



La Voz

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Gina Aguirre Adams A Woman with a Purpose

This year, the **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** was voted 2013 Small Chamber of the Year by **TAMACC**, an organization with over 15,000 Chambers of Commerce as member.

Bertha Urteaga saw there was a need for a Hispanic Chamber but received no support for starting one. **Gina Aguirre-Adams** heard and called **Berta**, offering support. The rest is the story of a warrior.

Aguirre-Adams was swimming in unfriendly water. Others thought a Hispanic Chamber might dilute their own business and protested by maligning the effort. She proved them wrong. Some said that it was a project that promoted segregation. She showed them that it was a project that resulted in integration. Hispanic owned and targeted businesses were able to practice equally in a market open to all. Today, the Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is a successful business partner to many of our local businesses.

Continued on Page 17



People in the News



George P. Bush Running for Texas Land Commissioner

George P. Bush, son of former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and nephew of President George W. Bush, is a Republican candidate for **Texas Land Commissioner**. **George P.** is a native-born Texan and leader with strong convictions and fresh perspectives. He earned his undergraduate degree from **Rice University** and went on to teach at-risk students at **Homestead High School** in Florida's Miami-Dade Independent School District.

George then returned to Texas to work on his uncle **George W.**'s presidential campaign. In 2000, **George** entered the **University of Texas School of Law** where he received his Juris Doctorate.

After his clerkship for federal Judge **Sidney Allen Fitzwater**, **George** joined one of the nation's largest and most prestigious law firms, **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP**. He later co-founded **Pennybacker Capital LLC**, a real estate private equity firm.

In 2006, **George** joined the U.S. Naval Reserve through the **Direct Commission Officer program**. In 2010, he began an eight-month tour of duty in **Afghanistan** in support of **Operation Enduring Freedom** under the **Special Operations Command**.

He is currently the **Deputy Finance Chair** for the **Republican Party of Texas** and is a co-founder and chairman of the **Hispanic Republicans of Texas**. With **HRT**, **George** travels the state speaking to Hispanic groups about "kitchen table issues," which he believes unite the Hispanic community and conservatives. The group is the first in **Texas** with admission to seek out and help Hispanic leaders running for public office.

George is also the national co-chair of **Maverick Pac**, a national political action committee dedicated to engaging the next generation of Republican voters. In November 2012, **George** filed papers with the **Texas Ethics Commission**, declaring himself a candidate for office in 2014. Currently, he lives in **Fort Worth** with his wife of 8 years, **Amanda**, who is an attorney and partner at **Jackson Walker, LLP**. In June **George** and **Amanda** became the proud parents of a baby boy.



Oné Musel-Gilley to be one of the Spot- light Speakers at Hispanic Women's Conference

At this year's **2013 Hispanic Women's Network of Texas Annual Conference** in **Corpus Christi**, **Oné Musel-Gilley** will be one of the spotlight speakers.

As the founder at **TechComunidad.com**, publicist at **Las Comadres Para Las Americas** and founder and **Editor-in-Chief** at **AustinSouthEast.com**, **Oné Musel-Gilley** has fifteen years of domestic and global experience in marketing, public relations, and communication for a wide variety of industries, including education, healthcare, nonprofit, retail, manufacturing, hospitality, and entertainment.

Oné travels throughout the state of Texas as well as the United States working with clients to enhance their social media capabilities. **Oné** states, "My passion is helping nonprofits, business leaders, and entrepreneurs see the fruits of their innovation. I'm also a social entrepreneur myself launching community programs around Texas and nationally to create social solutions for some of America's most challenging educational gaps."



Graduate student Carlos Mejia named prestigious CADRE Fellow

Texas State University graduate student **Carlos Mejia** was recently selected as a prestigious **2013-2014 CADRE Fellow** for his academic pursuits in math education.

CADRE (Community for Advancing Discovery Research in Education) is a

network for science, technology, engineering and mathematics researchers and is funded by the **National Science Foundation's Discovery Research K-12 program**. The coveted fellowship offerings are known for drawing a highly competitive pool of applicants each year. Other recipients of **2013-2014** fellowships include students from **Harvard University**, **Rutgers University** and **Columbia University**.

Carlos' studies, which seek to improve the quality of math education in schools and communities, were conducted with the guidance of **Associate Professors Alejandra Sorto** and **Alexander White**. **Carlos** will travel to **Boston, Mass.**, Nov. 7-8 to formally accept his fellowship with **CADRE**.



Mayor Nelda Martinez to be Honorary Chair of Conference

This year the **Hispanic Women Network of Texas** is celebrating nearly three decades of advancing Hispanic women in public, corporate and civic life. As the state's longest running Hispanic women's organization, **HWNT's** message and programming have reached hundreds of thousands of women across **Texas**. In recognition of the great work and collaboration by its founders, heroes and leaders,

HWNT will hold its Annual Conference on October 25-27 at the **Omni Bayfront Hotel** in **Corpus Christi**. Showcasing the theme, "Waves of Success," the annual conference will signal the accomplishments to date and prepare women statewide with the education and the steps to take an active, positive role for the future. The **Honorable Nelda Martinez, Corpus Christi's** first Hispanic female Mayor, is one of the featured hosts and keynotes.



Linda Vega to Run for U.S. Senate as a Republican

Conservative Republican, attorney and immigration reform activist **Linda Vega** announced she will run for the **U.S. Senate** seat currently occupied by **John Cornyn**. During her speech **Ms. Vega** said she believes, "The strength of Texas is the strength of its people."

"In Texas we believe power comes from the individual, from hard work and the private sector," and she continued by stating, "America needs an immigration system that stops penalizing businesses."

Linda Vega is a native of **Texas**. Born in **Weslaco, Texas**, she is the youngest of nine siblings. She was graduated from the **University of Texas** in **Austin** and the **George Washington Law School** in **Washington D.C.**, with a full scholarship from both establishments.

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Pensamientos

EDITORIAL

Hay les voy con otra edición de **La Voz**. Dejame empezar con una clarificación de lo que estamos haciendo con estos periódicos. En los papeles grandes, digamos, the newspapers of record, the "official" publication of a city or county, you can open up the pages on any given day and read about **La Raza**.

What you will usually discover is the latest news on who got shot, who shot them and who got away. You will also find stories about car collisions, drunk driving arrests, natural disasters and the local weather.

What you will not find in these publications is information about the student who just got accepted to **Harvard University**. You won't find any information about **Daniel** and his ministry in **East Austin**. You will almost never read about **Maria** and her struggle to provide for her family and some how pay for an operation because she doesn't have health insurance.

To find these particular types of stories you have to read one of the thirteen publications that target the Hispanic community in **Austin, Texas**. That's right! There are thirteen publications currently in operation in **Austin** that focus on **La Raza**.

Within the African American community there are two publications in **Austin, Texas** that have been at work finding and reporting the positive news amongst all of the negative. In the Asian American community there are at least three publications currently being distributed in **Austin, Texas**.

All of these "minority" communities have a long tradition of telling the good stories themselves. Why? Because the "big" newspapers by and large serve a different audience. Many concerned community members have gone to the big newspapers and met with their editorial boards and staff to plead for fair and better coverage. The big newspapers, smile, ask you if you would like

a glass of water and then then stand up, shake your hand and thank you for coming by. Their version of the news . . . just continues.

Personally, after years of begging newspapers, radio and television stations to be more fair in their coverage of **La Raza**, I finally tired of this endless dance. What happened then? I stopped begging and with the advent of desktop publishing 25 years ago, I jumped into the business of buying ink by the barrel.

Today, I am proud to state that **La Voz Newspapers**, while still a small operation, continues to seek out those stories that would otherwise never see the light of day. We look for these stories because we believe they are important, not only to the individuals they directly involve, but to the community as a whole.

La Voz Newspapers is now distributed in nine counties and we continue to grow. As we have stated before, we are



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

always looking for new material and writers. For those who like to push the pen, or hit the keyboard, we pay ten cents a word for stories that are published in **La Voz**.

You don't have to be a great writer to get published. What is really more important is that you have a great story to tell. We have editors that can help get a piece in shape. (And even then they make mistakes too)

Asi es que, piensa en nosotros la proxima vez que andas buscando algo para leer. Y piensa en nosotros si acaso quieres escribir algo y ganar un poquito de dinero.



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California Gov. Brown Signs Immigration Bills

"As advocates rally across the nation today to urge Congress to adopt comprehensive immigration reform, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed legislation to enhance school, workplace and civil protections for California's hardworking immigrants.

"While Washington waffles on immigration, California's forging ahead," said Governor Brown. "I'm not waiting." Immigration reform advocates are rallying today in cities across the United States to call on the U.S. House of Representatives to give legal status to undocumented U.S. residents. While gridlock continues in Washington, California continues to move forward on immigration reform.

On Thursday, Governor Brown signed AB 60, extending the legal right to drive on the state's roadways to millions of Californians and in October 2011, Governor Brown signed AB 131, the California Dream Act. The Governor signed the following bills:

- AB 4 by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) – Prohibits a law enforcement official from detaining an individual on the basis of a United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) hold after that individual becomes eligible for release from custody, unless specified conditions are met.
- AB 35 by Assemblymember Roger Hernández (D-West Covina) – Provides that immigration consultants, attorneys, notaries public, and organizations accredited by the United States Board of Immigration Appeals are the only individuals authorized to charge a fee for providing services associated with filing an application under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's deferred action program.

- AB 524 by Assemblymember Kevin Mullin (D-South San Francisco) – Provides that a threat to report the immigration status or suspected immigration status of an individual or the individual's family may induce fear sufficient to constitute extortion.

- AB 1024 by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) – Allows applicants, who are not lawfully present in the United States, to be admitted as an attorney at law.

- AB 1159 by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) – Imposes various restrictions and obligations on persons who offer services related to comprehensive immigration reform.

- SB 141 by Senator Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) – Requires that the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests that the University of California, exempt a United States citizen who resides in a foreign country, and is in their first year as a matriculated student, from nonresident tuition if the student demonstrates financial need, has a parent or guardian who was deported or voluntarily departed from the U. S., lived in California immediately before moving abroad, and attended a secondary school in California for at least three years.

- SB 150 by Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens) – Authorizes a community college district to exempt pupils attending community colleges as a special part-time student from paying nonresident tuition.

- SB 666 by Senator Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) – Provides for a suspension or revocation of an employer's business license for retaliation against employees and others on the basis of citizenship and immigration status, and establishes a civil penalty up to \$10,000 per violation.

For full text of the bills, visit: <http://leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>



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Welcome Home!



Estamos mejorando HealthCare.gov

En las últimas dos semanas y media, millones de personas que viven en Estados Unidos visitaron la página HealthCare.gov para ver sus nuevas opciones de seguro de salud de acuerdo con la Ley del Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio. En ese período de tiempo, se han enviado casi medio millón de solicitudes de cobertura de todas partes del país. Este tremendo interés (hasta la fecha hay más de 19 millones de visitas individuales a HealthCare.gov) confirma que las personas que viven en Estados Unidos buscan cobertura de seguro de salud de calidad y a bajo precio, y desean encontrarla en Internet.

Desafortunadamente, la experiencia con HealthCare.gov ha resultado frustrante para muchas de estas personas. Algunas han tenido dificultades para crear cuentas e iniciar sesión en el sitio web, mientras que otras han recibido confusos mensajes de error, han tenido que esperar a que la página cargue lentamente o han tenido problemas con formularios que no respondían de manera oportuna. La experiencia inicial de los usuarios de HealthCare.gov no ha estado a la altura de las expectativas que tenían las personas que viven en Estados Unidos. Estamos comprometidos a mejorar.

Aparte de las dificultades que se han presentado desde que se lanzó la página web, hay componentes del sistema en general que han cumplido su función. El componente de “Data Hub” (Centro de datos), el cual le proporciona a HealthCare.gov la información que ayuda a determinar si se reúnen los requisitos para ciertos planes de seguro de salud, está funcionando. Las personas han podido verificar si reúnen los requisitos para créditos, que les permiten comprar e inscribirse en planes de seguro de salud a un precio bajo o incluso sin costo.

QUÉ SUCEDIÓ: EN QUÉ ESTAMOS TRABAJANDO

Desde el lanzamiento, cuando nos dimos cuenta por primera vez de estos problemas, hemos estado trabajando sin cesar para hacer mejoras. Hemos actualizado la página web varias veces con un código nuevo que incluye corrección de errores que han mejorado de manera muy significativa la experiencia en HealthCare.gov. La ola de interés inicial sobrecargó el servicio de cuentas, lo cual tuvo como resultado que muchos usuarios tuvieran dificultades para crear cuentas, y que aquellas personas que pudieron crear una cuenta tuvieran a veces dificultades para iniciar sesión.

Como respuesta, hemos hecho varias mejoras al servicio de cuentas. Inicialmente, implementamos una “sala de espera” virtual, pero a muchas personas esto les resultó confuso. Continuamos agregando más capacidad a fin de cumplir con la demanda y realizar correcciones al software para resolver los problemas de creación de cuentas e inicio de sesión, al estabilizar esas partes del servicio y permitírnos eliminar la “sala de espera” virtual. Hoy día, más y más personas pueden crear cuentas, iniciar sesión y solicitar cobertura y comprar planes de seguro de salud sin dificultades. Estamos orgullosos de estas rápidas mejoras pero sabemos que todavía queda más trabajo por hacer. Continuaremos llevando a cabo mantenimientos periódicos, prácticamente todas las noches, a fin de mejorar esta experiencia.

MÁS AYUDA TÉCNICA

Con el fin de garantizar un rápido progreso y que la experiencia de los usuarios continúe mejorando, nuestro equipo ha solicitado ayuda adicional para resolver algunos de los problemas técnicos más complejos que venimos encontrando.

Nuestro equipo ha reunido a varios de los mejores y más destacados profesionales de dentro y de fuera del gobierno para que trabajen con equipo y ayuden a mejorar HealthCare.gov. Asimismo, estamos implementando herramientas y procesos para monitorizar más agresivamente e identificar partes de HealthCare.gov donde las personas están encontrando errores o teniendo dificultades con el uso de la página web, y así poder priorizar y corregir esas dificultades. Igualmente, estamos definiendo nuevos procesos de prueba para evitar que surjan nuevos problemas a medida que mejoramos el servicio en general. Además, estamos corrigiendo errores en la página web durante las horas de menos demanda, de manera periódica.

Principalmente, queremos conocer su opinión y asegurarnos de que su experiencia en HealthCare.gov sea positiva. Si tiene algún comentario, ya sea positivo o crítico, háganoslo llegar en <https://www.healthcare.gov/connect/>. Ya hemos escuchado muchas historias de personas que han adquirido un seguro de salud por primera vez, y estamos dedicados a hacer eso posible para todas las personas que viven en Estados Unidos.



By: Solis Morales

Two years ago, the idea of a **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** was born. Hispanic Businesses needed help negotiating the complex procedures and regulations of the business world. The dreamers were told to “put that drive and ambition into (another Hispanic organization), because a Hispanic Chamber will not work.”

The dreamers took shot after shot about how they would never succeed or find support. This made them angry and ... powerful. This year, the **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** was voted **2013 Small Chamber of the Year** by the leading Hispanic Business Organization, **TAMACC**, the **Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce**.

Berta Urteaga, Gina Aguirre-Adams, and Estella Cabrera saw the need, initiated the project, and empowered the players. **Cabrera** says, “It started with the Women in Leadership ... we decided that we needed to do something that would make an impact on the whole community.”

Gina Aguirre-Adams donated her blood, sweat and tears. When the time came to pick a leader for this project ... well, **Aguirre-Adams, Cabrera, Urteaga**, and the board all knew no one else would put the same passion behind the effort. **Gina Aguirre-Adams** took on the position of President and has pushed it forward in a powerful way.

The first year was work... hard work. The second year was ... double the work. The result was the doubling of the businesses they represented. The **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** has become a successful, unstoppable force. Their goal for next year is to triple the membership, of course. Can it be done? Would you stand in the way of this train?

Here are the highlights of an interview **La Voz** did with **President Gina Aguirre-Adams, Berta Urteaga, and Estella Cabrera**, the founders.

La Voz: What is the purpose for the chamber?

Aguirre-Adams: The chamber’s purpose is to help the Hispanic business owner grow his/her business, expand it, and become involved in the community. My goal is to have some type of leadership in this county. We have one Hispanic mayor who is in leadership in the whole county.

Berta Urteaga: I (would like to) see the purpose of the chamber to be the leading regional advocate for the economic and civic interests of the Hispanic Business community.

Estella Cabrera: I was born and raised here and I see that a lot of Hispanics needed to be represented ... the elderly, youth but also professional people that don’t get recognized.

La Voz: What makes your chamber different from the other chambers in the area?

Aguirre-Adams: We are more involved in community through social media like **Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus, YouTube** and **LinkedIn**. After talking to several

businesses, we found that they felt that they were being harassed by the cities. I think sometimes the language barrier is a big deal. When you have a city that doesn’t speak their language and you have someone coming at you, telling you that you are not doing this or that right, you automatically feel that

you are being harassed. Then (when someone like the chamber comes in and helps the business owner understand) you realize that the rules are the rules. Those are the rules for that city.

Berta Urteaga: There was already a chamber of commerce in the area;

An Interview with President of the Brazoria



Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Wins TAMACC Small Chamber of the Year Award

Gina Aguirre-Adams

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

however, this Chamber was not catering to the needs of the Hispanic businesses. There were several owners of Hispanic Business' that were not happy and did not renew their membership.

La Voz: Why should business owners, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, join the chamber?

Aguirre-Adams: We are doing surveys and finding out what is needed in the community. Basically, we are about small businesses. That is our main concen-

tables here. A lot of people here don't know that becoming a minority certified company can help their business. People don't know what can be done as a minority business and I can help guide them through the process. We have a lot of people who come to our events that haven't joined, yet. "The money isn't important to me. The members are."

La Voz: What roadblocks have you encountered on the path?

Berta Urteaga: I believe that our biggest roadblock was not money but some of the community that were very much against having a **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**. They felt that we were segregating ourselves. They felt that the Hispanic/Latino community had always been welcome and included.

Aguirre-Adams: A lot of the road blocks were...selling memberships. As I am selling member-

ships, I'm using all the money to pay for the 501C status. I didn't start with any money. Every single penny I got went straight toward the \$800 to get the status. I had a

lot of people calling me and telling me, how dare I try to sell memberships when I wasn't a legitimate chamber. (The state allows a certain amount of time for the status to go through the start-up process) After three months, I had the status. But people were still saying I didn't have a right to work as a chamber. I don't feel like I'm being accepted, at all. I want to be able to work with the other chambers, and I will continue to try work with other chambers.

You get a lot of the politics and a lot of the people that don't like what we are doing because it's a Hispanic chamber. But they don't see the true reason behind why we are doing what we are doing. It's to help bring a (business) culture here to **Brazoria County**. It is to show people that are not Hispanic how to network with Hispanic businesses (and vice-versa). It's a bridge meant to bring people together. They (the opposition) think it's segregating, but it actually opens up the market (to 30% of the population). It is a link to an untapped market.

La Voz: What have you discovered in the community and at-large as far as support?

Aguirre Adams: The city of **Freeport**... Immediately, they liked what I was doing and said they had a ton of Hispanic owned businesses and they wanted me to of-

fice out of **Freeport**.

Our Congressman (Randy Weber)... He was actually our state representative when I started, sent in his membership and rode in our first **Cinco de Mayo** parade. He has been at all our functions and galas. He invited me to a leadership round table. The **City of Clute** ... (jumped on board after the health fair) saw what we were doing and joined. Last week, the city of **Richwood** joined our Chamber.

Berta Urteaga: We also had support from some of the corporations.

La Voz: What did it take for you to win chamber of the year?

Aguirre-Adams: Basically, my membership and being involved in **TAMACC**. We started in 2011, and we are already at 150 members. They told me they had never seen a chamber grow this fast.

La Voz: How did you feel when you found out you won?

Estella Cabrera: I was so proud of them. It makes you feel good to be a 'Hispana.' I was so excited. They really worked hard for it. Nothing was given to them.

Aguirre-Adams: I was very surprised. I didn't wanna get my hopes up like I did last year.

Berta Urteaga: I was and still am very proud that a small **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** that has not been around that long received the award. I have to give credit to our (CEO/President) **Gina Aguirre-Adams** for has worked really hard to get the Chamber where it is now. She also has great Board that supports her.

La Voz: What are your goals for next year?

Berta Urteaga: My next project for the chamber? Or anything? My next project is to continue working with our Latino youth, making sure they get educated. Voters Registration.

Aguirre-Adams: My goals for next year...my main goals are to triple membership, move North, and I want to work on getting some type of Hispanic leadership in this county. And, how we are going to do that is... **TAMACC** has a leadership boot camp. Through this boot camp, I have pick out 15 people throughout the communities and they help them. They learn about Robert's rules of order and anything they need to know to make them feel more comfortable sitting in those seats.

We are all about education. What we make on the **Cinco the Mayo** parade and festival will go toward a scholarship for a student. We are working with the College and the school district.

I will work hard and continue what I am doing as long as I have people behind me. It's like that saying... "Unidos, jamas seremos vencidos -United, we will never be defeated"



tration. We market the businesses. What we do to help businesses is connect our members with other members. My main focus, right now, is to bring procurement round

Latino Policy Summit

On October 18 and 19th Latino policymakers met in Austin, Texas and heard specific policy recommendations from experts and advocates to address the critical needs of the Latino community in the areas of education, immigration, healthcare access, civic engagement and economic opportunities for Latino business, labor, and consumers.

- The summit focused on immigration reforms such as allowing immigrant labor access to licenses to drive to work, education reforms to address Latino achievement and drop-out gaps, healthcare reforms to reduce the number of uninsured, and civic engagement to make our elected officials more accountable to the people. There was also a keynote luncheon where **Senator Sylvia R. Garcia**, **Senator Carlos Uresti** and **Representative Trey Martinez Fischer** discussed the future of Latino advocacy.

- The panel discussion on economic opportunities focused on the need to address predatory loan reforms, legislation to allow workers time to spend more time for school activities, and ways to increase Latino small business successes.

- Over 150 Latino leaders attended from many sectors and regions of **Texas**.



in Austin, Texas

“So what if the Hispanic population is growing and will continue to grow past 50 million. What is the collective plan for the kind of future we hope to build for our children. Ya dejen de andar con que we are the biggest y que we have all this potential. Estamos cansados de andar tirando pedos. Ya es tiempo que nos dejamos caer con un plan que de devaras nos ensaña el camino.”

Remarks of an attendee at the summit.

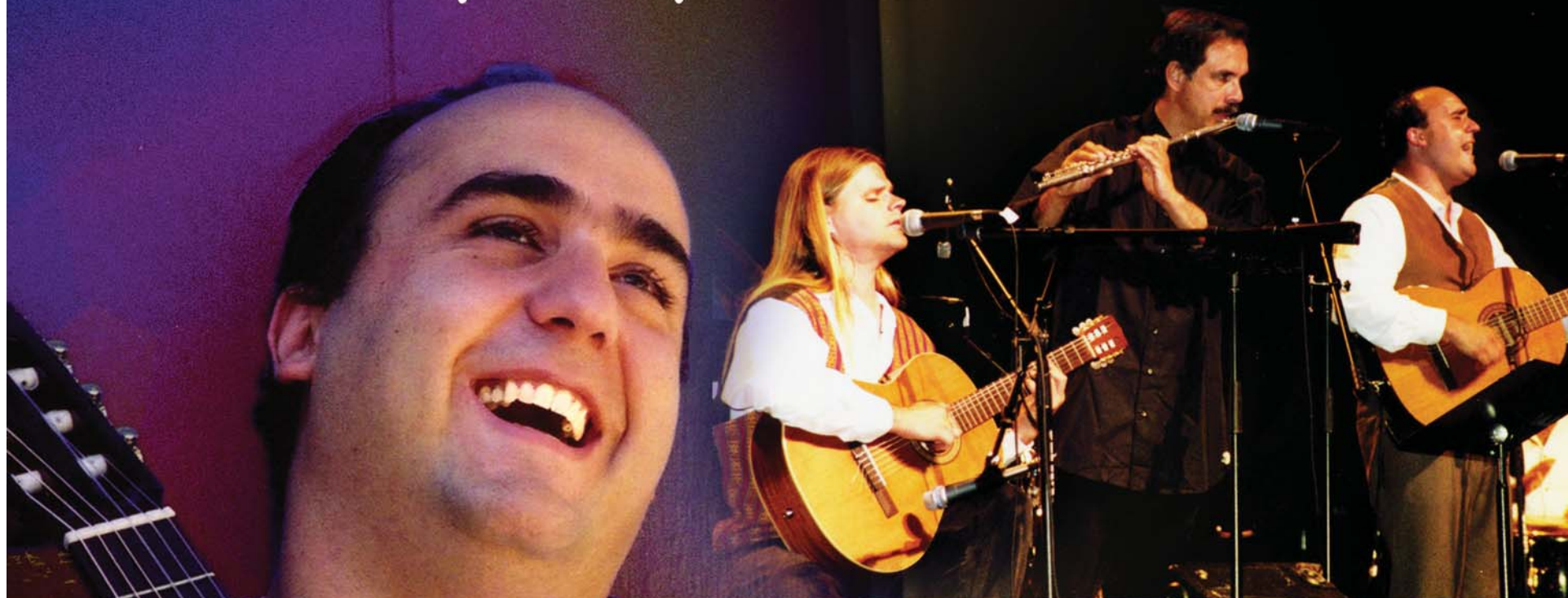


ABOVE: Texas State Senator Sylvia Garcia addresses the participants at the summit.

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Día de los Muertos



Festival de Las Luces en Lake Jackson

Viernes - 22 de Novembre

6:00 pm

Ceremonia de iluminación del árbol

Inauguración del Mural 70

Estacionamiento

cerca de Alden Down

6:30 pm

Película de Navidad en

el Civic Center Plaza - gratis

Palomitas de maíz y bebidas son
proporcionan

Krystal Pistol de Hoggers Americano estará disponible
para tomar fotos desde la 1pm - 3pm en la Plaza.

¡Todos estan invitados!

Sábado -23 de Novembre

Civic Center Area

8:00 am

Desayuno con Santa Claus

en el Museo histórico de Lake Jackson

2-10 Años / \$10/huésped

Llamar al 979-297-1570

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Actividades para niños gratis de (inflable,
mascotas sobre ruedas, etc..)

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Puestos de comida

Puestos de artesanía

Entretenimiento juvenil en el escenario

11:00 am

Desfile de Mascotas y Concurso -

Regístrase @ 10 am

con el comite en la Plaza

11:30 - 3:00 pm

Tierra de Nieve - GRATIS

11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pista de patinaje de hielo -
GRATIS

7:00

Desfile iluminado - Centro de la
ciudad de Lake Jackson

Tejano Music Awards

2013 Tejano Music Awards

Congratulations to the WINNERS of the 33rd Annual Tejano Music Awards

Song of Year/Artist/Group

Mi Mundo Se Acabo – Siggno

Male Vocalist of the Year

Ricky Valenz

Female Vocalist of the Year

Elida Reyna

Entertainer of the Year

Jesse Turner

Album of the Year – Tejano

Contigo Descubri – Elida Reyna y Avante

Album of the Year – Conjunto

Back on Track – Los Hermanos Farias

Album of the Year – Norteño

El Mundo Se Acabo – Siggno

Album of the Year – Gospel

Una Simple Oracion – Javier Galvan

Vocal Duo of the Year

Ricky Valenz with Lupe Moreno –
Por El Amor De Una Mujer

Best New Artist – Male

Gabriel Zavala

Best New Artist – Female

Cacy Savala

Best New Artist – Group

La Calma

Lifetime Achievement Award

Carlos Guzman
Paulino Bernal



Texas Talent Musicians Association

Texas Talent Musicians Association is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization whose purpose is to promote excellence in the Tejano Music Industry. The Organization produces the annual Tejano Music Awards and other related events.

Mission Statement

Texas Talent Musicians Association is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization whose purpose is to promote professional excellence; a better understanding and greater appreciation for Tejano music; and to provide a public forum for songwriters, performers and musicians in order to recognize their artistic efforts and achievements through the annual Tejano Music Awards and related events. Texas Talent Musicians Association is based in **San Antonio, Texas**: "The Tejano Music Capital Of The World."®

Overview

Since 1980, the **Tejano Music Awards** and various other special events produced by **Texas Talent Musicians Association** have provided a forum to create greater awareness and appreciation for Tejano music. This music format has been a tradition in the state of Texas and is now transcending regional and cultural boundaries throughout the United States as well as internationally.

A reflection of its popularity is the yearly increase of crowds that travel to **San Antonio** each year to attend the **Tejano Music Awards**. For example, the first Tejano Music event, held in 1980, attracted an enthusiastic crowd of 1,300; and now all combined events draw an audience of over 90,000 fans of Tejano music.

Texas Talent Musicians Association is committed to providing the best recording artists to the world and 2012 is proving to show the international acceptance and continuous growth in Tejano music.

2013 Tejano Music Awards Media Sponsors



Canto A Los Muertos Y Los Vivos En El San Anto Conjunto Estyle in C



By Rogelio Smiley Rojas Moctezuma, 2013

Caaalaca, calaca, calaca, calaca....
los muertos andan calaceando
en El Cementerio San Fernando,
mientras los vivos se la pasan cabuleando
en un gran espíritu con
la energía de la materia
echándose una Polkita
con vueltas y vueltas
en El Conjunto Festival
adentro El Rosedale Park
mi Raza Chicana brincan y bailan
cruzin la dance floor bien suavcito
con la Música Del Acordeón y El Bajo Sexto
moviéndose con El Zapateado
al estilo Tacuachito en la tonada de
“El Sube Y Baja” para arriba y para abajo
se ríen gozando el día
y disfrutan el amor en la noche....
Pero bueno que pues nuez
de cada vida
que pasa en vuelo
hay que vivir
con ovarios y huevos
hasta que legue un día
a toda madre
y todo padre

para morir
y caigas en tu
t-u-u-m-m-b-b-a-a
y pácetelas
con un triple,
¡ZAZ! ¡ZAZ! ¡ZAZ!
y de pilón un
¡¡¡¡ZACATELAS En Zacatecas!!!!
¡Pero qué onda!
¡Qué locura!
Aquí me encuentro
y ando enterado
bone white
marrow fine
todo dientudo
y bien pelonzudo
¡¡¡¡Pero ay papacito que chulo!!!!....
¡Órale, que nuevas Raza!
¡No se me aguaiten!
La cultura nos cura
porque los vivos
siguen vacilando y cabuleando
en Calo o sin Calo,
con o sin safos
simón que yes
y sigue la gran pachanga
de la vida sabrosa y preciosa

que nunca termina sobre
nuestra Madre La Tierra sagrada
Tonantzin....
¿Y qué onda con los muertos
Carnalas y Carnales?
Pues andan calaceando
en El Gran Chancleo Universal
echándose su ritmo del
taconazo y quemando hule
con nuestros Ancestros que siguen
tocando sus rolas y cantando bien suavemente
con las voces de ángeles en armonía.
Miren nomas hay esta
la Lydia Mendoza “La Alondra de la Frontera”
muy mona en su vestido Mexicana cantando
“Mal Hombre”.
También el Don Santiago Jiménez canta “Ay Te Dejo En San Antonio”.
“El Rey de las Polkas” Tony De La Rosa se avienta “El Circo”.
Entonces los tocayos Rubén Naranjo con su
“Preso Sin Delito”
y Rubén Vela se avienta la sabrosa Cumbia
“El Coco Rayado”.
Narciso Martínez “El Huracán Del Valle”
agarra vuelo con “La Chicharronera Polka”.
Luego el Valerio Longoria está floreciendo
pasiones en “El Rosalito”.
El Bene Layton en su partida canta
“Lloraras”.

Then straight from Salute International Bar
in the heavens comes

“El Parche” Esteban Jordan, según “El Jimi
Hendrix del Acordeon”

nos recuerda que “Soy De Tejas” y tú nunca
vas a el cielo

“Si Te Portas Mal” como el Juan en el
“Corrido De Johnny El Pachuco”.

Hay tantos más leyendas del Conjunto

que brillan con su Luz

en El Congal Del Sol Tata Tonatiuh

y El Cantón De La Luna Nana Coyolxauhqui

para que siempre digan todos

“Dale Gas Y Dale Shine En El Hueso”

para que siga La Polka Cósmica

moviéndose en La Pista Universal Celestial

dándose vueltas infinitas con Rayos De Luz
Solares

en el San Anto Conjunto Estyle in C

entre miles de estrellas

bailando y rodeando,

y con chingos de Cantos y Gritos

a Los Cuatro Vientos!

¡Ajua!

¡Ajua!

¡Ajua!

¡Ajua!

¡Ay, Ay, Ay, Ay!



Ron Oliveira Launches Public Communications Firm

36-Year Veteran Newscaster to Focus on Broadcast and Spanish-language Media Relations and Online Content

After more than three decades in the television news business, **Ron Oliveira** has launched his own firm, **Oliveira Public Communications**. He intends to focus on media relations, media interview training including Spanish language and production of online video content. In addition, **Oliveira** plans to continue serving as an emcee and producer of special events for clients around the state.

“Online content has opened up the news business, and that favors my skills in an exciting way,” said **Ron Oliveira**, president of the new company. *“News rooms have far fewer producers and reporters than in the past, so I will be working on behalf of clients to help them package their stories for traditional broadcast, then show them how to program their own website-based broadcast channel to speak to the audiences they care about most.”*

In addition to online broadcast production, **Oliveira** expects to devote considerable time providing clients media interview skills training for Spanish-language audiences, an underdeveloped market in Texas where the Spanish speaking population and Spanish TV news audiences are growing rapidly.

Oliveira will also continue to provide clients around the state with special event support and planning. In the past 12 months, **Oliveira** has served as master of ceremonies at more than 100 events ranging from nonprofit fundraisers to chamber galas to university honors banquets.

Oliveira added, *“Oliveira Public Communications is open for business, and business is already good. I am reviewing proposals and have conversations*

underway with nearly a dozen prospective clients ranging from McAllen to El Paso to Lubbock and of course, here in Austin. While I’ll be careful in building the company, I am optimistic about the opportunity for growth.”

Oliveira recruited **Jeff Hahn**, owner and principal of Hahn Public Communications as a partner in the venture. The two have agreed to develop services to complement **Hahn** Public’s client portfolio and propose work to new client prospects. *“Our firm has a track record of collaborating and partnering with others and helping launch new ventures,”* **Hahn** said. *“Ron is one of the most respected and recognized journalists in the state. I’m thrilled to be able to support his vision for Oliveira Public Communications and am confident his talent, experience and enthusiasm will open up new opportunities for us both.”*

About Oliveira Public Communications

Oliveira Public Communications is led by **Ron Oliveira**, a 36-year broadcast veteran. In his three and a half decades as a reporter, anchor and television station manager and owner, **Oliveira** logged more than 50,000 hours on the air. He is a former co-owner of **KNVA-TV**, the CW affiliate in **Austin** and **KTLM-TV**, the **Telemundo** affiliate in **McAllen, Texas**. He is the recipient of several awards including the **Edward R. Murrow** award for excellence in journalism, “Best Newscast in **Texas**” and “Best Newscast in the U.S.” He holds a bachelor’s degree in radio-television-film from **The University of Texas at Austin**. For more information, please visit www.oliveirapublic.com.

Media Inquiries: Amanda Blease
Representing Oliveira Public Communications
512-344-2013 ablease@hahnpublic.com



HAVE YOU BEEN DENIED DISABILITY BENEFITS?



ARE YOU CALLED FOR AN ANNUAL REVIEW? HAS YOUR SSI CHECK BEEN LOWERED? HAVE YOU BEEN OVERPAID?

Call me! I might be able to help you get your disability benefits approved, your SSI check increased or your overpayment reduced or waived. I have over 30 years working at the Angleton Social Security Office and know how the system works.

Call **Art Muñoz**, former Social Security Representative at (979) 849-0655 to make an appointment. Se habla español. Email: artmunoz@sbcglobal.net

Preguntas y Respuestas de Social Security

Pregunta:

¿Cuál es la diferencia entre los beneficios por incapacidad de Seguro Social y los beneficios por incapacidad de la Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI)?

Respuesta:

El Seguro Social administra dos programas que pagan beneficios por incapacidad. El programa de Seguro por Incapacidad de Seguro Social (SSDI, siglas en inglés) está basado en sus ganancias. Mientras que los beneficios de SSI por incapacidad están basados en necesidad financiera. Ambos programas de incapacidad requieren que usted tenga un impedimento grave o una combinación de impedimentos que le impiden trabajar por lo menos un año o se espera que resulte en muerte. Los trabajadores, empleadores y personas con negocios propios pagan los impuestos de Seguro Social. Estos impuestos financian los beneficios por incapacidad bajo el programa de SSDI. Para tener derecho a estos beneficios, usted tiene que acumular suficientes créditos para estar asegurado. Le pagamos los beneficios por incapacidad a trabajadores ciegos o incapacitados, cónyuges viudos o adultos incapacitados desde la niñez quienes de lo contrario no tienen derecho a recibir los beneficios. Basamos los beneficios mensuales por incapacidad en el registro de las ganancias del trabajador asegurado. SSI es un programa financiado a través de los impuestos generales y no con los impuestos de Seguro Social. Pagamos beneficios de SSI por incapacidad a adultos o niños quienes están incapacitados o son ciegos, tienen ingresos y recursos limitados, cumplen con los requisitos del arreglo de alojamiento y que de lo contrario no tienen derecho a otros beneficios. Para informarse mejor, visite nuestro sitio de Internet en www.segurosocial.gov.

Pregunta:

¿Qué puede hacer el Seguro Social para ayudarme a planificar mi jubilación?

Respuesta:

El Seguro Social provee herramientas de planificación financiera que pueden ayudarle a

tomar decisiones informadas. Visite el sitio de Internet, www.segurosocial.gov y abra una cuenta de my Social Security para generar una copia de su “Social Security Statement” (Declaración del Seguro Social). Esta “Statement” enumera sus ingresos y los impuestos de Seguro Social que usted ha pagado a través de los años. También genera cálculos de los beneficios de Seguro Social a los que usted (y

o t r o s miembros de su familia) pueden tener derecho a recibir. La “Statement” p u e d e ayudarle a planificar su f u t u r o financiero. También, use el planificador de los beneficios de

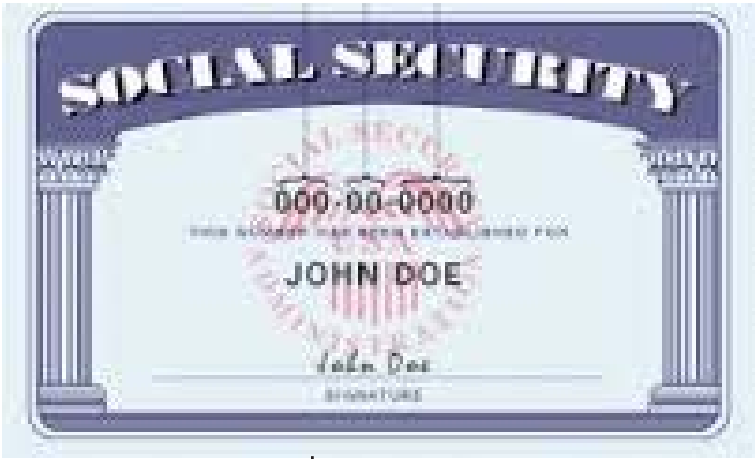
Seguro Social por jubilación y nuestro Calculador de beneficios por jubilación disponibles por Internet. Con estos planificadores y calculador podrá generar cálculos de sus futuros beneficios de Seguro Social por jubilación. También le proveen información importante de los factores que pueden afectar sus beneficios, tales como el servicio militar, las ganancias totales de su hogar y un empleo federal. Usted puede tener acceso a nuestro planificador de beneficios en www.segurosocial.gov/jubilacion2/index.htm. Puede encontrar el calculador en www.segurosocial.gov/calculador.

Pregunta:

¿Cuál es la edad más temprana en que puedo solicitar mis beneficios de Seguro Social por jubilación?

Respuesta:

Si desea que sus beneficios comiencen a los 62 años de edad – o sea la edad más temprana que puede recibir los beneficios por jubilación - usted debe tener por lo menos 61 años y 9 meses para



solicitarlos. Tenga en cuenta que si se jubila antes de cumplir su plena edad de jubilación, sus beneficios mensuales serán permanente reducidos. Por otro lado, si aplaza el recibir sus beneficios hasta después de cumplir su plena edad de jubilación, recibirá mayores beneficios debido a créditos por jubilación aplazada. Incluso, si usted no está listo para retirarse, todavía debe inscribirse para la cobertura de Medicare tres meses antes de cumplir sus 65 años de edad. Usted puede hacer las dos cosas (e intentar diferentes escenarios de jubilación) por Internet en www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/

[soliciteporinternet/](http://www.segurosocial.gov/espanol/).

Pregunta:

¿Puedo retrasar mis beneficios por jubilación y recibir los beneficios como cónyuge únicamente? ¿Cómo me afectaría?

Respuesta:

Depende de su edad. Si es mayor que su plena edad de jubilación cuando solicite los beneficios por jubilación por primera vez y su cónyuge está recibiendo los beneficios de Seguro Social, puede elegir el solicitar y recibir los beneficios bajo el registro de Seguro Social de su cónyuge. De esta manera, usted puede aplazar la solicitud de sus beneficios por jubilación bajo su propio registro de ganancias para recibir los créditos por jubilación aplazada. Si ya cumplió su plena edad de jubilación y solicitó los beneficios por jubilación, puede solicitar que se le suspendan los pagos. Si cumple con los requisitos bajo el registro de su cónyuge, puede recibir esos beneficios y ganar créditos por jubilación aplazada bajo su propio registro de ganancias. Sólo mediante la solicitud de los beneficios como cónyuge es posible que recibir un beneficio más alto por jubilación bajo su propio registró de ganancias, basándose en el efecto de créditos por jubilación aplazada. Puede ganar créditos por jubilación aplazada hasta los 70 años de edad, siempre y cuando esté recibiendo sus propios beneficios. Ya que las reglas pueden variar dependiendo de su situación, sería mejor que hablara con un agente del Seguro Social sobre las opciones disponibles para usted. Para obtener más información, visite el sitio de Internet www.segurosocial.gov o llámenos al 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800 -325-0778).

1940	Postage Stamp \$.03	AVERAGE INCOME \$1.900.00
	Gallon of Gas \$.18	
	Gallon of Milk \$.34	Dow Jones Avg: 131 President: Franklin D. Roosevelt Vice-President: Henry A. Wallace
	NEW CAR: \$800.00 NEW HOUSE: \$27,600	

Oscar Garcia trabaja por la Administración de Seguridad Social como el especialista de actividades públicos. Usted le puede dirigir sus preguntas a él en: SSA, 411 Richland Hills Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78245. También lo puede mandar un correo electrónico en: Oscar.h.garcia@ssa.gov.

Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR.

Schlumberger Technology Corporation, 14910 Airline Road, Rosharon, Texas 77583, que opera Schlumberger Rosharon Campus, que maneja un equipo de yacimiento petrolífero y instalación de fabricación ligera de investigación y desarrollo y fabrica de explosivos ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) una renovación para autorizar el Permiso No. WQ0004679000 (EPA I.D. No. TX007846) del Sistema del Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 24,800 galones por día en a Canal 002, y las aguas residuales domesticas tratadas con un caudal promedio diario no excederá de 14,000 galones por día en a Canal 101. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 5 de marzo de 2013.

La planta está ubicada en 14910 Airline Road, a aproximadamente 1.9 millas al noroeste de la intersección de Farm-to-Market Road 1462 y State Highway 288, en la ciudad de Rosharon, en el Condado de Brazoria, Texas 77583. El efluente tratado es descargado al planta a Canal 002 del sitio de la planta a una zanja de drenaje; de ahí a una zanja de drenaje del Condado de Brazoria Numero 319-01-00; de ahí al Austin Bayou; de ahí a Bastrop Bayou Tidal en el Segmento No.1105 de la Cuenca del Río San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin. Los usos no clasificados de las aguas receptoras son no significativos usos de la vida acuática para la zanja de drenaje en el sitio, del Condado de Brazoria y Austin Bayou. Los usos designados para el Segmento No. 1105 son elevados de vida acuática y primario recreación contacto.

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. El borrador del permiso, si es aprobado, establecería las condiciones bajo las cuales la instalación debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que si este permiso es emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos normativos y legales. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para leer y copiar en Alvin Library, 105 South Gordon Street, en la ciudad de Alvin, en el Condado de Brazoria, Texas. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud.



AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES) PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES INDUSTRIALES RENOVACIÓN

PERMISO NO. WQ0004679000

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.368525&lng=-95.442567&zoom=13&type=r>

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA.

El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA PEDIR UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU PEDIDO LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre; dirección; teléfono; nombre del solicitante y número del permiso;

la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad/ actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; y la declaración “[Yo/nosotros] solicito/ solicitamos un/a audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso”. Si presenta por parte de un grupo o asociación el pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, debe identificar el nombre y la dirección de una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; debe identificar un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; debe proveer la información ya indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y la distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; debe explicar como y porqué el miembro sería afectado y como los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de los períodos para los pedidos y comentarios, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y los pedidos para reconsideración o por una audiencia administrativa de lo contenciosos a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

La Comisión otorgará solamente una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso sobre los hechos reales disputados del caso que son pertinentes y esenciales para la decisión de la Comisión sobre la solicitud. Además, la Comisión sólo otorgará una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso sobre los asuntos que fueron presentados antes del plazo de vencimiento y que no fueron retirados posteriormente. **Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso para descargar aguas residuales sin proveer una**

oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.]

ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO. El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir una aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que exista un pedido antes del plazo de vencimiento de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o se ha presentado un pedido de reconsideración. Si un pedido ha llegado antes del plazo de vencimiento de la audiencia o el pedido de reconsideración ha sido presentado, el Director Ejecutivo no emitirá una aprobación final sobre el permiso y enviará la solicitud y el pedido a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o mas de las listas correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos una reunión deben ser presentados durante los 30 días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or por el internet a www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA TCEQ. Si necesita más información en Español sobre esta solicitud para un permiso o el proceso del permiso, por favor llame a El Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cobro, al 1-800-687-4040. La información general sobre la TCEQ puede ser encontrada en nuestro sitio de la red: www.tceq.texas.gov.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Schlumberger Technology Corporation a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Olga Salinas al 281-285-6409.

Fecha de emisión: 19 de Septiembre 2013

Gina Aguirre-Adams: A Woman with Purpose

*“Prefiero morir de pie
que vivir de rodillas.”*

Emiliano Zapata

By: Solis Morales

*“Prefiero morir de pie que
vivir de rodillas.”*

This is her mantra. She'd rather die on her feet, than live on her knees. **La Voz** has seen it in action . . . lots of action. She's passionate about her work. You start her talking about the Hispanic population of **Brazoria County** and she practically sings out numbers and details and possibilities.

She tells you the plans for the future of the Hispanic chamber and how she sees the local population moving toward a brighter future. Then, she breathes. She loves what she is doing. It is obvious.

She is **Gina Aguirre-Adams**, co-owner of **Platinum Marketing** and **President/ CEO of the Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**.

Two years ago, the **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** was started by **Berta Urteaga, Estella Cabrera, and Gina Aguirre-Adams**. Hispanic Businesses have since then approached them, needing help negotiating the complex procedures and regulations of the business world. **TAMACC**, the leading Hispanic business organization in **Texas** since 1975, awarded her chamber with the Small Chamber of the Year for 2013.

This year, the **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** was voted **2013 Small Chamber of the Year** by **TAMACC**, an organization with over 15,000 Chambers of Commerce as member.

Bertha Urteaga saw there was a need for a Hispanic Chamber but received no support for starting one. **Gina Aguirre-Adams** heard and called **Berta**, offering support. The rest is the story of a warrior.

Aguirre-Adams was swimming in unfriendly water. Others thought a Hispanic Chamber might dilute their own business and protested by maligning the effort. She proved them wrong. Some said that it was a project that promoted segregation. She showed them that it was a project that resulted in integration. Hispanic owned and targeted businesses were able to practice equally in a market open to all. Today, the **Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** is a successful business partner to many of our local businesses.

Her goals don't revolve around business, though. The hope is that there will be an influx of Hispanic leadership in **Brazoria County**. She thinks the 30% of Hispanics that make up the population of **Brazoria County** should have leaders that understand and represent them. After finding opposition in the creation of a Hispanic chamber, she

became sure that the differences in culture could be celebrated and understood better if leadership were as diversified as the actual population.

Her goal is to assist individuals wanting to hold public office in feeling ready for a public role. Her excitement bubbled over when she told me of a leadership boot camp that was available for preparing Hispanics for office. She plans on sending those interested in leadership positions, but who feel unprepared, to such boot camps as a sign of encouragement and support.

According to the **U.S. Census**, the U.S. Hispanic population is now 50.5 million and is projected to double over the next 35 to 40 years. Hispanic buying power will exceed \$1.3 trillion in 2013. She says that when people work together, no one can stop them. I believe her. “**Unidos Jamas Seremos Vencidos.**” It is another one of her mantras.

She has lived in the southern **Brazoria County** for 41 years and



has served on a multitude of boards and committees. She has a son, a daughter, a son-in-law, a husband, and two grandchildren. She has a younger brother and sister.

Her parents are **Rosie** and **Alfred Aguirre**, and support her completely. **Rosie** is a retired personal trainer and retired professional body builder. **Rosie Aguirre** earned many titles over the course of her professional career, including placing in a nationwide contest. It is easy to see that she gets her grit from a good genetic pool. **Aguirre-Adam's** father is a retired **Union Pacific** employee, who passed on his loyalty and work ethic.

Her husband **Landis Adams** is a wonderful supportive partner in their own business, **Platinum Mar-**

keting. Yes, he sacrificed his work partner. However, she states that he was happy to see her passionate about this effort. His office sits next door, but that doesn't mean they have time to see each other. **Aguirre-Adams** never knows where the day may take her, but it is almost a guarantee that little of it is spent on anything other than the Chamber. Her purpose is to make **Brazoria County** a place that will be welcoming to many and all.

You can contact the
**Brazoria County
Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce** at:

200 West 2nd Street
Suite 210 • Freeport Texas,
77541 Phone:979-233-2223
Fax:979-417-3269

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS TO ELIMINATE 500 JOBS

by Thomas Herrera

There is a plan to eliminate at least 500 jobs at **The University of Texas at Austin** this year. This information is based on a report from the **Committee on Business Productivity** issued from the office of **President Bill Powers** in January of 2013.

As more details are revealed on the **UT** of **Austin** plan, it becomes clearer that this plan is actually a blueprint for privatization of most of campus services. Privatization would likely mean loss of medical care and retirement coverage from the UT System.

The University is calling it “Shared Services”. Shared Services is a part of a larger plan entitled “Smarter Systems for a Greater UT”. Who benefits? The planners of ‘Smarter Systems.....’.

Who loses? Based on information from the **Texas State Employees Union**, a large portion of these employees live in East and **Southeast Austin**. Also the “Plan” could eventually affect as many as 2,000 employees.

When institutions of higher learning such as the **University of Texas at Austin** rob communities of good jobs under the pretense of cost cutting measures, they actually hurt the larger community by taking from working class families. They also create the impression that they are becoming elitist.

Under the leadership of **President Bill Powers** that is exactly what is happening. What is happening in **Austin** is inconsistent with having a strong working class. The proposed plan would also make it more unlikely that the children of the Universities own staff could gain a higher education. An education is becoming too expensive for working class families and **UT** is not helping matters by making it more difficult for parents.

Good jobs make for strong communities. Good jobs with good benefits make it more probable that families can provide a better education for their children. The more members of a community who have a good education the more it is likely for the community as a whole to prosper and to achieve a higher level of empowerment.

The jobs to be affected would involve campus services such as housing and food services, parking, custodial services, maintenance and grounds keeping as well as consolidating many administrative functions at the University.

The **Business Productivity Committee** consists of 13 corporate executives and is chaired by **Steve Rohleder**, an executive at a company named **Accenture**. **Accenture** has an unsatisfactory history in contracts with public institutions. It includes the failed \$890 Million eligibility services contract with the **Texas Health and Human Services** which was cancelled in 2007. Tax payers were stuck with the costs. Recipients of services suffered needlessly as did food stamp and other eligibility workers because of the failed attempt at privatization when **Accenture** was given the contract.

Employees to be affected should contact their elected state legislators and those in the community should support their neighbors. Loss of jobs could easily mean loss of homes.

The local economy will be hurt. Home owners could become renters or at times have to move in with relatives. The plan is not clear but what is clear is that The University plans to spend millions of taxpayer dollars to eliminate hundreds of jobs.

Silence and lack of involvement guarantees loss of jobs with benefits.

Word Power

En las palabras hay poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of **La Voz**.

Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de **La Voz** una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

There was a man

Había un hombre

who liked to get up

quién le gustaba levantarse

in the morning and

en la mañana y

go for a walk around

ir a pasear por

town. He would pass

ciudad. Él pasaría

by the houses of his

en las casas de sus

neighbors and

vecinos y

always without fail

siempre sin falta

to say hello to those

saludaba a los

who were outside on

quien estan afuera

sitting in a chair. One

sentado en una silla. Uno

day this man did not get

día que este hombre no se levanto

up as was his custom.

a como era su costumbre.

What happend to him?

¿Qué pasó con él?



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