

# LA VOZ DE

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The Most Interesting  
Newspaper in the County

# BRAZORIA COUNTY

Volume # 17 Number 4

A Bilingual Publication

April, 2006

*“Aquí estamos, y no nos vamos,  
y si nos sacan, nos regresamos”*



## Immigrants Demonstrate Around the United States

1935

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# People in the News

## Cantante Rocio Durcal Fallecio

Spanish singer and actress **Rocio Durcal**, died at her home in **Madrid, Spain**. She was 61 years of age. news reports said. **Durcal**, whose real name was **Maria de los Angeles de las Heras Ortiz**, had been diagnosed with cancer in 2001.

Born into a family of six, **Durcal's** success in various radio shows quickly attracted film makers in the 1960s and 1970s. In all, she made some 15 films, including 'Cancion de Juventud,' (Song of Youth) and Rocio de La Mancha' and 'Marianela,' in which she acted sang and danced.

She made her first trip to **Mexico** when she was 17 and over the years many people thought that was always Mexican.

*"She was a fabulous actress and a marvelous singer with great sensibility and I feel so sorry,"* said veteran Spanish actor **Jose Luis Lopez Vazquez**, who starred with **Durcal** in the 1963 film 'la Chica del Trebol.'

In the 1980s **Durcal** decided to dedicate herself almost exclusively to singing and was greatly admired for the richness of her voice and range of song, from flamenco to ballads, rock and roll and romantic songs as well as paso dobles and rancheras.

During her career she performed along side stars such **Julio Iglesias, Joan Manuel Serrat, Luis Miguel, Ricky Martin, and Alejandro Sanz.**



La cantante y actriz **Rocio Durcal**, murio en su casa en **Madrid**. Ella tenia 61 años. **Durcal**, quien se llamaba **Maria de los Angeles de las Heras Ortiz** fue diagnosticada con cancer en 2001.

Nacida en una familia de seis, el exito de **Durcal** en varias programas de la radio capturo la atención de directores de pelicula en los 1960s y 1970s. En total, ella hizo un total de 15 peliculas incluyendo, "Canció de Juventud", Rocio, de la Mancha, y Marianela en la cual cantó y bailó.

Hizo su primer viaje a **Mexico** cuando apenas tenia 17 años y a travez de los años la gente pensaba que era Mexicana.

*"Fue una actriz fabulosa y una cantante maravillosa con una sensibilidad y me sentio muy a penado."* dijo el actor **Jose Luis Lopez Vazquez**, quien estrello con **Durcal** en la pelicula de 1963, "La Chica del Trebol."

En los 1980s, **Durcal** decido dedicarse exclusivamente a la carrera de cantante y fue admirada por la riqueza de su

voz y su repertorio de canción de flamenco, baladas, rock canciones romanticas, paso dobles y rancheras.

Durante su carrera cantó con estrellas como **Julio Iglesias, Joan Manuel Serrat, Luis Miguel, Ricky Martin y Alejandro Sanz.**

The Power of Purple



**Remember or honor a loved one** by dedicating a luminaria candle to be lit during Relay For Life on April 8th at 9:00 p.m. in a ceremony at Wildcat Stadium. Proceeds from the event help support the goals of the South Brazoria Unit of the American Cancer Society, which is dedicated to education, patient services, and research to find a cure.

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# Editorial

## *Every Immigrant Group Has Gone Through This*



**Alfredo R. Santos c/s  
Editor**

By now most of you have seen or heard about the massive demonstrations and the marches that have taken place across the United States. Immigrants, students and their supporters have taken to the streets to let their voices be heard in the debate over the proposed new immigration legislation currently making its way through the Congress. And by now most of you have formed an opinion about the protesters and their cause.

But what most people have not done is take the time to reflect on the long history of immigration to the United States. Every group that has made their way to America has had to face the same discrimination, bigotry prejudice and racism that is finding its way into the current discussion of immigration.

In the next several issues of *La Voz de Brazoria County* we will bring you short histories of various immigrant groups and what they faced when they first arrived in America. We hope this series will help people place the current events in a historical context and permit intelligent and well informed discussions about how America is still changing.

Of course we invite our readers to feel free to share their opinions and views about the growing debate over immigration and who will have the right to call themselves Americans. We can dedicate as many pages as necessary to presenting various points of view on these and other issues.

Casi todos han visto o escuchado algo de las manifestaciones y marchas que se estan llevando a cabo por todo los Estados Unidos. Inmigrantes, estudiantes y los quien los apoya han salido a las calles para dar voz al debate sobre la legislación pendiente en el Congreso. Muchos ya han formado un opinión sobre los que estan protestando y su causa.

Pero muchos no ha tomado el tiempo para reflejarse sobre la larga historia de inmigración a los Estados Unidos. Cada grupo que ha venido a America ha tenido que enfrentar la misma discriminación y racismo que se encuentra hoy en dia en las discusiones del inmigrante.

En las proximas ediciones de *La Voz de Brazoria County* esperamos traer a ustedes una seria de historias de los diferentes grupos de inmigrantes. Esperamos que la seria va ayudar a todos poner en un contexto los eventos que se esta llevando acabo y permitir una discusión inteligente y informado de como America sigue cambiando.

Por supuesto le invitamos a todo nuestros lectores a sentirse libre compartir sus opiniones y sus puntos de vista acerca del debate creciente sobre la inmigración y que tendrá el derecho de llamar a sí mismo a Americanos. Estamos despuetos a dedicar todas las páginas como sea necesario para presentar los varios puntos de vista en estos y otros asuntos.

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# Capturing the immigrant dollar can mean going many extra miles

LOS ANGELES — Odilon Hernandez recently bought a television for his parents back home in Puebla, Mexico. But he didn't intend to ship it or even load it in his car for his next trip across the border.

Instead, he took advantage of one of the growing number of U.S. retailers that sell products to immigrants here and then deliver the items directly to relatives back home.

For Mother's Day, Hernandez bought a refrigerator and stove at the same La Curacao store where he shopped for the TV. Both were delivered to his parents' house from well-stocked warehouses in Mexico.

"This service is great," said Hernandez, who has worked as a janitor since moving with his wife to Los Angeles five years ago. "More and more people are sending this way."

Immigrants have long sent money to relatives back home through wire-transfer services. But as the remittance market explodes — Latin American and Caribbean immigrants in the United States sent an estimated \$40 billion home in 2005 — stores and financial institutions are rushing to create new services to capitalize even more.

The result is a plethora of options for immigrants looking to spend money on goods and services.

Immigrants can now send everything from flowers to dining room sets. Many stores give them credit even if they're in the United States illegally. They can even finance a house in their native country and make payments here.

Companies such as Los Angeles-based La Curacao determine credit eligibility for illegal immigrants based on how long they have been in the United States, statements from relatives or employers about their financial situation, copies of bills paid consistently, and other information.

"We are basically financing people who often don't have a Social Security number or legal residence," said Mauricio Fux, La Curacao vice president for corporate development. "With billions of dollars going home to Mexico, we always ask ourselves, 'What can we do that is different?' to capture some of it."

Fux said competition to sell products has increased so much that La Curacao now guarantees delivery to almost any location in countries where the chain operates.

That sometimes means using donkeys, small boats or other unconventional methods to make deliveries to remote locations, he said.

Conservative groups opposed to illegal immigration often complain that undocumented workers are a drain on social services, but retail plans that allow them to buy products here for relatives back home have not drawn criticism.

Many of the firms involved are American-owned, and the purchases are akin to U.S. citizens using a catalog or the Internet to order products abroad.

## Peter Prengaman, Associated Press

Dozens of U.S. and Mexico-based companies — from chain-store retailers to mom-and-pop operations — offer their products and services through distribution deals with companies in Latin America. Relatives on the receiving end don't have to deal with customs or import taxes.

The heaviest demand for the retail products comes from Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador. Some companies also cater to other Latin American and Caribbean nations.

There are no statistics on immigrant spending on goods and services sent to their home countries. But it could be as much as \$10 billion a year on top of cash remittance, said Donald Terry, multilateral investment fund manager for the Inter-American Development Bank.

The scale is so large that the bank has identified money for goods and services, along with traditional remittances, as tools for development in Latin America, especially to build houses.

"People move north by the millions, and the money moves south by the billions," Terry said. "The key is harnessing the money for productive activity" such as property investment.

Construmex, a U.S.-based unit of Mexican cement giant Cemex, helps Mexican immigrants find materials and contract with firms back home to have homes built. Construmex also provides financing to buy existing houses.

Immigrants must first have a down payment of 12 percent of the value of a house, which generally costs about \$35,000, said Luis Enrique Martinez, Construmex's U.S. general manager.

The dwelling can be paid off using a payment plan lasting as long as 10 years. In a way similar to a bank, Construmex will foreclose if payments stop.

Construmex doesn't ask applicants about their residency status in the United States, Martinez said. Instead, it bases approval on whether an immigrant earns enough to make the monthly payments.

The program began five years ago in Los Angeles and has since expanded to major cities around the country with large Mexican populations. It's become popular with Mexican immigrants because it guarantees the money they earn here goes toward something concrete. "Many people come here thinking they'll save money to build a house," Martinez said. "But often money sent home isn't used for that, and they return with nothing." Many immigrants agree that it's better to buy products than send money.

"When I send money they don't buy what they need," said Teresa Rodriguez, 55, who has sent everything from refrigerators to gas stoves to two adult children in El Salvador. "Sometimes they just go shopping."




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# Más de Medio Millón de Inmigrantes salen a las calles a llamar atención a la mala Legislación del Congreso

Sin duda ninguna, las marchas y manifestaciones un los últimos días por todo los Estados Unidos nos enseña que *La Raza* si tiene la capacidad de lavantarse cuando se requiere!

En **Los Angeles, California**, más de medio millon de personas salieron a las calles para darle saber a los congresitas en **Washington, D.C.** que los ataques al pueblo inmigrante no se van a permitir. En **Houston, Texas, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Phoenix, Arizona, Atlanta, Georgia**, y en muchas otras partes, *La Raza* también salió a las calles en solidaridad.

Parte de las manifestaciones fueron compuesto de estudiantes de salieron de sus clases en "walk-out." Organizados y animados por locutores del radio, los estudiantes en varios ciudades, muchos con el apoyo de sus padres, mostraron que ellos tambien tienen una voz en este debate de la inmigración.

"*Mis padres vinieron a los Estados Unidos a trabajar. Los dos tienen trabajos. Ellos no son criminales!*" dijo una muchacha en **Houston** que marchaba así al centro.

**Jesse Torres**, un estudiante en la escuela **Eisenhower** en **Houston**, organizó uno de los grupos que marchó el martes. "*Nosotros no tenemos miedo. Nosotros estamos pealando los para los derechos de todos.*"

El miércoles, 29 de marzo, todavía se estaba saliendo estudiantes de las escuelas y en la



area de **Houston** oficiales empezaron a avisar los estudiantes de las consecuencias si se quedaban afuera de sus clases.

Se puede decir que no se esperaba que el debate hibe causar tanto reacción entre los estudiantes. Espere más actividades en los próximos días.

Without a doubt, the marches and demonstrations in the last few days around the United States have shown that *La Raza* does have the capacity to rise up when the occasion calls for it.

In **Los Angeles, California**, more than half a million people turned out in the streets to let the people in Congress know that the continued

attack on immigrants with legislation t h a t criminalizes people would not be permitted. In **Houston, Texas, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Phoenix, Arizona, Atlanta, Georgia** and many other parts of the country, *La Raza* turned out in the streets in solidarity.

Part of the demonstrations and protests were composed of students that walked out of classes at the behest of radio disc jockeys who used the air waves to coordinate and motivate them.

"*My parents came to the United States to work. They both work, they are not criminals,*" stated a girl in **Houston** who was marching toward city hall. **Jesse Torres**, a student at **Eisenhower High School** in **Houston** who organized his schoolmates to walkout on Tuesday said, "*We are not afraid. We are fighting for the rights of everyone.*"

On Wednesday, March 29, students were still walking out of schools and in the **Houston** area, school officials began to advise students that there would be consequences if they remained out of classes.

It is safe to say that no one expected the immigration debate would cause this much of a reaction among high school students. It has been more than 35 years since **Texas** has seen the kind of walkouts that have been taking place this week. Back then the issues were primarily about poor education.

On the internet messages and announcements have been appearing announcing a mass demonstration set for April 9th and 10th all over the United States. As of this writing groups are meeting to make plans for this event.



# More than Half a Million Immigrants and supporters turn out to call attention bad Federal Legislation

**RIGHT:** Students and parents marched from Jefferson Davis High School in Houston toward city hall. The line was estimated be more than a mile long.

**BELOW RIGHT:** The marchers moved down Main Street in North Houston as they make their way toward city hall.

**BELOW:** More than 500,000 people turned out in the streets of Los Angeles, California to protest legislation in Congress that would make it a crime to help people without documents.





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# "Perdon"

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A veces puedes seguir enojado por largos tiempos y a veces se nos puede olivdar porque causa etabamos enojados. Todos tenemos siquiera una persona en nuestras vidas que necesitamos perdonar.

Pedro le pregunto a Dios, "Jesus, cuantas veces hay que perdonar nuestro hermano que nos a lastimado a nosotros? Siete veces?" (Es un compromiso tan difencil no? El nos hizo humanos, y al hacernos humanos nos hizo deviles.) Dios le respondió, "setenta veces por siete, son las veces que debes perdonar tu hermano."

Cuando algen te lastima primeramente tu quieres lastimarlos igualmente. Quieres que ellos tengan el mismo dolor que te han causado a ti. Esta parese ser la solucion. Cuando algen te lastima lo sientes muy dentro del corazon.

Perdon es un acto que solo tu puedes decidir. Lo perdono o no? Cuando perdonamos, tiramos al viento dolor, enojo, y resentimiento. Ofreciendo perdon a los que lo necesitan, te da mas fuerzas en tu espiritu. Si tu no puedes perdonar a algen, no esperes ser perdonado.

Cuando la situacion esta al la frente y comiensas de nuevo, recibes los recompensas de felicidades, paz, y amor. Cuando no puedes dejar ir, crea lo, tu te sientes miserable y a veces te enfermas.

Cada en cuando eres acusado y eres inocente. Es cuando pensamos, porque tengo que perdonar a esta persona? Yo no hice nada para lastimar lo. Yo pienso que Dios sabe como atender esta situacion y necesitamos soltar la situacion a el. El dicho es, "Deja ir y deja a Dios."

En tiempo esta persona pasa por una situacion cuando alguna persona le hace lo mismo a ellos. Ellos han de pensar como una vez ellos lastimaron a su hermano.

*Acuerdate, perdon es dejando lo que fue, que valla; lo que va ser, que venga; y lo de hoy que sella.*

**Perdona nuestras ofensas asi como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden."**

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**El Jueves Santo** da fin a la Cuaresma. Hoy día comenzamos los tres días que constituyen el centro de nuestro calendario cristiano. Tome unos momentos para leer este folleto que nos pregunta: ¿Por qué son tan importantes estos tres días? ¿Qué significan para nosotros? Aquí se nos hace una invitación para hacer que estos días sean diferentes a los demás días del año

*Desde mediados del invierno hasta el final de la primavera, la iglesia celebra el gran Tiempo Pascual, que consta de tres partes:*

**40 Los cuarenta días** son los días de la Cuaresma, desde el Miércoles de Ceniza hasta el Jueves Santo, y son días de oración, ofrendas y ayuno. Nos esforzamos en vivir más plenamente el compromiso de nuestro bautismo de acuerdo con el Ecangelio, y nos preparamos para llevar a cabo el bautismo de los catecúmenos.

**3 Estos tres días** están entre los cuarenta días de la Cuaresma y los cincuenta días de la Pascua. El Triduo comienza la noche del Jueves Santo y continúa a través del Viernes Santo y el Sábado Santo. La culminación del año entero de la iglesia se realiza entre la oscuridad del sábado por la noche y el domingo por la mañana. La iglesia se mantiene en vigilia, bautiza a los catecúmenos y celebra la Eucaristía. El Triduo termina el domingo por la mañana.

**50 Los cincuenta días** son los días de la Pascua, desde el Domingo de Pascua hasta el Domingo de Pentecostés. Estos son días de renacimiento, celebración, boda y fiesta. Es la boda entre la tierra y el cielo, de Cristo con la iglesia. Durante este tiempo la iglesia primitiva no permitía arrodillarse ni ayunar y se cantaba el "aleluya" constantemente.

**Los tres días** del Triduo Pascual son el centro y corazón del año litúrgico para los cristianos. Estos días son para guardarlos y saborearlos.

A los adultos se les invitan a planificar sus actividades sociales y personales de tal manera que el tiempo completo entre el jueves por la tarde y la Vigilia Pascual de Sábado Santo quede libre de estos compromisos y también de trabajo, diversión y manjares, a excepción de la nutrición básica. Se nos pide ayunar el Viernes Santo y, si el posible, también el Sábado Santo para que lleguemos con hambre y expectación a la Vigilia Pascual. El Viernes Santo y el Sábado Santo se dedican a la oración y reflexión, preparándonos en silencio. La iglesia universal se prepara de la misma manera.

Sea usted joven o adulto, activo en la parroquia o no, se le pide guardar y observar estos días. Nuestra presencia en las liturgias de estos días no debe ser solamente por la invitación que se nos hace, sino más bien porque se nos necesita a todos; la comunidad entera debe estar presente y reunida en estos días más sagrados.

En estos tres días nos reunimos varias veces. Juntos participamos en las oraciones, cantamos y escuchamos las lecturas más preciosas de la iglesia. Infórmese del horario en la parroquia para que se pueda planear y participar en todas actividades y liturgias del Jueves Santo, Viernes Santo, Sábado Santo y Domingo de Pascua, pero sobre todo en la Vigilia Pascual del Sábado Santo.

**TERMINANDO EL JUEVES SANTO COMENZAMOS EL TRIDUO**

El jueves por la tarde entramos juntos al Triduo Pascual. Después de leer las Escrituras, se hace algo raro:

El lavatorio de los pies. Algunos nos ponemos de rodillas con jarras de agua, vasijas y toallas. Jesucristo nos dio el ejemplo de lo que debe ser la iglesia, cómo ha de sentirse y cómo debe actuar con los demás.

Después se hace una colecta, pero no es una colecta ordinaria (para la iglesia y los pobres). Esta liturgia aclara que la colecta que hacemos en esta celebración es especialmente para los pobres. Donamos el dinero ahorrado por el ayuno y, al igual que el lavado de los pies, viene a ser un ensayo de la vida cristiana. En seguida se celebra la Eucaristía. Aunque nos quedemos a orar o nos vayamos, la celebración no termina; nos encontramos en el silencio, paz y gloria del Triduo Pascual.

**Y CONTINUAMOS A TRAVES DEL VIERNES SANTO Y SABADO SANTO**

El viernes nos reunimos en silencio para escuchar las Escrituras, entre ellas el Evangelio de la Pásion según San Juan. Lueho, oramos extensamente por las necesidades del mundo.

Entonces sucede algo que hacemos también una vez al año: la Santa Cruz es elevada entre nosotros y nos acercamos uno a uno para besarla y venerarla. Durante este tiempo cantamos no solamente el dolor sino también la gloria de la Cruz.

Continuamos nuestro ayuno, oración y vigilia en descanso y silencio hasta el sábado. Este sábado es para nosotros como el descanso al final de la creación. Es el reposo de Cristo en la tumba.

**HASTA LA NOCHE ENTRE EL SABADO Y EL DOMINGO**

Ahora, con hambre pero con mucho entusiasmo, la iglesia se reúne en la oscuridad, a la que alumbrará la luz del fuego nuevo y un gran cirio. Se proclaman algunas de las Escrituras más profundas de la Biblia: las historias de la creación, el éxodo y la liberación, el paso del mar Rojo, los poemas de promesa y regocijo y el Evangelio de la resurrección.

Luego oramos con letanías a los santos y vamos a la fuente bautismal y bendicimos el agua. Allí, los catecúmenos renuncian al mal, profesan la fe de la iglesia y son bautizados y ungidos. Nosotros también renovamos nuestro bautismo. Estos son los momentos en que la muerte y la vida se encuentran: Cuando renunciamos al mal y renovamos nuestras promesas a Dios, todo esto en la comunión que llamamos la iglesia. Juntos vamos a la mesa y celebramos la Eucaristía Pascual. Aquí comienza la Pascua y los cincuenta días de fiesta gloriosa.

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## Jovita's Year Around Tamales



ABOVE: Jovita Gonzales is spreading the masa in the corn husks as part of the preparation for tamales. She learned the art of tamale making many years in the Rio Grande Valley and has brought this talent with her to Angleton. For tamales you can contact her at 848-8461.

# Job Descriptions of Brazoria County Officials

### County Judge (Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$91,816.00)

The Texas Constitution vests broad judicial and administrative powers in the position of county judge, who presides over a five-member commissioners court, which has budgetary and administrative authority over county government operations.

The county judge handles such widely varying matters as hearings for beer and wine license applications, hearing on admittance to state hospitals for the mentally ill and mentally retarded, juvenile work permits and temporary guardianships for special purposes. The judge is also responsible for calling elections, posting election notices and for receiving and canvassing the election returns. The county judge may perform marriages.

A county judge in Texas may have judicial responsibility for certain criminal, civil and probate matters - responsibility for these functions vary from county to county. In those counties in which the judge has judicial responsibilities, the judge has appellate jurisdiction over matters arising from the justice courts. The county judge is also head of civil defense and disaster relief, county welfare and in counties under 225,000 population, the judge prepares the county budget along with the county auditor or county clerk.

### County Commissioner (Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$74,369.00)

The job of the county commissioner calls for hands-on service delivery as well as policy-making budget decisions.

Four commissioners, each elected from a quarter of the county's population, serve along with the county judge on the commissioners court. In addition to assuring that county roads are maintained, commissioners vote with the county judge to set the budget for all county departments and adopt a tax rate.

Among other responsibilities, the commissioners court:

- Sets the yearly property tax rate and approves the budget and employment level for the county;
- Sets commissioners and justice of the peace precinct boundaries;
- Calls, conducts and certifies elections, including bond elections;
- Sets employment and benefit policy;
- Establishes long-range thoroughfare, open space, land use, financial and law enforcement/jail needs plans;
- Acquires property for rights-of-way or other uses determined to be in the public's best interest;
- Reviews and approve subdivision platting and wastewater treatment for rural areas;
- Provides rural ambulance services and subsidizes rural fire protection;
- Oversees the construction, maintenance and improvement of county roads and bridges;
- Appoints non-elected department heads and standing committees;
- Supervises and controls the county courthouse, county buildings and facilities;
- Adopts a county budget;
- Determines county tax rates;
- Fills vacancies in elective and appointive positions; and
- Has exclusive authority to authorize contracts in the name of the county.



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# Job Descriptions of Brazoria County Officials

## District Clerk (Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$70,960.00)

District clerks are called on to assure that the affairs of the district courts are maintained objectively with the full confidence of judicial authorities.

The Texas Government Code states the duties and powers of the clerk of the district court: "The clerk of the District Court has custody of and shall carefully maintain and arrange the records relating to or lawfully deposited in the clerk's office." The district clerk shall:

- Record the acts and proceedings of the district court;
- Enter all judgments of the court under the direction of the judge;
- Record all executions issued and the returns issued on the executions;
- Process passport applications;
- Administer child support payments;
- Administer trust accounts for minors ordered by the courts;
- Keep an index of the parties to all suits filed in the court, and make reference to any judgment made in the case; and
- Keep an account of all funds collected by the office, by way of fines and fees, and the amount due jurors in district court for service.

## County Clerk (Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$70,960.00)

Without county clerks, many of government's underlying responsibilities would go undone.

The main duties of the county clerk are:

- Administering all county and state elections, including early voting and primaries, unless the commissioners court has transferred the function to the tax assessor-collector or an office of county election administrator;
- Serving as clerk of the county court and the commissioners court and keep records of the proceedings;
- Acting as recorder of deeds and other instruments;
- Filing and recording birth and death certificates;
- Recording assumed names, wills and probate;
- Issuing marriage licenses; and
- Accounting for all funds paid to the office by way of fines and fees, and the amount owed to county court jurors for service.

In Texas counties with a population of less than 8,000, unless there has been a special election, the county clerk also serves as the district clerk, assuming all constitutional and statutory duties of the district clerk, along with those of county clerk.

## Constables (Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$47,531.00)

These peace officers are the first link in the county's chain of law enforcement.

Along with their deputies, constables have all the enforcement powers of Texas peace officers. They are sometimes referred to as the executive officer of the justice of the peace courts. Their duties are to:

- Subpoena witnesses;
- Act as bailiff;
- Execute judgments; and
- Service of process.

In large metropolitan counties the constable may also assist the county and district courts. In addition, they may perform patrol functions and make criminal investigations. They are involved in the overall effort to reduce the effects of crime in their communities, including in some cases the operation of truancy programs.

## Justice of the Peace

(Proposed 2006 Yearly Salary: \$57,513.00)

The justice of the peace is the legal jurisdiction closest to the average citizen.

Section 19 of Article 5 of the Texas Constitution provides that: justice of the peace courts have original jurisdiction in criminal matters of misdemeanor cases punishable by a fine only and such other jurisdiction as may be provided by law. Original jurisdiction is the authority to accept a case at its inception, try it and pass judgment based upon the laws and facts. This is distinguished from appellate jurisdiction which is jurisdiction to review a court's action. The justice of the peace performs the functions of a magistrate and conducts inquests.

A justice of the peace may issue warrants for search and arrest, conduct preliminary hearings, administer oaths, perform marriages and serve as a coroner in counties where there is no provision for a medical examiner. The justice court also functions as a small claims court in civil matters in which exclusive jurisdiction is not in district or county court and the amount in controversy does not exceed \$5,000. They can also deal with matters concerning foreclosure of mortgages and enforcement of liens on personal property.

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Escurra el jugo de limón después de marinar y enjuague el pescado en agua fría, después agregue lo siguiente:

2 tomatés medianos, sumergidos en agua hirviendo (30 segundos aproxi madamente), pelados y picados

1 cebolla mediana, toscamente picada y sumergida en agua hirviendo cerca de 2 minutos

2 dientes de ajo grandes, machacados

1-2 cucharadas de aceite de oliva (o al gusto)

Sal y pimienta al gusto

2 cucharadas de perejil chino, picadito (cilantro), si lo desea

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Mezcle junto:

1 lata de atún, drenada

1 cucharada de pimienta morrón rojo, enlatado, picadito

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1 cucharada de salsa de pepinillo (o pepinillo dulce, picadito

si no está disponible la salsa de pepinillo)

½cucharadita de moztaza preparada

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