

9th Annual Take a Child Fishing May 9th, 2009

La Voz ^{de} Brazoria ^{County}

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Golondrina, why did you leave me? A
Novel



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People in the News



Ana Yáñez-Correa Receives Sor Juana Award

Ana Yáñez-Correa, Executive Director of the **Texas Criminal Justice Coalition** received the **Sor Juana Festival 2009 Women of Achievement Award** on Friday, April 17, 2009 in **Austin, Texas** at the **Mexican American Cultural Center**.

The award is named after and in honor of the contributions of **Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz** [1651-1695], who is one of **Mexico's** greatest poets and playwrights and was highly regarded for her advocacy of women's education and solidarity against oppression.

In honoring the achievements of **Ana Yáñez-Correa**, the **Sor Juana Festival** highlights the importance of opportunity for children like **Ana** who immigrated to the United States from **Mexico**. **Ana** came to the U.S. when she was just a child and, with perseverance and dedication, she is now earning her Ph.D. while leading **TCJC** in its policy reform efforts.



Uriñas Tapped to Head the Ford Foundation

The **Ford Foundation** has picked **Luis A. Urbiñas** as its new president. **Urbiñas**, who grew up in New York and graduated from **Harvard University** with a B.A. and M.B.A. has worked for the past 18 years at a consulting firm called **McKinsy & Company**.

The **Ford Foundation** was instrumental in funding a number of Chicano organizations during the hey day of the Chicano Movement including what became the **National Council of La Raza**. It also gave the initial funding for the **Mexican American Graduate Studies Program** at the **University of Notre Dame** which was directed by **Dr. Julian Samora**.

For more information about the Ford Foundation and especially its scholarship programs visit: www.fordfound.org



Judge Naranjo Makes Right Decision

State District Judge, Orlinda Naranjo ruled that the **Texas Department of Public Safety** cannot make up its own rules as it goes along.

Naranjo issued a temporary injunction to prevent the agency from instituting new rules requiring applicants for a **Texas** drivers license to show documents that they are allowed to be in the country for a least a year when they are applying for a drivers license.

The **Mexican American Legal and Education Defense Fund** (MALDEF, which brought suit against the state of **Texas** argued that the **Texas Department of Public Safety** had overstepped its authority in making the rule change. The **DPS** is now appealing.



Julian Castro Running for Mayor of San Antonio

On May the 9th, 2009, the voters of **San Antonio, Texas** will have the opportunity to cast their ballots for a new Mayor. **Julian Castro** is one of those in the running. A **Stanford** and **Harvard Law School** graduate, **Castro** is making his second bid for the mayoralty position.

Castro, whose twin brother is **Texas State Representative Joaquin Castro** is the son of **Rosie Castro**, one of the most influential Chicana activists in **San Antonio**. **Ms. Castro** has worked her heart out to raise two very fine young men who have proved time and again what it means to *hecharle ganas*!

The **Castro** brothers have followed in the footsteps of their mother and have dedicated their lives to public service and the improvement of the Latino community.



Barbara Renaud Gonzalez has New Book on the Market

Barbara R. Gonzalez new book, *Golondrina, why did you leave me?* is now available from **UT Press** and all major book stores. An acclaimed journalist and native born Tejana, this is her first full length novel.

It is a lyrical story of land, love, and loss, bringing us the first novel of a working-class Tejana family set in the cruelest beauty of the **Texas** panhandle. Her story exposes the brutality, tragedy, and hope of her homeland and helps to fill a dearth of scholarly and literary works on Mexican and Mexican American women in post-World War II **Texas**.

Gonzalez is very good with words and understands the timing and phrasing of language. Visit her on line at: www.barbararenaud.blogspot.com/

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On the Question of Leadership

Leadership. What is leadership? This is always an interesting subject. Now-a-days it is common to hear the word "leadership" tossed around and marketed as though it were something that could easily be acquired if only one were to attend a class or two. Today we even have academic programs in the United States where people can earn a Ph.D in Leadership Studies. (Gonzaga University, Washington State and Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, just to name a few)

The fact of the matter is that good leadership is to a large degree a function of followership. It seems to me that if you call yourself a leader, then when you turn around, there better be somebody following you. If there is no one is behind you, you're not leading. Sounds too simple? It is simple. Here are some of the ingredients for being a good leader. The key word here is "good." For it doesn't take much for someone to stand up on a chair and say "follow me." And it doesn't take much for one to show up for a called meeting on time. But it does take a lot for people to trust an individual to lead them in an agreed upon direction.

Where does trust come from? It comes from spending time with people. It comes from sharing in the joy of victory and in the disappointment of defeat. In the Hispanic culture it comes from sharing a meal with someone and finding out about where they came from and how their family is doing. Trust comes from sacrifice. When people see you working your tail off, sometimes for no pay at all, at a church function, a political campaign, or doing something in the neighborhood, it communicates who you are and what you are about. Trust comes from public displays of courage, of stepping forward instead of stepping backwards. Sometimes trust is built slowly. Sometimes it comes from giving people the opportunity to see that the only thing that a person can really give and keep . . . is their word.

In the forty years that I have been a community activist I have learned that in addition to trust, there is another important ingredient for good leadership, it is understanding how to make "failure your friend." Most people do not understand or want to understand how failure can be turned into a friend. Learning how to make "failure your friend" is key for those of us who are involved in the business of organizing people. For the fact of the matter is that more people are

going to tell you "no" before you find one who will tell you "yes." If you

set out to become a good leader you will hear "no" and all the excuses that go with many more times than you will hear a "yes." Yes I will help you. Yes, I will stand with you.

Before **Cesar Chavez** found success with the farm workers union, he spent many years tasting the bitter fruit of failure. He heard a thousand times, even from the farm workers themselves, why the idea of a union or an association was not going to work. Before we heard the now famous phrase, "*Si Se Puede*", what Cesar constantly heard among poor farm workers was, "*No Se Puede*." The growers are too wealthy. They are too powerful. We will never be able to get them to sign union contracts. "*No se puede Cesar*." In the early days, many farm workers turned their back on **Cesar, Dolores Huerta, Gilbert Padilla Larry Italong and Tony Oredian**. They did not want to risk what little they had to loose. But Cesar and the rest refused to give up on the dream of building a union for farm workers.

Over the years **Cesar Chavez** learned not only from his own mistakes, but from history, He learned how not to repeat the errors that had destroyed the confidence, faith and yes, trust that others were willing to place in him. But it took a long time to bring farm workers into the 20th century. The journey of **Cesar Chavez** and the farm workers movement was indeed a long row to hoe. It wasn't until 1979, that Cesar stated, that the strikes in the fields that year were really the "Dream Strikes" because they strikes were about bread and butter issues. These strikes were about money. The previous strikes were about the unions right to exist, the union's the right to be recognized. But it was the strikes of 1979, where leadership, trust, sacrifice all came together and finally paid off. And when **Cesar Chavez** turned around, there were thousands of farm workers and people following him. "Todo con tiempo. Todo con tiempo. Alcabo hay más tiempo que vida."

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
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BRAZOSPORT COLLEGE

IVANA POURTEAU

Student success story

A native of Argentina, Ivana Pourteau arrived in the United States only five years ago, however, it didn't take her long to become accustomed to the American way of life. That includes realizing the opportunities available to her with a college education.

Pourteau began attending Brazosport College in the Summer of 2005 and hasn't looked back since.

Her first step was learning the English language, which she accomplished through the college's English as a Second Language (ESL) course. She also took a citizenship class and is now an American citizen. Now she's working toward a goal of earning a degree in chemical engineering.

"It's been a challenge because English isn't my first language and it's hard to understand many of the things people are saying," she said. "It doesn't come easy. It's a lot of work."

Despite the obstacles, Pourteau has thrived at Brazosport College. She's a member of the Honors Program, Phi Theta Kappa and the Dean's List. She's also been nominated for the school's Distinguished Student Award on two occasions.

Pourteau, who expects to earn her Associates Degree in May, plans to transfer to University of Houston in the fall. But she admits that leaving BC will be tough.

"I love Brazosport College," she said. "My husband tells me I have to leave sometime, but I know it will be hard. Everyone - my professors, my classmates, the people at the Learning Assistance Center, and everyone else - have been so good to me. I've loved it here."





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Mateo Delgado Appointed to State Board by Governor Perry

AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry has appointed nine members to the **Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD)** including **Mateo Delgado**. The council ensures that Texans with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to be independent, productive and valued members of their communities.

Delgado, an **El Paso** native and **University of New Mexico** law school graduate was born with osteogenesis imperfecta, a disease that causes brittle bones. "Others believed in me and that's made it possible for me to be where I am today," he says.

Delgado frequently traveled up and down I-25 and I-10 between **UNM** and **El Paso** while working on a bachelor's in psychology and anthropology. After he graduated he thought his time on the road might be over, but law school beckoned him back to **Albuquerque**.

Delgado says he was "exposed to the legal world" as a child. His father is **Hector Delgado**, an **El Paso** attorney. "I was interested in studying constitutional law as well as business law," the younger **Delgado** says. Constitutional law gave him the background necessary to pursue his advocacy work for the disabled. Business law will give him the insight into how the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** is put into practice.

Delgado says a trip one day to the library sold him on the need to focus on the **ADA**. Searching the library's collection for research on disabilities law and legislation, he found very little, but he found an extensive collection of materials on civil rights.

"The rights of the disabled is the biggest issue to be addressed since civil rights, but very little has been published," he says. **Delgado** says that the disabled need to get out and push for their rights. "It's not always convenient. Disabled people need to be visible and outspoken," he says.



Delgado's condition has presented him with challenges. He has had to have metal rods inserted in his arms and legs to support the long bones. To build up muscle, he's been a swimmer since his first days at **El Paso's Cathedral High School**. "**Coach Leo Cancellare** supported and encouraged me. Without him, I wouldn't be here today," says **Delgado**.

Cancellare, who died a several years ago, also served as the school's principal. "He took the time to help me develop as a swimmer and grow as a person. He helped me develop the discipline to get where I am today. He had tremendous drive and motivation," **Delgado** says.

Delgado did develop as a swimmer, winning the 200-meter backstroke in the **U.S. Disabilities Nationals** in 1998 and the 400-meter individual metal in 1999. He also won the bronze in the 400 freestyle in the **Paraolympic Panamerican Games**. **Delgado** swam competitively at **UNM** for two years. **Delgado** is quick to acknowledge the help and encouragement from his family - parents **Hector** and **Julie Delgado** and sister **Monica Lovaz** - as well as friends and teachers. His bones may be easily broken, but his spirit is not.

Today he is an associate attorney at **Hector Delgado PLLC**. and a member of the bar of both **New Mexico** and **Texas**.



RIO GRANDE GUARDIAN

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Cinco de Mayo: The National Holiday of Texas

Andrés Tijerina, Ph.D.

The **Cinco de Mayo** is the festive day on which **Mexico** celebrates its independence from the imperialist forces of **France** in the 19th century. And it is a day on which all Hispanics and their fellow Texans proudly join **Mexico** in celebrating its freedom.

The **Cinco de Mayo** is the date of the famous **Battle of Puebla** on May 5, 1862. On that day, **Mexico** defeated an invading force of the French army under the command of **General Laurencez**. On the morning of the battle, **General Laurencez** boasted that *"the French soldiers enjoy such racial and organizational superiority over the Mexicans that with my 6,000 men, I control all of Mexico."*



Opposing **General Laurencez** was **General Ignacio Zaragoza** at the head of the Mexican army, defending two forts of **Loreto** and **Guadalupe**. Although his troops were outnumbered two to one, **General Zaragoza** used his cavalry to outmaneuver and rout the French army. By 4:30 in the afternoon, the French general had retreated, leaving 500 of his casualties on the field of battle. The battle was one of the most glorious victories in Mexican History.



It is entirely fitting that Mexican-American and all Texans celebrate the battle, paying tribute to **General Zaragoza** because he was a Texan. He was born in 1829 in the **Presidio La Bahia** in present-day **Goliad, Texas**. The son of a cavalry officer, **Zaragoza** was steeped in the military traditions of the original Tejanos. When the French threatened to overtake the government of **President Benito Juarez**, **Zaragoza** saw his duty defending the independence of his mother country.

As commander, **Zaragoza** also commissioned a South Texas rancher, **Porfirio Zamora** of the **Posta del Palo Alto Ranch** near **Alice, Texas**, as captain of the Mexican cavalry. **Zamora** received **Mexico's** second highest combat decoration, the "Condecoración de Segunda Clase" for his valor and leadership in the battle. When **Captain Zamora** returned to his ranch in **South Texas**, he brought his medal and the citation personally signed by **President Benito Juarez**.

General Zaragoza died at the age of 33 before returning to his native **Texas**, but his heroic deed and his name are indelible in the history of **Texas** as in **Mexico**. Today, a historical marker stands at his birthplace in **Goliad**, where each year the citizens recall their part in the victory of the **Cinco de Mayo**.

Tejanos and Texans of all cultural backgrounds started celebrating the **Battle of the Cinco de Mayo** every year to honor **General Zaragoza**, **Captain Zamora**, and the other Tejanos who fought bravely for independence. It has since become one of the most distinctive and widely celebrated fiestas for all Texans.

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LANZATE TAKES OFF!

Southwest Airlines, in conjunction with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), announced the opening of “Dándole Alas a Tu Éxito/Giving Flight to Your Success.” its annual education travel award program.

This program starts in April with an online application to HACU at www.hacu.org. The deadline is June 5th, 2009. Student are eligible to receive from one to four tickets which the student or an immediate family member can use in the Fall to travel to/from a college or university. The travel tickets are awarded to undergraduate and graduate Hispanic students with socio-economic need who journey away from home to pursue higher education. All of the participants must submit an essay explaining why they deserve the travel award and what inspires them to pursue a college degree.

“For more than twenty years, HACU has dedicated efforts to ensure Hispanic success in higher education,” said Antonio Flores, President and CEO of HACU, the only national education organization for Hispanic-Serving Institutions. “HACU is proud to partner with Southwest Airlines, for the fifth year, on the ‘Dándole Alas a Tu Éxito/Giving Flight to Your Success’ travel award program. During these difficult economic times, these travel awards are essential to many students currently enrolled in college.”

HACU, which has its national headquarters in San Antonio, Texas, represents approximately 450 colleges and universities, including Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), which collectively serve more than two-thirds of all Hispanic higher education students in the United States and Puerto Rico. HACU’s international membership includes leading higher education institutions in Latin America and Europe.

Unauthorized Immigrants More Dispersed Around the Country; Labor Force Growth Halts, But Number of U.S. Born Children Grows

The Pew Hispanic Center today released “A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States,” which includes population and labor force estimates for each state, as well as national-level findings about families, education, income and other key indicators.

The report finds that unauthorized immigrants are more geographically dispersed than in the past. A group of 28 high-growth states in the mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Mountain and Southeast regions are now home to 32% of the unauthorized population, more than double their 14% share in 1990. California’s share declined to 22% from 42% during this same period.

Unauthorized immigrants are more likely than either U.S.-born residents or legal immigrants to live in a household with a spouse and children, according to the report. A growing share of the children of unauthorized immigrants (73%) are U.S. citizens by birth. The U.S.-born and foreign-born children of unauthorized immigrants make up an estimated 6.8% of the nation’s students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12.

Looking at undocumented workers, the report finds that the rapid growth of the unauthorized immigrant labor force from 1990 to 2006 has halted. The new report estimates there were 8.3 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. labor force in March 2008, accounting for 5.4% of the work force. The 2008 labor force estimate appears slightly lower than the 2007 estimate, but the change is within the margin of error.

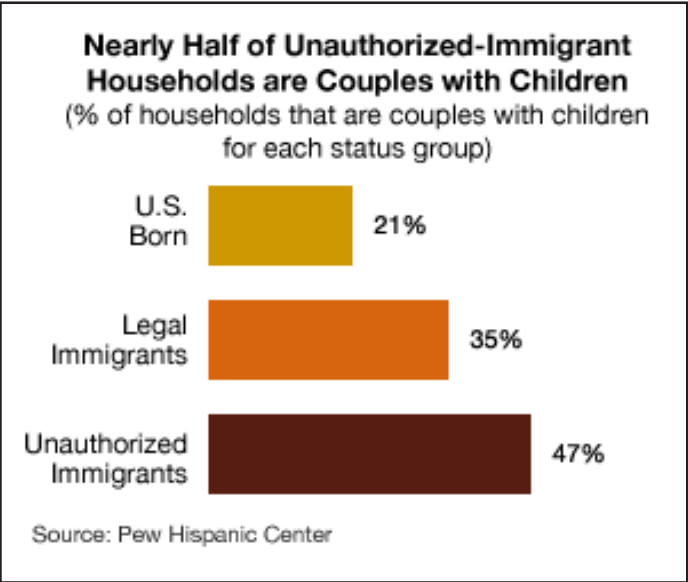
The unauthorized immigrant share of the labor force varies widely by state. Undocumented immigrant workers constitute roughly 10% or more of the labor force in Arizona, California and Nevada, but less than 2.5% in most Midwest and Plains states.

About three-quarters (76%) of the nation’s unauthorized immigrants are Hispanic. As the Pew Hispanic Center has previously reported, 59% are from Mexico.

The new report builds on a Pew Hispanic Center analysis released last year, which estimated there were 11.9 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. in 2008. That report said the size of the unauthorized population appears to have declined since 2007, but the difference is not statistically significant. Both reports are based on an analysis of data from the March Current Population Survey, conducted by the Census Bureau, and on the 1990 and 2000 Censuses.

Other major findings:

- Adult unauthorized immigrants are disproportionately likely to be poorly educated. Among unauthorized immigrants ages 25-64, 47% have less than a high school education. By contrast, only 8% of U.S.-born residents ages 25-64 have not graduated from high school.
- An analysis of college attendance finds that among unauthorized immigrants ages 18 to 24 who have graduated from high school, half (49%) are in college or have attended college. The comparable figure for U.S.-born residents is 71%.
- The 2007 median household income of unauthorized immigrants was \$36,000, well below the \$50,000 median household income for U.S.-born residents. In contrast to other immigrants, undocumented immigrants do not attain markedly higher incomes the longer they live in the United States.
- A third of the children of unauthorized immigrants and a fifth of adult unauthorized immigrants lives in poverty. This is nearly double the poverty rate for children of U.S.-born parents (18%) or for U.S.-born adults (10%).
- More than half of adult unauthorized immigrants (59%) had no health insurance during all of 2007. Among their children, nearly half of those who are unauthorized immigrants (45%) were uninsured and 25% of those who were born in the U.S. were uninsured.



Brazosport College Distinguished Students



CUTLINE: Brazosport College recently held its annual Distinguished Student Awards ceremony at The Clarion at Brazosport College. The college selected each student based on their grade point average, college involvement, community involvement, and faculty and staff recommendations. This year the college honored 20 students during the ceremony. Pictured from right to left: (Front row) Laura Byrd, Lindsey Renee Backen, Marineel Music, Alyssa S. Paine; (Middle row) Dana Haylee Talasek, Christen A. Fuchs, Katie D. King, Ashley E. Cancino, Justin Grey Hubenak, Bill Mercer II; (Back row) Ivana N. Pourteau, Kristen A. Lambert, Mitchell Jordan Strother, Holly A. Hatchett, Cathryn E. Boethel, Christopher C. Weller, Donna L. Richards, Ethan B. Pavlovsky. Not pictured: Al Olvera and Jody L. Wrightson.

Brazosport Youth Orchestra Presents Free Cinco de Mayo Concert

The Brazosport Youth Orchestra, under the direction of José “Tony” Nino, will present a free concert along with mariachi groups on Sunday, May 3 at 3:30 p.m. in the **John Magee Performance Center at Brazosport High School**.

Over forty young people from area schools, elementary through high school, will be on stage to celebrate the Cinco de Mayo holiday. “This is a unique concert”, says Nino. “We are combining mariachi music with a symphony orchestra.” The mariachi group Sangre Joven and Oscar Nino, lead singer of Grupo Vizion, will perform with the orchestra in four songs: Somos Novios, A Mi Manera, El Ultimo Beso and Amor Eterno. The songs will be dedicated to mothers for Mother’s Day and also to our troops fighting overseas. “*This is the only event in Freeport taking place for Cinco de Mayo,*” says **Nino**.

Mr. Nino has developed the youth orchestra as a way for musically inclined youth to enjoy playing with others and give back to the community in concerts. The students come from several towns and rehearse on Sunday afternoons at **Brazosport High School**. For more information, contact Mr. Nino at 713-449-9552.



Tony Nino

Companies team up to sponsor the 19th Annual “Who’s Who” Golf Classic For Junior Achievement

Brazoria Valve & Fitting, Bobby Ford, Gulf States, Inc., Miken Specialties & Texas Gulf Bank, NA recently announced their support as early sponsors for **Brazoria County’s Premier golf classic**. The Who’s Who of Brazoria County will be playing golf on Friday, June 19, 2009 at **The Wilderness Golf Course in Lake Jackson**.

The Tournament is open for any business or golfer to participate. **Jim Heath of Gulf States, Inc.** and **Tom Rich of ConocoPhillips**, co-chairs of the event, challenge the local business leaders to support this event. In this day of economic woe how can we not support an organization whose mission is to teach youth basic money management, work readiness and entrepreneurial skills. It will be a fun time, with some unusual opportunities to not only support Junior Achievement programs, but to use the golfer’s skill and good luck to have a rewarding experience with friends, neighbors and business associates. The venue at The Wilderness brings challenges to the golfers that have supported the event in the past and gives newcomers an extra challenge to show their skill. Come join the fun, take advantage of the networking opportunities with other leaders of the community, a great meal, and afternoon treats.

To thank those who register by May 1st, Junior Achievement is offering the following Early Bird specials: **Team** of 4 for \$500.00 or **Individual golfer** for \$125.00. The afternoon flight is fast filling up so get your registrations in early. For more information on the golf tournament contact golf committee members, **Jack Brown, Tim Daeschner, Deana Fuchs, Jim Heath, Rich Raun, Tom Rich, Lynne Robbins** or the Junior Achievement office at (979)-549-0800 or register online at www.ja-brazoriacounty.org.



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GUADALUPE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

28TH ANNUAL

TEJANO CONJUNTO FESTIVAL EN SAN ANTONIO 2009 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 5/Guadalupe Theatre
9-11am Free Admission for Senior Citizens

Seniors Conjunto Dance

Featuring Conjunto Music Hall of Famers
El Pavo Grande Salvador García and
Eddie “Lalo” Torres y Anita Paíz y su Conjunto

Wednesday, May 6/Guadalupe Theatre
7-9pm Free Admission

***Best of the Tejano Conjunto Festival
CD Release Party***

20th Anniversary of The Best of the 8th
Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival 1989

The Best of the 27th Annual Tejano
Conjunto Festival 2008

Thursday, May 7/Rosedale Park
6-11pm \$12 per person*

6:00 Los Hermanos De León
7:00 Los Badd Boyz del Valle
8:00 Sunny Saucedo
9:00 Joel Guzmán & Sarah Fox
Special Tribute to Esteban Jordán
10:00 Esteban Jordán y su Rio Jordán

Friday, May 8/Rosedale Park
7pm-12am \$13 per person*

Puro Conjunto Pesado

7:00 Bene Medina y el Conjunto Águila
8:00 Los Monarcas de Pete y Mario Díaz
9:00 Ricky Naranjo y Los Gamblers
10:00 Cuatro Rosas
11:00 Los Dos Gilbertos



Saturday, May 9/Rosedale Park 2pm-12am
\$15 per person*

Puro Conjunto Pesado

2:00 Conjunto Heritage Taller
Conjunto Palo Alto
3:00 Chano Cadena y su Conjunto
4:00 Ricardo Guzmán y Los Tres Aces
5:00 Conjunto Borrego de
Jesse Borrego Sr. y Jr.
6:00 Johnny “El Brujo” Cruz and the Texas
Chain Gang
7:00 Los Cuatro Vientos de Jimmy Bejarano
8:00 Eva Ybarra y su Conjunto
9:00 Oscar Hernández and the Tuff Band
10:00 Rubén Vela y su Conjunto
11:00 Mingo Saldívar y sus Tremendos
Cuatro Espadas

* 3-Day Pass Pre-Sale: \$25 for GCAC Members, \$30 for Non-GCAC Members
At the door: \$30 GCAC Members, \$35 Non-Members

Workshops in the Button Accordion and Bajo Sexto, with a special session
On Accordion Tuning, Maintenance & Repair, will be offered on May 7-9
(Thursday-Saturday) at the Guadalupe Theatre.

These workshops will be conducted by conjunto greats Oscar Hernández
and Jesús “Chucho” Perales.

For registration information (days, times, prices, etc.),
call 210.271.3151 or visit
www.guadalupeculturalarts.org



Golondrina, why did you leave me? A Novel

By Bárbara Renaud González

These are excerpts from the novel: *Golondrina, why did you leave me?*

Introduction

How my mother crossed the border

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"What do you mean?"

Mami's reminiscing again about Mexico and like always the story stops when I ask her how she crossed the border. Now the radio and Selena are surrounding us with that terrible beautiful love story that begins with a man's hands sliding up the wrist to dance and Selena's song takes me and Mami to that moment forever and I know she wants it to begin again even when it has ended and I know it must have hurt so much and yet. Sometimes I think love is just the beginning we want even when we already know what the ending is going to be. Love forbidden they murmur in the streets because we're from different societies the world says that money doesn't matter oooohooohbaby who cares the only thing that matters is our love.

"¿Cómo cruzaste, Mami?"

"What do you think, the way everybody did in those days. Over the bridge. Didn't jump in the river, if that's what you mean. Can't swim." Shrugging as she talks, her voice a shrug too.

"I mean, how did you make it across?"

Mami's my miniature, or I'm her giant version, depending on how you look at

it, she's not even five feet, with hands and feet half my size. But we both know she is the taller one. "Well, it was the forties and it must have been strange for a woman, a divorced woman like you to come across by yourself, were you alone?"

"What questions you ask."

"You say you left your toad-husband, and you were just

eighteen. And that you were real pretty." Tease her, leering at her doughy curves, up and down. "At least, you say you were pretty."

"Did you take the bus at night? Weren't you afraid? To be alone?"

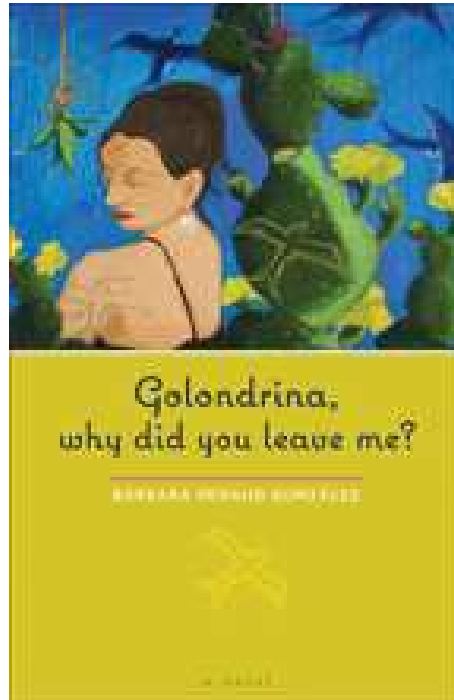
"I took the train. No, I was determined." My mother's looking at me from the stove, but she is really staring at the past, and for the first time I realize how there must have been a before-me, as there will be an after-her.

"I had a sister living in Oklahoma, remember."

But for someone who loves to talk about Mexico and recapitular el divorcio from the beginning to the tortured finish with Daddy, she is silent as fireworks that you can see from across the river in San Antonio. Her eyes close, open, tissue-wrapping to the mystery inside, and I can tell she's sorry that I'm just like her. I'm an exile just like she's been all her life, only from a different side of the river. So I keep going.

"Mami, but you never got farther than the border. You stayed and met Daddy. Why won't you tell me . . ."

She interrupts.



"Look, that sapo!"

My mother points the spatula again at me, and wátechate, a temper tantrum, because she knows where I'm going with this—and she never, ever calls her first husband by anything but *The Toad*. She turns again to the stove, her refuge, and I can feel her nightmares crossing into mine.

"Wasn't a good husband, believe me, he was just rich. That's all. Wanted to leave him, but he threatened me."

"What do you mean, he threatened you? You were married, what could he do to you?"

Mami sighs, a hot breeze on a summer day with no relief.

"He could keep my little girl. Me podía echar a la calle. He—he could call me an unfit mother by calling me a woman of the street."

"Chiiit."

Thought that he was going to take advantage of me, yo! A young girl who he bragged was nothing next to him. *Mis-ter Omnipotente!*

She's grinding the words into the volcanic stone.

"I showed him."

"Don't understand."

"Look mijita, por favor." She breathes the words as if she's just finished running a block.

But all this is her fault, she trained me well.

"What do you mean he wasn't a good husband?"

"Look. He was an old man when I met him."

I catch a glimpse of a scared young girl in her eyes in the glance she sends me. And I see the forty-year-old daughter reflected back at me. It's like we're traveling together somewhere and the years between us are crossing and circling each other. Her eyes are brown shimmering, like the way the golondrinas she likes fill up the sky with their purple-tipped wings, so that brown is the sign of spring. Finally, finally, she says, "Twenty years older than me, and I was just fifteen. I didn't know anything, anything, still playing with dolls at night."

"Blame your grandmother for all of this. She never told me anything. Nada. NA-DA!"

"The night before my wedding, you know what advice she gave me?" Her shoulders harden. "Told me that my duty was to aguantar. That I was going to become a woman, that I should obey. Had no idea what she was talking about.

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Aguantar. Put-up-with, take it, shut-up-and-don't-open-your-mouth. A woman's lot. A woman's duty, the Bible says, the Church says . . . "¡Pues no! Chiiit!" Now I've done it.

"Here I was, a girl, excited to be a princess for the day, my mother inviting everyone in the neighborhood to come and admire my French-cut gown, my bridal diadem, the bouquet I could hardly carry—yes—he let me have the reception I wanted, and I remember it like yesterday. Avocado vichisuichi, shrimp tamales and a seafood banquet, merengues italianos and a chocolate mousse cake—do you know how expensive that is? I haven't tasted any of that again since my wedding.

Golondrina, why did you leave me?
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Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas



SOLICITUD Y PERMISO PRELIMINAR.

Shintech Incorporated, Carretera 332 del Estado del Este de 5618, Freeport, Texas 77541-3113, una planta de Plastics Materials y Resins ha presentado una aplicación ante la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ, por sus siglas en inglés) para la Renovación de el Permiso Federal de Operación, Número. 01361 con el propósito de operar las instalaciones ubicadas en, Carretera 332 del Estado del Este de 5618 en la ciudad de Freeport, Condado de Brazoria, Texas. Esta aplicación fué presentada ante la TCEQ el 28 de Octubre 2008.

El propósito de un Permiso Federal de Operación es mejorar el acatamiento general de las reglas que gobiernan el control de la contaminación atmosférica, claramente definiendo todos los requisitos aplicables como están definidos en el Título 30 del Código Administrativo de Tejas § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10, por sus siglas en inglés). El permiso preliminar no autoriza construcciones nuevas, ni tampoco el aumento de emisiones del sitio. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha concluido el análisis técnico de la aplicación y ha preparado un permiso preliminar para la revisión y comentarios del público. El permiso preliminar, si es aprobado, establecerá las condiciones bajo las cuales el sitio deberá operar. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ recomienda que se otorgue este permiso preliminar. La solicitud de permiso, la declaración de base y el permiso preliminar estarán disponibles para ser revisados y

SOLICITUD Y PERMISO PRELIMINAR PARA UN PERMISO DE CALIDAD DE AIRE PERMISO DE CALIDAD DE AIRE NO.

01361

copiados en la Oficina Central de la TCEQ, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building (Edificio) E, First Floor (primer Piso), Austin, Texas, y en la TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk Street, Suite H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452 y the Freeport City Library, 410 Brazosport Boulevard, Freeport, Texas empezando el primer día de la publicación de este aviso. En la oficina central y la regional también podrá revisar y copiar todos los demás documentos pertinentes al permiso preliminar, así como los permisos para el Examen de Nuevas Fuentes que han sido incorporados por referencia. Personas que tengan dificultades obteniendo estos materiales debido a restricciones para viajar pueden comunicarse con la sala de archivos de la Oficina Central al teléfono (512) 239-1540.

COMENTARIOS/NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA Y AUDIENCIA. Usted puede presentar comentarios publicos y/o solicitar una audiencia de notificación y comentarios sobre esta solicitud. El proposito de la audiencia de notificación y comentarios es el prover la oportunidad de hacer comentarios de parte del público y hacer preguntas sobre esta solicitud.

Cualquier persona afectada por la emisión de contaminantes atmosféricos de este sitio puede solicitar una audiencia de notificación y comentarios. La TCEQ puede otorgar una audiencia de notificación y comentarios con respecto a esta aplicación si una petición por escrito es presentada dentro de los treinta días después de la publicación de este anuncio. El propósito de la audiencia de notificación y comentarios es prover la oportunidad para someter commentaries orales o por escrito acerca del permiso preliminar. Si se concede una audiencia de notificación y comentarios, todas las personas que presentaron comentarios por escrito o peticiones para audiencia recibirán confirmación por escrito de la audiencia. Esta confirmación indicará la fecha, hora y lugar de la audiencia.

Comentarios públicos por escrito y peticiones para audiencia de notificación y comentarios deben de ser presentados a la Oficina del Secretario Principal (Office of Chief Clerk), MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, o por el Internet la www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html, dentro de treinta días despues de la publicación en el periódico del anuncio del permiso preliminar.

Una noticia de la acción final, incluyendo respuestas a los comentarios públicos y denotando cambios hechos al permiso preliminar, será remitida a todas las personas que hayan presentado comentarios públicos, solicitudes para audiencia o que hayan solicitado ser incluidas en la lista de correo. Esta noticia también proveera instrucciones para hacer peticiones públicas a la Agencia Para la Proteccion del Medio Ambiente (EPA), solicitado la reconsideración de la acción final propuesta por el director ejecutivo. Al recibir una petición, la agencia EPA solamente podrá objetarse a la promulgación de permisos que no se acaten a los requisitos de sus reglamentos o a los requisitos de 30 TAC Capítulo 122.

LISTA PARA ENVÍO DE CORREO. Usted puede solicitar ser incluido en una lista para envío de correo para recibir información adicional con respecto a esta solicitud. Para ser incluido en una lista para envío de correo, envíe su petición a la Oficina del Secretario Principal (Office of Chief Clerk) a la dirección que se encuentra a continuación en el párrafo titulado "Información."

INFORMACIÓN. Para más información, usted puede llamar a la Oficina de Asistencia Pública (Office of Public Assistance), sin cargo, a el 1-800-687-4040. Información general concerniente a la TCEQ puede encontrarse vía internet en www.tceq.state.tx.us/.



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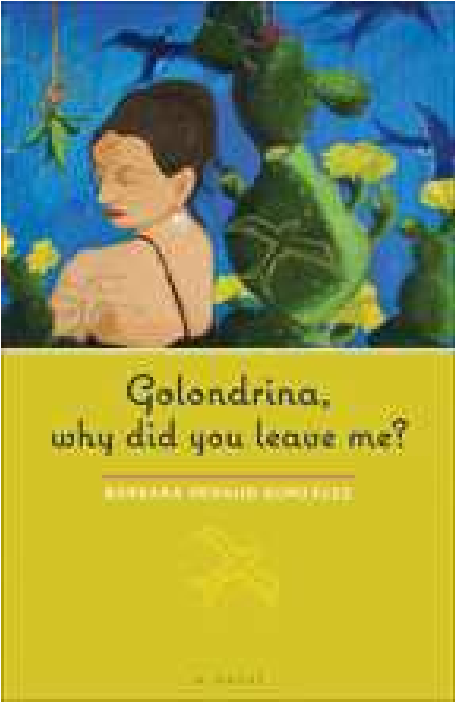
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Golondrina, why did you leave me?
Now available in bookstores

Bio Snapshot

Chicana poet and writer **Ana Castillo** was born and raised in **Chicago**, but has spent most of her writing career studying her Mestiza heritage. In her first novel, The Mixquiahuala Letters (1986), **Castillo** explores the relationship between two women who travel to **Mexico** in search of a better understanding of their place in both the U.S. and Mexican societies. The novel, written in the form of letters between the two women, is considered the landmark novel that made **Castillo** a leading Chicana feminist writer, winning the **American Book Award** from the **Before Columbus Foundation**.

Castillo's interest in race and gender issues can be traced through her writing career, culminating in Massacre of the Dreamers: Essays on Xicanisma, published in 1994. In this collection of essays, **Castillo** explores the notion of Xicanisma, a term she herself created in order to give name to the struggles of Brown women in the racially polarized U.S. In the U.S., much debate of racism becomes constructed in a Black-White paradigm, leaving little room for others. In Massacre of the Dreamers, **Castillo** explores the Chicana feminist movement of the 70's and where that movement is headed. **Castillo** notes that U.S. history, especially, seems to neglect the struggles of **Mexico** and the indigenous peoples who became involuntary migrants into what is now the Southwestern U.S. By exploring the history of **Mexico** and Central America, **Castillo** hopes to integrate ideas about the patriarchy and oppression of these societies with that of the United States, looking at how Brown women must cope in both societies.

Castillo was schooled in **Chicago** for the most part, attending the **Chicago City College** for two years before entering **Northwestern Illinois University**. Here, she received her B.A. in art. After receiving her degree in 1975, **Castillo** moved to **Sonoma County, California** to teach. In 1977 she moved back to **Chicago** and earned an M.A. in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the **University of Chicago**. Throughout this period of time, **Castillo** was not only writing, but was also an activist — something she still continues to be. In 1986 **Castillo** moved back to **California** and taught at various colleges. She eventually found herself at the **University of Bremen** in **Germany** where she earned her Ph.D. in American Studies.

Not only is **Castillo** a noted poet and novelist, she has edited many works with other Chicana-Latina writers including **Cherrie Moraga** and **Norma Alarcon**. It was with **Alarcon** and others that **Castillo** co-founded Third Woman, a literary magazine, for which she is a contributing editor. Her most recent publication, La Diosa de las Americas/Goddess of the Americas, is an anthology about the **Virgin of Guadalupe** with **Castillo** as editor. **Castillo** proclaims herself a "devotee" of the **Virgin of Guadalupe** who is considered the Mother Goddess in Mexican, Mestizo, and Mexican-Indian societies, but largely ignored by the patriarchal Catholic church. It is the Catholic church and patriarch that led **Castillo** to incorporate sexuality as one of the main themes in her writing. Because the Catholic church does not condone sex unless it is for the sole purpose of having a child, many women in Catholic cultures, including much of Latin America, lose a segment of their "self" by being denied their sexuality. **Castillo** believes that women have lost their sense of self on many levels, including psychologically, physically, and spiritually, and need to reclaim themselves. **Castillo** herself does this through her writing and activism.



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ANA CASTILLO

Poet, Novelist, Short Story Writer, and Essayist

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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Saturday, May 9
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8 am (Registration)
9 am - 11 am (Fishing Tournament)
11 am - 12 pm (Weigh-In/Awards)

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2. Maximum 30 fish per child (weight of biggest single fish out of 30 wins tie breaker).
3. Only one fishing pole & hook per line per child. NO DOUBLE LEADERS!
4. Parent or guardian MUST accompany children and are not allowed to fish during the tournament.
5. Only children ages 3-14 may participate. Prizes will be awarded in two categories:
 - Blue Fins: Ages 3-8 (Parent may help bait, cast & reel)
 - Yellow Fins: Ages 9-14 (Parent may coach only)
6. Bait will be provided – anglers may bring their own dead/artificial bait. NO LIVE BAIT ALLOWED!
7. A family who has won first place within the past two years cannot have a child in their family win first prize again.
8. Children of Port Freeport employees are not eligible for first – third place prizes.
9. Fishing will start and end with a horn blast.
10. IF CAUGHT CHEATING – YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND ASKED TO LEAVE THE TOURNAMENT. IF YOU SUSPECT A CONTESTANT OF CHEATING, PLEASE INFORM A TOURNAMENT STAFF MEMBER.



First 500 participants will receive a free t-shirt