don McLaughlin** calls **O’Rourke** “a sick son of a bitch.” **O’Rourke** is taken from the room by police.

Thursday, May 26

At a press conference, **Victor Escalon**, **DPS South Texas** regional director, states: “It was reported that a school district police officer confronted the suspect that was making entry. Not accurate. He walked in unobstructed initially.” “He was not

confronted by anybody, to clear the record on that.”

Accounts continue to surface that law enforcement officers restrained outraged parents outside **Robb Elementary** during the shooting.

Friday, May 27

At a press conference, **McCraw** states that



a school police officer who was not on campus heard the 911 call and responded, but mistakenly pursued a teacher at

the back of the school, driving past the gunman, who was hiding beside a car. He states that the incident commander, **Pete Arredondo**, went from treating the situation as an active shooter scenario to a barricaded suspect scenario, believing that there was no further risk to children. He condemns this decision. He also states that, according to surveillance footage, the gunman entered the building through a door that a teacher had left propped open.

At a later press conference, **Abbott** blames his inaccurate statements on the agencies that gave him false information. He states that he was merely reciting the information he was given, is “livid” about what happened, and will get to the bottom of it.

At the same press conference, Senator **Roland Gutierrez** demands that the governor hold a special session of the state legislature to respond to the shooting.

Saturday, May 28

Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick attacks **Uvalde** leadership for giving misleading statements.

Police officers from 57 agencies across **Texas** converge on **Uvalde** to maintain order in a mission called **Operation Coyote Overwatch**. The officers continue to patrol **Uvalde** streets for days.

Sunday, May 29

The **United States Department of Justice** announces that it will investigate the law enforcement response at the request of **Mayor McLaughlin**.

United States President Joe Biden visits **Uvalde**.

Monday, May 30

Mayor McLaughlin states that the city council meeting at which **Pete Arredondo** was to have been sworn in is canceled, but that **Arredondo** was “duly elected,” that there is nothing to prohibit **Arredondo** from taking the oath of office, and that he is not aware of any investigation of **Arredondo**. He says that statements by **Lt. Governor Patrick** about being misled are untrue. He also thanks the **DOJ** for responding to his request.

Dan Patrick responds that his “goal is to support **Mayor McLaughlin** and the citizens of **Uvalde**” and says that the mayor has done an excellent job.

Tuesday, May 31

Travis Considine and other law enforcement sources state that **Arredondo** and **UCISD** are no longer cooperating with the investigation.

CLEAT (the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas) urges its members

Uvalde Timeline

to cooperate fully with investigations, and expresses approval of the independent DOJ investigation assisted by the FBI.

The lawyer of the teacher accused of leaving the door propped open tells the **San Antonio Express-News** that she closed the door.

Considine confirms that, according to surveillance footage, the teacher did close the door but that it did not lock properly.

McLaughlin walks back his criticism of **Dan Patrick**. **Pete Arredondo** is sworn in as councilman in a secret ceremony, a "private thing," as **Arredondo** later described it.

Wednesday, June 1

In his first public comments since the press conferences on May 24, **Arredondo** insists that he is cooperating with the state investigation, but refuses to answer further questions. He states that he will not release further information until after the funerals.

Thursday, June 2

At a press conference, **Senator Gutierrez** states that **Arredondo** was not made aware of 911 calls until 30 minutes after the gunman entered the school. They were relayed to **UPD**, leaving **Arredondo** in the dark. *"There is blame enough to go around,"* he says. *"There was human error and there was system error."*

The **New York Times** reports that **Arredondo** arrived at the scene without a radio.

Lt. Governor Patrick form a special committee to respond to the **Uvalde** shooting but excludes **Senator Gutierrez**. **Gutierrez** calls it a "slap in the face" to the people of **Uvalde**. Reports surface that **Uvalde PD** is coordinating with biker gangs to harass journalists and block cameras.

Friday, June 3

After a **UCISD** official tells a reporter (falsely) that the first school board meeting since the shooting would be closed to the public, the board meets, and declines to take disciplinary action on **Arredondo**, despite an agenda item allowing them to do so.

Monday, June 6

News outlets report that **Uvalde County district attorney Christina Mitchell Busbee** is investigating the shooting.

Wednesday, June 8

United States Attorney General Merrick Garland states that DOJ investigation won't be criminal. **McLaughlin** states that the city will fully cooperate with the probe. A small group of **Uvalde** survivors and community members testifies before the **United States Congress**.

Thursday, June 9

The **Texas House of Representatives** begins investigation into the **Uvalde** shooting behind closed doors.

In the **Texas Tribune**, **Arredondo** gives his first full interview since the shooting. He states that the reason he took so long to get into the room is that he was trying to find a key to unlock the door, and that as soon as they found a key they entered the room. He confirms that he did not have a radio but says this was because he was afraid it would get in his way. He was thus

unaware of **911** calls coming from inside the classroom. He states that he did not consider himself incident commander and issued no orders. **Arredondo's** lawyer states that **Arredondo** is still open to cooperating with the investigation but that he would like to see a transcript of his previous statements.

A **New York Times** story reports on **Arredondo's** responsibility as incident commander. It contradicts **Arredondo's** assertions.



Saturday, June 11

The **March for Our Lives** take place in rallies across the country. Victims' families and other community

members take part in the march in **Austin**.

Wednesday, June 15

The **Texas Tribune** reports that 70 requests to local and state agencies for documentation made by the **Tribune** and **Propublica** are being fought by the **Texas Governor's Office**, the **DPS**, the **City of Uvalde**, and other agencies.

Thursday, June 16

District attorney Christina Mitchell Busbee tells **KSAT** that she is not investigating anything and is waiting for the probe to be completed.

Friday, June 17

The **Texas Monthly** article *"Will We Ever Know the Truth About Uvalde?"* appears.

In it, **Senator Gutierrez** points out that multiple **DPS** officers were in the hall outside the classroom and states his belief that **Abbott** and **McCraw** are using **Arredondo** as a scapegoat to distract from state police failures.

Saturday, June 18

The **San Antonio Express-News** reports that surveillance footage shows that officers never tried the classroom door and suggests that it may have been unlocked the whole time. Officers also had access to a **Halligan**, a tool for opening doors.

Monday June 20

Journalists and a victim's father are told to leave **Uvalde City Hall** during a closed-door meeting between legislators and law enforcement because they are said to be intimidating.

A **Texas Tribune** story analyzes surveillance footage and other evidence, concluding that police officers in the hallway at **Robb Elementary** may never have attempted to open the classroom door (contradicting **Arredondo's** claim), that the police had ballistics shields, a **Halligan**, and other specialized equipment, that multiple **DPS** officers were present at the scene, that **Arredondo** appeared to be issuing some orders, that some officers seemed to think he was incident commander, and that decision-making was riddled with doubt and confusion.

Tuesday, June 21

In a **Texas Senate** hearing, **DPS** director **McCraw** criticizes **Arredondo** in his strongest terms yet, stating that **Arredondo** "decided to place the lives of officers before the lives of children." **Arredondo** testifies to the House behind closed doors, not in the open Senate hearing.

Continued on the next page

Uvalde Timeline

Continued from Previous Page

Mayor McLaughlin issues a statement that the city of **Uvalde** will not be releasing records or bodycam video in accordance with the request of the district attorney. He states that the city *"wants to ensure completeness of the information provided, not a release of piecemeal or incomplete and inaccurate information."* He insists that there is no cover-up, and that anyone suggesting otherwise is "spreading misinformation."

At a special **Uvalde City Council** meeting, from which **Pete Arredondo** is absent, **Mayor McLaughlin** accuses state authorities of releasing information selectively in order to make **Uvalde** law enforcement look bad. He accuses **McCraw** of lying, leaking, misleading, or misstating in order to distance his own troopers and rangers from the response.

He says that no state agencies with information about the shooting have shared that information with the city of **Uvalde**. He states that he'd been asked to refrain from sharing information but that from now on *"the gloves are off"* and he will share any information that he receives.

Councilman Chip King singles out the journalists in the room and says that the media needs to stop doing *"click bait"* articles and *"let us heal and let us move on."* The meeting was scheduled in part to decide whether to grant **Arredondo** a leave of absence from the city council; the council votes against this unanimously.

Wednesday, June 22

Senator Gutierrez sues the **DPS** for not releasing records. **UCISD** places **Pete Arredondo** on administrative leave.

Uvalde Strong for Gun Safety, organized by pediatrician **Roy Guerrero**, meets at **Southwest Texas Junior College** with **Senator Gutierrez**. Victims' families express anger at **UCISD** and the **City of Uvalde** for their silence and inaction, as well as distrust as to how the **Robb Memorial Fund** will be distributed.

Thursday, June 23

Victims' family members and experts testify before **Texas** lawmakers in **Austin**.

Tuesday, June 28

Texas Democrats call on **Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton** to release records related to the **Uvalde** shooting.

A coalition of local and national media agencies issue an open letter calling on **Mayor McLaughlin** to release records related to the shooting, citing legal precedent.

Angeli Gomez, a mother who gained prominence for reports of her being restrained while trying to save her children at **Robb** and her criticism of the law enforcement response, alleges that the **Uvalde** police are harassing her.

Thursday, June 30

At a **Uvalde City Council** meeting, from which **Pete Arredondo** is absent for the second time, **Mayor McLaughlin** states that he has no new information and that the city can share nothing because of the ongoing investigation, claiming that city authorities could be prosecuted if they release details. Facing criticism from community members, **McLaughlin** offers to resign if the community feels he hasn't done an adequate job.

Friday, July 1

Pete Arredondo announces his resignation from the **Uvalde City Council** but retains his position with **UCISD**.



When folks talk about American spirit they would do well to look towards the mom in Uvalde, TX who **left** her difficult and skilled job that puts food on all of our tables as a farm worker, **drove 40 minutes**, was put in cuffs, got out, hopped a fence, knew exactly what classroom her kids were in, **measured the distance of gunshots** to safely rescue them, **called out the cops for cowardice**; was threatened with probation violation for talking to press, **did so anyway**, and then went back to work.

Fearless, brave, hard working and patriotic.



Mission Statement

To fiercely protect our children by any means necessary.
Advocate for gun safety and against gun violence.

Founder: Angie Villescaz **Founded:** 2022
Headquarters: Uvalde, Texas (512) 952-9856



The Butt family and H-E-B lead the way with \$10 million donation to help build a new elementary campus in Uvalde

In partnership as founding donors, the **Butt** family and **H-E-B**, which are longtime supporters of public education, will work with other stakeholders and organizations on the development of this project. **Texas** firms **Huckabee and Joeris General Contractors**, which are also founding donors, have also made generous commitments to donate their services and time to this project, which will help the children, families, staff and **Uvalde CISD** community move forward together.

*“Our first store in **Uvalde** opened in 1959, and **Uvalde** people are our people,” said **Charles Butt**, **H-E-B’s** Chairman. “As we continue to mourn tremendous loss, I join with my family and **H-E-B** in working to ensure the **Uvalde** community can move forward from this tragic event. Our children are this country’s future, and our schools should be a safe place where children can thrive and envision new possibilities.”*

For those who would like to join the effort, contributions to support this project can be made by donating to the **Uvalde CISD Moving Forward Foundation**, a nonprofit charitable organization established to help raise funds for the new elementary campus as well as serve the immediate and ongoing financial needs of **Uvalde CISD**. Donations can be made by visiting UvaldeCISDMovingForward.org.

The new campus will significantly enhance educational offerings and implement state-of-the-art safety and security measures, and infrastructure to support the availability of new technology. The location and design of the new campus and timeline for the project have not been determined. The school district will work closely with the **Uvalde** community, donors, and other stakeholders to solicit ideas and gather feedback for the project.

Built in the 1950s, **Robb Elementary** serves approximately 538 students in grades second through fourth. The school has been permanently closed, and while a timeline hasn’t been determined, plans are in place for the school to be demolished, ensuring students and staff will not have to return to the building at the site of the tragedy.

In addition to this support, last month, **H-E-B** launched a donation campaign and announced it would commit \$500,000 to support the victims and families affected by this heartbreaking event. Earlier this month, the **H-E-B Tournament of Champions Charitable Trust** also announced a \$500,000 donation to support nonprofits helping fellow Texans in **Uvalde**.

“We thank our loyal **H-E-B** customers for their unwavering support of communities in times of need,” Butt added. Since 1905, **H-E-B** has demonstrated its commitment to individuals and communities in crisis by donating financial support and emergency supplies, as well as providing efficient ways for customers to assist those affected by tragedy and disaster.

#UvaldeStrong "Our sincere condolences for your loss."

Texas MAD supports legislation to protect our children, families, and community from gun violence.



**Roberto R. Alonzo, Chairman
Texas State Rep (Ret.)
Texas Mexican American Democrats
Juntos Podemos. Together We Can.
www.madtex.org**

Reflejos y Pensamientos

A Letter from Jeremy

Dear my hometown Uvalde:

My fiancée and I flew down to attend a funeral for family to you. This tragedy has hurt me and burdened my heart all the way from California, I can only imagine the pain from those closer to the tragedy.

Growing up I didn't appreciate you. All I wanted was to leave you and see the world beyond your city limits. I didn't understand the value in you or why people could ever live in a small town. I never cared for your grand opera house or trees growing in the middle of the streets. You see my immature self only saw the surface level things you had to offer.

I missed and forget about your community and for that I'm sorry. I forgot about the memorial park where we would use cardboard boxes as kids to slide down the hills, the all night movie madness showings during the summer at the movie theatre before school started, all the people who served the veterans and low income families for thanksgiving every year at the civic center and let's not forget the bake sales and bbqs we have for a friend or family member in need.

You see on the way to the funeral I realized that even in the darkness there is light and a hope. My Texas friends and family I hope when I grow a family of my own I find a community as strong as yours.

Below is a photo of a man who is one of many that paid their respects as we headed to a funeral. This photo gives me hope in the future and confidence that God will draw people closer in this time of tragedy rather than push each other away. I love you Uvalde, and more importantly I love the people that reside there.

Jeremy Ybarra

An Open Letter From Veronica Garcia

Uvalde CISD
Luis Fernandez
Mcpo Calvin Lambert
Anne Marie Espinoza
Mayor Don McLaughlin
The Uvalde Leader-News

WHY is the school board allowing him to hold on to a position that he so clearly is not able to fulfill?

WHEN are you going to start securing the schools? MILLIONS have poured into Uvalde and have you even began to secure the schools? Get estimates? Bids?

Isn't school budget contingent on attendance? What do you think is going to happen to the budget when there are ZERO students attending due to the lack of safety?!

Have you started the hiring process for a completely new school police department and have you thought about having a meet and greet with the community and the new deputies to gain trust and so the officers see the faces of those they have to potentially take a bullet for?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING AND WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR ??

FIRE PETE ARREDONDO and get started on healing the community.

YOU we're elected to lead the community through hard times.

YOU are failing as miserably as Pete failed that day if you continue to sit on your hands and do nothing.
Once again,

Sincerely,
Verónica García

UHS Class of 2002
#loyalandtrue #UvaldeStrong

P.S. The petition is still going strong at 2,500+ signatures in favor of Pete's termination

Pensamientos de Cecilia Balli

"I pray for your healing. I pray that the fear inside will flee in Jesus' name."

Last week, on my drive back home from West Texas, I passed through Uvalde and stopped briefly. It's an overwhelming experience; there's a sadness that washes over you when you're there. You can feel the energy of grief and loss. This prayer by a third grader from La Joya, Texas, really moved me, though. From years of research and working in communities with trauma, I've learned that trauma is something that gets trapped in the body. It's literally an energy that the body doesn't get to release properly, and then it's lodged there for years and causes immense emotional suffering, social isolation, and even physical ailments. It's harder to dislodge later than when the event has just happened.

When I heard that the children in the school and the parents outside had to wait so long for the shooting to be over, it made me think of how much more trauma may potentially happen because they were immobilized for so long, unable to act (fight, flee) in the face of threat. The mental health interventions that will come will likely be in the form of talk therapy, grief and bereavement therapy, but I wonder if someone will work in a more specialized way with the people who have this trauma now—this "fear inside," as the third grader so poetically put—that will be there for years and years.

A Plea from Karla King

Friends in San Antonio I need your help!

One of the victims of the Uvalde tragedy, 10 year old Mayah, is still in the hospital in San Antonio.

Her family has not been able to leave the hospital, and are craving home-cooked meals. I am making her family a couple of meals, but if anyone has any desire to help I know their family would be so grateful. I will be happy to pick up anything and deliver it to them. Please let me know if you can help, or know anyone who can!

Thank you so much to everyone who has offered to make meals. We are all so blown away by everyone's generosity! The family is truly thankful for everyone and everything. If you have signed up for a meal, I can arrange pickup and dropoff of the meal.



Reflejos y Pensamientos

Today we arrived in our hometown of Uvalde, TX

Today we arrived in our hometown of Uvalde, TX for the first time since the tragedy. We visited our childhood school of Robb Elementary to pay our respects and pray for the families of the victims. After visiting with our family we drove to the town plaza to view the memorial in downtown.

Tattered animals, withered flowers, and faded signs with words of hope and love adorned crosses with the names of the victims. We began to notice family members of the victims arriving to collect the trinkets and items left behind by others for their loved ones.

As we walked to our vehicle one man pulling a wagon with items said, "You all have such a beautiful daughter."
 "Thank you so much" we replied.
 "Do you mind if I say hello to her?" He asked (Tears in his eyes)
 "No sir not at all. Go right ahead." We responded
 He kneels down and is eye level with Gigi.
 "Hi sweetheart! What's your name?" He asked
 "Gianna" she replied, "I'm five."
 "Such an beautiful name for a beautiful girl. I bet everyone just tells you how pretty you are right?"
 "Yes" she replied nodding her head.
 "I had a daughter too. She was ten. Do you want to see a picture of her?"
 "Yes please" Gigi nodded
 The man reaches into a plastic bin and pulled out a laminated picture of his daughter. (His hands shaking)
 "Her name was _____ and she was beautiful just like you."

Tears now running down his cheeks and his hands still shaking. He touches her hair looking into her eyes and gently touches her cheek.
 "I know your mommy and daddy love you very much sweetheart." He stands up and kisses her on the head.
 He looks at me and says, "Be sure to give her lots of love everyday."
 I nod. Voice trembling I manage to say, "You know it. I'm so sorry."

He extends his hand and I pull him into me. Our chests connect and we hug tight. He squeezes me and I squeeze back as hard as I can. His head now on my shoulder I can feel and hear him crying. I'm crying too.
 I whisper, "I love you brother." He responds, "Thank you."
 I have never met this man in my life before today nor do I know his name, but as a father I could feel only a fraction of his pain and it was almost too much for me to bear.

I cannot imagine the pain of the parents who suffered this tragedy. Don't forget about Uvalde! People are STILL hurting. The town is still mourning. It's been just over a month and the media is gone. The celebrities and politicians are nowhere to be found. The people of Uvalde are still here. Still hurting, still angry, still afraid, still wanting answers.

Never forget the 21 #uvaldestrong

The Archbishop of San Antonio has released a statement, that "we should protect all life" and I concur.

Transparency is much needed in the Uvalde community, at all levels of government. Accountability for their actions.

Uvalde is my hometown and my family has been personally impacted, thoughts and prayers only go so far. I don't want prayers, good thoughts or vibes, I want partisan, and nonpartisan groups like LULAC to rally and stop this gun Violence! These children are our little Jose's and Little Maria's who never had an opportunity to grow and achieve their dream. How many children more?? How would you feel if this happened to your families and / or communities? How do you make sense and try to explain and console to an 8 year old, that all his friends were murdered in the class next door? Who doesn't want to ever step back into Robb Elementary for fear he may loose more classmates and friends. To see the pain of my parents comadre and to hear of the 5family members they lost.

My Uvalde classmates from Elementary to Uvalde High, most have been directly impacted and lost family members. Uvalde is mourning!

How many more innocent lives have to be massacred, slaughtered, pulverized to where a pair of green high top sneakers were the only identifiable item. Sadder still was the dreadful task and only way to match the remnants of a child was a DNA swab.

A generational Uvaldean is the local Catholic priest, Fr. Eddie Morales from Sacred Heart. Any questions should be referred to him as he knows his flock and his communities.

Adalynn Ruiz is with Eva Mireles.

It's been 31 days. 31 days that I haven't been woken up by you. 31 days that I haven't heard your laugh. 31 days that I haven't seen your smile. 31 days that I haven't felt your hug. 31 days that I haven't gotten your call. It's the 31st day that the other half of me was taken from me.

Mom, these days don't get easier. I can't explain how numb I am. These days are quiet without you. I don't want to wake up without your voice yelling at the dogs. I don't want to send tik toks to a phone that will never reply back. I don't want to go on without you, but I have to. I have to grow up without my mom. I have to continue my life without my mom, and that breaks my heart. I don't like to go to sleep because that means I have to wake up another day without you. I've spent 31 days looking at pictures of you and listening to your voice on videos,

I've spent 31 days texting your phone just hoping this was all a dream and you'd text me back. I don't know how to do this life without you, I catch myself doing something and telling myself "omg let me ask mom", but I can't. I catch myself getting angry at the smallest things, but I guess that's just how grief works and I'm not used to it. My birthday is next week and every year just you and I would go out and have a birthday lunch together. How am I supposed to celebrate my birthday without my mom. This year I have to spend my lunch with you at the cemetery instead of a restaurant, and that too, breaks my heart.

Mom, I will never be whole again. I will never stop saying your name. I want you to know that dad and I will always stick together and live our lives for you. He is the strongest man I know so like you would always say "aren't you glad I picked a good dad for you?" Yes, the best dad. I couldn't do it without him so thank you for choosing him to be the other half that makes me whole.

I know my life will never be the same, but I'm glad that God chose you to be my mom and allowed you to be here for the short time I had you. I'm glad that you got to see the world the way you did, I know you saw a little bit of heaven in the mountains you climbed and now you are at the very top. My beautiful momma, I love you and miss you every second, every minute and every hour of everyday.

Thank you for the continued prayers and check up's.

Hug your mommas for me

Election Results From Around the State



In the race for **Dimmit County Judge**, there were four candidates on the **Democratic** ticket who received the following number of votes:

CANDIDATE	VOTE	PERCENT
Francisco Ponce	660	28.37%
Joel Gonzales	510	21.92%
Martha Alicia Gomez Ponce	676	29.06%
Rodrigo Jaime	480	20.63%

With no one receiving 50% of the vote, the run-off came down to **Francisco Ponce** and **Martha Alicia Gomez Ponce**. **Francisco** received 1,100 votes and **Martha Alicia** received 1,227 to take the top county job and thus becoming the first woman nominee for county judge in **Dimmit County**.

LINA HIDALGO HARRIS COUNTY JUDGE

Judge Lina Hidalgo is the head of **Harris County's** governing body, the **Harris County Commissioners Court**, which oversees a \$5 billion budget in a county of almost 5 million residents.



A 2013 graduate of **Stanford University**, **Hidalgo** is seeking her second term as **Harris County Judge**. In her first run for public office she received 595,221 votes or 49.78%. **Republican Ed Emmett** received 575,944 votes or 48.16%. The **Libertarian** candidate received 24,634 or 2.06%.

This time around **Hidalgo** is being investigated for **COVID** scandal involving a county contract. To be sure the **Republican Party** is not happy this young woman beat **Ed Emmett** for the top spot in the largest city in **Texas**.



U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar held on to his seat in the **Democratic** nomination for **Texas' 28th District**, after a recount requested by challenger **Jessica Cisneros** determined **Cuellar** prevailed by 289 votes.



His original lead had been tabulated at 281 votes, but during the recount he picked up more votes in **Jim Hogg** and **Starr County**.

Cisneros, who has been after **Cuellar** for some time now plans to try again in the future to unseat him. **Cisneros** conceded shortly after the official recount results were released.



In the November General Election, **Cuellar** will face Republican nominee **Cassy Garcia**. They hope to flip **Cuellar's** district as they did in the **Rio Grande Valley** with **Mayra Flores'** special election win in the 34th District earlier in June.

Texas GOP adopts resolution rejecting 2020 election results

CNN reported that **The Republican Party of Texas** at their convention last month, adopted a resolution that rejects **President Joe Biden** as the winner of the 2020 election, further aligning the state party establishment with former **President Donald Trump** in pushing false election claims. *"We strongly urge all Republicans to work to ensure election integrity and to show up to vote in November of 2022, bring your friends and family, volunteer for your local Republicans, and overwhelm any possible fraud."*

Hays County Voters Go to the Polls

Incumbent **Ruben Becerra** will be the **Democratic** candidate for county judge again. He beat his opponent **Brandon Burleson** by earning almost 70% of the votes.



In the contest for the **Hays County Commissioner** seat of **Precinct # 2**, **Linda Aguilar Hawkins** won 37% of the votes, while **Michelle Gutierrez Cohen** won 41%. This led to a run-off election on May 24th in which **Gutierrez Cohen** won with 469 votes (52.64%) to **Aguilar Hawkins'** 422 (47.36%).

DEMOCRATIC
PRIMARY- RUNOFF

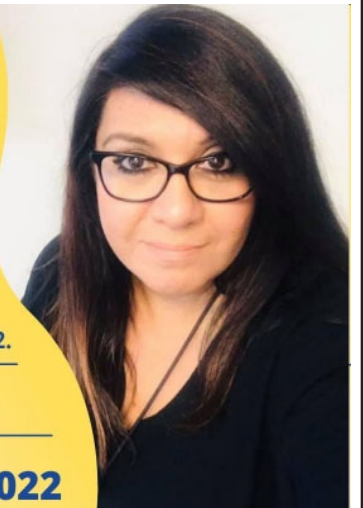
VOTE
FOR

DR. MICHELLE
GUTIERREZ
COHEN

Hays County
Commissioner Pct 2.

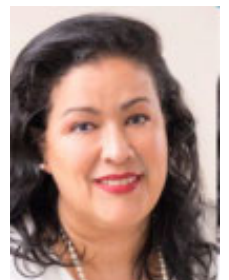
Early Voting begins
May 16th to May 20th

ELECTION DAY
May 24th, 2022



State Representative District 45

In the race for **State Representative District 45**, which includes **Hays County**, **Erin Zwiener**, the incumbent, won 83% of the vote against two challengers, **Angie Villescaz** and **Jessica Mejia**.



Election Results From Around the State

In the Pflugerville Independent School District



The Pflugerville school board, which is just North of Austin, Texas appointed **Brian Allen** to fill a seat on the school board which he had previously lost only a few week earlier. **Allen** lost "his" seat to **Alissa Molina** on May 7th, 2002. (3,096 votes to 2,527)

Then two weeks later, she decided to resign her seat. In a video posted on May 25th, **Molina** stated that her husband who is a teacher of 10 years in **Austin** was seeking a position within the Pflugerville school district that would create a conflict of interest. The board voted 6-0 on to accept **Molina's** resignation after an hour-long executive session. Then it voted 5-0 to appoint **Allen**.

Cuando andas en Pflugerville, stop by El Rincon Mexican Restaruant for the best *pozole* in the area. 200 Pecan Street. (512) 990-0250

In a historic election drawing heavy voter turnout, attorney **Norma Sepulveda** won 60 percent of the vote to defeat five-term Mayor **Chris Boswell**, thus becoming the first woman to win the city's top elected position. **Sepulveda** got 3,659 votes to **Boswell's** 2,388, calling herself the "voice of the people."

"This is a historical election," she said surrounded by family and friends at the **Moon Rock Food Truck Park**. "I'm excited to be the voice of the people. I'm a mayor for all of Harlingen. I'm not here for division. I'm here to put Harlingen first and I think we're ready for a change. We want a government and mayor for the people."

"From the beginning, this election was about bringing people from all parts of our community together, I am inspired by the historic turnout in this municipal election and I am excited to represent a unified city ready to make **Harlingen** the capital of the **RGV** once again. I also want to thank **Mr. Boswell** for his many years of public service. Once in office, I vow to be a mayor for all of **Harlingen**, regardless of who people voted for in this election."

Boswell, the city's longest-serving mayor, offered his support during the transition. "I want to congratulate my opponent **Norma Sepulveda** in her election as mayor of **Harlingen**," he said. "It's been an honor and a privilege to have served as mayor for 15 years but the voters of **Harlingen** elected **Mayor Sepulveda** and I offer my support to her."



Republicans Take U.S. House seat in South Texas



It happened again, a Republican candidate for elective office beat a Democrat in what has long been a Democratic stronghold in **South Texas**. **Mayra Flores**, in a special election for an open congressional seat beat **Dan Sanchez**. This has happened before and the politicians believe it is going to happen again. (In 1988, **Republican Tony Garza** won the position of **Cameron County Judge**)

Flores, who is a respiratory therapist will be the first Mexican-born congresswoman. She will be on the ballot again in November. With all precincts reporting, **Flores** had 50.98% of the vote and **Sanchez** had 43.33%. There were two other, lesser-known candidates Democrat **Rene Coronado** and Republican **Juana "Janie" Cantu-Cabrera** in the race. **Sanchez** is a **Harlingen** lawyer and former **Cameron County** commissioner

Sanchez said in a statement. "Based on the results, we came up short tonight despite being outspent by millions of dollars from out of state interests and the entire Republican machine," he said. "Too many factors were against us, including little to no support from the **National Democratic Party** and the **Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee**."

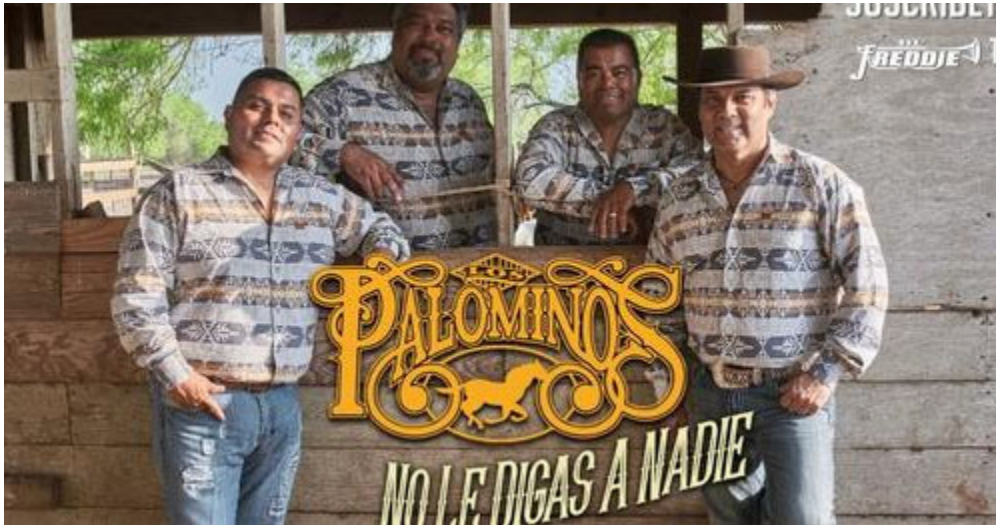
In the City of Leander, Texas



Juan Alanis ran for city councilmen in Place 3. He lost with 922 votes or 32.74% to **David McDonald** who received 1,458 or 61.26% of the vote. This election took place on Saturday, June 11th, 2022

Noticias de La Música

Los Palominos Return with a Cover of Classic Hit: ‘No Le Digas A Nadie’
The Grammy-winning group released the lead single from highly-anticipated album due out this fall.



“No Le Digas A Nadie” is a classic cover, written by **Lonnie Guerrero**, and was recorded by **Los Humildes** in the '70s. It is the first single from **Los Palominos**’ highly-anticipated new album scheduled to be released this fall.

Among the current members of **Los Palominos**, of course, are the brothers **Arreola**. **James Arreola** (first voice, bajo quinto, guitar,) **Julio Arreola** (second voice, accordion, keyboards), and **Jorge Arreola** (backup vocals and electric bass). They are now joined by a former member of **Conjunto Primavera** and **Masizzo**, **Danny Martinez** (drums).

This is a new chapter for the **GRAMMY**-winning group. It is the first time in over 30 years that a familiar member is not part of the group, **Johnny Arreola**. They have done an excellent job in executing and highlighting the true emotions of “No Le Digas A Nadie.” **Los Palominos** believe it will be an excellent fit for this era and expect that all their past and loyal fans, and the ones to come will love and enjoy it as well.



Voces Oral History Center

"This is what represents us; this is part of us," says **Anthony Medrano** - a modern mariachi master. He has performed at the **White House**, co-directed an annual mariachi festival at the **Hollywood Bowl** and been a member of **Mariachi Campanas de America**, based in **San Antonio**, since 1986. He can't explain what drew him to mariachi music. But it is the passion of his life. He considers himself a caretaker of a Mexican cultural tradition that dates to the 18th century, and possibly earlier.

Mr. Medrano was interviewed by **Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez** in 2019 for **Voces Oral History Center**. Watch his full interview here: [#VocesofMariachi #latinas #latinos #oralhistory https://bit.ly/Medrano_Vocesinterview](https://bit.ly/Medrano_Vocesinterview)



La Rancherita del Aire Reporta

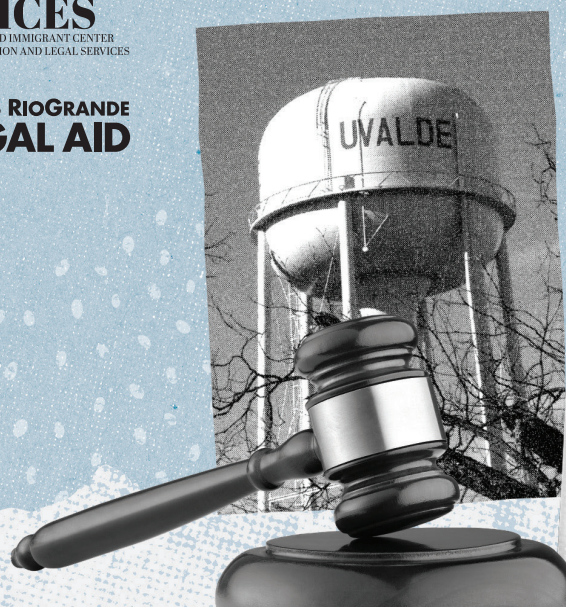
**Salió del hospital la abuela
del asesino de Uvalde**

Fue dada de alta **Celia Sally Gonzalez**, de 66 años de edad, abuela de **Salvador Ramos**, el joven de 18 años que causó la masacre en la escuela elemental **Robb de Uvalde, Texas**. El **Hospital Universitario de San Antonio** anunció que la mujer se recuperó satisfactoriamente y fue dada de alta para que pueda regresar a casa.

La abuelita permaneció poco más de un mes hospitalizada tras recibir un impacto de bala expansiva de rifle **Ar-15** en el rostro, lo que le dañó la mandíbula y la boca, e incluso su capacidad de habla.

Celia Sally Gonzalez fue la primera en recibir un disparo por parte de **Salvador Ramos**, que luego se dirigió a la escuela primaria, donde asesinó a 19 niños y 2 profesoras, y dejó a otros 13 heridos.

El 24 de mayo, de manera milagrosa la mujer salió caminando de su casa y pudo ir a un domicilio vecino para pedir ayuda, desde ese día fue llevada al hospital de **San Antonio**. Los médicos informaron que solo queda hospitalizada una niña de 10 años, herida en la escuela, y se espera que pronto sea dada de alta.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

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**Un taller donde usted puede hacer
preguntas a un equipo de abogados
en Español**

17 Julio 10:30am Y 2:00pm

**Herby Ham Activity Center
248 FM 3447, Uvalde, Texas 78801**

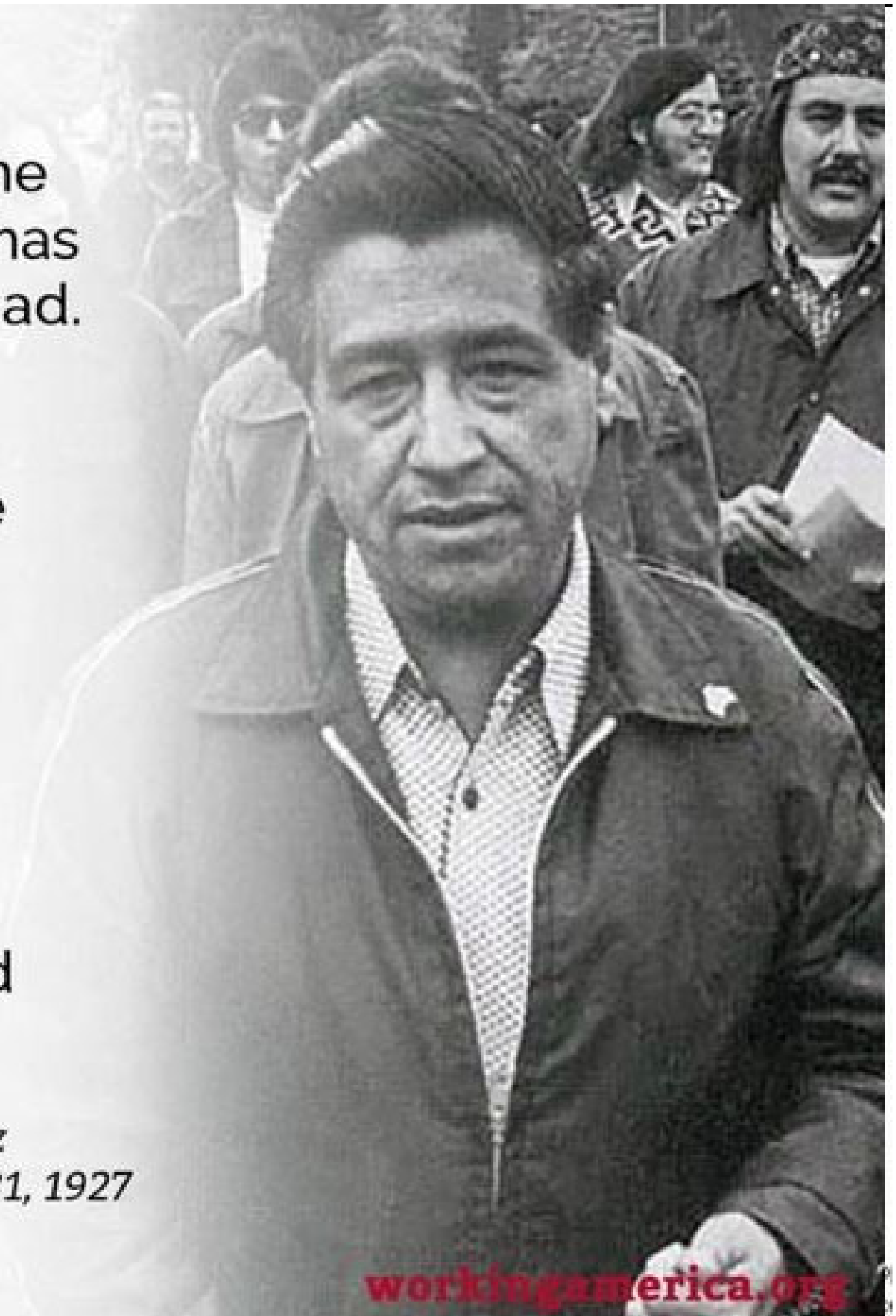
www.raicestex.org

"You cannot
uneducate the
person who has
learned to read.

You cannot
humiliate the
person who
feels pride.

You cannot
oppress the
people who
are not afraid
anymore."

*-Cesar Chavez
Born March 31, 1927*





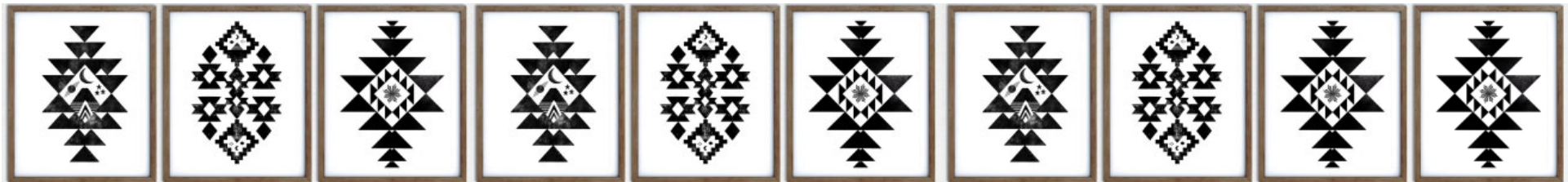
Mom Asks for Assistance

Hello, I am **Angelica Rodriguez** the mother of **Leann Garcia**. My daughter is one of the surviving victims who suffered injuries to her face during the **Robb Elementary** shooting in **Uvalde Tx**. She was transferred to **University Hospital** in **San Antonio Tx**. where she under went surgery to remove bullet fragments that are logged in her face.

She will need to have multiple visits with her oral and plastic surgeon, due to her still having bullet fragment logged in her oral cavity. This fundraising will help my family with her medical, dental and surgical expenses, food, commuting back and forth from **Uvalde** to **San Antonio**, and with hotel accommodations.

In addition, this funding will help us be there for our daughter who has been through an extremely traumatic event, and experienced something no child should ever have to experience. We would greatly appreciate your prayers and donations. Thank you for all your support.

To help the **Rodriguez** family please contact the **Fierce Moms** group at (512) 952-9856



Subscription Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Please mail your check to: ***La Voz de Uvalde County*** for **\$75.00** to 416 W. Nopal Street Uvalde, Texas 78801. Please call us if you have any questions or would like to pay with a credit card.

Gracias.

Calendar of Events

July 9th, 2022 - Annual School Backpack and Supplies Fundraiser from 8 to 10 am at 1715 South First Street in Austin, Texas 78704. Sponsored by **Constable George Morales III, Alberto Garcia, Ruben Barrera, Pedro Villalobos and Blanca Zamora Garcia of Casa Blanca Realty.** Habra comida y refrescos. Den la vuelta.

July 10th, 2022 - The Unheard Voices March and Rally in Uvalde, Texas. Marchers will assemble at **Robb Elementary School** at 5:30pm and march to the plaza in the center of **Uvalde, Texas.** This event is being organized by **Los Brown Berets Unidos de Tejas.** For more information call: **Tommy Acosta** at (21) 982-8618 or **Javier Cazares** at (839) 407-1330

July 12th, 2022 - Hillside Summer Concert Series 2100 East 3rd Street Austin, Texas 78702. **Jorge Tamayo, Cecilia and the Broken Hearts and J.R. Gomez y Los Bandits**

July 14th thru 16th, 2022 - Texas Democratic Convention in Dallas, Texas. For more information contact **Fidel Acevedo** at (512) 775-7276

July 17th, 2022 - Legal Clinic in Uvalde, Texas at the **Herbie Ham Recreation Center** starting at 2:00pm Contact **Ruben Barrera** for more information at: 512-554-3025

July 19th, 2022 - Hillside Summer Concert Series 2100 East 3rd Street Austin, Texas 78702. **George Mercado & Vesta Realm, Jimmy Gill Band and Rick Fuentes and the Brown Express**

July 21st., 2022 - Austin con Uvalde Fundrasier at **Antone’s** 305 East 5th Street in **Austin, Texas.** Event features **Ruben Ramos, Vallejo, del Castillo, Susan Torres** and others.

July 25 - 30, 2022 - National LULA Convention and Exposition in Puerto Rico. See **LULAC.org/convention22** for more details

July 26th, 2022 - Hillside Summer Concert Series 2100 East 3rd Street Austin, Texas 78702. **The Super City Band Reunion, Tierra Girls and Ruben Ramos and the Revolution**

July 28th 29th and 30 2022 - The Great Texas Mosquito Festival in Clute, Texas at the Clute Municipal Park. See the back page of this issue of **La Voz** for more information.

July 30th, 2022 - Virtual Casting Call for the Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Annual Latin Festival Fahion Show. Please email a video of your walk alone with your name, age, and measurements to **SOLEOPTX@gamil.com**

HELP WANTED

La Voz de Uvalde County is looking for a **Graphic Artist.** Cartooning skilss are especially desired. **La Voz de Uvalde County** is looking for a marketing representative. This person would assist in calling on prospective advertisers in **Uvalde County.** Call **Alfredo Santos c/s** at (512) 944-4123 for more information.

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.

The Police	Él policía
The Principal	El director
The Governor	El gobernador
The Politicians	Los políticos
When will we hear the tapes?	¿Cuándo escucharemos las cintas?
When will we get to hear the radio transmisions?	¿Cuándo podremos escuchar la radio transmisiones?
The truth will come out.	La verdad saldrá.
The people will find out who stood by and did nothing.	La gente descubrirá quién se puso de pie y no hizo nada.
This event will remain with us forever	Este evento permanecerá con nosotros para siempre
There must be consequences.	Debe haber consecuencias.
No one should get a pass.	Nadie debería obtener un pase
Thoughts and prayers are not enough for the people	Los pensamientos y las oraciones no son suficientes para la gente
Positive change must come out of this tragedy	el cambio positivo debe llegar Fuera de esta tragedia



Intervenciones Positivas de la Conducta

Este taller virtual ayudará a las familias a entender el propósito de las evaluaciones de comportamiento e intervenciones positivas enfocadas en las conductas que sirven un propósito específico para el estudiante. Se discutirán: el uso de las consecuencias positivas versus los castigos para cambiar de comportamiento, y lo que establece IDEA 2004 con respecto a las intervenciones positivas de la conducta.

Julio 26, 2022 | 1 PM

UVALDE RESOURCES

Our hearts go out to the individuals and families affected by the mass shooting that occurred at **Robb Elementary School** in **Uvalde, Texas**. No individual should have to experience senseless violence and no family or loved one should have to suffer such a loss. We are thinking of you and wishing you moments of peace and comfort during these difficult times.

We have collected a few online resources to help you during this difficult time:

Tips for Survivors: Coping With Grief After a Disaster or Traumatic Event
The Impact of Disaster and Mass Violence Events on Mental Health
Managing Grief after Disaster
Online Clinical Trainings—Provided by the National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center
Mass Disasters, Trauma, and Loss
Mass Violence/Community Violence
Coping after Mass Violence
Parent Guidelines for Helping Youth after the Recent Shooting
Psychological Impact of the Recent Shooting



DESIGN CREATED BY SENA MONTEAÑOR & KATIE E.

PLEASE COME OUT AND JOIN US FOR A FAMILY EVENT IN THE CITY OF UVALDE, TEXAS
HOSTED BY THE COMMUNITY OF SANTA FE, TEXAS.
WE ARE BOTH ON THE SAME PATH OF HEALING AND THIS EVENT WILL ALLOW US TO COME TOGETHER AND STAND UNITED.
ALL DONATIONS & PROCEEDS AFTER EVENT COST WILL GO TOWARDS
THE ROBB SCHOOL MEMORIAL FUND.

July **30th**
12PM-5PM

ACTIVITIES

FOOD, DRINKS, AND YUMMY TREATS
CARNIVAL ACTIVITIES
BOUNCY HOUSES
ROCK CLIMBING
DISNEY CHARACTERS
FURRY ANIMALS TO LOVE ON

Uvalde County Fairplex

215 Veterans Lane
Uvalde, Tx 78801

tommie.ramirez1503@yahoo.com



Our Purpose

Southwest Texas Junior College is a comprehensive, public college serving eleven counties in Southwest Texas. The College provides accessible, affordable, high-quality education that prepares students to successfully transfer to senior colleges and universities; enter the job market; pursue their professional and personal goals; and contribute to the economic growth of the region.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Part-Time STEM Mentor - Uvalde
- Library Resource Technician - Eagle Pass
- AEL Site Supervisor - Eagle Pass
- Carpentry Instructor - Hondo Prison
- IT Help Desk Technician - Uvalde
- Campus Police Officer - Del Rio
- Campus Police Officer - Eagle Pass
- Librarian I - Del Rio

For more information or to apply go to

www.swtjc.edu/about/employment-opportunities/

2401 Garner Field Road • Uvalde, Texas 78801 • HR Ofc 830-591-7330: Fax 830-591-7340

A Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution



OFFICIAL FLYER FOR:

THE UNHEARD VOICES MARCH & RALLY

"WE MUST FIGHT AND WIN THIS STRUGGLE FOR OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS AND THEY MUST KNOW FROM US,WHO WE ARE, WE SHALL ENDURE AND WE WILL ENDURE"-CORKY GONZALES

March info: Sunday July 10th. Assemble time 5:30pm @ Robb Elementary 715 Old Carrizo Rd. Uvalde, Texas. March starts @ 6pm, ending in Uvalde Plaza. Rally to Follow!

For More information please contact Tommy Acosta 210-982-8618 or Javier Cazares 830-407-1330

LOS BROWN BERETS UNIDOS DE TEJAS