

La Voz

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Volume 16 Number 2
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Mark Madrid Joining SBA in Washington, D.C.

Mark Madrid, the CEO of the Latino Business Action Network (LBAN), has been named associate administrator for the Office of Entrepreneurial Development at the Small Business Administration (SBA).

The announcement was made by LBAN Chairman Victor Arias Jr. during the sixth annual State of Latino Entrepreneurship Forum. Madrid will report directly to Isabel Guzman, president's Joe Biden choice to be SBA administrator and he's expected to depart LBAN on Feb. 11.

Previously, Mark served as President/CEO of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Prior to serving in nonprofit executive roles, Madrid enjoyed a flourishing career in banking that began on Wall Street in 1995 with J.P. Morgan.

According to his LinkedIn's profile, Mark holds a BBA from The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business, where he graduated with Honors and earned the designation as an Endowed Presidential Scholar. Mark also graduated Cum Laude with a Master in Nonprofit Administration from the University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business.

"Mark has been a longtime champion on scaling small Latino owned businesses. We look forward to working with Mark in his new role to effectively generate a greater impact for our USHCC members who need support growing jobs for our future economy dependent on the success of our Latino entrepreneurs", says Ramiro Cavazos, President of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

People in the News



Isabel Lopez Appointed COO of Latino Healthcare Forum

The Latino HealthCare Forum is happy to announce the appointment of its new Chief Operating Officer (COO), Isabel Lopez.

Isabel has collaborated with the organization for almost nine years and has officially worked for six years. She has proven to be an invaluable member of our team and we wish her the best of luck in this new position.

Jill Ramirez, President of the Latino Healthcare Forum stated "Estamos contentos de anunciar el nombramiento de nuestra nueva Directora de Operaciones, Isabel Lopez, ella ha colaborado con nuestra organización por casi nueve años y ha trabajado oficialmente desde hace seis años. Isabel ha demostrado ser un miembro invaluable de nuestro equipo y le deseamos mucha suerte en esta nueva posición".



Bertha Rendon Delgado New Minister with Brown Berets in Austin, Texas

Bertha Rendo Delgado, community activist from East Austin was selected to serve as Minister President of the Austin Brown Berets Chapter.

In a statement on FACEBook, she said, "I would like to take a moment to Honor my parents, In 1979 a year I was born into the Chicano Movement to my East Side Chicana Activist (mom) Alice Rendon de Austin Texas & Chicano Brown Beret (father) Martin Delgado de San Antonio Texas. It is in my blood. I grew up in a Chicano Movement in a Chicano family in a Chicano Community called the East Side of Austin Texas.

I was Blessed to have the Best predecessor you can have & that's my Godfather Co- Founder Prime Minister of the Brown Berets Chicano Activist Paul Hernandez. I am Blessed to have so many Chicano Brown Beret Mentors like Chicana Susana Almanza, Gilbert Rivera & Ramon B Maldonado Sr., Tio Pete Martinez, my Hero my Welo Edward Rendon Sr., My father my mother!!

Thank you to Our Leader Brown Beret Chicano Alfred Rangel aka (Basco) my Advisor for your hard work for your loyalty for your dedication & for you always believing in me & knowing me since I was a child to carry on this torch!!! My mission is to archive my elders, to educate about our History our cultura, our movement & set the tone for future generations! Chicano & Chicana Power Que Viva La Raza!!"



Amarmando Manzanero Passes Away in Mexico

Armando Manzanero, one of Latin America's most influential and prolific songwriters, died on December 28, according to CNN. He was 85, and had been hospitalized earlier in the month after testing positive for COVID-19.

His family told Mexican newspaper *El Universal* that he was set to be extubated in the coming days, after his lung health had improved, but he then died by cardiac arrest. Manzanero had written over 600 songs in his lifetime, according to the Mexican Society of Authors and Composers, which he served as president of until his death.

His songs have been performed by icons of Latin music like Luis Miguel, along with singers including Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Dionne Warwick, and Andrea Bocelli. He was integral to Luis Miguel's iconic Romance album series, writing many of the songs and serving as music director across the projects.

He also recorded music of his own, and won a Latin Grammy for his duets album *Duetos*.



by BILL DWYREJ

Former Raiders coach Tom Flores, a two-time Super Bowl winner, is finally headed to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. (He's told.)

As he approaches the moment that he has long coveted, Tom Flores uses a nice, tidy phrase that captures both his approach to life and his even-handed perspective on all things: "This will be a nice ending to my journey."

Flores, longtime Raiders player and coach, is going into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. That's a huge deal. They make bronze statues of people honored. His biography and his Wikipedia entry, already jammed with superlatives, will now include the word "legend."

Flores, who turns 84 in March and will celebrate his 60th wedding anniversary with his wife, Barbara, the same month, the induction will be the final layer of frosting on his career cake. Thousands of men play, coach, and administrate in the National Football League. Only a fraction of those are deemed special enough to be on the wall of the sacred building on George Halas Drive in Canton, Ohio.

Flores is thrilled, excited, overwhelmed. Yet even if he were the kind of person to react with backflips — which he is not — he will remain joyously restrained, if such an emotional contradiction is even possible. See, it's not quite a done deal. And his hopes and expectations have been stomped on before.

Last August, he received a phone call from Hall of Fame president David Baker. A committee had chosen Flores as the "top finalist" for 2021 selection, Baker told him. Flores would be inducted in a newly designated coaching category. As the "top finalist," his selection was virtually assured. Baker didn't say exactly that, but his celebratory tone and the fact that the call was filmed and posted to the internet inferred as much.

Flores' selection will become official the day before the Super Bowl on Feb. 7, when the class of 2021 is chosen for the annual August ceremony in Canton. There are 48 voting members, and Flores needs to be named on 80 percent of the ballots, or 38.4 people. Nobody seems sure about how he gets that .4 if he needs it, but all involved in this process are clear: The "top finalist" is as good as in. The main voting body seldom strays from the selection committee's "top finalist."



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Pensamientos

EDITORIAL

Bienvenidos otra vez a La Voz Newspaper. *Primeramente*, we would like to call to your attention a number of our stories in this issue.

First is the article on page 4 about what the **University of California** is doing to help farm workers. A lot of people say that farm workers are essential workers, but that is all. Here is an example of an institution that is actually doing something to help during this time of COVID.

Our second story which we wish to call to your attention is the interview we did with the new **Austin Independent School District Trustee Ofelia Maldonado Zapata**. When she announced her candidacy for school board, not many people thought

she would have a chance. After all, she was legally blind and did not have a lot of financial resources behind her.

But what she did have was more than thirty (30) years of working as a community activist with a group called **Austin Interfaith**. (Now known as **Central Texas Interfaith**)

Ofelia and her small team of volunteers knocked on doors and worked at passing out leaflets everywhere they could. They also took advantage of the long lines that had formed at numerous polling locations and talked to everyone they could from seven in the morning until 7 in the evening during early voting. And it paid off! She took 60% of the vote on November 3rd, and then took

congratulatory phones afterwards.

In a recent conversation she told of having called a number of the schools that are in District 2. At one school where she stated on the phone that she was **Ofelia Maldonado Zapata**, the principal asked who she was. She had to explain she was the new school board trustee for the area. (*Pos excuse me!*)

The other story we wish to call to your attention is on Page 6. It is about the passing of **Juan Cornejo**, the former **Mayor of Crystal City, Texas**. **Juan** was 90 years old and a member of a group known as **Los Cinco**. They were the ones who, in 1963, stood up and ran for public office during the time of the poll tax. Their collective victory



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher

is part of what inspired **José Angle Gutiérrez** to conceive and organize seven years later what would become **La Raza Unida Party**. And it was **La Raza Unida Party** that shook the political establishment which feared what might happen if **Mexican Americans** were to in fact turn out to vote and create other **Crystal Cities** around the country.

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Welcome Home!

UC Davis Launches \$3 Million Project to Improve Farmworker COVID Safety

Team is Working With Agricultural Industry and Community Groups

By Diane Nelson on January 27, 2021 in Human & Animal Health

California's 800,000 farmworkers have been hit hard by **COVID-19**, the disease that has infected more than 25 million people and killed more than 420,000 in the United States. Farmworkers are especially vulnerable to the airborne virus that causes COVID-19 because they often live, work and carpool in close quarters with other people. As essential employees, farmworkers have stayed on the job during the pandemic to plant, process and harvest the nation's food.

Agricultural safety experts and communicators at the **University of California, Davis**, have launched the **COVID-19 Statewide Agriculture and Farmworker Education Program** to reverse that trend. Funded by a \$3 million contract with the **California Labor and Workforce Development Agency**, the project provides workers, growers, farm labor contractors, community groups and others the training and safety information they need to reduce farmworkers' risk of contracting **COVID-19**.

The **COVID-19** project is led by experts at the **UC Davis Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety**, who are collaborating with the **UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communications Team**, a network of community-based organizations, and agricultural industry groups.

"Our team will work directly with community organizations who are trusted by farmworkers and have already been assisting them throughout this COVID crisis," said Heather Riden, program director at the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety. "Our goal is to amplify their efforts and help them build capacity as they continue to provide critical COVID safety information to their communities."

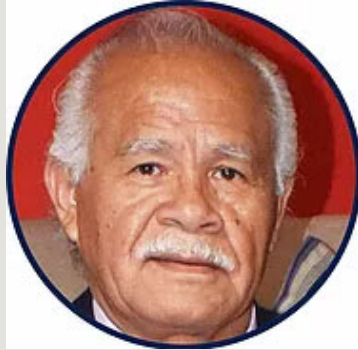
The team is also working closely with farmers and others in the agriculture industry as they navigate state **COVID-19** workplace safety standards, establish protocols and provide employees the tools they need to stay safe on the job. *"As employers across the state implement that new COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards, we want to be a resource for them so they can take all the necessary steps to ensure a safe work environment," said Riden.*



The program will be especially active in areas of high agricultural employment, such as the **Central Valley, the Imperial Valley, Napa Valley** and fertile regions along **California's** south and central coastlines. Free trainings and other events are already underway. You can learn more and register for upcoming presentations on the **UC Davis Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety** website. The center also offers extensive COVID resources and information in multiple languages on its **COVID-19 Resources** page.

Newspaper Publisher Gregorio Gutierrez Passes Away from COVID in San Angelo, Texas

The publisher of **CONEXION**, a community based newspaper in **San Angelo, Texas** passed away recently from **COVID**. **Gregorio Gutierrez**, was



Gregorio Gutiérrez es el fundador / CEO / presidente de **Conexión Hispana-Periódico Bilingüe**. Al crecer en **México**, a la edad de 12 años comenzó a trabajar. **Gregorio**,

born and raised in **Mexico** and began working at the age of 12.

He came to the United States in 1984 and moved to **San Angelo** in 1986. He married his wife **Araceli Gutierrez** in 1990, who is also his business partner. He officially became a U.S. Citizen in 2000 and created **Conexión Hispana** shortly after.

The publication quickly grew and generated more publications which include, **Conexión San Angelo**, **Conexión Del Rio**, **Conexión a la Salud**, **Conexión Cristiana**, and **Art & Culture Connection**.

cuando era niño tuvo una gran visión que se extendió más allá de su pueblo. Esa visión lo llevó a los Estados Unidos en 1984, estableciéndose en **San Angelo** en 1986, en 1990 se casó con su actual esposa y compañera de negocios, **Araceli Gutiérrez**. En el 2000 se convirtió en ciudadano de los Estados Unidos.

Su experiencia laboral varía desde trabajar como farmacéutico hasta trabajar en agencias federales de comunicaciones y estaciones de radio. Trabajó localmente en la estación de Radio en español **KSJT** y en 1992 creó para **KLST-TV** un programa piloto titulado "Simplemente Latino".

HAYS COUNTY Judge forms Tejano, indigenous council

Hays County Judge Ruben Becerra has formed the Council for the Indigenous and Tejano Community to facilitate the community's desire to address untold and untold indigenous and Tejano stories.

The council's mission is to preserve the history, traditions and rich culture of indigenous and Tejano people of **Hays County** through oral histories, art and culture. It will work closely with the distinguished Indigenous Cultures Institute to help accomplish the mission.

Becerra has appointed **Gina Alba-Rogers** as chair and **Irma Gaitan** as vice chair. Both have previously served on the **Hays County Historical Commission**.

Other members include **Becerra**; **Maria Rocha**, director of the Indigenous Cultures Institute; and **Frank Arredondo**, a fifth generation **Hays County** resident and former mayor of San Marcos.

Hays County residents who would like to participate in the council's mission can call 512-393-2205 or email judge.becerra@co.hays.tx.us or lakewaysunfish@gmail.com.

Texas State University Professor Releases New Book

Dr. Melissa A. Martinez and Dr. Sylvia Mendez-Morse are the authors of anew book titled: "Latinas Leading Schools." This collective labor of love that proved to be so much more than a book project; was a journey filled with mentorship, community building and support. Contributors include:
Dr. Fabiola Bagula
Dr. Maria Gabriel
Dr. Tatiana Joseph
Dr. Rebeca Burciaga
Dr. Ana Tavares
Dr. Mónica Byrne-Jiménez
Dr. Wellinthon García
Dr. Elizabeth Gil
Dr. Sandra Quiñones Rosado
Dr. Anne Marie FitzGerald
(Soon to be) Dr. Christina Díaz
Dr. Tatiana Morales-Owens
Dr. Sandra L. Harris
Dr. Sonia Rodriguez



This book is available through Amazon and other book distributors.

As the first scholarly book of its kind, this edited volume brings together educational leadership scholars and practitioners from across the country whose research focuses on the unique contributions and struggles that Latinas across the face while leading in schools and districts. The impetus for this book is to acknowledge, explore, theorize, and expand our understanding of how Latinas' success as school and district leaders is informed by such gifts, including their prioritizing of familia and comunidad, relationship building, reciprocity, and advocacy, in the face of such challenges. Thus, this volume covers four topical areas: 1) Testimonies and reflections from the field/Testimonios y reflexiones del campo, 2) Leading in relationship, comadrisimo, with and for community/Liderazgo en relación, comadrisimo, con y para la omunidad, 3) School community leaders(hip)/Lider(azgo) escolar y comunitario 4) Learning from the experiences of others/Aprendiendo de las experiencias de otras.

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Alfredo Santos c/s

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57 Years Ago Juan Cornejo and Friends Decided It Was Time To Step Up, and Step Up They Did!

Before **La Raza Unida Party** made its debut in **Crystal City, Texas** in 1970, there was **Los Cinco** in 1963. They were five Mexican Americans who believed they had the right to run for positions on the **Crystal City City Council**.

They began a campaign to get out the vote and for the first time in the city's history, they all won elective office. **José Angel Gutierrez**, then a young 19 year old, participated in this campaign and it would serve as an experience he would remember several years later when he launched **La Raza Unida Party** during the years of the **Chicano Movement**.

The victory back in 1963 by **Los Cinco** resulted in one of them being chosen as **Mayor of Crystal City**. His name was **Juan Cornejo**.

In 2013, **La Voz Newspapers** went to **Crystal City** to visit **Mr. Cornejo** on the 60th anniversary of his electoral win. He received us in his small home and we visited for about an hour. He shared photos from his life and we spoke of those times of many years ago.

Today we report that **Mr. Juan Cornejo** passed away on January XX 2021. He was 91 years old.

What **Mr. Cornejo** did back in 1963 was both daring and dangerous. Back then **Mexican Americans** who dared to challenge the Anglo establishment risked their lives and livelihoods. But **Mr. Cornejo** and his allies knew the time had come to stand up and be counted.

The population of **Crystal City, Texas** was about 8,000. (85% Mexican American) There were zero **Mexican Americans** on the council. The same thing for the school board and the county commissioners. But the winds of social change were blowing from the **African American** community's struggle in the south and people all over, including **Mexican Americans** in South Texas were beginning to ask why not?

Los Cinco stunned the local power structure when they took the majority of the votes cast on April 2nd, 1963. (The electoral ballot on the right shows how voters would scratch out the names of the candidates they did not want.

Elected were **Juan Cornejo, J. Mario Hernandez, Manuel R. Maldonado, Antonio G. Cardenas** and **Reynaldo Mendoza**. According to one of the newspaper clippings, the election of **Los Cinco** swept out a group that had been in power for 38 years.

Mr. Cornejo said there was no big plan for taking over the city council. He said that **Mo Falcon** was the guy to organized everything along with **PASSO** (Political Association of Spanish Speaking Organizations). He said that **Falcon** came by his house one day and said they had a slate of candidates but needed one more to complete the ticket. **Mr. Cornejo** said that when they asked him, he said sure, put my name down.

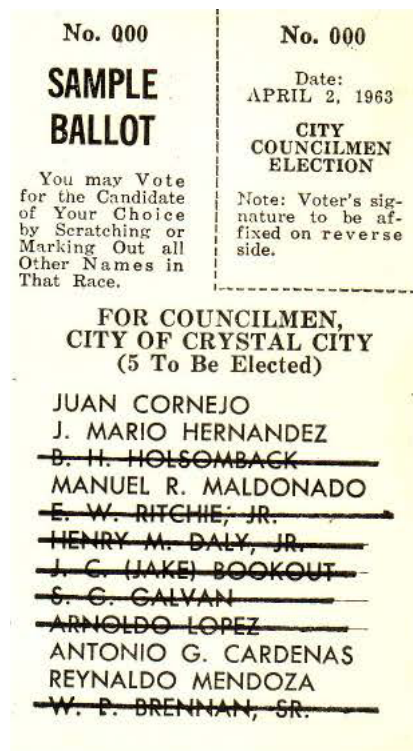
During our visit, **Mr. Cornejo** broke out his photo albums and and we turned on the tape recorder to capture his thoughts and views about all that has transpired over the years. Among his more salient thoughts were how fast events were taking place back in 1963. He of course mentioned the assassination of **President**

Kennedy but also the **Civil Rights Movement**.

He also spoke about the first time he met **Dr. Martin Luther King** in **Los Angeles, California**. On the right is a photo of **Mr. Cornejo** with **Dr. King**. Also in the photo is **Tom Bradley** (tallest one in the photo) who would later go on to become the **Mayor of Los Angeles**.

Juan Cornejo

May 20th, 1930
January 20, 2021



ABOVE: Mr. Cornejo in the 1950s when he was in the service. He would later become an assistant business agent for Teamsters Local 657 at the California Packing Company in Crystal City.



Slavery in Texas, Mexico and the U.S.

How did slavery evolve in Mexico, Texas, and the U.S. in the early 1800s? In honor of **Black History Month**, "The Alamo Addresses: **Slavery in Texas, Mexico, and the U.S.** from 1820 - 1846 – An Interactive Discussion," will allow participants to learn more about how slavery factored into the time period before and after the **Texas Revolution**.

Carey Latimore, Ph.D., associate professor of history at **Trinity University** and author of the Alamo's report on **Civil Rights in San Antonio: WWII to 1960s**, will discuss how slavery was changing in Mexico, Texas, and the U.S. during the early 19th century. Hosted by **Texas Representative Babara Gervin-Hawkins**, this event will feature an interactive Q&A session with virtual participants in real-time.

This event will be a free virtual, online-only event via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. CST on Tuesday, Feb. 9. Spots for live participants will be limited, so book your spot today. Viewers will be able to submit questions directly to Latimore during the Q&A portion of the program. Reserve your free tickets here before they are gone! The full presentation will be available for viewing on the Official Alamo YouTube page following the event.

Black History Month

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FROM 1820 - 1846

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Associate Professor, Trinity University

Hosted by Texas Representative
Barbara Gervin-Hawkins

Tuesday, February 9
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Toma Mi Corazón XXIX

La Peña's 29th Annual Fundraiser

Gallery Exhibition: February 1-22 • Auction Website
Virtual Silent Auction: Saturday, February 13, 12-6 p.m.

La Peña's annual signature event features a virtual silent auction (32auctions.com/Toma29) of beautifully decorated hearts and unique art pieces created by artists, youth and community members. In addition to the virtual silent auction, the public may view the exhibition in person. We strongly recommend visiting *La Peña* from February 1-12 to view all items before the auction begins as gallery capacity is limited.

Bidding takes place online, Saturday, February 13 from 12-6 p.m. There will be no in-person bidding at this year's event. Here's how to get started: To participate in the auction (bid, view activity, add items to your watchlist), you must create an account here.

After you create your account on 32auctions.com, check your email for a verification email from 32auctions. If it is not in your Inbox, check your Spam folder. You will need to verify your 32auctions account in order to participate in the auction.

Once you've verified your account, you may add items to your watchlist by clicking the grey heart icon, turning it pink. You do not have to create an account to VIEW auction items, but you must create an account to BID on or follow activity of auction items.

Purchases may be collected at *La Peña* (227 Congress Ave.; corner of 3rd and Congress) during the days/times below. A valid photo ID and 32auctions receipt are required in order to collect auction purchases.

Saturday, February 13, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, February 14, 12-5 p.m.

Monday-Friday, February 15-19, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, February 20, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.



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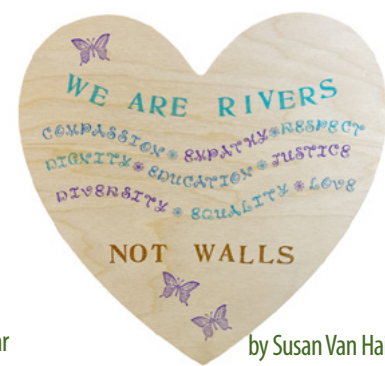
by Joe Holton



by J.P. Gutierrez



by Rudy Cuellar



by Susan Van Haltsma



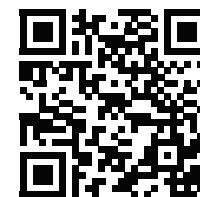
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Ofelia Maldonado Zapata ran for the position of school board trustee in District 2 in **Austin, Texas**. There were 3 other candidates running on November 3rd, 2020, and it was assumed that would be a run-off election. But to everyone's surprise, **Ofelia** won the 4 way contest with 62% of the vote. A community activist for more than 30 years with a group called **Austin Interfaith**, **Ofelia**, who is legally blind, pulled off an upset. What follows is an interview **La Voz Newspapers** conducted right after her victory.

La Voz: I was surprised by how well you did because I don't remember seeing a lot of signs. But when the numbers came, I said, Wow! So my first question to you is, were you surprised?

Ofelia: I wasn't surprised. What surprised me was the number of people who came out to vote. Everyone was saying, there is going to be a run-off. We didn't want a run-off. My team was physically tired. We didn't want a run-off, not if we can help it.

La Voz: Now you mentioned your team. Who was on your team?

Ofelia: My team was my campaign manager, **Jordan**, my husband, **Jim Zapata**, **Dora Lugo**, **Maria Emerson**, **Rebecca Hernandez**, my son,

and **Dr. Nora Comstock de Hoyos**. I had a group of people who were working the phones. I also had some retired teachers who were helping me. This was my core group.

La Voz: Were there any debates or candidate forums that you participated in during the campaign?

Ofelia: Yes. There were many forums and they were very challenging for me because I still really didn't know how to do **Zoom**. But what was even harder was that I am a community organizer and this (campaigning) is ministry work for me. In the candidate forums I had to answer a lot of questions and that was exhausting. But thank God I had an amazing campaign manager who helped me out. (**Jordan Russell**) The other things I didn't really like during the campaign was having to talk about myself. That is just not me. I would get asked, why do feel that you are . . . Or why do you think you are better . . . *Por favor*, I really didn't like those kinds of questions.

La Voz: As the campaign unfolded over time, did having to answer those kinds of questions become easier?

Ofelia: Yes, because at first I was trying to answer everyone's questionnaire individually and then I finally realized that some of the questions were the same ones. So we realized we can just use the same answers for the same questions.

La Voz: Let me ask you this question, when did you decide you were going to run?

Ofelia: Well, when Father Jayme announced that he was not going to run again for his school board seat, a lot of community people approached me about running. **Joe Lee** called me, **Vincent Tobar** called and even **Ken (Zarifis)** from **Education Austin** called and I said to myself that, "I was never ever going to run for any political seat." So when they all called, I said I would pray about it. The idea of running for public office had never crossed my mind, but I said, I will pray about it.

La Voz: Then what happened?

Ofelia: Well, I was in a strategy meeting with all these education activists and they were throwing out all these ideas and telling me why I was the best candidate and when the topic of charter schools came up, that's when everything came to a halt because I shared that I had endorsed a charter school, **Learn 4 Life**. And they were really angry about it.

La Voz: Let me see if I understand, people were calling you and encouraging you to consider running for school board. And you were reluctant at first and then when you revealed that you supported charter schools they reacted?

An Interview with AISD School Board

Ofelia: Yes. So it's not that I support charter schools, I endorsed a school. It is going to be a charter school. It hasn't been built.

La Voz: Ok.

Ofelia: It is going to be for high school dropouts. It's a population that nobody is helping. They are already like history to **AISD**. And the reason I learned about it is because I was in a social justice ministry meeting and it was everything I was working for at **Eastside Memorial**. It was going to have a wholistic approach to education, it was going to include health and wellness at the outset, because if our kids are not mentally healthy or healthy period, they are not going to have a successful educational experience. We had a project called, **The Panther Health and Wellness Initiative**. 2020 was going to be the implementation year. Last May we had Dr. Silvec from the **UT Med School**, who was working with us. Altogether we had 25 amazing health care partners and we had been meeting for three years. The student surveys that were conducted showed that mental health was the item that kept coming

up as a concern. Even the surveys of other stakeholders came back, mental health showed up as the number one concern. So when Garcia presented our proposal to the district.

La Voz: Who is Garcia?

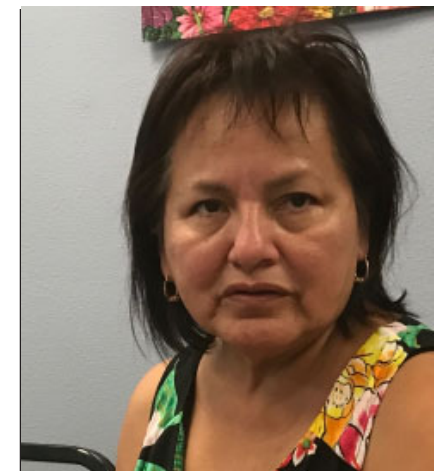
Ofelia: The principal of Eastside Memorial High School. He told us that Tracy Spinner said we could not do that.

La Voz: Do what?

Ofelia: Could not move forward on this **Panther Health Initiative**.

La Voz: And who is Tracy Spinner?

Ofelia: She is the **Director of Comprehensive Health Services** for **AISD**. We asked



I am a community organizer and this (campaigning) is ministry work for me.

Ofelia Maldonado Zapata

Trustee - District 2

her, is this because the district does not have the resources? And she said oh no, we can't be held accountable to serve every student.

La Voz: What happened next?

Ofelia: I went to superintendent **Dr. Paul Cruz** and he had his chief of staff look at it and they didn't get anything done. So when I heard about this new charter school, **Learn 4 Life**, that is going to be built in the Rundberg area, it was everything we had been working on. I even wanted it for **Dove Springs**. So when I was meeting with activists about me running for AISD school board and I told them I had written a letter of support for this charter school, they were pissed.

La Voz: Now who specifically are you talking about?

Ofelia: This would be **Ken Zarifs** and **Vincent Tobar**. They were very pissed. I even got a call later from **Jayme (Mathias)** telling me to go public and say that I made a mistake.

La Voz: That you made a mistake about what?

Ofelia: About endorsing that school. And so I said well no, I don't regret it. And if I go public, I will repeat it because it's about the kids. It's not about me. It's about educating all children. There is a lot of brokenness out there. I just couldn't comprehend the resistance to support an effort like this.

La Voz: Ok, so going back to the campaign. When you were being asked to consider running and people found out you were

supporting a charter school, they got cold feet and backed out?

Ofelia: Yes. So at that time I was really upset at how upset they got because all these things that they mentioned about successful and effective ideas were in education, it didn't matter anymore. The fact that I was supporting a charter became the nasty word. So then I said, you know what, I'm not doing it anymore.

La Voz: Doing what anymore?

Ofelia: Running for school board.

La Voz: And then?

Ofelia: It was July and I had gotten sick with **Covid**. I was home and then one morning I woke up and I heard a voice say, "start campaign." I called out to my husband and asked him, "Did

you say something?" He said, "No." So I said well I am going to go back and start a campaign. I am going to run after all" And he said. "OK." So I felt that was my answer and so I called my friend **Ruby** and told her, "You know what, this is not about them. I don't care if they

are upset with me. This is about the kids.

La Voz: You have been a 30 year member of **Central Texas Interfaith**. When you hit the campaign trail, did this organization come alive and help you? Did you get a lot of phones that you hadn't from in a while?

Ofelia: No, not really. I had to build my campaign from scratch. We had to go out and talk to a lot of people. Over the years the residents in the district have changed. In fact, I decided to use my maiden name of **Maldonado**, because I felt some might know me that way. So I campaigned as **Ofelia Maldonado Zapata**. I also found that a lot of the people we were talking to would tell me that they couldn't vote. Yo no puedo votar. And I would remind them that if they had a 19 or 20 year family member who could vote or maybe grandchildren who were of voting age, they could help by getting them to vote. They would say yes, I can do that.

La Voz: Did you find the long lines at the voting locations worked in your favor?

Ofelia: Oh yes. During early voting my team and I would go early in the morning to work the long lines. In fact, we worked those lines all day. We constantly out there talking. I found that a lot of people were in line to vote because of the presidential election. And of course on election we had all the polling places covered.

La Voz: With regard to media. What did you do?

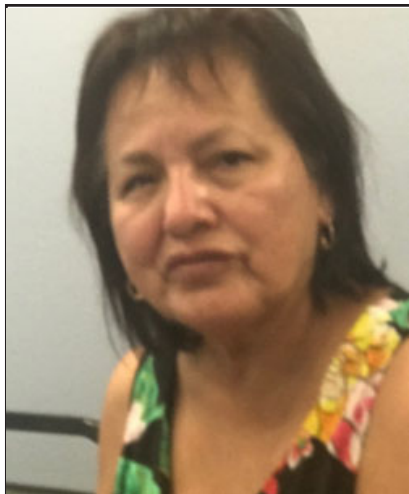
Ofelia: Well, we had 30 signs. We didn't do any radio. And of course no TV.

La Voz: Did you have endorsements?

Ofelia: Zero endorsements! Zero endorsements because of the charter issue. They all went to endorse **Gonzalez** because he was a professor, and he comes from a family of teachers. I don't have a degree. I don't have those credentials. I am just a community person. All the money went behind him. So the campaign came down to the difference between "organized people" vs. "organized money." And it showed that when people want something bad enough and you can convince them that their voice is important and they can help bring about that change, it makes a difference.

La Voz: I agree.

Ofelia: After the polls closed at 7:00pm, we came back and rested for a bit. We were exhausted. It must have been around 9:00pm when **Jordan**, my campaign manager, said there are some numbers coming in over the TV. And I said alright, let's get everybody in the dining room. So **Jordan** read out the numbers. It was 11% for **Anderson**, 28% for **Gonzales**, and 60% for me and I was like WOW! At first, it didn't sink in. And then shortly afterward,



I said, you know what, I'm not doing it anymore.



I don't have those credentials. I am just a community person.

Continued on Page 14

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas



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

PERMISO NO. WQ0010044001

SOLICITUD. La ciudad de Clute, 108 East Main Street, Clute, Texas 77531, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para renovar el Permiso No. WQ0010044001 (EPA I.D. No. TX 0034436) del Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 4,000,000 galones por día. La planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales domésticas está ubicada 1411 Mockingbird Lane, en la ciudad de Richwood, en Condado de Brazoria, Texas 77531.

La ruta de descarga es desde el sitio de la planta hasta una zanja de drenaje; de ahí a Flag Lake Drainage Canal; de ahí a East Union Bayou; de ahí al Canal Intracostero; de ahí a Old Brazos River Canal Tidal. TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 8 de octubre de 2020. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leerla y copiarla en Clute City Hall, 108 East Main Street, Clute, 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=db5bac44afbc468bbddd360f8168250f&marker=-95.389899%2C29.015514&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. El aviso 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**

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental del Estado

PERMISO NO. WQ0010044001

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 más de las listas de correo permanentes 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 EL INTERNET Para obtener más información 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 aplicación, que se proporciona en la parte superior de este aviso.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN A LA AGENCIA. Todos los comentarios públicos y solicitudes deben ser presentadas electrónicamente vía <http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/> o por escrito dirigidos a la Comisión de Texas de Calidad Ambiental, Oficina de la Secretaría (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 pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Para obtener más 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 se puede obtener información adicional de la ciudad de Clute a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Ms. Cathy Dominguez, Brazos River Authority, (254) 761-3176

Fecha de emisión 29 enero, 2021.

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Continuation of the Ofelia Maldonado Zapata Interview

Jayme Mathias called and said, “*Congratulations new trustee!*” And I was like wait a minute, “*Is it over? Is the count over?*” And he said, “*There is no way they care going to catch up to you.*” And everyone in the room kind of cheered after that. Now earlier you asked if I was surprised by the turnout. Why were you surprised?

La Voz: Well, as a newspaper person you try and have a feel for what is going on. And quite frankly, I didn’t hear people talking about **Ofelia Maldonado Zapata**. I didn’t hear people talking about school board races. It was all about the presidential race. I didn’t even hear people talk about state representative races. The down ballot candidates didn’t get a lot of chatter. So when the numbers finally came in, I was like everyone else, shocked. “Look at what **Ofelia Zapata** did! *Mira!* I felt the same way about **Vanessa Fuentes**. She was running against **David Chincanchan, Casey Ramos** and **Alex Strenger** . And David had a lot of endorsements and the inside track. And so *entre tu y ella*, Boom!

Ofelia: Her campaign people were very helpful. I had a lady working the polling place at Langford and one of **Vanessa’s** team asked her for some of my fliers to pass out and I thought that was really nice. The same thing happened with Mrs. Lugo who was working the polls over at **Dove Springs**. I don’t know Vanessa. I haven’t met her. But I think we are going to work good together.

La Voz: Has **Superintendent Elizalde** called to congratulate you?

Ofelia: Yes. She called the next day but I missed her call.

La Voz: Well, I want to tell you that we look forward to following your tenure on the school board and sharing what is going on with our readers. Thank you for taking the time to visit with us.

Ofelia: Thank you for taking this time to interview me. I am very excited and want to thank all those who supported me. I look forward to working with everyone on behalf of all the students in the district.

Election Results from the November 3rd, 2020 Austin Independent School District School Board Trustee Constest in District 2					
CANDIDATES	Total	Vote %	Election Day	Vote by Mail	Early Voting
John Mckiernan-Gonzalez	6,766	28.04%	641	655	5,470
Ofelia Maldonado Zapata	14,607	60.53%	1,516	1,162	11,929
Adolphus "Andy" Anderson	2,760	11.44%	330	309	2,121
Total Votes Cast	24,133	100.00%	2,487	2,126	19,520
Contest Totals	34,265		3,661	2,627	27,977

SOURCE: Travis County Clerk - Election Department

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.

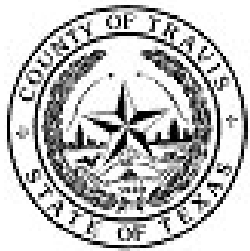
The news	La noticia
People Getting Tired	de que la gente se cansa
The Same Old Stories	de las mismas viejas historias
The Same Old Threats	las mismas viejas amenazas
The Same Old People	los mismos ancianos
Yes, This Disease	sí, esta enfermedad
Is Still Here and Has	todavía está aquí y
Not Gone Away	no se ha ido
Things Are Never	las cosas nunca
Going to be the Same	van a ser las mismas
Friendships are Being	amistades se están
Redefined Everyday	redefiniendo todos los días
Some Friendships Are	algunas amistades están
Starting to Fade	empezando a desvanecerse
How Will We Come	¿Cómo vamos a venir
To Treat One Another	a tratarnos unos a otros la próxima
The Next Time We Meet	la próxima vez que nos encontremos



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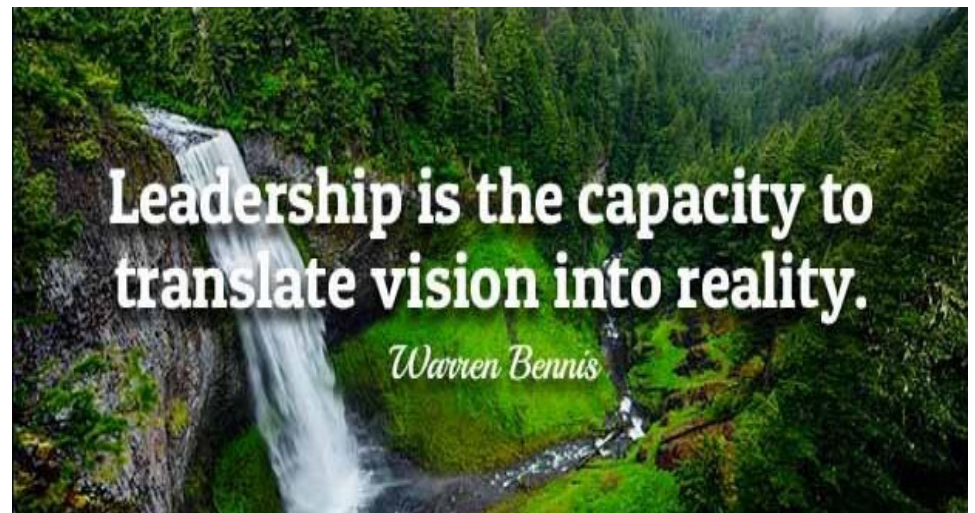
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January 10th, 2021

