

# LA PRENSA TEXAS

SAN ANTONIO'S HISPANIC FAMILY OWNED NEWSPAPER

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# LA PRENSA TEXAS

This grass roots publication is the life source for a community that is not easily afforded viable access to diverse and accessible media. San Antonio and the surrounding counties have become accustomed to relevant news brought to them in both English and Spanish since 1913.

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The vision is a vibrant Westside community where people want to live, work, and visit.

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# Let's Talk About it...

## The Gift of Volunteering

**By Yvette Tello**

*Christmas is the time of year for giving. How do you give? Do you volunteer for anything? Do you think it's important to volunteer in your community? Let's talk about it...*

**Regina Deseri Gonzales:**

Long term care facilities for the elderly need people to visit and bring them some cheer! I love spending time with my patients at my clinical site.

**Kelly Narvaez:**

I think it is essential that we should volunteer within the community. It shows your children compassion and that it is the

right thing to do.

To bring a little joy and happiness to those down on hard times. They need that little bit of hope. That there are still good people in this world. If you start them off young they will learn to appreciate everything they have and not be so focused on materials.

**Cyndi Cloud:**

Volunteering is critical for both parties. When you volunteer you give your self which is the most precious commodity to give



and receive. You also receive so much more than you give

**Penelope Perez:**

Volunteering is such an integral part of community. My family did not participate when we were younger, but they do now. It seems impossible when you have kids and daily lives, but it's something you can do as a family and feel good about together.

**Cassie Flores:**

I volunteer my time to my family, just taking time to be with them and listen to them is a service in itself. Especially during turbulent

times, maintaining connections to friends and distant relatives is a must. It's something that is easy to get away from during the hectic work week, but we all need each other.

**Ramiro Puente:**

If you really want to get out and help, you would just get out on the street and help one person at a time.

**Lorena Villa:**

I have never volunteered, but I would be interested in working at an orphanage or a women's shelter.



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# About the Cover:

## The Spirit of Giving and Serving Others

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

The faithful sit in silence before a Spanish colonial crucifix. They have come to pray, and many are there because they believe in miracles. The Chapel of Miracles, on the Westside of San Antonio, can only accommodate eight to ten people at a time. With December the busiest time of the year for the tiny chapel, the eight families who care for the chapel, all volunteers, make extra sacrifices so that everyone can have a special place to visit with God.

The visitors say their prayers on their knees, and while some have been there countless times, others pray there for the first time. It is a family chapel shared with the world and no religious officials conduct services there. Worshipers come from near and far and plea for a religious miracle in many different languages. Many pray for a health or economic miracle, and the worshipers most often recite prayers in Spanish.

The Chapel of Miracles had its beginnings over two hundred years ago as a place where family members and neighbors could worship. Juan Francisco Ximenes,



whose family first build the chapel in the late 1790s, came to San Antonio in the late 1700s from Saltillo, Mexico and occupied land the Spanish Crown had granted them west of San Pedro Creek.

There are several Ximenes families in San Antonio. Two of them came with the first Governor of Texas, Don Martin de Alarcon, in 1718. No one is certain if the earlier Ximenes families involved in the founding of San Antonio are related to Juan Francisco Ximenes. However, because of the unusual spelling of the Ximenes name, such relationships are possible.

The story of how the Christ figure on the crucifix came to the family chapel is a

story based on oral history passed down over seven generations of the descendants of the Juan Francisco Ximenes family. Following the secularization of the missions in 1793, a crucifix, which historians now believe to be the one at the Ximenes chapel, was moved from the Alamo to San Fernando Cathedral. When war broke out between Spanish Royalist forces and local San Antonio Tejanos in 1813, a crucifix, nearly five feet tall, was moved to the private chapel of Ximenes and his wife Teodora de Jesus Rodriguez. The crucifix is one of the few surviving colonial relics of the Spanish period in Texas.

We are aware that many of the original Mestizo settlers of San Antonio occupied a neighborhood west of the San Pedro Creek. This area also had a large number of Native American residents. Historians have not documented the westward movement of Latino families over the first two centuries of settlement, and we know little about how far west they resided by 1813 when the initial Ximenes chapel was built. Over the next hundred

years, urban sprawl threatened many older Westside homesteads, but the heirs to the Ximenes family made sure that the small chapel survived urbanization. Because of their efforts, it is one of the oldest structures in the western part of San Antonio.

In his book *Genealogies of Early San Antonio Families*, Frederick C. Chabot notes that the "Milagro (Miracle) Chapel on Ruiz Street" was erected on the original site chosen for San Antonio de Valero (the Alamo) in 1718. The original settlers remained at western banks of the San Pedro Creek for only a year, moving the following year to the banks of the San Antonio River where the Alamo is currently located. According to historian Charles Ramsdell, the crucifix appeared in the early inventories of the church at Mission San Antonio de Valero.

Family volunteers make the chapel's daily opening possible. Heirs to the Ximenes family assure that this place of worship is maintained and open to the public. When I arrived there last Sunday, my good friend Rosalinda Trevino Berlanga was there, joined by two of

her cousins. They had spent much of the day preparing the chapel for the upcoming Christmas visitations, which attract visitors from throughout the United States and Mexico.

Rosalinda, who has been recognized nationally for her volunteer work, believes in giving back. Her brother, Arthur Trevino, believes that the chapel is important to the faithful. Volunteers, along with many Ximenes cousins, work at the chapel several days a week. Both Rosalinda and Arthur Trevino attended Fox Tech High School--Arthur was in my class-- and Rosalinda graduated later. They understand that without dedicated caretakers the chapel could not be open to the public. Since there is no charge to enter the chapel, family volunteers make worship possible.

San Antonio is a better city because of individuals like the Trevinos and their relatives who believe strongly in volunteerism. In giving back to their community, they make sure that many people know that their neighbors and the city care about them. The spirit of giving is strong in this family and inspires everyone to try to do more.

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# The Season of Giving

## Success Story Following His Dreams

Communities in Schools is a Non Profit organization founded in the 1970s in New York and now serves thousands of schools all over the country. The school-based staff work in schools, building relationships that allow them to identify and address challenges students face in school or at home. The organization coordinates with the community – businesses, health care providers and other nonprofits – to bring outside resources inside schools and do whatever it takes to help students succeed.

Last year Communities in Schools worked with nearly 1.5 million students across the U.S. Communities in Schools of San Antonio relies on volunteers to reach thousands of students each year. In our list of our successful stories is Hector

Hector started working when he was just 16 years old to help support his family. But he knew he could make a better life for himself by focusing on his education.

With a 4.0 GPA and ranking 8th in his class, Hector has been accepted to 10 universities including: Pennsylvania State



University, University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Texas State University and Texas Lutheran University.

His site coordinator, Mr. Regan says when he first met Hector as a freshman, he was quiet and shy but knew immediately that Hector was a bright student.

With an estranged father and a mother taking on the additional responsibility of adopting her grandchildren, Hector saw his family struggling financially and

decided to help his household by getting a job when he turned 16 years old.

“I really admire my mother because she manages to juggle all of these responsibilities as well as being a full-time mom, she has to work hard to support us”.

Though difficult for Hector to balance his responsibilities with school, work, family and friends, Hector depended on his site coordinator to encourage his drive and motivation to graduate.

“Having a full time job can be difficult but at the

same time I’m helping my mom and that’s rewarding to me because it’s helping me grow as an individual and at the same time I get to see my mom smile a little more”.

As a first generation high school student, knowing he had to better himself to support his family, Hector relied on his site coordinator to help him find the path to college and see the endless opportunities that lie ahead with a degree. He got involved in the Upward Bound Program, which provides students a variety of opportunities to participate in college tours, attend Saturday academic enrichment programs; and the summer residential program to give students a preview of what college will be like when they attend in the fall.

Hector works at Whataburger to help support his family financially and recently Whataburger presented Hector with \$1,000 towards his education.

“Without CIS, I don’t picture myself as the hard working individual I am today.” I would still probably be the shy kid in the background that doesn’t say much. But now I can genuinely say that I have control over what I’m going to do and I know that I’m going to accomplish whatever I set out to.”

From his numerous options, Hector is going to University of Texas at Austin where he plans to study chemistry or biology.

*Become a volunteer and make a lasting difference in the life of a child. Whether you want to volunteer for a one-time event or an on-going basis, there are several options to meet your interests. Most volunteer opportunities take place at a Communities In Schools school campus (elementary-high school) during the school day. Please Email [cisvolunteer@cissa.org](mailto:cisvolunteer@cissa.org) to find a campus that is convenient for you or your group.*



Communities  
In Schools

# The Ever Changing Westside

**By Dr. Ricardo Romo**

In April 2001, the Union Stock Yards, which had operated continuously in San Antonio's Westside for 112 years, shut its doors. At the height of its operation, more than a million head of cattle moved through the yard annually. Bert Reyes, an auctioneer at the yards for more than 40 years, told the *The New York Times*: "We moved from 10-to-15,000 head of cattle a week through here, shipping them out by rail over the country." The story of this industry is an important part of San Antonio's Westside story.

In 1889 when the Union Stock Yards opened, San Antonio had but a modest engagement in meat processing and distribution. The yards were ideally located, close to where the Alazan-Apache Creeks converged and near the railroad lines.

The Union Stock Yards served the early needs of large animal feedlots, livestock butchering, and processing of livestock. Originally, the meatpacking plants adjacent to the stock yards were modest in size and served mainly the San Antonio community. With the invention of barbed wire the large ranches closed off the open prairies. In addition, the rapid growth of towns across Texas in the later part of the 19th century caused a demise of cattle drives from Texas to the Midwestern stock yards and meat packing plants.

At the turn of the century San Antonio emerged as a logical meat processing alternative for ranchers from the South Texas region. The



newly constructed Missouri Pacific lines enabled ranchers from South Texas, especially from Corpus Christi and Laredo, to increase significantly their shipment of livestock.

The Stockyard District of the Westside of San Antonio also benefited from the rise of new population centers throughout Texas where meat products were in demand. As the railroad industry added refrigerated cars, they made it possible for San Antonio to play a major role in the distribution of meat across the nation.

In the 1920s, large meatpacking companies from the Midwest established plants adjacent to the stockyards in an area southwest of town adjacent to Laredo Street community. Over the next ten years these meatpacking plants doubled the size of their footprint in the Westside, extending from Laredo Street on the north to Pendleton Ave on the South. The location, several miles from the center of the city, was ideal for an industry where thousands of cattle were slaughtered daily.

During the Great Depression years, meatpacking emerged as San Antonio's largest industry, with more than 1,200 workers and five million dollars in revenue

annually. The San Antonio Light noted in 1937 that only the city of Fort Worth surpassed San Antonio in meat processing in Texas. Nearly all of the eight large companies in San Antonio were located in the southwest sector of the city adjacent to Laredo Street and west of Colorado Street.

Joe Bernal, a former Texas State Senator from the Westside, grew up near the meatpacking plants. His father, Jose Maria Bernal, worked in the plants as did many of his neighbors. All the large industrial plants in the city sponsored baseball and basketball teams. It was not uncommon for these plants to recruit workers who had athletic talent. During the 1930s when jobs were scarce, Jose Maria Bernal's great skills in the game of baseball gave him an edge in finding work. Joe Bernal noted that his dad's outstanding ability in playing baseball opened many doors for him.

In the 1940s military defense industries emerged as the largest employers of the city, but meatpacking remained a major private industry, preparing more than 100 million pounds of beef, pork and lamb annually. A majority of the workers employed in meatpacking lived in the Westside neigh-

borhoods with many of the workers residing adjacent to the plants.

By the 1950s, dozens of large meatpacking companies operated adjacent to the Union Stock Yards. In the 1960s I had summer jobs with two large companies and saw the industry flourish firsthand. The meatpacking plants—Swift Meats, in particular—paid fair wages, actually some of the highest wages in San Antonio for part-time workers. The work was demanding as we started at 2am and worked an eight hour shift. My job was mainly loading frozen meat, and everyday I went in and out of different freezers and units to fill orders. I learned much about the daily work of the meat packing industries.

Most of the large plants had closed by the year 2000. Several smaller plants remained on Laredo Street and a new generation of small meat packing companies such as Garcia Chorizo and Kiobassa Smoked Meats emerged. Some of the large companies were driven out of business by the stiff competition, others moved to other states.

Meat packing is far from the glamorous industry that actor Sylvester Stallone made famous in his movie *Rocky*. Many of the residents nearby were happy to see the plants' smokestacks gone and with them the strong smells of meat processing. But these plants are also remembered by many families in San Antonio as the major Westside industry that employed thousands of local workers annually.



**By Leonard Rodriguez**

*This column will highlight inspiring stories of Latino leaders. For more than 500 years, Latino men and women have positively influenced the face of United States society. Let us celebrate these outstanding hispanics.*



**Dr. George I. Sanchez**

One of the most distinguished Hispanic scholars, Dr. George Isidor Sanchez devoted his adult life to the educational and social needs of the Spanish-speaking. While at the University of Texas, he dedicated 40 years to lecturing, consulting and directing projects and programs on bilingual, bicultural and minority education. His efforts are responsible for most of the bilingual and bicultural programs today. He also was an expert in Latin American education. He authored several works and his ideology has been published in hundreds of articles. Active with the League of United Latin American Citizens and president from 1941-1942, Sanchez was a leading spokesperson against discrimination and educational segregation until his death in 1972.

# OBITUARY

## Maria Alicia Gonzalez

Brownsville/Round Rock – Maria Alicia Gonzalez (B. March 17, 1932), 86, entered into eternal rest and was welcomed into the kingdom of heaven by her Lord on Sunday, December 9, 2018, in Round Rock, Texas.

A native of El Calaboz, Texas, Alicia was the youngest of four children born to Samuel and Beatriz Garcia. She was a 1950 graduate of San Benito High School and soon thereafter met Raul, the love of her life and the man she married seven years later. She worked for Edelstein's Better Furniture for 27 years (and while there, was very active in Ruben Edelstein's successful political bid for Mayor of Brownsville) before pursuing her college education and earning her Bachelor's

and Master's degrees in Education, Bilingual Education, Special Education and Counseling from Pan American University. After obtaining her degrees, she worked for the Brownsville Independent School District as a teacher and then as a campus counselor at Garden Park Elementary School. She believed strongly in the value of education and that it was the key to a happy and productive life because education opened countless doors of opportunity for herself and her children. She taught her children by example and modeled that through hard work, perseverance, patience and commitment any of life's dreams and goals could be reached: "Con Dios y ganas, todo se puede."

Alicia was a loving and caring wife, mother and grandmother who dedicated her life to serving her family, friends and strangers in need. Her unshakeable Catholic faith never failed her when she sought comfort and strength in the face of life's challenges and tribulations, and she

never failed to give all praise to the God of her understanding when blessed with joy, happiness and life's gifts.

Prior to her seeking medical treatment in Round Rock, Alicia was active in her church activities and religiously attended Mass at St. Luke's Catholic Church, was a member of Brownsville's Red Hat Society, volunteered for United Way & Valley Baptist Medical Center Outpatient Services, often enjoyed a good movie, loved walking for exercise, and loved meeting her comadres to line dance and gather for pan dulce y cafecito to catch up on the local goings-on even more. She was the sun in the lives of her children and so many others, always there, steadfast and dependable in loved ones' hours of need. She was always there in person or in spirit, and her presence was always felt whether near or far.

She now takes her place in the heavens above to shine ever so brightly as a wonderful star who will watch over us for all eternity & keep us in God's good graces, ensuring that we live to see another day.

Alicia is preceded in death by her parents, Samuel and Beatriz (Rodriguez) Garcia; her husband, Raul Gonzalez Rios; her infant daughter, Laura Alicia Gonzalez; her brothers, Romeo (Esperanza) Garcia & Samuel (Diane) Garcia; and her sister, Maria



Araceli (Cha Cha) Garcia.

Alicia leaves behind to cherish her memory, her daughter, Rosie (Stacy) Speedlin Gonzalez of San Antonio, Texas; and son, German (Hanna) Gonzalez of Round Rock, Texas; and her granddaughter Erika Keikihiapo Gonzalez.

Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 15, 2018 at St. Luke's Catholic Church, 2800 Rockwell Drive in Brownville, Texas, 78521.

Visitation will begin at 2:00 p.m. and Rosary will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. at Funeraria del Angel Buena Vista, 125 McDavitt Blvd, Brownsville, Texas 78521.

The funeral will take place at 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at Buena Vista Burial Park, 5 McDavitt Blvd., Brownville, Texas

78521.

Serving as pallbearers will be: German Gonzalez, Romeo Garcia, Jr., Eddie Garcia, Tony Garcia, Robert Garcia and Mitchel Matthis.

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.

Amen.

- Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971).



# COMIDA

## ARMADILLO SOUP

EDNA LEAL HINOJOSA

He had set his sights on a wild turkey he kept seeing flying across the fields to my aunt's house, there on the King Ranch. Mami, Daddy, and I got into the old greenish Plymouth car early on a Saturday morning and slowly drove into the ranch. We drove up into one of the camp sites called "El Muerto" and took out our gear and prepared it while Mami took out hot chocolate, coffee, and a couple of tacos for us to eat. "Buenos días. ¿Cómo están?" A friend of Dad's yelled out as they prepared to hunt for venison—must've been a family hunting day or something. We ate, and took off in the opposite direction. "Mira, shh, quiet, walk softly, try not to step on branches cos they hear it y corren los animalitos." What is my father talking about? I don't see anyone... where, there it was—a furry bunny chewing on some green shrubs. Daddy signaled to prepare my bow and arrow. Quietly, I took the arrow and lined it into the cord, lined up my sight to the lower back of the bunny's neck, pulled the arrow back as far as I could, squeezing tightly, and to my surprise he just stood there! His nose wiggling back and forth, like nothing was around him, only silence. I let go of the arrow and hit him, and he trotted off... How could it? I knew I hit him, could see the arrow bouncing up and down, and then just before I could shoot another arrow... Dad waved his hand for me to wait.


I began to look for the rabbit and as I saw it, heard this loud blast coming from where Daddy was. Must've jumped up at least 10 feet and as I was

falling, saw my Dad running toward me and as I looked down I saw the snake. Have you ever tried to walk on air? Dove instead and, ouch, my knee hit a big ole rock, but I didn't care cos I landed on the rock instead of the dirt and on the snake! Daddy literally plucked me up from the rock and we both fell on the other side. I started to scream and he pushed me away and started laughing and laughing.

I had fallen on top of an armadillo and it was trying to squirm away. I thought it was the snake.

My salty tears turned into soup back at the camp. Mami had been worried when she heard my screams, but now it was the best story ever. And we had the rabbit left over for the next meal.

We called it Lone Star Armadillo Soup because we had no water to boil the meat and other veggies, and we didn't want to use the water running up the creek. But another family had a six-pack of Lone Star, and it is our national beer, of course.



### Here's the recipe!

#### LONE STAR ARMADILLO SOUP

##### Ingredients

- 2 tsp coriander seeds
- 1 ½ tsp cumin seeds
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/3 sticks cinnamon, broken
- ½ cup uncooked long grain white rice
- ¾ tsp salt
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 head chopped cabbage
- 1 tbsp chili powder
- 1 tbsp cooking oil
- 2 (14-oz) cans of fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 small can of chopped fire-roasted whole tomatoes (do not drain)
- 2-3 potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 1 ½ lbs armadillo meat, cut into small chunks
- 1 1/2 tbsp chopped chipotle chile in adobo sauce (optional)

##### Directions

- Cook the coriander and cumin seeds in a large pot over medium heat for 1-2 minutes, or until toasted and you can smell the earthy fragrance.
- Place the toasted spices, garlic cloves, and cinnamon in a spice or coffee grinder. Process until finely ground.

- Combine 2 tsp cinnamon mixture, rice, onion, ½ tsp salt, meat and garlic in a large bowl. Set remaining mixture aside.
- Heat pan to medium heat and coat with cooking oil. Add armadillo meat and brown.
- Add cabbage and chopped onion to pan. Cook 8 minutes, stirring frequently.
- Add remaining cinnamon mixture, chili powder and chipotle. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly.
- Stir in ¾ tsp salt, broth and tomatoes. Bring to a boil.
- Reduce heat to simmer. Add browned meat. Cover and cook 30-45 minutes.
- Add potatoes. Cook uncovered over medium heat 20 more minutes, until potatoes are tender.

That said, let's take care of a persistent rumor: A 2008 study firmly put to rest the notion that you can get leprosy from eating armadillo. No correlation was found between handling armadillos, hunting them, cleaning them, or eating them, and getting leprosy. Armadillo meat is an acceptable substitute for pork, chicken or beef in many dishes. In many areas of Central and South America, armadillo meat is often used as part of an average diet. Armadillo meat is a traditional ingredient in Oaxaca, Mexico. You should skin and dress an armadillo as soon as possible. The easiest method is to skin from the underside to split the skin from the neck most of the way down to the tail, but be careful not to puncture the abdominal cavity.

You'll need a sharp knife. Peel the animal out as you would a squirrel or rabbit. Remove all fat from under the front and back legs and wash meat thoroughly. After meat is cleaned completely, cut into quarters.

## Spread the Joy of Christmas

For 28 years, Family Service has ran and operated the Adopt-A-Family Program. This heartwarming tradition brightens the lives of many families, in the San Antonio and surrounding communities, who struggle to obtain basic necessities and enjoy life's simple pleasures.

Adopting a family not only gives children an opportunity to unwrap a gift on Christmas morning but spreads holiday cheer to the entire family, including our furry four-legged friends.



The extension of kindness an Adopt - A- Family sponsor expends directly impacts a person in need, making this time of year merrier for thousands. Empowering individuals and strengthening families is at the core of Family Service's mission. The generosity of our community makes this goal a reality.

Adopt - A - Family volunteers will provide logistical support to include assistance with the drop-off, check-in, sorting, and inventorying of all donated items.

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### Family Service

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completing the form at <https://familyserviceassociation.wufoo.com/forms/2018-adoptafamily-sponsor-registration/>

Family Service was founded in 1903 and is the oldest human service nonprofit in San Antonio, serving in 13 counties across South Texas. Family Service works to address the social determinants of health that directly impact where people live, learn, work, and play. On average, Family Service

has touched almost 100,000 people annually through its programs and services to help improve the overall health of its community by working closely with community partners and organizations to effectively address social and economic instability, as well as provide valuable resources and support in homes, neighborhoods, schools and workplaces. To learn more about Family Service, please visit [www.family-service.org](http://www.family-service.org).

# Los All-Stars de San Antonio Donaran Juguetes en Palaú

## Piratas de Sabinas blanqueo a Broncos de Reynosa SA

**Por José I. Franco**

Un equipo de béisbol All-Stars de San Antonio bajo la organización de los beisbolistas coahuilenses Johnny López y Antonio (El Morris) Ramírez, el sábado 8 de diciembre visitaron al equipo All-Stars de Adrián Ramírez en partido que se jugó en el campo Los Olivares de Piedras Negras, donde se impusieron con pizarra de 9 a 2 carreras, concluyendo su visita con excelentes donativos de regalos navideños entre la

comunidad infantil.

All-Stars San Antonio, este fin de semana con el mismo propósito visitará el estadio Las Cuadras en la ciudad de Palaú, donde disputarán doble partido al representativo anfitrión Selección de Palaú. Durante el intermedio se le rendirá honores al orgullo de "Los Milas", don Magdaleno Ramírez, quien ha sido gran impulsor deportivo en dicha región.

Por consiguiente no queda más que desearles todo lo

mejor a ambos pelotes, que con su granito de arena se han dedicado a llevar un buen béisbol y hacer felices a niños menos afortunados en ambas regiones.

Resultados: Liga dominical Abierta. El campeón Piratas de Sabinas (3-2-2) dirigido por Sergio de Luna y respaldado por el receptor estelar Lupe Guerrero y sus hermanos, continúan defendiendo el banderín tras blanquear 7-0 al sublíder Broncos de Reynosa SA (5-2) de los esposos Linda

y Roberto Garza. "Hoy no hicimos nada, el pitcheo de Piratas nos contuvo, fue un partido bien ganado", apuntó Garza. "Como campeones seguimos defendiéndonos, jugamos ante un rival que es el sublíder de la liga. Vamos por el clásico dominical contra Mineros y por el liderato invernal", dijo De Luna.

Mineros (6-1) de Jesús Ramírez Sr. con victoria de 8-0 ante Cubs se ubicó de líder. Calaveras noqueo a Cardenales y Bravos con

jonrón de Jaime Cárdenas Jr., doblegaron 3-2 a Rieleros. Cárdenas Jr., impulso dos de las tres carreras para los Bravos.

Rol de juegos dominical. Estadio Potranco 1, 10:30 a.m. Broncos vs. Rieleros. 2 p.m. Piratas vs. Mineros. Campo 2. 10:30 a.m. Bravos vs. Cardenales. 2 p.m. Cubs vs. Calaveras.

Playoffs rol de juego Veteranos. 10:30 a.m. Red Sox vs. Mineros. 2 p.m. Broncos vs. Yaquis de La Saucedá.



Johnny López, Elvis López y Antonio (El Morris) Ramírez, en foto de archivo



Acción en el partido que Bravos derrotó a Rieleros (Foto Franco)

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# GROWING UP LATINO

## MANGUERA MEMORY: Holiday



*Rosa Maria Gonzalez, B.A., J.D., C.W.L.S.  
Board Certified- Child Welfare Law Specialist, National Association of Counsel For Children, as authorized by the American Bar Association and the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.  
Born and bred in Brownsville, Texas, Gonzalez has lived in San Antonio for over 30 years. She attended St. Mary's University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and later her law degree.  
Gonzalez has a family law practice and is a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale University. She has a long established history of coordinating campaigns and consulting for women candidates.*

**By Rosie Speedlin-Gonzalez**  
Have you ever been stopped dead in your tracks and warped back in time with a flash of a memory that takes you by surprise? Well it happened to me this morning. Today, San Antonians were greeted by damp cold winds, 39° temperatures, with wind gusts that put the wind chill temperature at about 30° . . . cold enough to have



one bundle up with coats, scarves, and gloves, maybe even a hat. My Dad collected a number of things on any given day, week, month, year . . . cars, watches, shoes, pens, rare coins and hats. Today, I grabbed his hat to keep my head warm. When I got to my office and took the hat off, the label on the inside of the brim shouted out to me “J & O MEN’S WEAR, Brownsville, Texas” and with that I was jetted back to Elizabeth Street on a cold, winter’s day. The street bustling with folks doing last minute shopping before Christmas and Hanukah, the street decorated with greenery and lights on every light post, drivers honking and jockeying for parallel parking, people speaking in English, many in Spanish, even more in Spanglish . . . days before Amigoland

Mall opened up. Our annual holiday stops often included Aziz Brothers, Mac’s Toy Store, Vogue, JC Penny’s (with the elevator), Sears (with the escalator) and J & O Men’s Wear Shop. J & O was different. It was dark, plush, the scent of Aramis cologne and leather engulfed you as soon as you walked in, they monogrammed shirts, tailored clothes and suits and they catered to my Dad’s every eccentric desire. The mannequins were perfectly dressed and detailed, the floor salesmen were impeccably dressed and polite, each cufflink, each belt was precisely displayed, the lighting was soft and inviting. Mom and we knew a gift from J & O for my Dad was a gift that would always be a hit with him. His gifts over the years included monogrammed shirts, embossed

wallets, and leather garment bags. So, every year we made the annual trek down to J & O to get something super special for Dad. To date, I have not been unable to find any other shop like it anywhere, no matter where I have traveled. The only shop that even comes close to J & O’s selection and service is Penner’s here in San Antonio, but they are still a far cry from J & O back home. In today’s commercialized retail, outlet mall, online shopping environment, quality and customer

service the likes that J & O offered its clientele, are extinct. But with the memory of J & O today also came the warm, fuzzy feelings of hometown friends, Brownsville tamales, nachos at the Vermillion, whiskey sours at Garcia’s, trips to the beach the day after Christmas, sweater weather keg parties and all those things that make Brownsville as unique a place to live and grow up in as the J & O shopping experience. I sigh and long for those days of yore. I smile at the thought that I was blessed with such a wonderful life . . . and, a great hat from my Daddy. Happiest of Holidays to you and yours, and may 2019 bring love, joy and happiness to all.





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# EVENTOS ESPECIALES

## Nicolás Torres y Aurora Romero Recibieron el Sacramento del Matrimonio

En la iglesia St. Joseph Spouse of the Virgin Mary, la estimada pareja formada por el señor Nicolás Torres y la dama Aurora (Aurorita) Romero, recibieron el Sacramento del matrimonio. Les acompañaron familiares, amistades y su elegante corte de honor.

El sacerdote oficiante les dio la bienvenida y los felicitó por su excelente decisión de recibir el sacramento matrimonial. “Por su fe cristiana Nicolás y Aurora, hoy ante el altar, familiares y amistades vienen a recibir el Sacramento del matrimonio. Los felicitamos y deseamos dicha y felicidad en su unión como marido y mujer”, dijo el párroco.

Durante la solemne ceremonia amenizó popular mariachi, mientras que en la recepción los felices esposos y sus invitados, se divirtieron bajo las notas musicales del tamborazo zacatecano “El Peinillo”, y del conjunto musical Sultanes del Bravo de Max Alvarado. La cena consistió de deliciosa birria estilo Jalisco y Zacatecas.

Al regreso de su luna de miel los esposos Torres, retornaron a su cotidiana labor en su negocio Caballito del Mar Seafood, donde clientes y conocidos les desearon todo lo mejor.

*Fotos por Franco*



## Latino Heritage Society

*Photos by Steve Walker*



# NOTICIA PUBLICA

## Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



**AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD E INTENCION DE OBTENER UNA [ENMIENDA/RENOVACION] [DEL]  
PERMISO/PLAN DE CUMPLIMIENTO  
PARA RESIDUOS [PELIGROSOS/INDUSTRIALES NO PELIGROSOS  
PERMISO/PLAN DE CUMPLIMIENTO] [PROPUESTO NO.: 50310  
PERMIT/COMPLIANCE PLAN NO. 50310**

**SOLICITUD.** El Departamento de la Fuerza Aérea de los Estados Unidos, antigua base Kelly de la Fuerza Aérea, en 2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155, JB-SA-Lackland, condado de Bexar, Texas 78726, una instalación de gestión de residuos peligrosos, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) un permiso/renovación con una enmienda menor al permiso No. 50310. La renovación autoriza la atención y acción correctiva continua posterior al cierre de un embalse superficial cerrado (unidad E-3, NOR 003) y un vertedero cerrado (unidad S-8, NOR 057). La enmienda autoriza actualizaciones para indicar el cierre de varios SWMU/AOC. La instalación está ubicada en la dirección mencionada anteriormente en el condado de Bexar, Texas. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 17 de octubre de 2018. La solicitud para el permiso/plan de cumplimiento está disponible para consulta y para obtener copias en la Biblioteca Pública de San Antonio, Sección de Referencia, 600 N. Soledad, San Antonio, condado de Bexar, Texas 78205. 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: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.383372&lng=98.574657&zoom=12&type=r>. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud.

**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/plan de cumplimiento] y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. El Aviso de la Solicitud y la Decisión Preliminar será publicado 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 PÚBLICO/REUNIÓN PÚBLICA.** 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. TCEQ realizará una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que existe un interés público suficiente en la solicitud, o si es pedida por un legislador local. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia de caso impugnado.

**OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO.** 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 de caso impugnado, 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 de caso impugnado. Una audiencia de caso impugnado 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 física, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad/actividades con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de cómo sería usted afectado negativamente por la instalación en 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] 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 física 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 por qué 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 los pedidos para reconsideración o por una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión solo 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 que son pertinentes y materiales a la decisión de la Comisión sobre la solicitud que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios.

[For hazardous waste renewal applications for storage and processing in containers, tanks, or other closed vessels that do not include a major amendment or Class 3 modification, thermal processing, or acceptance of off-site wastes, include: Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia de caso impugnado.]

**LISTA DE CORREO.** Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia de caso impugnado 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 correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envíe por correo su pedido a la Oficina de la Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

**CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA TCEQ.** Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos deben ser presentados durante los días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 o por el internet al <http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>. Si se comunica con la TCEQ por correo electrónico, por favor tenga en cuenta que su dirección de correo electrónico, como su dirección física, se agregará al record público de la TCEQ.

Si necesita más información en español sobre esta solicitud para un permiso, el proceso del permiso, o la historia de cumplimiento del recipiente del permiso, durante la duración del permiso que está siendo modificado, por favor llame al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Departamento de la Fuerza Aérea de los Estados Unidos, antigua base Kelly de la Fuerza Aérea, en la dirección indicada arriba o llamando al señor Paul Carroll, coordinador medioambiental de BRAC, Departamento de la Fuerza Aérea de los Estados Unidos, al (806) 885-5010.

Fecha de emisión: December 4, 2018





# SAVE the Date!

April 13, 2019

Woodlawn Lake Park

Exhibitor registration opens

January 3, 2019

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## You're Invited: Dance Classes

Please join us for fitness and fun as we learn a variety of easy dances from the U.S. and around the world. We'll enjoy line dances, circle dances and other traditional formations. Some of the music will be familiar, and some will be unusual with fascinating rhythms.

Partners are not necessary! Just wear comfortable, supportive shoes that stay on your feet (no flip-flops, sandals or stiletto heels). Athletic shoes with a smooth sole are also fine. Invite your friends--the more, the merrier!

**Location:** YWCA San Antonio, 503 Castrovilla Road  
San Antonio, TX 78237

**Time:** 9 – 10 a.m. (all dates)

**Dates:**

October 26, 2018	May 24, 2019
November 30, 2018	June 28, 2019
December 21, 2018	July 26, 2019
January 25, 2019	August 23, 2019
February 22, 2019	September 27, 2019
March 22, 2019	October 25, 2019
April 19, 2019	

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**Questions?** Contact the YWCA San Antonio at 210-433-9922 (TTY: 711) from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Allwell is contracted with Medicare for HMO, HMO SNP and PPO plans, and with some state Medicaid programs. Enrollment in Allwell depends on contract renewal.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# Volunteers Needed at the Food Bank



## BANCO DE ALIMENTOS DE SAN ANTONIO - COCINA COMUNITARIA (se necesitan 60 voluntarios)

Este programa prepara y distribuye desayunos y bocadillos después de la escuela a las escuelas y agencias asociadas. Los voluntarios recibirán una reunión informativa sobre las comidas del día que se distribuirán en los sitios de Kid's Café, emitirán y documentarán la recolección de las comidas, cargarán las comidas en contenedores calientes / fríos, documentarán con precisión las horas en que se recogieron las comidas y se emitió el equipo. y volvió. Los voluntarios también ayudarán con las tareas de limpieza de la cocina según lo solicite el Chef Ejecutivo: lave, desinfecte y almacene las herramientas y el equipo de la cocina, prepárese para la comida del día siguiente y los suministros de la tienda según sea necesario.

**Donde:** Banco de Alimentos de San Antonio

**Quién:** Hasta 10 voluntarios (entre semana), hasta 25 voluntarios (fines de semana)

**Requisito de edad:** 16 años de edad

**Código de vestimenta:** debido a cuestiones de seguridad, todos los voluntarios deben usar zapatos cerrados (sin sandalias o chanclas) y ropa adecuada para trabajar en un ambiente de cocina.

## HAVEN PARA LA ESPERANZA - COCINA COMUNITARIA (se necesitan 50 voluntarios)

Los voluntarios ayudan con la preparación y el servicio de desayunos, almuerzos y cenas para los residentes de Haven for Hope. Otras tareas de la

cocina incluyen, entre otras: todos los aspectos de la limpieza de la cocina; Lavavajillas, barrer, trapear. Los voluntarios también saludarán a los residentes cuando lleguen para sus comidas. ¡Ayuda a las personas sin hogar en nuestra comunidad!

**Donde:** Haven For Hope

**Quién:** Hasta 10 voluntarios (entre semana), hasta 25 voluntarios (fines de semana)

**Requisito de edad:** 15 años de edad

**Código de vestimenta:** Debido a cuestiones de seguridad, todos los voluntarios deben usar zapatos cerrados (sin sandalias o chanclas) y ropa adecuada para trabajar en un ambiente de cocina.

## VOLUNTARIO DE APPLE MOBILE CORPS

¿Te gustaría ayudar a algunas de las personas más vulnerables de tu comunidad? Luego solicite el Programa de entrega móvil de Apple Corps. Los voluntarios que participan en nuestro Programa de entrega de voluntarios de Mobile Apple Corps entregarán alimentos perecederos y no perecederos directamente a los hogares de las personas mayores en nuestra comunidad.

Los conductores voluntarios interesados realizarán entregas a 4 hogares durante 2 a 3 horas una vez al mes. Los conductores también recibirán orientación y capacitación, así como un seguimiento de su kilometraje para deducciones si lo desean.

**Donde:** san antonio

**Quién:** Individuos

**Requisito de edad:** 18 años de edad

**Requisitos adicionales:** Debe estar dispuesto a permitir una verificación de antecedentes penales realizada por el Banco de Alimentos de San Antonio (se enviará un enlace por correo electrónico por separado). Los conductores deben proporcionar un comprobante de licencia de conducir válida y un comprobante de seguro de automóvil.

## MISSION SAN JUAN FARM ( 5 Volunteers needed)

In a unique partnership with the National Park Service, we manage 45 acres of crops at Mission San Juan. In addition, 5 acres act as a historic demonstration garden to educate Mission visitors.

We use irrigation from the 300 year old acequia, replicating the traditional farming methods of the Mission inhabitants.

**Where:** Mission San Juan Farm

**Who:** Up to 25 volunteers (Larger groups can be accommodated with advance notice.)

**Age Requirement:** No age restriction. Volunteers under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult. \*\*The National Park Service requires a parent/guardian complete a Volunteer Agreement for volunteer under 18 years of age in order to volunteer on-site.

**Dress Code:** For safety, absolutely no sandals or flip-flops, please wear closed-toed shoes. Dress for the weather. Volunteers may want to bring gloves.

## NEW BRAUNFELS FOOD BANK – KITCHEN TABLE (200 Volunteers needed)

Individuals have the opportunity to assist Kitchen Table staff in restocking and arranging edible and non-edible items for client choice pantry, creating emergency baskets for clients, checking dates as instructed, assisting clients with shopping and taking items to vehicle if necessary, managing the front desk, and other warehouse duties.

**Where:** Kitchen Table, 651 N. Business 35, Suite 340, New Braunfels, Texas 78130

**Who:** Up to 25 volunteers (Larger groups can be accommodated with advance notice.)

**Age Requirement:** 8 years of age. Volunteers under 15 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

**Dress Code:** Due to safety concerns all volunteers must wear close-toed shoes (no sandals or flip flops) and clothes appropriate to work in a warehouse environment.



# UTSA Graduates Get the Gift of Education

**By Kara Soria**

Susana Hernandez knows the challenges immigrants face and has become an advocate for the bilingual community.

This first-generation student is from Monterrey, Mexico and migrated to the United States with her family when she was 9-years-old. When Susana arrived in San Antonio, she said she would pass UTSA, hoping she could go there one day.

“You feel very limited when you’re an immigrant and that you can’t have the same opportunities others have,” said Hernandez.

That dream became a reality. Hernandez said because of the Dream Act she enrolled at UTSA in 2015. Nearly 16 years after arriving in the United States, Hernandez is getting

an education degree and a certificate in bilingual education.

“I didn’t know anything about college or the financial aid process, and neither did my parents, but I figured it out with support from UTSA Bicultural and Bilingual Studies faculty and Café College,” said Hernandez.

Times were tough, Hernandez and her parents didn’t have a car and she worked multiple jobs while attending classes.

“Most days I would get about three hours of sleep and then would wake up and repeat school and work all over again, but it was all worth it,” said Hernandez.

Fall semester, Hernandez did her clinical teaching in a dual-language kindergarten classroom. She also tutors third graders.

In addition, Hernandez was an active member of student organization called Bilingual Education Student Organization at UTSA.

“While thinking back at the challenges I had to overcome, it’s been a difficult process to reach this point,” said Hernandez. “Migrating here was tough. I couldn’t see my grandparents or family for 15 years. My family and I felt very lonely and isolated.”

She said she became assimilated into the American culture after moving to the U.S. but UTSA helped her celebrate who she is and now she shares that pride with her students, who might be able to relate because they come from similar backgrounds.

“UTSA really made me feel proud of my roots and who I am because diversity is celebrated here. I am proud to speak and read Spanish,” said Hernandez.

Susana says she’s wanted to be an educator since she was little and graduating this December is a dream come true.

Coming from a family of immigrants, Fabian Aguirre was told to always take advantage of the opportunities available to him.

“I’m the first person, on my mother’s side of the family, to be born in the United States. My Mom knew there would be more prospects in America and didn’t want me and my brother to struggle like she and her family did in Mexico,” said Aguirre, a native of McAllen, Texas.

After graduating South Texas High School for Health Professions in Mercedes,



Texas, Fabian wanted to give back to his country and joined the United States Air Force. He was trained as an Intelligence Analyst and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Resolute Support. For six months, Aguirre was deployed with the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron and helped with the delivery of supplies throughout Afghanistan, aero-medical evacuations of wounded soldiers, and threat-mitigation for joint operations within the country.

While serving 4 years in the Air Force, Aguirre visited several countries like England, Germany, Bulgaria, and Thailand, to name a few. These experiences opened Aguirre’s eyes to the world and he became interested in global affairs.

“I traveled so much in my military years and learned

and heard different people’s stories, so I wanted my degree to tie-in to that,” said Aguirre.

Aguirre started his academic journey at San Antonio College and received two associate’s degrees before transferring to UTSA in the Fall of 2017 to study global affairs in the Department of Political Science and Geography.

While preparing to graduate with a bachelor’s degree, Fabian worked for Campus Services. He was also a participant of Model United Nations here at UTSA and an active member of a campus ministry group called Taproot Student Ministry. After graduation, Fabian hopes to have a job that combines his educational background and military training and to use his knowledge to benefit the citizens of America and the world.



# SPORTS

## Rampage to Host Ugly Sweater Weekend

By Jessica Duran

The Rampage will be hosting an Ugly Sweater weekend to celebrate the holidays as they host the Iowa Wild Friday night at 7:30pm.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus will

be in the plaza level at the AT&T Center because what's a Christmas event without Santa? With plenty of holiday themed contests around the arena, the Rampage will also be selling just

200 limited edition Ugly Christmas sweaters to fans. They will also have Limited Edition autographed pucks outside section 112 for \$20.

The Ugly Sweater contest is for everyone 7 years old and over. The more lights, bells, and whistles are encouraged. First place winner will receive a \$250 visa gift card. A local celebrity judge panel will judge the contest.

The fun continues at the following game on Sunday in another matchup against the Iowa Wild. The Rampage will be auctioning off the ugly sweater jerseys that the players wore Friday night benefiting the Jr. Rampage and Silver and Black Give Back.

For \$3, fans will be allowed a pregame skate before the game. If you don't want to skate, you can purchase a ticket voucher for a soda and a choice of nachos or a jumbo hot dog.

The 10-15-1 Rampage will be coming off a 6 day break when they face the Wild. Their last game was against the Milwaukee Admirals where the Rampage snagged a 2-1 OT victory during their annual Teddy Bear Toss. Joey LaLeggia was accredited for the OT goal and former Admirals Captain, now Rampage forward Trevor Smith, scored the Teddy Bear toss goal.

The Rampage are currently 7-6 on their home ice. Hope-



fully the Rampage can pick up some wins before the face off in a 3 game weekend on December 21st against longtime rivals the Texas Stars in Austin and at the AT&T Center.

## Wagner HS to Play Pearland Shadow Creek HS in State Semi

By Jessica Duran

Wagner High School (13-1) will face off against Shadow Creek High School (14-0) from Pearland, Texas in a Class 5a Division I State Semi-final showdown at NRG Stadium in Houston this Saturday at 6pm.

Wagner is the only remaining school representing San Antonio as both Judson and Brandeis High Schools lost to Texas powerhouses and NFL breeding grounds Austin Westlake and Austin

Lake Travis.

In the Quarterfinals, Wagner defeated Mission Memorial in a blowout victory 54-21 at the Alamodome. Led by senior quarterback Tobias Weaver, the Thunderbirds ran their way to victory. Wagner has over 300 yards in total rushing with 8 rushing touchdowns. The Thunderbirds defense was just as impressive with 9 sacks, 2 interceptions and 46 total tackles.

In the other Quarterfinals,

Shadow Creek defeated in a close matchup against Richmond Foster 25-21 at the University of Houston. The Shadow Creek Sharks are led by their senior quarterback Jamarian George. George finished 11-19 with 165 yards passing and finished with 73 yards rushing, 3 rushing touchdowns on 17 carries. Senior running back Marquez Huland also had a big game, rushing for 121 yards on 26 carries with a touchdown as well.

This high powered rushing offense by Shadow Creek might just face their match against a defense like Wagner's. Wagner has just one more game to continue their historic run. Wagner lost to Stevens High school the last time they were in a quarterfinal 8 years ago. If they beat Shad-

ow Creek Saturday, they will make their first football State Final game in school history.



# Local Latin Grammy Winner

By Roberto Alvarez

Roger Velásquez and the Latin Legendz won Latin Grammy for “Best Tejano Album” with their album called “Tex Mex Funk.”

The 19th annual ceremony was held last month on November 15 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. This was a landmark win for the singer-songwriter and his band since the “Best Tejano Album” category was taken off the ballot and remained non-existent until 2017.

Last week on December 13, Latin Grammy winners Velásquez and the Latin Legendz were honored by Mayor Ron Nirenberg and San Antonio’s City Council with a Personal Point of Privilege. Later that evening the Recording Academy Texas Chapter held a special reception in honor of their Latin Grammy winners.



Within that category, the band faced Proyecto Insomnio, a La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico-based Tejano band, Grupo Alamo, norteño Tejano artist Michael Salgado and Jimmy González y Grupo Mazz. González, who passed on June 6 –was posthumously nominated and poised to win his sixth Latin Grammy.

This VDisco album rightfully won because, starting with the opening tune, “La Bandera de Tejas” (“The Flag of Texas”) - in duet with actor, dancer, singer Jesse Borrego and penned by Velásquez - was the best representation of Chicano music.

“This ranchera speaks to la raza, of being Tejano, of being from Texas and the spirit one has for our Lone Star State and what it represents,” the vocalist/guitarist said.

“It’s the loving of the red, white and blue of our state and our national flag; and what it represents. I also

identify this song with the immigrant coming to our country and wrapping themselves in the red, white and blue. And even though it’s not their flag, they can still take pride of being a part of this nation.

“I can relate to them because I’m a descendent of immigrants running away from all the killing during the Mexican revolution; and they too are running here to escape being killed.”

After explaining the basis for the lyrics, Velásquez addressed the instrumentation and musical arrangements since Grammy nominees are selected on originality and the excellence of their recordings, not on a slick rearranged more innovative recording of a cover.

“I’m 15 to 20 years younger than most Tejano music icons. I grew up on their music. So, Chicano music flows through my veins. It became a part of my DNA. Tejano is Chicano. Tejano is Tex Mex. It’s Sunny Ozuna singing ‘Talk to Me’ on ‘American Bandstand’ and ‘Reina de mi Amor’ at venues. That’s who we are. We are versatile

musicians that can perform any music genre as an orquesta chicana. That’s who we are,” the Latin Grammy vocalist said.

Austin-based Grupo Fantasma’s five horn brass section, which is led by Gilbert Elorreaga Jr., joined the Latin Legendz in what is a listening experience you’ll never forget.

“What do you expect when you could couple seven living legends with the band that won the Grammy Award for “Best Latin Rock, Alternative/Urban Album” at the 53rd Grammy Awards in 2011?” Roger asked. “Furthermore, they were the backup band for Prince in Las Vegas.”

They are Beto Jr., trumpet; Leo Gauna, trombone; Gene Centeno, alto sax; Gabe Pintor, tenor sax; and Josh Levy on baritone sax. In addition, vocalist Wednesday Ball lent her voice to his recording, in which everyone kicks butt.

“It was awesome to see Beto play with his son. Now, this is a true Tejano CD from an orquesta chicana. We were able to do that because we are Tex Mex; and, this is as American as you can get.

“I’m a Tejano (Texan). I just earned a Grammy. Yet, I don’t get airplay in my own hometown. You know, the Latin world wants to know what is happening to Tejano music. During many of the Latin Grammy parties and functions, musicians from Spain and South America asked me that. So, I now feel it is my responsibility to carry the flag for Tejano music. Otherwise, they may eliminate the “Best Tejano Album” category – again.

This album, which was dedicated in loving memory to bassist Pete Ramos Garza, was recorded before the untimely passing of Pete Ojeda, who also played bass on this CD.

Again, congratulations to the Latin Legendz – Roger Velásquez vocals and guitar; Jose Macías, accordion; Frank Salazar, bass; Al Gómez, trumpet; Beto Elorreaga Sr., trumpet; Frank Pérez, trumpet; Anselmo Leal, tenor sax; Georgie Padilla, percussion; and Richard Solís on drums.

For more information visit [www.RogerVelasquez.com](http://www.RogerVelasquez.com) and all digital and social media platforms.



“With this album, Roger Velásquez emerges from a genre filled with traditionalists by taking a nontraditional approach. “Tex Mex Funk” merges traditional Tejano with rhythm and blues. Emanating with Chicano soul, this is his most powerful album to date,” the publishing team for the band said.



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# Just a Thought:

## Reflection of the times



*Steve Walker is a Vietnam Veteran, former Justice of the Peace and Journalist*

### By Steve Walker

As I reflect on the recent passing of President George Herbert Walker Bush the 41st President, (aka Daddy Bush) I realize how far we have come and have stagnated as well in this country.

Watching the three hour coverage in Washington at the Cathedral services about his successes, and the famous quote, "Read My Lips," which many thought doomed his chances for a 2nd term, I am still digesting it all.

As a supporter of President "Daddy Bush" twice and having served 12 short Reserve tours at the Pentagon including a 6 month tour during Desert Storm, I stood less than 10 feet from him and Barbara in a military hanger as he got off a helicopter.

He was on his way to attend a celebration for the "Mission Accomplished" Ceremony in a theatre with famous people. Being assigned to Public Affairs, I was able to sit in the front row and watch the program as well.

At President Bush's Eu-

logy, former Presidents attending included Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump and wives.

Another reflection that I fixated on was the issue of immigration, and how we attempted to handle it from different presidents. Today we have calls for border walls, incarceration of migrant children held in cages, and military called up to use force and gas those who come close to the wall including children seeking asylum from terror.

In 2014, then President Barack Obama made good on his promise to issue an executive order on immigration during a televised press conference from the White House. Many on both sides are still reacting to his words.

Some Americans believed his willingness to "over step his authority" as President, violated his presidential oath to uphold the tenets of the constitution. Others believed he was well within his right to do so as previous Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Walker Bush. Both Reagan and Bush issued executive orders limiting immigrant deportation as well, setting the precedent.

President Obama pointed out at the time he was attempting to correct policies that he believed unjustly punished parents of children who were born in this country, although the parents were not naturalized citizens. The terms "illegal" or "undocumented" come to mind

depending on each individuals take on the subject.

Here is an excerpt from his speech back in November, 2014.

"My fellow Americans, tonight, I'd like to talk with you about immigration.

"For more than 200 years, our tradition of welcoming immigrants from around the world has given us a tremendous advantage over other nations. It's kept us youthful, dynamic, and entrepreneurial. It has shaped our character as a people with limitless possibilities – people not trapped by our past, but able to remake ourselves as we choose.

"But today, our immigration system is broken, and everybody knows it." (Sound familiar?)

He pointed out that some play by the rules and others don't. He talked about exploitation by some businesses, and how many immigrants are forced to remain in the shadows at risk of their families being torn apart. He said, "It's been this way for decades. And for decades, we haven't done much about it."

He reminded the country in his address that when he took office he was committed to fixing the problem. He noted that America has more agents and technology deployed to secure the southern border than at any time in our history.

He also pointed out that during his term, illegal border crossings have been cut by more than half and the



number of unaccompanied children is now actually lower than it's been in nearly two years. He emphasized the number of people trying to cross the border illegally is at its lowest level since the 1970s.

He also addressed his attempt to work with Congress to come to a common sense compromise.

He laid out his plan of adding additional resources for law enforcement to stem the tide of illegal crossings. He also explained his effort to make it easier and faster for high-skilled immigrants, graduates, and entrepreneurs to stay and contribute to our economy, as so many business leaders have proposed. Finally he offered steps to deal responsibly with the

millions of undocumented immigrants who already live in our country.

"Over the past six years, deportations of criminals are up 80 percent. And that's why we're going to keep focusing enforcement resources on actual threats to our security. Felons, not families. Criminals, not children. Gang members, not a mother who's working hard to provide for her kids. We'll prioritize, just like law enforcement does every day," he added.

He also said, "Scripture tells us that we shall not oppress a stranger, for we know the heart of a stranger – we were strangers once, too." He closed by saying, Thank you, God bless you, and God bless this country we love."

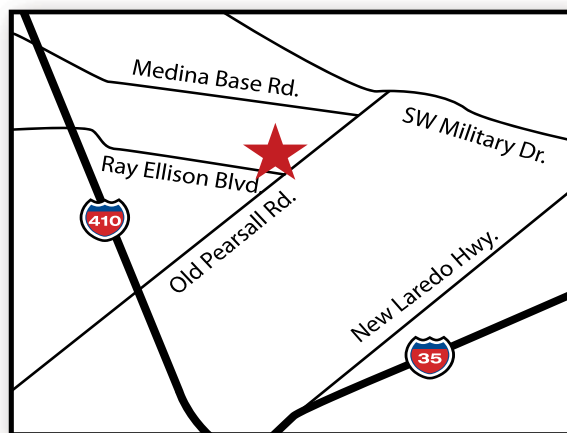
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