

# La Prensa Texas

VOL. 4 • NUM 25

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20 de Junio de 2021



## Permíteme Volver a Presentarme

# 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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## Let's Talk About It

### A little English, A little Spanish

**By Yvette Tello**

*Has anyone ever made fun of you or shamed you for speaking little or broken Spanish? little or broken English? Let's talk about it...*

**Art Escobar:** "Actually, when I was younger I was often asked why I didn't have an accent. I speak both English and Spanish... and know a few choice words in other languages of countries I have visited."

**Benny Serrano:** "And many times you don't even know your own language; You think you do."

**Dyan Baca:** "Exactly! Never poke fun at broken English, especially if you only know English and not another language."

**Lupe Lucero:** "Means they speak another language and you don't!"

**Ma Elena Garcia Gil:** "I always tell that to my 'Paisanos'... and then I tell the ones that were laughing... I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOU TRYING TO SPEAK SPANISH."

**Dewitt Smith:** "Why make fun of people? We are grown and that's some first and second grade crap."

**Abel Gonzales:** "Absolutely. It is really irritating to know people who have been here for years have made no effort to learn English. I'd rather hear broken English than people use their native language as a crutch. I love Spanish but

come on, being bilingual, es como dice el dicho 'el que habla dos idiomas vale más que uno' Échale! I'm also a bilingual/ Spanish teacher! ¡Dejen la vergüenza!"

**Baldo Montiel:** "I'm 49 years old, both parents are from here and speak fluent English and Spanish. I grew up not speaking Spanish at all but always hearing it at home and from my grandmother's TV or music (which I didn't fully understand). I started speaking Spanish little by little at age 30. I work in an industry where it's all Mexican and they've critiqued or made fun of my Spanish all the time. Now, I don't have to speak Spanish...I started speaking to help them. There are a lot like me and to make fun of them, lots of Mexicans call them the "no sabe" this stuff goes both ways...I'll continue to speak my broken Spanish and help those who appreciate it but I'll never help anyone who thinks my Spanish is funny sounding."

**Laura Estrada:** "English, especially American English, is the hardest language to grasp since it's a mash-up of various accents. Our vowels vary, spellings are harsh. Making fun of someone who is trying is truly cruel."

**Bessie Lovely Perez:** "My Spanish is horrible and I live in Houston. I get treated rudely for not knowing the Spanish. I need more practice but I do speak it

when I go into Spanish places like Taquerias, Refresquerias, and Flea Markets! You gotta learn the Spanish down here. I mean dang they play Banda, Cumbias, and Nortenas at the Walgreens and the dollar stores. I love it though."

**Debbie Cortez:** "Yes! I hated when people made fun of me when I was trying to learn ESPAÑOL, but I was determined. Grandma would be absolutely proud of me, as I was of her: her being "fluent" BILINGUAL ... unknown in those days! Now I know "both", and am rapidly learning these accents; spelling. In other words, besides already reading and understanding it, spelling it. AMEN."

**Mike Candelaria:** "Amen. I have always had that feeling since I was a little kid. Now in my sixties I try to teach young people that. Not everyone who cannot speak English are stupid. You sometimes find out that a person is very smart and just cannot speak the English language well enough to communicate."

**Ruben Garcia:** "True y muchas veces piensas que sabes español. Vienes a vivir a Mexico y te das cuenta que no hablas ingles ni español correcto.!!! Estás en Estados Unidos aprendiendo inglés porque español ya lo sabes y bien para aca y no sabes tampoco español. Te encuentras con palabras en español que no las sabemos."



**By Leonard Rodriguez**

*This column highlights inspiring stories of Latino leaders. For more than 50 years, Latino men and women have positively influenced the face of United States society. Let us celebrate these outstanding hispanics.*



**Julia Alvarez**

One of the more popular Latina writers, Julia Alvarez was born in 1950 in New York City. She was raised in the Dominican Republic in an extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins. In 1960, the family was forced to flee when dictator Trujillo came to power. Settling in Queens, N.Y., Alvarez earned degrees in literature and writing. In 1991, Alvarez's "How The Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents" was published to wide acclaim. Mirroring her experiences of immigration and assimilation, her novel was a praiseworthy example of Latina literature. Alvarez's writings continue to receive much praise as works of literary merit.

# About the Cover Art: Reaching

By R. Eguia

Suzy González's latest work entitled "Mutual Aid of the Earth" is now on view online at the Biennial of the Americas exhibit. The Virtual Exhibition is open to public voting June 15 - July 18 allotting one vote per person per day. The artwork with the most votes will be awarded Public Favorite and a \$2,000 USD prize. Over 200 public submissions, 21 commissioned artists, and 15 different countries are represented in the collection.

"I was thinking about how much the pandemic affected the Americas and I like to remember the people that showed up for each other- the collective caring for each other," said González

who came in closer relation to herbalism in the past year by working with different plant materials and extracting medicine for self care and family healing. The painting featured in this exhibition is the first painting she has created since the fall of 2020.

"Art can make people feel," said González, who is a vegan, plant based person. She described the 3 steps of artistic activism as 1) Think, 2) Feel, 3) Do. She said the last step to do and to call to action is the hardest. Gente can tune into the free workshops presented in tandem with the virtual exhibition to learn more about art and activism.

The Biennial of the Ameri-

cas is a non profit organization headquartered out of Denver, Colorado that seeks to create connections and build community across the Americas. In collaboration with the Cuba Study Group, The Biennial of the Americas will host the Americas Leadership Forum online June 24. All sessions will be virtual and recorded. This program is made possible by the support of EY, Greenberg Traurig and the Denver Office of Economic Development. The event will feature a full day of free virtual programming highlighting leaders from across the Americas on engaging, timely and informative topics including:

Global Inclusivity - 10 a.m. MT

Artists Leading Political Change - 11 a.m. MT

The Next Normal - 12 p.m. MT

U.S.- Cuba Policy - 2 p.m. MT

ESG Framework Across the Americas - 3 p.m. MT

For more session details: [www.biennialoftheamericas.org/americas-leadership-forum](http://www.biennialoftheamericas.org/americas-leadership-forum)

Artist Statement:

"I've been working on what it means to be who I am right now and to be making work in the lineage of my ancestors and the history of art. This large-scale corn husk collage is about longing and reaching towards ancestral knowledge, which is represented by the cosmos, specifically the moon in this case. On a broader spectrum, it speaks to the fact that we are all reaching for something. The husks of the figures are altered with synthetic fabric dye, the night sky contains indigo dye, and the moon retains the natural color of dried corn husks. I see the corn husks as the skin of the figures, speaking to Mesoamerican creation stories that our very beings are created from maize."

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# Hombre de Periódico, Franco

Por Liliana Teran

Newspapers have seen plenty of change over the past four decades and Jose Franco, Spanish editor of La Prensa Texas, has all the history firsthand over the first Spanish-language newspaper in San Antonio. Franco has been reporting for 45 years, 27 of those years with La Prensa Texas. "To me, La Prensa Texas represents culture, a voice and power for the Hispanic community," he said.

On February 13, 1913, Ignacio Lozano, a well-known journalist from Mexico, published the first issue of La Prensa in San Antonio, Texas. Lozano had immigrated to the United States during the Mexican Revolution seeking asylum and prosperity. He created a politically-independent periodical that kept the Mexican-American population in Texas informed of current events happening in Mexico. "That was important. So La Prensa quickly grew to become one of the most circulated Spanish-language newspapers of its time," said Franco.

Franco was born in Durango, Mexico where at just 12-years-old he began helping his older brother develop photos in the dark room and taking photos at special events. This experience landed him jobs working for various papers published in Mexico in 1975 when he began his newspaper career. From there he moved to California in 1982 and worked on various weekly papers before starting his own newspapers; El Vocero and El Informador de Orange County. Franco never shied away from difficult articles, in fact, he kept his reporting so true that he eventually had to leave Orange County for his safety as several gang members attempted to harm him for writing stories about gang violence.

This brought Franco to San Antonio in 1991 where he was offered a job right on the spot after fixing an issue of La Prensa de San Antonio-- it's name at the time-- was experienced with photos. As a general reporter with La Prensa Texas, Franco has covered presidential inaugurations, special



events like Fiesta, the opening of the Alamodome, the AT&T Center and he's interviewed state senators like Henry B. Gonzalez. He even witnessed the cut of the professional hockey and women's basketball teams that were based in San Antonio.

"My favorite thing to cover is sports because I enjoy it. It's my passion," said Franco. During the beginning of the pandemic, there were no sports to cover, but now slowly more are being played again."

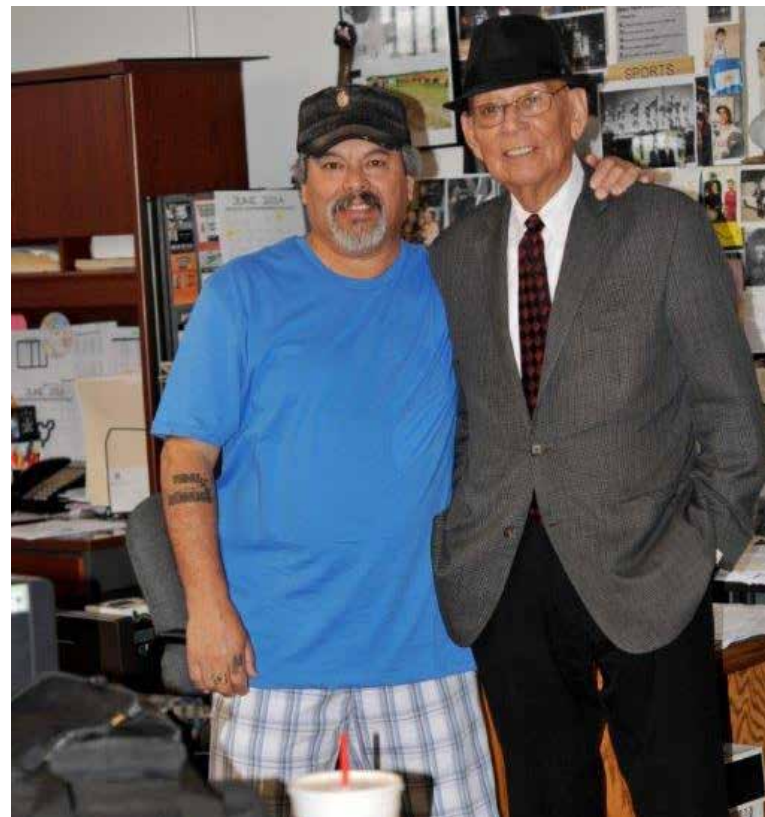
Franco worked with La Prensa de San Antonio through 2017. Finally, after being published only on digital along with years of staff and budget cuts, La Prensa de San Antonio shut its doors in June 2018. The decision was made by then publisher, Nina Duran, who had taken over the paper in 2016 after the retirement of her father, Florentino "Tino" Duran, who resurrected the paper with his wife

Amelia "Millie" Duran in 1989.

In June 2018, Steve Duran, son of "Tino," took over the paper dubbing it La Prensa Texas. The weekly paper was again published in print but switched to a weekly publication with consistent bilingual articles. "This was huge because San Antonio is 70% hispanic but the English articles brought in new readers," said Franco.

Franco has seen many strategies implemented into the survival of print newspapers but he shared that without advertising a paper cannot survive. "You're dead if you don't have a lot of advertisements because it's what funds the paper," he said. "Besides that, to be successful you need a good picture and a good story."

It's no doubt that La Prensa Texas has gone through many changes, but Franco shares that he has high hopes for the paper's future. "Right now under the umbrella of the cur-



rent publisher, Yvette Tello, and editor-in-chief, Roxanne Eguia, it's a very relaxing and patient environment," he said. "Women are changing things, and these women (Tello and Eguia,) make a beautiful paper every week." Through other changes, Franco went from getting paid salary since he was 20 years old, to working for La Prensa Texas without pay these past three years. "I do it because I love it," he said.

Franco shares, although retired since 2017, he has no plans on stopping his reporting. "This is a nonprofit newspaper, so I do it because La Prensa Texas is special to me," he said. "My wife of 35 years, Puline Franco, (San Antonio native) doesn't like it too much because of the money, but she is very supportive and my family is very proud of me." Franco has a 31-year-old son, Vidal Rodrigo Franco Sr. and a 2-year-old grandson, Vidal R. Franco Jr in San Antonio. Most of his family resides in Orange County California near L.A.

Despite all the changes the paper has made it's clear the presence of La Prensa Texas is needed in San

Antonio. To provide a voice to people who don't always get featured in bigger news outlets. "It's no doubt the paper has shifted, not just for me but people can also feel it. They read it and conserve it," said Franco. This comes with the recent changes La Prensa Texas has incorporated, like publishing more stories in English from younger writers including writing contributors.

When asked what he hopes for the future generation writing for La Prensa Texas, Franco shares he hopes they comply with writing ethics. "All my life, I've never copied a newspaper. It's always my own writing and I hope the next generation does the same," said Franco. "La Prensa Texas is going to honor most stories but don't expect a paycheck because this is a nonprofit paper," he said. "My hope is that corporate America and the counties continue to support advertising because without it, we're dead," said Franco.

You can currently catch Franco with his Nikon D3200 megapixels covering special events and local sports like baseball and the San Antonio FC soccer games.

# Fiesta sorpresa en Bigfoot, Texas en Honor a Antonio “Pimpollo” García

**Por Franco**

Todo un éxito social fue la bien preparada fiesta sorpresa para celebrarle sus 58 años de feliz existencia al popular caballero Antonio (Toño) García también nombrado “Pimpollo”. De profesión pintor en la industria de la construcción como subcontratista (dueño de García’s and Sons Painting en San Antonio, Texas). Además de compartir su tiempo libre como coach y receptor del club Sultanes SA en categoría Veteranos Potranco 2021 donde marchan de líderes.

Su gentil esposa Martha García, quien trabaja para el estado de Texas como

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), en coordinación con sus hijos: Tony Jr. Carlos, Christian, sus hijas Cristina

y Génesis, decidió echar la casa por la ventana ofreciendo fiesta familiar al amor de su vida con quien el 12 de julio celebrará 40 años de vida matrimonial.

La inolvidable fiesta sorpresa fue en su rancho “La Perra”, ubicado en la comunidad campestre de Bigfoot, Texas, dónde el festejado recibió felicitaciones de sus vecinos qué fueron invitados, así cómo por familiares y sus invitados contando entré ellos a Gabriel Ruiz Sr., con quien comparte responsabilidad como coach y jugador del equipo Sultanes y de Sergio Torres, valioso jugador y buen amigo.

Los esposos García vistieron camisetas alusivas a su próximo 40 aniversario

de vida matrimonial el 12 de julio. Ella con el apodo Pimpollo y él festejado con el apodo de “Pimpolla”.

Lo cuál fue admirado por sus familiares y los invitados.

Pimpollo García, nativo del estado de Durango, (región Lagunera y criado en la Sultana del Norte) recibió felicitaciones del grupo musical Los Regios de Nuevo León, indicando lo siguiente. “Mis hijos me trajeron al rancho vendado de los ojos. Me siento feliz y contento nunca me esperaba todo esto. Agradezco a mí esposa (Martha), y mí familia qué vinieron de Dallas y San Antonio para compartir mis sentimientos”, dijo Pimpollo García.

Toño García, hace 22 años se inició cómo pintor en la

industria de la construcción y desde entonces se ha destacado cómo subcontratista lo qué aprovechó para formar hace 15 años su propia compañía García’s and Sons Painting en San Antonio.

Cabe anotar qué la cena consistió de “cortadillo de res acompañado de arroz, servido en cazuela de barro”, lo que fue la delicia del evento social campirano.

Pimpollo, antes de partir su pastel de chocolate y vainilla decorado al estilo beisbolero escuchó las tradicionales “Mañanitas”, para luego apagar las velas con el número de su 58vo cumpleaños. En las fotografías Pimpollo aparece con su esposa Martha y sus hijos: Christian, Tony Jr. Su hija Cristina. Su esposa Martha, su

hijo Carlos y su nieto Thiago.

“No importa los esfuerzos que hicimos para hacer realidad este inolvidable festejó en honor de mí esposo. Se lo tiene merecido y compartimos nuestra felicidad con él. Es una persona y padre ejemplar por lo qué seguiremos adelante disfrutando todo lo mejor en familia”, dijo la feliz anfitriona, ha quien La Prensa Texas, reconoce su dedicación al dedicado trabajo de su profesión como CNA. Y a su esposo por sobresalir en su profesión qué comparte con sus herederos. En las fotografías aparecen el cumpleaños posando con su esposa Martha. Y sus hijos Christian, Tony Jr. Su hija Cristina, su hijo Carlos y su nieto Thiago. **(Fotos por Franco).**



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## PARA TODAS LAS PERSONAS Y PARTES INTERESADAS:

La Junta de Servicio Público de la Ciudad, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) la renovación del Permiso de Calidad del Aire No. 45641, que autorizaría el funcionamiento continuo de la Central VH Braunig A Von Rosenberg ubicada en 15290 Streich Road, Elmendorf, Condado de Bexar, Texas 78112. En la sección de notificaciones públicas de este periódico se incluye información adicional sobre esta solicitud.

## Proyecto de la Subestación y Línea de Transmisión de Tezel

CPS Energy organizará una reunión virtual del Consejo Directivo para solicitar aportaciones del público sobre el **Proyecto de la Subestación y Línea de Transmisión de Tezel**.

**Jueves, 24 de Junio de 2021**

**Programa:**

**6 PM – Reunión para Solicitar Aportaciones del Público**

El Consejo Directivo de CPS Energy, el Comité Asesor de Ciudadanos de CPS Energy, la administración superior y los miembros del equipo del proyecto escucharán los comentarios de los clientes interesados.

También puede llamar y escuchar la sesión marcando al 844-881-1317 en la fecha del evento. También puede transmitir en vivo la reunión en el sitio web de CPS Energy.

Los clientes que deben hablar deben registrarse por adelantado utilizando la información proporcionada en su comunicación por correo, o visitando: **[cpsenergy.com/tezel](https://cpsenergy.com/tezel)**.

Esta sesión virtual es gratuita y abierta al público.



Para mas información, comuníquese con Antonio DeMendonca, Gerente del Proyecto, CPS Energy al (210-353-4895) o a [TezelProject@cpsenergy.com](mailto:TezelProject@cpsenergy.com)



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# Fiesta Especial Para Todos



**Interview by**  
**Natasha Gonzales**  
**Article by**  
**Celinda De La Fuente**

We are all too aware that due to the pandemic, we've had to reschedule or cancel many of the beloved events held in our great city. Fiesta was no exception to the rule. This year, our city-wide celebration has been delayed to this month of June. Co-founder and Executive Director of disABILITYsa, Melanie Cawthon, is proud to announce the Fiesta Especial 5K and Parade, which will be held on Saturday June 19, 2021, where you can run, walk, roll, (whatever your mobility may be) and support and promote the concept of inclusion and belonging for all involved.

"We work in the community of individuals with disabilities to connect them to resources, to strengthen the disability community. We work on community engagement, and we do a lot of advocacy work to make sure that we're amplifying the voices

of people with disabilities at the planning tables of our community," states Cawthon with pride.

Carving out spaces for a community which is oftentimes overlooked is essential, necessary, and vital to our city in order for us to learn and grow.

"We believe that the community is for everyone. We're working to move past that effort of inclusion towards a sense of belonging for the disability community. So, we can always be inclusive, but it's when people with disabilities feel like they belong that we've achieved our goal," Cawthon comments.

Those who wish to participate in the event will find that Fiesta Especial 5K has an all inclusive adaptive division. Whether your mobility is dependent on a manual wheelchair, a powered chair, a prosthetic device, Fiesta Especial has a space for you. Hand cyclists, trike riders, walkers, runners, as well as traditional

walkers and runners are all welcome.

"When you come out and support the Fiesta Especial 5K and Parade, you're supporting our mission in San Antonio and being a part of our vision to make San Antonio the number one community where people with disabilities want to live, work, and play," urges Cawthon. With places like Morgan's Wonderland and foundations such as disABILITYsa, we are headed down the right path.

So take your blankets and chairs and go out to support a beautiful cause June 19, 2021, and be on the lookout for Norteño 210's very own Natasha Gonzales and her son, Jaiden Gonzales Fiesta Especial King for 2020 while supporting the community para toda la gente.

To register for the event:  
<http://www.fiestaespecial.com/>

To learn more:  
<https://www.disabilitysa.org>



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# Cardenales campeón de temporada 2021, abren playoffs vs. Águilas de Veracruz

## Por Sendero Deportivo

Cardenales con marca de 10 victorias, 2 derrotas y 2 partidos pendientes ante su último rival del rol regular ante Charros Potosinos con victoria de 13-2 carreras ganó el banderín de temporada 2021 en Potranco Baseball League.

El lanzador derecho cubano Carlos Sierra se apuntó su cuarta victoria derrotando al abridor sanluisino Alfredo Obregón.

Con su cierre de campaña Cardenales de Nacho García y el coach Efraín Cruz Franco con marca de 10 triunfos 2 derrotas y 2 partidos pendientes, ganaron boleto de postemporada para enfrentar al trabuco de Águilas de Veracruz de Luis Cerros en su serie del playoff a ganar dos de tres partidos.

Águilas se clasificó ganando siete partidos consecutivos bajo la dirección de Luis Cerros y el pitcheo del cubano

derecho Juan Serrano (7-0).

Águilas cerró temporada blanqueó 12-0 a Diablos, Serrano fue relevado por Tony González quien pegó jonrón seguido de El Caminante que bateo cuadrangular y perfecto 3-3. Todo ello de acuerdo al timonel Cerros.

La postemporada será entre los dos equipos de la zona norte y sur.

El campo uno del estadio Potranco que coordinan el artista Eloy Rocha y Simón Sánchez el domingo 20 de junio será anfitrión de la postemporada con el primer partido a las 11 am entré Charros Potosinos vs Astros. 2 pm Cardenales vs Águilas.

En la categoría Veteranos Potranco 2021 Missions de Mike Tabhan, se impuso 13-11 ante Mineros con derrota por para Juan Pedro Reza quién tuvo relevo de Miguel Ibarra.

Tabhan tuvo relevos de Joey Farías

y Juan Martínez quienes contuvieron la artillería pesada de Mineros.

El clásico sabatino fue ganado de cierre por el actual campeón Cachorros de Nava, ante el líder Sultanes de SA con pizarra de 10-9 carreras.

La victoria se la llevó el relevista Víctor Vázquez quien con elevado al jardín central remolcó en el cierre del noveno episodio a Óscar Márquez tras pifia del jardinero Sergio Torres.

Sultanes de Gabriel Ruiz Sr., le ganó la serie de temporada 2-1 a Nava, sin embargo Cachorros del trío Alejandro Becerra, Benito Martinez y Rubén Galindo celebraron en grande.

Rol de juegos sábado 19 de junio. Campo uno del estadio Potranco. 11 am Cachorros vs. Missions. 2 pm Mineros vs. Red Sox qué es el clásico.

En liga Máster el visitante Tecos Laredo de cierre venció 14-11 a los

Dodgers.

Rangers del Venado, Benito Martinez apalearon a Lone Stars con pizarra de 17-7, sobresaliendo en el bateo Nemesio Vargas que dio perfecto 4-4.

Resultados liga Semi-Pro Potranco 2021.

Dirigida interina mente por Roberto Garza: Campo 3 Potranco Baseball Field, Highsox 8-2 ante Bobcats. Piratas de Sabinas sigue asciendo tras vencer en el clásico a su acérrimo rival Indios de Nava con pizarra de 6-1 y victoria para el izquierdo venezolano Goyo Quintero con derrotará Ernesto Hidrogo. Cerró el partido Jonathan Vaquera, tirando el último capítulo por Sabinas dirigido por Iván Rubinsky, Sergio De Luna y Maury Esparza.

Broncos de Reynosa SA apalearon 6-1 a Desperados con pitcheo combinado de Felipe Rodríguez y el novato

izquierdo Art Chávez quien tiró la sexta y séptima entrada.

Rol de juegos campo 3: 10 am Piratas vs Broncos. 1 pm Diablos vs. Bobcats. 4 pm Highsox del Marine Eddy Rodriguez vs Indios de Pachin Martinez.

“Al final del último partido vamos a celebrar festejo musical con motivo del Día del Padre. Estaremos coordinados con el compadre Eloy Rocha, como lo hicimos en Mother’s Day. Todos están invitados y hay qué celebrar en grande”, dijo Garza.

En las fotografías aparecen: De André Torres de Cardenales qué pegó jonrón con dos abordó. Art Chávez novato de Broncos. Óscar Márquez de Cachorros recibiendo felicitaciones tras anotar la décima carrera ante Sultanes. (fotos por Franco).



# Preserving Our Cultura: Leonard Rodriguez

**Interview by Roy Aguilon;  
Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

Four years ago, a beloved newspaper todos aqui en San Antonio have grown up with or have heard of in one fashion or another, announced it's end. Community leaders and organizers came together to ensure the survival of our gente's news. Leonard Rodriguez, born and raised in San Antonio's beautiful Westside, stepped in to assist when asked by Steve Duran, son of the ever-revered Tino Duran. Rodriguez, who was already a friend of la familia Duran, knew he had to help preserve this culturally iconic work.

"The city and these lands have always been part of who I am. The history is in my DNA and I care passion-

ately about the city [of San Antonio]," Rodriguez, Interim Chairman of La Prensa Texas passionately states. A 10th generation Tejano, Rodriguez's blood is puro San Anto as his familia was one of the 13 families who settled San Antonio. Like many in our city, he received a catholic education growing up, which he then took with him to Southern Methodist University where he studied business. He later published a page-a-day-calendar which "profiled the accomplishments of more than 300 successful Hispanic Latinos and Latinas...covering 500 years of our presence in this country." Which then acted as a springboard into his career in politics, where Rodriguez was hired as former President George W. Bush's

National Hispanic Coalition Director. After working in DC and New York, Rodriguez made his way back to our beloved city.

"Being home in the community that I grew up in, around the people that I love...that's what motivates me. That's what moved me," Rodriguez genuinely declared. Coming back to San Antonio, he worked at the City of San Antonio's Westside Development Corporation. As President and CEO of the WDC for many years, Rodriguez was able to give back to his community and preserve cultura para todos.

"What makes San Antonio most unique and why people come here is the cul-

ture. I feel we're entering an age where people want to whitewash that culture away. So holding on to it, preserving it, doing events and reporting on things that are important to who we are as a people is the way you can be involved," Rodriguez comments. Now, with the sincere and diligent work of Rodriguez and our other Board Members, we can continue to be what our community needs.

"We're about la gente, and we want to share the good news that we're doing in the community. And there's a lot of good news to share and still a lot of work to do," states our Interim Chairman of La Prensa Texas.

So, if you have a story



which needs to be shared, gente, do not forget that we are here. If we don't tell our stories, someone else will, and that person will get it wrong. Aqui en La Prensa Texas, we are the People's News.

# Westside Orgullosa: Louis Escareno

**Interview by Roy Aguilon  
Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

San Antonio is filled with assiduous entrepreneurs and community leaders who are determined to uplift todos en nuestra sociedad. We need not look any further than Thomas Jefferson High School alum Louis Escareno, Attorney at Law and La Prensa Texas' Board Secretary who still resides on the Westside of San Antonio in the very house he grew up in. Escareno has a long history of working to build up underserved communities.

While working on his degree from the University of Penn-

sylvania, over the summers, Escareno would work for Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez. After graduation, he worked for the US Senate with Senator Lloyd Benson, then making his way to the Whitehouse all by the age of 26. He later obtained his Masters Degree from Harvard Kennedy School which is the public policy school of Harvard University. After graduating from law school in Houston and becoming a lawyer, our Westside leader worked for the Mayor of Houston and directed federal relations for the city, where he worked with former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales

as Deputy Chief of Staff and Special Assistant Attorney General in charge of cross-border issues. He also sits on numerous chamber boards all across the nation, including but not limited to: the San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce, The United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, and the U.S.-Mexico Border Philanthropy Partnership.

"I admired La Prensa because I realized, very early on, that it served as a community platform," recalls Escareno as he reminisced upon the late and great Tino Duran who was a family friend.

"I think we have an obligation

as La Prensa Texas, because it's a platform and a brand that many in the community gravitate towards, to deliver positive healthy messages..." former President of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Escareno responds with admirable fervor. As a non-profit newspaper, we are passionate about our content and well-researched articles written by well-respected community leaders.

"I see [La Prensa Texas] as a place where we can, as a community, honor our own, honor our family, and celebrate life," states Escareno.



With our citizen journalists leading in community news, with the support of Louis Escareno, we can continue to do just that and honor toda la gente in our communities.

# The Voice of La Gente: Yvette Tello

**Interview by  
Aacey Turner**

**Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

What began in 1913, during the Mexican Revolution as a means of informing la gente in regards to the Mexican American War, was then resurrected by the late Tino Duran to highlight Latinos in a positive light, is now again renewed with Yvette Tello at the helm, a name synonymous with La Prensa Texas, to continue the Duran Legacy and to foster and support the growing unity of people of color in our city. Trust that she does not just talk about, she is about it.

“Our biggest goal, our mission is to talk about, not just the injustices that have

happened to Latinos, but to all of us as [people of color], because we are all the same and going through the same struggles. And this is the time we have to unite, and we have this wonderful platform that we can share and grow,” states Tello, Interim Publisher of La Prensa Texas.

From memories of the Malthouse to the Buttercrust Factory field trips we all remember growing up, Tello grew up on the beautiful streets of San Antonio’s Southwest side of town. With a background in Marketing, Tello has much to add to the living institution of La Prensa Texas, and we have much to learn from her.

“We became a nonprofit,” Tello explains, “So, we can

definitely respect and continue the legacy of Tino Duran...I think it’s important that we continue to really not focus on the problem, but talk about the problem and focus on the solution,” Tello explains, who will soon attend an online program offered by The Campaign School at Yale where she will bring and use the wonderful knowledge she has gained to continue the much needed work of highlighting the positive cultural community content in our city.

The ever-enduring Tello, who was asked in 2018 to assist in keeping the longest running bilingual newspaper in the United States alive, is someone who never wants to promote herself, but always wants to uplift and promote

the indelible work here at La Prensa Texas.. Through her arduous work, and with our Board of Directors, she is able to do just that.

“I realized how important it was that this paper needed to stay alive, and it wasn’t going to stay alive by only targeting our older Latino community, but that we had to really envision and embrace everybody, every age...the Latinos and every culture, because it’s not our color of skin, but it’s San Antonio Culture,” comments Tello. Unity for our city is the only way to move forward.

Now, with the many digital platforms available to society, we are not only in print



and on our website. “You can find us at your local HEB’s, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram. You can find us on the streets,” declares Tello, our Interim Publisher, with great warmth and pride.

Recuerdas, San Anto, Comunidad es Unidad. We are the People’s News.

## Con Puro South Side Ganas: Fernando Reyes

**Interview by Roy Aguillon  
Article by  
Celinda De La Fuente**

Aqui, en San Antonio, we give back to our communities, to our gente. We know how much more underserved communities truly deserve because we grew up just like everyone else in our neighborhoods. The time has come to change the narrative of “making it out” to “I’ve made it, now let me show you how to as well.” Fernando Reyes, of Reyes Automotive Group and Reyes Hayashi, is the epitome of just that. With an Associate’s Degree from San Antonio Community College, a Business Degree from the University of

Texas at Arlington, and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California, our Harlandale Hall of Famer has more than enough wisdom and knowledge to share with us.

Businessman. Entrepreneur. Community Leader. These words are all synonymous with Fernando Reyes. With 16 years of experience working for the government and over 30 years as a business owner, Reyes has much to offer our city. Prior to his business ventures, working for the Department of Defense, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the

Internal Revenue Services has helped him learn and grow. Taking the knowledge he gained from these agencies, Reyes is now the owner of Reyes Automotive Group and owns 51% of Reyes Hayashi Automotive, both of which are Tier 1 suppliers for Toyota in San Antonio.

“I don’t forget where I came from,” our Harlandale alum adds with sincerity. As a member of the Harlandale Education Foundation Board as well as treasurer of the Rey Feo Consejo Educational Program, Reyes has been able to aid and assist the youth in our community in perpetuity. In

2008, Reyes, our South Side orgulloso, worked to raise \$460,000 for scholarships as Rey Feo 60. As current Chairman of VIA Transportation, it’s his goal to ensure this mobility agency moves people safely, efficiently, and effectively.

As a member of La Prensa Texas’ Board of Directors, Reyes believes that we cannot let this beautiful concept of serving underserved communities die. “That’s, I think, the responsibility, the commitment that our corporation should have. That, ‘Hey, we’re not just gonna take from the Hispanic Community, but

we want to give back as much as we can,’ ” he comments.

“We need to find some good strong partners that believe what we believe in, that La Prensa should be a form of communication for the underserved, for the served, and for the Hispanic market period,” states Reyes, Former Chairman of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

“If you have la ganas, then you can make it happen. Si se puede!” Reyes passionately reminds us. Con gente como Fernando Reyes, yes...yes we can.

# The Man with 20/20 Vision for San Antonio: Dr. William Elizondo

**Interview by  
Roy Aguillon  
Article by  
Celinda De La Fuente**

Without our community leaders and organizers, we would not be where we are today. Though we still have a long way to go as far as representation, our community is much better off than we were 60 years ago, in large part due to the assiduous work of San Antonio legends such as Dr. William Elizondo, distinguished Board Member of La Prensa Texas. With 55 years of practice as a Therapeutic Optometrist and Glaucoma Specialist, his prestigious extensive work in national politics, and commitment to public life,

war veteran Dr. Elizondo continues the movement to represent our gente in a positive light. His perfect vision for our gente is clear.

Though we now have elected officials who do represent our community, Dr. Elizondo is aware of the need for this same representation and recognition in other platforms as well, such as the media.

“For example, this year, [La Prensa Texas] went up to Washington during the inauguration. And represented us there...and if that hadn’t have been done, in a sense, we might have not had that type of representation. We had

some elected officials and other people that were there, but this was from the community...and sometimes, it’s the community that is needed to transform the right kind of message for the people that need the help and guidance,” our honorable Board Member comments.

Elizondo, who has a long history with La Prensa, has been involved with the bilingual newspaper since its restoration by the late Tino Duran. Elizondo was committed to assisting and supporting Duran with the institution since the 1970s, consistently working to give Latinos a voice in the city. Thus, La Prensa Texas will

continue the legacy Duran engendered.

“It depicts the Hispanic [community] in a proper light. Those are the key things there. If we can continue that aspect of life, some of the old thinking that was permeating into the community will be changed,” Dr. Elizondo states with a desire to continue the work towards the vision of positive cultural community content, so that we have a voice which is heard by all.

“We have about 70% Hispanics in San Antonio and a great percentage in the state of Texas, and I think that we need those voices, and they



need that type of leadership in our area,” concludes our former National Health Director of LULAC.

Accurate representation of our comunidad matters, gente. With people como Dr. William Elizondo leading us, we can envision more than we ever imagined.

## Nuestra Historia Matters: Dr. Ricardo Romo

**Interview by  
Roy Aguillon  
Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

We all know that we are not taught our true history growing up. Unfortunately, we do not always see ourselves represented in a positive light in mainstream movies, stories, books, newspapers, etc. Former President of University of Texas at San Antonio, current La Prensa Texas Board Member, and distinguished Historian, San Antonio’s very own Dr. Ricardo Romo continues to teach us about who we are and where we come from with his weekly well-researched contributions to La Prensa Texas.

Born and raised in San Antonio, Dr. Romo attended the

University of Texas at Austin on a track scholarship. He obtained his PhD in American History from UCLA. While writing a book about East Los Angeles, Dr. Romo came across la familia Lozano in his research where he learned Ignacio Eugenio Lozano, Sr. founded La Prensa in 1913 who later moved his operation to Los Angeles in 1926 where he began publishing La Opinion. Lozano would then become the Latino publisher of the two most important Latino newspapers in America, an important feat in any time period.

After retiring as President of UTSA in 2017 where he accomplished a multitude of great things, our urban historian

wanted to get back to his History roots. Thus, he planted himself in the culturally rich soils of La Prensa after contacting la familia Duran, where he writes articulate authentic pieces which are just as deeply rooted in cultural history.

While other mediums may not offer cultural community content, our Board Members such as Dr. Romo continue to work to ensure that La Prensa Texas is a space to highlight the arts of our gente, including art shows, poets, singers, and the like. “Those are the things we have to cover. That’s our obligation. It’s well understood, and that’s what we need to do,” Romo comments.

“I want people to know that La Prensa is a newspaper that they should know about. That they should read. That they should distribute. There are stories there that are not available to us through other mediums. And if they do that, then I think our community will be better informed. But also, our community is going to learn about individuals that have made a difference in terms of making a contribution to society. Whether they be educators, whether they be writers, whether they be politicians, these are the folks that we feel like if they made a difference, then we’re going to write about them,” Romo concludes, with genuine honesty, as he continues to work to preserve the true



history of our gente.

Knowing where we come from will lead us to where we need to be.

To learn more from Dr. Ricardo Romo’s work visit our website:

<https://laprensatexas.com/author/dr-ricardo-romo/>

# Commissioner Tommy Calvert, Precinct 4: Warrior Spirit of Community Activism

**Interview by Roy Aguillon**  
**Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

Throughout history, we have seen Political Leaders attempt to pit us against one another based on race, socioeconomic status, gender, anything to divide us and conquer. Unlike many who have come before him in the world of politics, Tommy Calvert, Bexar County Commissioner of Precinct 4 since 2014 and member of La Prensa Texas' Board of Directors, seeks to undo the division in the city and beyond by building bridges for all in our society.

Son of Tommy "T.C." Calvert, a veteran organizer, activist, business entrepreneur, and visionary, Commissioner

Calvert has the warrior spirit of community activism running through his veins. By the age of 15, Calvert was writing a column, The Watchdog Report, for The Observer. By the age of 21, he was leading the American Anti-Slavery Group where he fought against modern day slavery and human trafficking with a focus in Sudan and Burma. Prior to being elected as Commissioner, Calvert had an undercover news investigator program on MSNBC, and a book deal with Simon and Schuster. Running for Commissioner was not the plan. I once heard someone say that if you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans. Calvert's fate was always set. All of his accom-

plishments and downturns led him here, exactly where we needed him. In all honesty, a 400 word article will not do his international and local achievements justice.

Unity is oftentimes left out of political conversation. Commissioner Calvert, however, is building bridges para todos. "I have tried to show equal respect and love, and fight for all people. And I did that as a human rights leader...going into countries where I wasn't Sudanese, but I risked my life to free slaves in Sudan. I wasn't Burmese, but I risked my life to help free Burma. And so, that's what I want to do: help all people because we're really one race.

We're really the human race," comments Calvert, Dean of Commissioners Court, with genuine sincerity, which he turns into action.

"A lot of leaders don't empower and educate those they seek to lead. So, I seek to lead the whole community. That includes the business community, their neighborhoods, the school, the churches. So when I come pushing policy, I come pushing policy that is best for the majority of all involved," states Calvert.

Todos aqui, junotos, are all the better for it. We reap what we sow, and Commissioner Calvert continues to fight the good fight and plant seeds daily.



Contact Information:

(210) 335-2614

tc@bexar.org

FB Page: Tommy Calvert, Bexar County Commissioner, Pct. 4

## Highlighting Community Positivity for the Masses: Ramon Chapa Jr

**Interview by Roy Aguillon**  
**Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

La Ciudad de San Antonio is a welcoming environment and home to toda la gente. Love for our beautiful city is not dependent on your birthplace. Once you are here, you are a part of la cultura y familia. Co-Publisher and Community Liaison of La Prensa Texas, New Braunfels' own Ramon Chapa Jr. found a home here with the rest of us and has worked tirelessly and effectively to build and develop our community.

Inspired by former Mayor Henry Cisneros, Chapa, a San Antonio Community College graduate and War veteran,

found his path towards public service and ran for City Council in New Braunfels after finishing his degree at The University of Maryland. With his love for cultura y la gente, our board member brought his work, his community service, and his nonprofit to our historic city. Though he may live in New Braunfels, his heart and soul is here with us.

Chapa's involvement with La Prensa began many years ago when he served as Vice President of the Westside San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, where Tino Duran wanted to know more of Chapa's great positive works in our city.

"I've never given an award for community service," Chapa recalls the words of the institute we know as the late Tino Duran, "I'm gonna give you the first award for community service in the history of La Prensa because you're doing so many things out in the community," Chapa remembers, describing the honorable recognition as he chokes up with great admiration and pride.

"I really looked up to him because of the fact that he had his own newspaper," Chapa continues, "I knew his story, how he rose up, and now to have the number one bilingual newspaper in the United States of America...that's a testa-

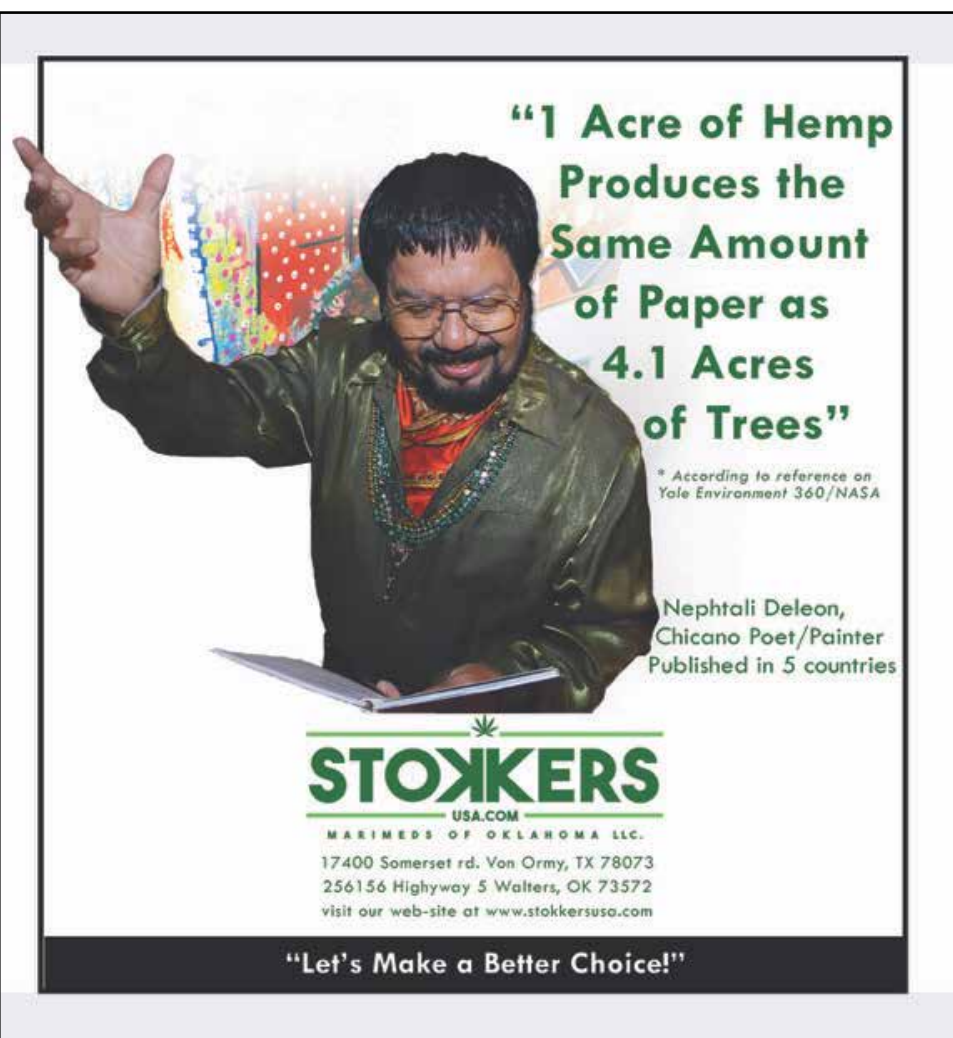
ment in its own self. So to get known or recognition from an institution like that, man it was a tremendous honor. And it's still a tremendous honor today." And we, Ramon Chapa Jr, are honored to have you leading the charge for positive cultural community content.

"A lot of people thought we had folded. A lot of people thought we'd just gone digital, but we're here with the print edition. We're getting bigger. We're getting better. We're getting smarter. Anything that y'all out there have to say that's positive about anything positive in the community, reach out to us because we want to share that...you turn on the news, first



thing you hear is rape, robbery, and murder, all the bad things. There's a lot of great things happening in our community, and we want y'all to share that with us, so we can share it with the masses," urges Chapa with genuine excitement.

Our stories are important, gente. Nunca olvides eso.



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\* According to reference on Yale Environment 360/NASA

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Chicano Poet/Painter  
Published in 5 countries

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COMISIÓN DE TEXAS SOBRE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL



NOTIFICACIÓN MODIFICADA DE RECIBO DE SOLICITUD E INTENCIÓN DE OBTENER  
RENOVACIÓN DEL PERMISO SOBRE LA CALIDAD DEL AIRE

PERMISO NÚMERO 45641

**SOLICITUD** La Junta de Servicios Públicos de la Ciudad ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) la renovación del Permiso de Calidad del Aire Número 45641, que autorizaría el funcionamiento continuo de la Central VH Braunig A Von Rosenberg ubicada en 15290 Streich Road, Elmendorf, Condado de Bexar, Texas 78112. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación se proporciona como un acto de cortesía pública y no forma parte de la solicitud o notificación. Para conocer la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.270833&lng=-98.38&zoom=13&type=r>. La instalación actual está autorizada para emitir los siguientes contaminantes del aire: *monóxido de carbono*, contaminantes peligrosos del aire, óxidos nitrosos, compuestos orgánicos, material particulado, incluyendo el material particulado con diámetros de 10 micrones o menos y 2.5 micrones o menos y dióxido sulfúrico.

Esta solicitud se envió a la TCEQ el 24 de marzo del 2021. La solicitud estará disponible para visualizarla y copiarla en la oficina central de la TCEQ, la oficina regional de la TCEQ en San Antonio y la Biblioteca Central de San Antonio 600 Soledad Street, San Antonio, Condado de Bexar, Texas a partir del primer día de la publicación de esta notificación. El expediente de cumplimiento de la instalación, si lo hubiere, está disponible para revisión pública en la oficina regional de San Antonio de la TCEQ.

El director ejecutivo ha determinado que la solicitud está administrativamente completa y realizará una revisión técnica de la solicitud. La información en la solicitud indica que esta renovación de permiso no resultaría en un aumento en las emisiones permitidas y no resultaría en la emisión de un contaminante del aire que no se haya emitido previamente. **La TCEQ puede actuar en esta solicitud sin buscar más comentarios públicos o sin brindar la oportunidad de una audiencia de una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto si se cumplen ciertos criterios.**

**COMENTARIO PÚBLICO Puede enviar comentarios públicos o una solicitud para una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto a la Oficina del Secretario Principal en la dirección que se proporciona más adelante** La TCEQ considerará todos los comentarios públicos al momento de tomar una decisión final sobre la solicitud. **La fecha límite para enviar comentarios públicos es 15 días después de la publicación de la notificación en el periódico.** Después de la fecha límite para comentarios públicos, el director ejecutivo preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes y esenciales, o importantes. Asuntos como valores inmobiliarios, el ruido, la seguridad del tráfico y la zonificación están fuera de la competencia de la TCEQ para abordar en el proceso del permiso.

Una vez finalizada la revisión técnica, el director ejecutivo considerará los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes y esenciales o importantes. Si solo se reciben comentarios, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decisión del director ejecutivo sobre la solicitud, se enviará por correo a todas las personas que enviaron comentarios públicos o que estén en la lista de correo para esta solicitud, a menos que la solicitud se remita directamente a una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto.

**POSIBILIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA CONTENCIOSA SOBRE EL ASUNTO** Puede solicitar una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto. El solicitante o el director ejecutivo también pueden requerir que la solicitud sea remitida directamente a una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto después de la revisión técnica de la solicitud. Una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto es un procedimiento legal similar a un juicio civil en un tribunal de distrito estatal. A menos que se presente una solicitud por escrito para una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto dentro de los 15 días posteriores a esta notificación, el director ejecutivo puede pronunciarse sobre la solicitud. **Si no se recibe una solicitud de audiencia dentro de este período de 15 días, no se brindarán más posibilidades para una audiencia.** De acuerdo con la Ley de Aire Limpio de Texas § 382.056(o), una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto solo se puede otorgar si el historial de cumplimiento del solicitante se encuentra en la clasificación más baja según los requisitos de historial de cumplimiento aplicables y si la solicitud de audiencia se basa en cuestiones de hecho controvertidas que sean relevantes y esenciales para la decisión de la Comisión sobre la solicitud. Además, la Comisión solo puede otorgar una audiencia sobre aquellos asuntos presentados

durante el período de comentarios públicos y no revocados.

**Una persona que pueda verse afectada por las emisiones de contaminantes del aire de la instalación tiene derecho a solicitar una audiencia. Si solicita una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto, debe enviar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o para un grupo o asociación, un representante oficial), dirección postal, número de teléfono diurno; (2) nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; (3) la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito (solicitamos) una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto "; (4) una descripción específica de cómo se vería afectado adversamente por la solicitud y las emisiones al aire de la instalación de una manera que no es común para el público en general; (5) la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad en relación con la instalación; (6) una descripción de cómo puede verse afectado el uso que le da a la propiedad por causa de la instalación; y (7) una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho controvertidas que envíe durante el período de comentarios. Si la solicitud es realizada por un grupo o asociación, uno o más miembros que tengan derecho a solicitar una audiencia deben ser identificados por su nombre y dirección física. También se deben identificar los intereses que el grupo o asociación busca proteger. También puede enviar los ajustes propuestos a la solicitud/permiso que satisfagan sus inquietudes. Las solicitudes para una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto deben presentarse por escrito dentro de los 15 días posteriores a esta notificación a la Oficina del Secretario Principal en la dirección que se proporciona más adelante.**

Si cualquier solicitud para una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto se presenta de manera oportuna, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier solicitud para una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto a los Comisionados para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión. A menos que la solicitud se remita directamente a una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto, el director ejecutivo enviará por correo la respuesta a los comentarios junto con la notificación de la reunión de la Comisión a todos los que enviaron comentarios o están en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. La Comisión solo puede conceder una audiencia contenciosa sobre el asunto sobre cuestiones que el solicitante presentó en sus comentarios de manera oportuna que no fueron revocados posteriormente. **Si se concede una audiencia, el asunto de la audiencia se limitará a cuestiones de hecho controvertidas o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y derecho relacionadas con inquietudes relevantes y esenciales sobre la calidad del aire presentadas durante el período de comentarios.** Asuntos como los valores inmobiliarios, el ruido, la seguridad del tráfico y la zonificación están fuera de la competencia de la Comisión para abordar en este procedimiento.

**LISTA DE CORREO** Además de enviar comentarios públicos, puede solicitar que lo incluyan en una lista de correo para esta solicitud enviando una solicitud a la Oficina del Secretario Principal a la dirección que se proporciona más adelante. Aquellos en la lista de correo recibirán copias de las notificaciones públicas futuras (si las hubiera) enviadas por la Oficina del Secretario Principal para esta solicitud.

**INFORMACIÓN Y CONTACTOS DE LA AGENCIA** Los comentarios públicos y solicitudes deben enviarse electrónicamente en [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/), o por escrito a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas, Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC-105, Apartado Postal 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información de contacto que proporcione, incluido su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física, pasará a formar parte del registro público de la agencia. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de obtención de permisos, por favor llame gratis al Programa de Educación Pública al 1 800 687 4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener más información de la Junta de Servicios Públicos de la Ciudad, 500 McCullough Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78215-2104 o llamando al Sr. Tom Brotherman, Analista Ambiental, CPS Energy, al (210) 353-3924.

# LPT History

La Prensa Texas, established in 1913, is the oldest bilingual newspaper in Texas whose mission was to serve as the voice of the Mexican exile community and to defend and represent the views of the Mexican exiles. La Prensa's editorials strongly challenged Mexican public policy. For nearly 50 years, La Prensa was the leading Spanish-language newspaper circulating in South Texas. For many years, it was the most widely circulated Spanish-language newspaper in the United States and had an international readership.

By 1961, readership declined due to television and radio competition. The newspaper changed ownership a few times before closing its doors. In 1989, La Prensa de San Antonio was relaunched by the late Tino Duran and his wife Millie Duran. Tino Duran was the owner and publisher for 27 years. Tino Duran's mission was to highlight the Latino community in a positive light. Up until this point, much of what the mainstream media showed were the gang related crimes which involved Latino youth. Thus, La Prensa became the place to highlight beautiful Hispanic cultural events and stories. In 2017, Tino Duran passed away and within a year of his death, the announcement was made by his daughter that the publication would be coming to an end. Once again, the publication was resurrected. This time by Tino's son Steve Duran and Yvette Tello without skipping a week of printing. On Father's Day, June 17, 2018, the first edition of La Prensa Texas was printed and distributed. Yvette Tello was the liaison and Executive Vice President to Steve Duran. She was the person responsible for overseeing the technical

publication of the weekly paper as well as its business operations. Leonard Rodriguez, former white house advisor, helped incubate the life of La Prensa Texas by allowing La Prensa Texas to office from the Westside Development Corporation office where he was CEO at the time. As Steve Duran's health declined, he decided to step away from the publication and hand it over to the board of directors that Leonard Rodriguez and Yvette Tello developed as they felt they had no choice but to turn the privately owned business into a nonprofit corporation to keep it alive. In the midst of the pandemic on August 26, 2020, La Prensa Texas was given a new life by a new board of directors, and thus, a new direction by going nonprofit officially. The Board of Directors, Leonard Rodriguez, Louis Escareno, Yvette Tello, Commissioner Tommy Calvert, Dr William Elizondo, Dr Ricardo Romo, and Fernando Reyes decided to continue the mission of the late Tino Duran and highlight positive stories, but at the same time, much like the first publication, they would serve as the voice for the Latino community and defend and represent the underserved of San Antonio.

La Prensa Texas is a powerful resource for those without internet access. It is where one can find the news by the people for the people. The hyperlocal publication could not have come at a better time. During the pandemic, the community counted on La Prensa Texas to give them the information to find resources for needs one never imagined we would have.

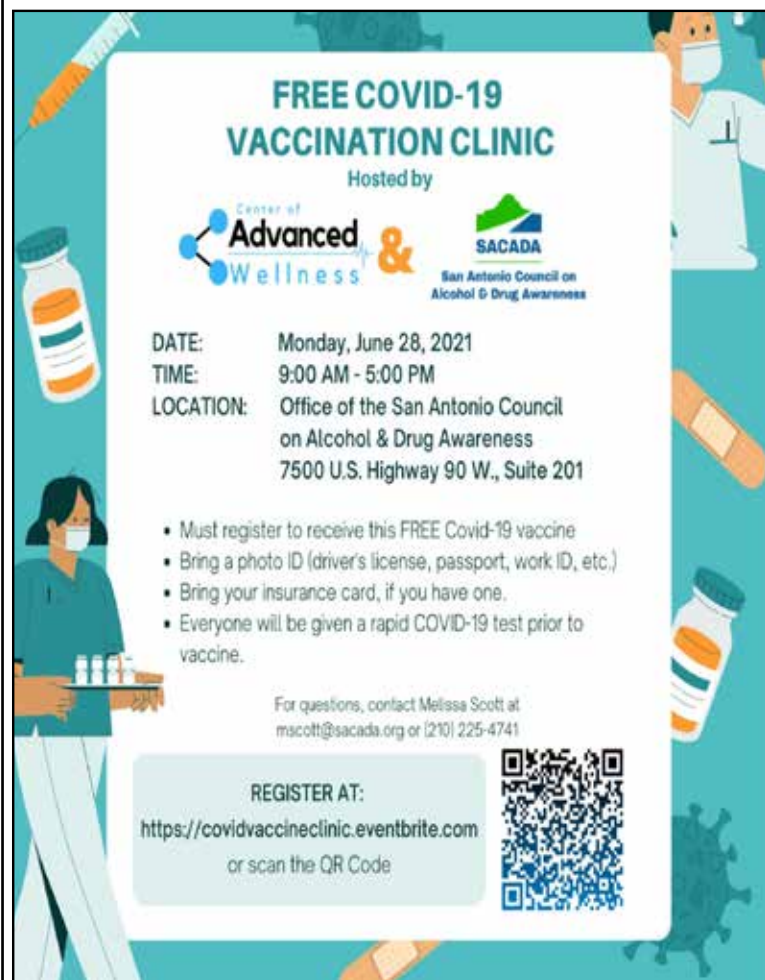
With Yvette Tello at the helm as active publisher and the newspaper's driving force, she has

expanded La Prensa Texas by digitizing it, publishing a weekly print edition that is laid out by Roxanne Eguia, Editor in Chief, and Nicodemus Gonzalez. Graphic Designer. Included on the team is Community Liason, Ramon Chapa, Jose Franco, Spanish Editor, Maria Cisneros, Sales Executive, Dr Ricardo Romo, staff writer and contributor. Yvette Tello also recruited a staff made up of a dynamic group of young people; Roy Aguillon, Julia Aguillon, Joe Estrada, Angel Contero, Natasha Gonzalez, Acey Turner. They are embedded in the heart of San Antonio's thriving Hispanic community. The new digital team composed of native San Antonio community journalists who deliver heartfelt stories from our neighborhoods and urge the public to support the Latino community and its voice in this effort to upend the media bias and war to silence us and that this team is committed to the continued support of our people, our struggle, our culture and way of life.

The new La Prensa Texas now includes digital platforms and a digital news team while still printing a weekly publication without skipping a week despite the pandemic, the state blackouts, or the freeze. Yvette Tello has facilitated the partnerships with television network-Telemundo owned by NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, and KROV FM radio station to ensure radio and television will never be the competition again. The team has provided coverage of the election results of the presidential race of 2020, the streets of Washington DC during the inauguration, and the freeze of 2021.

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# Una Carta Pública Al Alcalde Y Concejo Municipal: ¡Actúen Ya Para Enfrentar La Crisis Climática!

## Por Acción Climática San Antonio

La siguiente carta pública por parte de la coalición comunitaria Acción Climática San Antonio es dirigida al alcalde y concejo municipal de San Antonio. La Prensa Texas decide publicar esta carta para fomentar el diálogo en nuestra comunidad acerca del cambio climático, la crisis ambiental provocada por el mismo y derivada del calentamiento global, la responsabilidad que compartimos como un pueblo para enfrentar esta crisis. Invitamos al alcalde y a las y los concejales a que respondan a esta carta para poder publicar su respuesta en una futura edición.

Al alcalde Ron Nirenberg y el concejo municipal de San Antonio:

Tenemos la oportunidad de enfrentar la crisis climática y el racismo ambiental en San Antonio

Han pasado cuatro años desde que el alcalde Ron Nirenberg y el concejo municipal se comprometieron a hacer cumplir aquí en San Antonio el Acuerdo internacional de París. A pesar de la adopción del Plan de Adaptación y Acción Climática (CAAP, por sus siglas en inglés) por parte del concejo municipal en 2019, han sido pocos los avances para reducir drásticamente las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero en nuestra ciudad con el fin de mitigar el calentamiento global conforme con los objetivos del Acuerdo de París.

Nuestra resolución es asegurarnos de que el alcalde y el concejo municipal cumplan con sus compromisos y metas políticas expresadas. Al mismo tiempo, reconocemos que los objetivos de los acuerdos internacionales y nuestro propio CAAP son insuficientes, las soluciones tecnocráticas basa-

das en el mercado por sí solas no nos salvarán, y debemos priorizar acciones que realmente protejan y empoderen a nuestras comunidades aquí en nuestra ciudad. Por último, nuestras comunidades están luchando con los efectos catastróficos de la pandemia de COVID-19 y la devastación causada por la tormenta invernal Uri.

Los impactos desiguales que estas crisis han provocado en poblaciones vulnerables nos obligan a actuar para enfrentar las desigualdades estructurales que agravan los efectos de estos desastres en colisión. En agosto del 2020, el concejo municipal declaró por mayoría casi unánime que el racismo constituye una crisis de salud pública en San Antonio. Nosotros afirmamos que esta crisis de salud pública también incluye el racismo ambiental infligido sobre comunidades no blancas que son perjudicadas de manera desproporcionada por la contaminación, así como por fenómenos meteorológicos extremos agravados a su vez por el calentamiento global.

Ya que se concluyeron las recientes elecciones municipales, nuestra coalición agradece la oportunidad de trabajar en conjunto con todos los miembros de este nuevo concejo. Exhortamos al alcalde y al concejo municipal a cumplir con sus promesas de enfrentar a la crisis climática y a las desigualdades que siguen perjudicando a nuestras comunidades.

El concejo municipal y CPS Energy deben comprometerse a cerrar la última central a carbón en San Antonio, JK Spruce, para el 2030

En 2019, el año más reciente del que se dispone de datos, Spruce arrojó 6.8 millones de toneladas métricas de contaminación climática, más de la mi-

tad de las emisiones de todas las fuentes puntuales en el área metropolitana de San Antonio y casi el equivalente a las emisiones de todo el sector de transporte. Cualquier esfuerzo hecho de buena fe para enfrentar la crisis climática debe incluir necesariamente el cierre de Spruce en un periodo de tiempo acelerado. El alcalde y el concejo municipal deben usar su autoridad sobre CPS Energy para exigir reducciones súbitas en las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero y, mediante el cierre de la central Spruce, la eliminación de la electricidad generada por combustión de carbón para el 2030 a más tardar.

El concejo y CPS Energy deben proteger a la gente más vulnerable de las desconexiones, adoptar un programa STEP mejorado, y crear un esquema de tarifas eléctricas justo

Para mitigar las repercusiones económicas de la pandemia de COVID-19, CPS Energy estableció una moratoria temporal sobre las desconexiones por falta de pago durante la primavera del 2020. El reinicio de esas desconexiones, que en los últimos años han afectado a decenas de miles y hasta cientos de miles de residentes por año, ha sido una consideración constante por parte de la junta de gobierno de CPS Energy. En reuniones recientes, la directora ejecutiva Paula Gold-Williams sugirió que las desconexiones podrían reanudarse esta primavera o verano.

Rechazamos la idea de que CPS Energy debe reanudar su política de desconexiones, que enfoca injustamente a los hogares pobres y de bajos ingresos. Es imperativo que el alcalde y el concejo municipal actúen ahora mismo para evitar la reanudación de las desconexiones y ordenen que CPS Energy haga permanente la moratoria para los

hogares con ingresos de hasta el 200% del nivel federal de pobreza.

El concejo municipal también debe adoptar para finales del año un programa STEP mejorado de 10 años de duración centrado en los contribuyentes con el objetivo de reducir la demanda energética máxima durante el invierno y verano en al menos 900 MW y ahorrar al menos un 1.5% al año en el consumo de energía de los consumidores. CPS Energy debe ampliar tanto su programa de climatización de residencias como los programas para viviendas multifamiliares, al mismo tiempo que aumenta el acceso a soluciones de energía solar y de almacenamiento energético.

Además, nuestras comunidades no pueden soportar la carga que significa un aumento de tarifas, como lo propuso la directora ejecutiva Paula Gold-Williams para este otoño, hasta que se reforme el esquema tarifario en sí para que las familias trabajadoras y las que viven con ingresos fijos ya no subsidien tarifas más baratas para los usuarios de consumo máximo. No puede haber un aumento de tarifas hasta que las tarifas sean justas.

Esta elección representa una verdadera oportunidad para emprender una nueva dirección

El alcalde y el concejo municipal se han comprometido a actuar en los temas importantes para toda la gente. Cada elección y cada mandato es una oportunidad para traducir las promesas en acciones y, cuando sea necesario, reevaluar las acciones pasadas, corregir errores, y cambiar de dirección. Sin embargo, las voces de unos pocos ricos privilegiados a menudo se amplifican por encima del resto de la gente. San Antonio puede aprovechar esta oportunidad

para alejarse de la agenda del statu quo que beneficia a los pocos en vez de los muchos. No debemos seguir reproduciendo los fracasos del pasado.

El alcalde, el concejo municipal, y todos aquellos en posiciones de autoridad tienen el deber y la responsabilidad solemne de proteger a las personas más vulnerables de nuestra comunidad del daño causado por la crisis climática, de corregir las desigualdades estructurales que han plagado a nuestra ciudad durante generaciones, y de revertir el daño causado por décadas de sistemas racistas y clasistas. Este concejo recién instalado puede dar un paso hacia el cumplimiento de su deber solemne al actuar sobre nuestras propuestas, las cuales son el resultado de años de consulta colectiva entre nuestras comunidades a lo largo de la ciudad.

Es nuestro más sincero deseo trabajar colectivamente y actuar rápidamente con el alcalde y el concejo para resolver problemas crónicos y llevar justicia a nuestras comunidades. Con ese fin, nos comunicaremos con cada uno de ustedes para entablar un diálogo pleno y honesto que procure evaluar el progreso realizado durante los últimos cuatro años y para platicar sobre las oportunidades y obligaciones que enfrentamos hoy para la realización de la justicia energética.

Con ilusión,

Acción Climática San Antonio  
climateactionsa.com

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Para obtener información adicional sobre nuestra coalición y nuestra campaña por la justicia energética en San Antonio, consulte nuestra carta abierta, "Un llamado comunitario por la justicia energética" (climateactionsa.com/san-antonio-energy-justice/).

## Luminaria Celebrates Artists With Fall Contemporary Arts Festival

Interview by  
Julia Aguillon

Article by Jackie Velez

Luminaria is an arts non-profit organization that is dedicated to producing and promoting the arts of San Antonio, Texas. Executive Director, Yadhira Lozano, announced the organization's Contemporary Arts Festival for the fall and is inviting all artists to participate.

Every fall, the organization celebrates the artists by producing the amazing Contemporary Arts Festival. This wonderful celebration takes place in downtown San Antonio. Some of the arts that Luminaria loves to spotlight are poetry, literature, theatre, and music, just to name a few.

"We cover just a wide variety of art," said Lozano.

Lozano, who grew up on the South Side of San Antonio, was a fan first of the arts organization before joining it. She attended many festivals and has always been involved in the arts.

"My brother and I were musicians," said Lozano. "I played violin in the high school mariachi and sang."

In the 90s, Lozano left for Los Angeles after she was accepted into University of Southern California. Lozano lived in California for 20 years but



always returned to Texas every summer to visit her family and eat a home cooked meal.

"Don't ask me what my favorite restaurant was growing up," said Lozano. "Mom's house."

While living in California, Lozano saw the rise of arts activism during political issues that plagued the 90s, and that are still relevant today.

"There was a lot of persecution of immigrants, there was a lot of laws that they were trying to pass, so there was a lot of activism," said Lozano. "And when activism comes to the surface, the artists come through for everyone through the music, the art, the signage, the posters, there's a lot of effort that goes into the cause."

Now, as an executive director of Luminaria, Lozano is reaching out to all artists to participate in the fall festival. There is a waitlist for artists to

submit their information year-round. This gives Luminaria the chance to invite a diverse group of voices to their events such as the Contemporary Arts Festival.

"Just support the arts," said Lozano. "There's a lot of people struggling financially because of the pandemic, things are opening back up, but the artists and art, that's who we turned to when we were shut down completely."

Luminaria's Contemporary Arts Festival is free and set for November 13, 2021, from 6pm to midnight. This is one important event you need to attend, peeps! Let's support the arts!

If you know or are an artist who would like to participate in Luminaria's events, please visit <https://luminarias.org/>



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**LIVE UNITED**

## Kavi Cosmetix Works to Build Confidence for All

**Interview by Natasha Gonzales**

**Article by Celinda De La Fuente**

Everyday, our bodies are polluted with toxins from the use of everyday beauty care products without us even realizing it. Elizabeth Cervantes (27), owner of Kavi Cosmetics, promotes natural formulas for a healthier option for us all. Using pure essential oils, which are not diluted in any way, Kavi Cosmetix offers a full array of natural products including but not limited to: hair oils, face masks and exfoliators, and anti-aging serums. Their gel cleanser and face cream will launch in August 2021.

Cervantes, who worked in the spa industry prior to her amazing business ventures, wanted to do anything she possibly could to aid her mother who was suffering hair loss. She then created a formula, and within three weeks, Cervantes' madre was growing her hair back.

"I felt like, if I can do it for her, why not do it for everybody else?" recalls our young entrepreneur and respected business-woman.



Cervantes then took a class titled Organic Business 101 from the United Kingdom, where she learned how to formulate natural products as well as a bit of marketing. Thus, Kavi Cosmetix was born, and we are all the better for it.

As someone who has suffered hair loss due to a chronic condition, I can personally attest to the struggles endured. Hair loss can lower confidence when you are already feeling your worst. Cervantes is all too familiar with this battle and works to help build confidence for those in need.

"I've reached out to a few people. I like to give free product to somebody that I really feel like, in my heart, I want to give to," Cervantes states with great pride. She has been known to gift their hair oil to cancer patients without expecting anything in return. Though some

may lose their battle with cancer, Cervantes was still able to impact people's lives positively through her all natural products. One young boy named Andrew, in particular, suffered from hair loss due to leukemia. He wanted to grow a mohawk before going to Disney. With a heart of gold, Cervantes gifted their hair oil to him free of charge. Andrew and his family sent Cervantes pictures of his newly grown mohawk after using Kavi Cosmetix's hair oil.

"My goal is to definitely impact people in life. Like, I'm a giver. I love to give. What makes me happy is to hear people be happy." Estamos muy contentos con Elizabeth Cervantes y Kavi Cosmetix.

To Learn more, visit their website:

<https://kavicosmetix.com/>



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