



Luis Martinez Santillano/ THE RIDER

Debris from the SN11 launch failure lies last Wednesday in tidal flats surrounding the SpaceX South Texas launch site at Boca Chica.

SN11 debris spurs concerns for Boca Chica

Alejandra Yañez
THE RIDER

Over two weeks after the failed launch of Starship SN11, debris from its explosion is still scattered across the Boca Chica site and surrounding areas, leaving environmentalists concerned about future “pollutants” from SpaceX’s larger rockets.

It is estimated that debris traveled 1,000 meters into state and federally managed land, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

In a statement sent to The Rider Thursday morning, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wrote “SpaceX worked closely with USFWS and other agencies in retrieval of explosion debris to minimize impacts to wildlife and sensitive habitats.”

An email from USFWS last Thursday stated that while

SpaceX is taking the lead on recovering debris, a team consisting of the federal agency, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, National Park Service and Texas Historical Commission provide on-the-ground guidance to minimize further impacts and reduce long-term damages to natural resources.

The environmental organizations worked collaboratively to develop a “debris retrieval strategy” specific to the SN11 anomaly and the site conditions.

“The strategy aimed at minimizing further impacts and reducing long term damages,” Aubry Buzek, public affairs specialist-Texas for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, wrote in the email.

However, despite the team’s efforts, fallen debris lodged into different types of habitats and soils, Buzek wrote.

On Wednesday, The Rider visited Boca Chica and found

giant metal scraps lodged into the land and tidal flats off State Highway 4. Tractors were seen piling up the debris.

“Access in the way of constant ingress/egress to retrieve debris materials created disturbance and unintentional paths across the landscape,” Buzek wrote in the email.

The natural resource agency said recovery of the debris is ongoing.

“We are continuing to evaluate our options and are working closely with SpaceX to make the best decisions for the habitat,” the USFWS said.

However, some of the debris is still visible across the land and tidal flats off State Highway 4.

Shortly after the explosion of SN11, SpaceX created a hotline for the public to call and report any debris found. The company also advised the public not to handle any of the materials.

The Rider contacted the

SpaceX Media Relations department for comment, but as of press time Friday it had not received a response.

Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño Jr., who was contacted earlier in the week for an interview, also had not returned calls as of press time Friday.

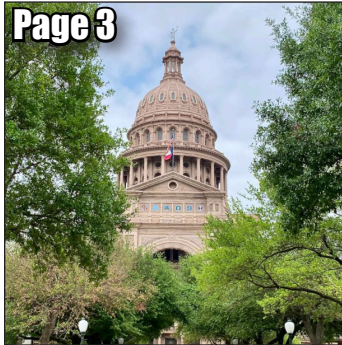
The explosion and debris from SN11 left several community members concerned, including Friends of the Wildlife Corridor President Jim Chapman, who wonders how the environment will fare once the SpaceX test flights become more heavily powered.

“What SpaceX is now proposing to launch at Boca Chica is the Starship on top of the Super Heavy booster,” Chapman said. “So, the explosions we’ve seen so far are in the Starship prototype, which has three Raptor Engines, which is the engine that SpaceX developed, and the

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House bill seeks ethnic inclusivity in social studies

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“Mistake” between two weapons



Editorial cartoon

No new updates on Musk’s \$30 million donation

Jacqueline Peraza
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Almost three weeks since SpaceX founder and CEO Elon Musk announced his \$10 million donation for Downtown Brownsville revitalization via Twitter March 3, a city official says they have received no further information regarding the funds.

Brownsville Mayor Trey Mendez stated in an email sent to The Rider last Wednesday, “Brownsville is a special place filled with incredible people and a spirit of progress. It is not surprising that more and more people, organizations, and businesses are looking to be part of Brownsville’s bright future. We look forward to mutually beneficial discussions with Mr. Musk and the SpaceX team, and anyone else looking to partner with the City and our community to support Brownsville’s inclusive future.”

The money is said to come from The Musk Foundation. According to its website, grants made by the foundation are in support of, “renewable energy research and advocacy, human space exploration research and advocacy, pediatric research, science and engineering education, [and] development of safe artificial intelligence to benefit

See **DONATION**, Page 2

Internship advice

Brigitte Ortiz
THE RIDER

As students continue on their educational journey, they look for internship opportunities to gain experience and develop new skills in their field of study.

Ask the Expert: Fifth in a Series

Two UTRGV students described their experiences seeking internships and asked experts for advice.

Katherine Garza, a biology senior, has been looking for internships to apply to for a month and a half.

Garza said she has applied to two.

“Like, I’m looking for anything within the biology spectrum or department,” she said.

Garza said applying to an internship is hard but it can be easy with the Handshake app on my.UTRGV.edu.

“It can be difficult,” she said. “We have classes and, you know, dealing with an internship. So, I feel like we definitely do need to ... [manage our] time. I know a lot of internships do require certain criteria, or for you to be there at a certain time, so I feel like that can be a little nerve-racking and it can be a little bit difficult for one. But, I mean ... an internship is

Luis Martinez Santillano/ THE RIDER GRAPHIC

definitely something I need in order to grow.”

Estrellita Lopez, an art education junior, works at the UTRGV Career Center as part

of the Student Experience Internship Program (SEI).

According to the UTRGV website, SEI’s mission is to

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THE RIDER

The Rider is the official, award-winning student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the newspaper or university.

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MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER

Delivering news to UTRGV no matter the circumstances.



Reporter Alejandra Yañez

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Today State of the RGV

The second annual **State of the Rio Grande Valley Conference** on legislative topics, voting, local election sessions and a diversity and inclusion seminar will take place from 1 to 4:30 p.m. via Zoom. The conference is hosted by the **Civic Engagement Alliance, Campus Activities Board and the Political Science Association** and will feature guests and keynote speakers. Attendees will have a chance to win UTRGV merchandise. RSVP is available on [V Link](#).

Women's Recovery

A **nine-week support group for women** to come together, receive support and empower one another takes place at noon via Zoom. The sessions are hosted by the **Collegiate Recovery Program**. Email recovery@utrgv.edu for Zoom link.

Tuesday Open Recovery

A **support group** for anyone who is seeking recovery from substance use, addictive behaviors and/or process addiction meets at 3 p.m. Tuesday and noon Friday. Sessions are hosted by the **Collegiate Recovery Program**. Email

recovery@utrgv.edu for Zoom link.

Wednesday Smart Recovery

The **Collegiate Recovery Program** hosts **self-management and recovery training**, a non-spiritual based peer support group, will take place at 11 a.m. via Zoom. Email recovery@utrgv.edu for Zoom link.

The People Series

The legacy of Vietnam War survivor **Thi Kim Phuc** will be featured from 2 to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. The event is hosted by the **Center for Diversity & Inclusion and DREAM Resource Center**. RSVP is available on V Link.

Thursday Earth Day with CAB

The **Campus Activities Board** invites students to celebrate **Earth Day** by decorating flower pots from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP is available on V Link.

Mario Kart Tournament

The **Student Union** will host a **Mario Kart** tournament from 5 to 6 p.m. via **Discord**. Participants must have a Discord account and the winner will receive a prize. RSVP is available on V Link.

Friday Luncho Libre: Comics Edition

The **University Library** will host a discussion on **comics** from noon to

12:45 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP is available on V Link.

Male Leadership Summit

The fourth annual **South Texas Male Leadership Summit** will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. via Zoom. The event is hosted by **Texas Southmost College**. To RSVP, click [here](#).

Union Canvas

The **Student Union** will host a **watercolor tutorial session** from 2 to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. The first 30 students to RSVP will receive a free watercolor painting kit. RSVP is available on V Link.

SGA Meeting

Students may voice their concerns during the **Student Government Association** meeting, scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. via Zoom. RSVP is available on V Link.

Saturday Earth Day E-Waste Recycling

Recycle your old or broken electronics at South Padre Island Environment Health Service's Earth Day E-waste recycling event from 8 a.m. to noon. The event will take place at the South Padre Island Community Center, located at 4501 Padre Blvd.

--Compiled by Omar E. Zapata

POLICE REPORTS



The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between April 5 and 10.

April 5

3:15 p.m.: An officer made contact with a staff member who reported that a former employee failed to return university property when she separated

from UTRGV.

April 6

11:35 a.m.: A staff member reported losing his access card and staff identification card at an off-campus location in Edinburg. The assigned cards have been deactivated.

1:08 p.m.: A non-affiliated representative from an alteration business in McAllen reported accidentally throwing away three uniform shirts for public safety officers of the UTRGV Police Department. The shirts had been left for alteration, placed in a box and discarded in a dumpster with other empty boxes at the business by an employee.

April 7

12:11 p.m.: A non-affiliated man reported his vehicle had been struck while it was parked unattended in Lot H-3 on the Harlingen campus. The case is under investigation.

1:57 p.m.: A faculty member reported there were several missing vaccination immunization cards from the Clinical Education Building in Harlingen. The case is under investigation.

April 8

1:10 p.m.: A staff member reported UTRGV Human Resources had been sent an email from the Texas Workforce Commission stating he had filed a claim for unemployment. The staff member reported to HR that he had not filed the claim. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

5:10 p.m.: A staff member reported damage to her vehicle while it was parked unattended in Lot E-28 on the Edinburg campus. After reviewing camera footage from the area, it was determined the damage had not occurred on campus.

5:38 p.m.: A staff member reported UTRGV Human Resources had been sent an email from the Texas Workforce Commission stating he had filed a claim for unemployment. The staff member reported to HR that he had not filed the claim. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

April 9

4:35 p.m.: A staff member reported UTRGV Human Resources had been sent an email from the Texas Workforce Commission stating she had filed a claim for unemployment. The staff member reported to HR that she had not filed the claim. A report was generated for documentation purposes.

April 10

9:43 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to a verbal disturbance between two non-affiliated individuals at the bus stop on the 1300 block of West University Drive in Edinburg. The investigation revealed no crime had been committed, only a verbal dispute.

--Compiled by Sol Garcia

DONATION

Continued from Page 1

humanity.”

In the March 3 tweet, Musk also announced a \$20 million donation to Cameron County school districts.

The donation is set to be split among

Brownsville Independent School District, Harlingen Consolidated School District, La Feria Independent School District, Los Fresnos Consolidated School District, Point Isabel Independent School District, Rio Hondo Independent School District, San Benito Consolidated Independent School District, Santa Maria

Independent School District and Santa Rosa Independent School District.

The Rider attempted to contact Brownsville, Harlingen and Los Fresnos school districts but did not receive a response for comment.

The Rider will provide developments as it receives them.

SPACEX

Continued from Page 1

fuel for those three engines. Well, Super Heavy will have 30 Raptor Engines. So, what you're looking at is something 10 times the size. The Starship SN11 alone, when it blew up, debris got all the way to South Padre Island. So, what will Super Heavy do if it blows up?”

The Rider asked if he believes SpaceX is being properly regulated concerning the environment.

“Well, SpaceX answers to the [Federal Aviation Administration] and that's really one of the problems because the FAA is not an environmental agency,” Chapman replied. “Their mission is aviation and space and so, they promote American space activity.

“So, unfortunately, you have the agency that has to oversee their activities, including their requirements to try and

protect the environment. That agency, that's really not what they do, so I think that's unfortunate.”

He said natural resource agencies, such as Texas Parks and Wildlife, USFWS and the General Land Office, all provide input to the FAA on protection activities for the environment.

However, the FAA has the final say in deciding what SpaceX has to do to protect the environment.

“So, on that front, there's two issues: The FAA determines when they listen to what the natural resource agencies are telling them and at the end of the day, the FAA tells SpaceX what they have to do in terms of environmental protection,” Chapman said. “The second part of that is that the FAA then has to enforce those regulations.”

Last July, the Friends of the Wildlife Corridor wrote to the FAA requesting a new environmental impact statement

due to its concerns about the enforcement of these regulations but did not receive a response.

“The FAA decided to do an environmental assessment instead of an environmental impact statement, and they had a comment period for public comments,” Chapman said.

The time frame to submit comments was from December 2020 to January 22, 2021.

Chapman said his organization and other environmental groups submitted scoping comments, asking the FAA to look at all the impacts that SpaceX causes, including construction, testing, launching, explosions and fires.

Scoping refers to federal agencies considering the public's comments to determine the scope of issues that should be addressed.

National Poetry Month Reflecting on the 'human experience'



Courtesy Photo

Emmy Pérez

Sol Garcia

THE RIDER

During an early morning last year, as the pandemic had just begun, Emmy Pérez, a creative writing professor at UTRGV and current Texas Poet Laureate, was awakened by her young son.

All of a sudden, she heard the cry of a pauraque, a bird native to the Rio Grande Valley but a rare sight in her neighborhood. To Pérez, the bird sounded like a baby crying. From somewhere else outside, she heard a cat growling, and she soon formed a poem in her mind.

"I had to imagine in my head that there was this scene where the cat was killing this beautiful bird that's rare, and so I was connecting that to motherhood, because I could hear the adult pauraque further away, calling out to the child," she said. "I connected hearing all of that to the experience of parenting and how difficult that can be sometimes when

you have to leave your child for a minute."

Pérez, a published author of two poetry collections, "Solstice" (Swan Scythe Press, 2019) and "With the River on Our Face," (University of Arizona, 2016) was first exposed to poetry for class assignments. In middle school, she started to write poems for self-expression.

Poets of the Rio Grande Valley: Third in a Series

"I always liked to write," she said. "I would often write to express my feelings in a private sort of way."

Born in Santa Ana, California, Pérez would go on to receive an undergraduate degree in English from the University of Southern California. She then attended Columbia University in New York City.

See **POET**, Page 7

Lynlie Wallace/FOR THE RIDER

House Bill 1504, filed by state Rep. Christina Morales (D-Houston), seeks to add ethnic studies classes to the social studies curriculum in Texas public schools.

House bill seeks ethnic options in social studies

Omar E. Zapata

THE RIDER

House Bill 1504 in the Texas 87th Legislature aims to make ethnic studies classes, such as Mexican American and African American, count toward graduation for high school students.

Filed by state Rep. Christina Morales (D-Houston), the bill requires Texas public schools to add Mexican American Studies and African American Studies as alternatives to world geography or world history.

The representative told The Rider that Mexican American and African American studies were approved within the last three years by the Texas Education Agency, but the courses currently count only as electives and not toward credits for graduating.

"Many times in our communities of color, and particularly our low-income communities, students struggle just

to get a high school diploma, and a lot of times they don't have room for electives," Morales said. "So, we wanted to make sure that this class would count towards graduation."

She said high school students must take three social studies credits to graduate, which are U.S. history, economics and world geography or world history.

"All we want to do is add two more choices to that last credit, and that would be Mexican American Studies or African American Studies," Morales said. "But our bill is to include all ethnic studies that may come in the future."

She said the bill was inspired after a conversation with Tony Diaz, "El Librotraficante," a writer and community organizer from the Houston area.

"Him and I had a really long conversation just shortly after the death of George Floyd and we thought that,

See **BILL**, Page 8

Local modeling agency promotes inclusivity

Jamejdra Holverstott

THE RIDER

Fish Fiorucci, a mass communication junior, hopes to make the local fashion scene more inclusive for people of color and the LGBT community with their recently opened modeling agency called f10.

The Brownsville native hopes to provide outlets for individuals seeking to enter the modeling or fashion industry.

"When I wanted to start off ... getting into anything fashion related ... I had such a hard time finding any resources that would benefit me or help me get to where I wanted to be," Fiorucci said. "I felt the need to want to use all the information that I've been gathering from all the success that I had, and be able to give it to people in the [Rio Grande] Valley ... for free and be able to provide them a useful resource without them having to go to bigger places to spend money or to travel outside of the Valley."

They, who have been modeling for seven years, launched the agency last September in Brownsville.

"I figured I would use the time, now, to use all the information that I recently just gained from going to Paris, London and Milan Fashion Week," Fiorucci said. "And I had never [founded a modeling agency] before, so it was definitely a big step for me in my

career."

Their priority is to establish a new standard within the fashion scene that will break the cultural norms that prevent people of color or people who do not fit the modeling standard from working in the industry.

"I feel it's important to prioritize the people who are [Black, indigenous, people of color] and or queer just to, kind of, give them the advantage that they haven't had before in the industry," Fiorucci said. "It's important to also mention that just as of last year, 90% of the fashion shows that were casted for fashion week had all white models in them."

They expressed their desire to give underrepresented models the opportunity to enter the industry.

"There's so many models, and not even necessarily professional models, but just people who want to get into [modeling], but they can't because they don't have any kind of representation in the industry," Fiorucci said. "I wanna create that change. I feel like it's very important."

They have scouted models for years, many of which are former classmates.

"At the moment, we have a small board of only 12 models who are signed to me and my agency ... but that doesn't prevent us from working with any of the other models that we work with," Fiorucci said. "We

work with over 150 models at the moment in the Valley, and those are people that we work with year-round."

Models at the agency start their careers by building their portfolios and doing local work.

"We work a lot with local designers, local commercial agencies and tend to start the models off with doing local work, building up their portfolios with local photographers, maybe working with a local designer for their lookbooks, and just shooting a few things here and there--just to kind of allow them to work in the area ... that they're familiar with the most," Fiorucci said.

The next step is looking around Texas to see what commercial jobs are available. Bookings for these types of jobs can be for companies such as Gap or Loft.

"We try to, kind of, work our way into that side of the industry once we feel like we've prepared a model enough in the [Valley]," Fiorucci said. "After that it just goes bigger and bigger ... [from] there."

They want to inspire LGBT youth and people of color to become something that they never thought they could become.

"I allow people in my agency to find themselves without having to rush themselves," Fiorucci said. "A lot of the

See **AGENCY**, Page 8



Fish Fiorucci

Photo Courtesy



EARTH DAY

On April 12, The Rider conducted a poll on social media asking students, "How will you participate in Earth Day?" The results are shown below.

facebook

RECYCLE 6

PLANT A SEED 5

I WILL NOT PARTICIPATE 4

twitter

3 RECYCLE

2 I WILL NOT PARTICIPATE

1 PARTICIPATE IN A CLEANUP

1 PLANT A SEED

Instagram

PLANT A SEED 6

RECYCLE 3

PARTICIPATE IN A CLEANUP 1

I WILL NOT PARTICIPATE 1

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO PARTICIPATE @UTRGVRIDER

"Mistake" between two weapons



Sustainability and more



Jamejdra Holverstott
THE RIDER

Is a sustainable lifestyle realistically possible? This is a question I

often find myself asking after watching a documentary on pollution or climate change. A documentary or docu series will usually place a spotlight on practices or stories many were not aware of. The most recent documentary I watched was no different.

"Seaspiracy" on Netflix showed viewers the dark side of the fishing industry, such as the overfishing, pollution and dolphin killing that occurs. The effects of overfishing can be so severe that some species are driven to extinction and habitats are ruined. "In addition to removing an

increasingly large number of fish from the ocean, many industrial fishing practices also destroy aquatic habitat," according to <https://www.environmentalscience.org/environmental-consequences-fishing-practices>.

One might think that a way to stop these destructive processes is by consuming less fish. But this is not a realistic option for everyone. Numerous socioeconomic factors make not eating fish or eating less fish an impractical solution at this time.

Many different types of pollution exist in the world, such as air or soil pollution. The plastic in the ocean seems to be one of the most highlighted types of pollution practices nowadays. Just a few years ago there was a large movement to "#savetheseaturtles" by using reusable metal straws instead of plastic ones. The movement pushed for consumers and

companies to switch to more sustainable straws. However, after watching "Seaspiracy," I learned we consumers are not the ones who produce the highest amount of waste in the ocean. "Approximately 46% of the 79 thousand tons of ocean plastic in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is made up of fishing nets," according to <https://www.seashepherdglobal.org/latest-news/marine-debris-plastic-fishing-gear/>.

After seeing these statistics in the film, I was left with more questions than before. We as consumers are often handed the burden of reducing pollution and told to recycle or reduce waste. And while I believe that these sustainable practices will be beneficial in reducing some waste, they are not long-term solutions to the bigger issues of climate change at hand.

Submit a Letter to the Editor

The Rider encourages letters but does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. Letters for The Rider may be sent to therider@utrgv.edu. All letters must be typed and no longer than 400 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter's author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in The Rider are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Rider or UTRGV administrators.



VISIT US ONLINE AT
UTRGVRIDER.COM

Asesoramiento para pasantías

Brigitte Ortiz

THE RIDER

Mientras los estudiantes continúan en su camino educacional, buscan oportunidades de pasantías para ganar experiencia y desarrollar nuevas habilidades en su campo de estudio.

Dos estudiantes de UTRGV describieron sus experiencias buscando pasantías y les pidieron consejos a expertos.

Katherine Garza, una estudiante de último año de biología, ha estado buscando pasantías para aplicar por más de un mes y medio.

Garza dijo que ha aplicado a dos.

“O sea, estoy buscando por cualquier cosa en el departamento o el espectro de biología”, ella dijo.

Garza dijo que es difícil aplicar a una pasantía pero puede ser fácil con la aplicación de Handshake en my.UTRGV.edu.

“Puede ser difícil”, ella dijo. “Tenemos clases y, ya sabes, lidiando con una pasantía. Entonces, siento como que definitivamente necesitamos ... [administrar nuestro] tiempo. Sé que muchas pasantías requieren ciertos criterios,

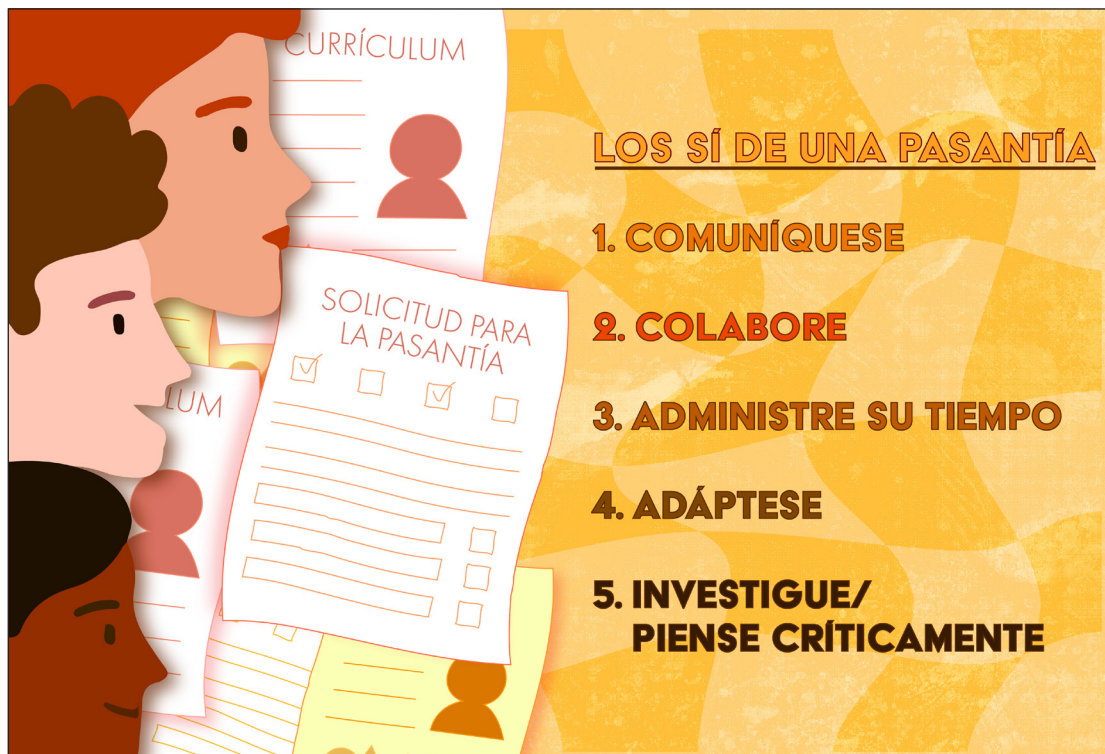
o que estés ahí cierto tiempo, entonces siento que eso puede ser desesperante y puede ser un poco difícil para uno. Pero, o sea ... una pasantía es definitivamente algo que necesito para poder crecer”.

Estrellita López, una estudiante de tercer año de educación artística, trabaja en el Centro de Recursos Profesionales de UTRGV como parte del Programa de Pasantías para la Experiencia Estudiantil (Student Experience Internship Program, SEI).

Según el sitio web de UTRGV, la misión del SEI es transformar las experiencias ofrecidas para los estudiantes y proporcionarles oportunidades de pasantías en el campus con resultados de aprendizaje relacionados al campo de estudio del estudiante. Esto permitirá que los departamentos desarrollen y promuevan pasantías para que los estudiantes elegibles al SEI exploren sus intereses profesionales y desarrollen habilidades.

López dijo que no estaba buscando por una pasantía pero SEI la contactó para la oportunidad.

“No estaba planeando hacer pasantías, solo enfocarme



LOS SÍ DE UNA PASANTÍA

1. COMUNÍQUESE

2. COLABORE

3. ADMINISTRE SU TIEMPO

4. ADÁPTESE

5. INVESTIGUE/
PIENSE CRÍTICAMENTE

Luis Martinez Santillano/ GRAFICA DE THE RIDER

en mis clases, pero cuando la oportunidad se presentó para tomarla, solo dije, ‘Sí, claro, déjenme intentarlo’, ella dijo. ‘He trabajado como administradora de redes sociales antes, así que no era diferente traba-

jar para el Centro de Recursos Profesionales como tampoco el trabajar en redes sociales”.

Se le preguntó qué consejo le daría a los estudiantes que están buscando pasantías. López contestó que ellos deberían continuar buscando. Puede que los estudiantes no reciban una llamada de su primera opción, así que sigan buscando.

“Si son buenos en algo, aunque no tengan las ... habilidades, algunas pasantías están para ayudarlos a desarrollar esas habilidades”, ella dijo. “[No] tengan miedo de acercarse a las personas a cargo de la pasantía para preguntarles, ‘¿Qué puedo hacer más para poder conseguir la pasantía la próxima vez?’”

López dijo que le gustaría que el Centro de Recursos Profesionales proporcionara más información acerca de las pasantías disponibles en el campus.

Experto de UTRGV

Jack Kaufold, el coordinador de las pasantías del Centro de Recursos Profesionales, dijo que las pasantías ayudan a los estudiantes a adentrarse en un campo de estudio o tipo de industria.

“Además, para los estudiantes que en realidad no saben qué quieren en términos de su carrera profesional, las pasantías ayudan con, ya saben, el aprendizaje orientado”, Kaufold dijo. “Adquieren experiencia. Realmente están trabajando para una organización, proyectos y tareas en donde son capaces de desarrollar habilidades que son transferibles para otras oportunidades”.

Él alienta a los estudiantes a realizar al menos una pasantía en su carrera universitaria.

VEA PASANTÍAS, Página 8

Para los estudiantes que en realidad no saben qué quieren en términos de su carrera profesional, las pasantías ayudan con, ya saben, el aprendizaje orientado

-Jack Kaufold

Coordinador de las pasantías del Centro de Recursos Profesionales

ASK
Continued from Page 1

transform the experiences offered to students and provide on-campus internship opportunities with learning outcomes tied to the student’s field of study. It will allow departments to develop and promote internships for SEI-eligible students to explore their career interests and develop skills.

Lopez said she was not searching for an internship but SEI reached out to her for the opportunity.

“I wasn’t planning on doing internships, just focusing on classes, but when the opportunity arose for me to take it, I just said, ‘Yeah, sure, let me give it a try,’” she said. “I’ve worked as a social media manager before, so it was no different in working for the Career Center as also working on social media.”

Asked what advice she would give to students who are looking for internships, Lopez replied that they should continue looking. Students might not get a call back from their first option, so keep searching.

“If you’re good at something, even if you don’t have the ... skill set, some of these internships are to help you develop those skill sets,” she said. “[Do not] be afraid to reach out to the people in

charge of the internship to ask them, ‘What can I do more to help me get the internship next time?’”

Lopez said she would like the Career Center to provide more information about on-campus internships.

UTRGV Expert

Jack Kaufold, internship coordinator for the Career Center, said internships help students get their feet wet in a field of study or type of industry.

“In addition to that, for students that really don’t know what they want to do in terms of their career, internships help with, you know, the guided learning,” Kaufold said. “They take on an experience. They are actually doing work for an organization, projects and tasks where they’re able to develop skills that are transferable to other opportunities.”

He encourages students to do at least one internship in their college career.

Kaufold said his biggest advice for students is to apply to internships, even if they feel that they are not going to get it because they will never know unless they apply.

“There’s a lot of different things that, you know, students can do to make the most of their internship but the first thing is to apply,” he said. “You know, that’s the one thing that I think students are hesitant

on is that they see a job posting and, you know, sometimes there’s requirements for a position or qualifications that they feel that they don’t meet and ... it depends on the organization that’s offering an internship to students.”

Kaufold said there are certain skills employers look for.

“Off the top of my head, would be communication,” he said. “Communication in a variety of ways, right, whether that’s verbal or written, presentational speaking. You know, you have to have good communication methods for an experience, right, and that’s just for general employment.”

“In addition to that, you know, there’s collaboration. You know, most employers want individuals who will work well with a team and those that can collaborate with others. And, you know, if there’s a specific project, not just for a student, but for a group, what is your effort and what is your commitment to that, and can you build upon that with other team players.”

Kaufold said the third crucial skill would be time management. Students need to be able to manage their time with certain projects and deadlines. He said if they do not possess that skill, most often, students end up procrastinating and it may look like they are not successful in their role as an intern in the

organization.

“The fourth thing ... is being adaptable,” he said. “You know, being able to shift into different types of work environments, being able to take on different types of projects, being the person that can take the initiative. But it’s also proactive, given the changing environment, whether you’re working, you know, on one project, how can you adapt and work into a different project, and making sure that you can manage both.”

“It’s really about being adaptable into also the type of environment that you’re working in. And when I say environment, it could be, like, you know, working with a small startup of five to 10 people or working with a large corporation of thousands, you know, and how do you fit in and stand out.”

Kaufold said the last two skills are research and critical thinking.

“You need to do your research, even at the start of an internship,” he said. “But, even while you’re in the internship doing research on the different, you know, components of a project or, you know, if you’re going to be developing a program or helping promote a service or a product, what research do you have at the start of that that you can present and that would end up being a successful, you know, tie into the project.”

“In addition to that, you have the critical thinking. You know, you need to be able to think on your feet and think quick, you know, solve problems, and, you know, with help of others. Of course, you don’t always have to do this yourself. But, just being quick on your feet, being able to think on how you can solve issues to, you know, problems that are being shared out or, you know, that are concerning for, sometimes, employers or projects.”

Asked which is better, an internship or job, Kaufold replied that both help with developing skills in different areas.

“So, if you’re really, you know, spending four years of college to receive a degree in a certain major, an internship experience is going to get you more of that experience as opposed to a part-time job,” he said. “A part-time job can help you develop skills, but an internship is going to give you the skills and experience that’s more conducive to the type of work that you want to do after you graduate.”

Kaufold said it is important for students to consider internships early on in their college career. As a freshman or sophomore, even as a junior, and not wait to the end to pursue those types of opportunities.

2 UTRGV athletes near end of collegiate careers



Photo Courtesy Juan DeLeon

Desirea Buerge competes March 27 in the shotput event in the Victor Lopez Classic at Rice University in Houston.

Karina Rodriguez

THE RIDER

As the semester comes to an end, UTRGV Athletics is preparing to lose two great athletes, Desirea Buerge and Luca Portelli, as graduation approaches.

UTRGV Women's Track & Field thrower Desirea Buerge is a graduate student pursuing a master of science in health sciences.

Buerge said her favorite part about being a collegiate athlete is honing in on leadership skills.

"My favorite part about being a student athlete was being able to use my time-management skills but also be able

to be a leader to the incoming freshmen and underclassmen to help show them how to be a better performer," she said.

Buerge said she plans to continue her education in nursing after she graduates.

"My plans for after college is to go to nursing school and to finally become a [neonatal intensive care unit] nurse because growing up, I have seen how nurses have impacted my life," she said. "Not only just seeing how they worked with my grandpa when he got ill, but also seeing how in the NICU they worked with my cousin when he came up full term but had collapsed lungs."

UTRGV Assistant Track & Field Coach Bradley Foote said

Buerge is a hard worker.

"She's just a workhorse," Foote said. "That's the best thing that I can say about her, is that she just learned. She goes into everything, you know, very hard. ... I will never get on somebody for going too hard. I'd rather have the reason to tell her to back off than say, 'Put the foot down on the gas pedal.'"

UTRGV Men's Golf player Luca Portelli is a graduate student pursuing a master's in business administration.

Portelli was one of the first five freshmen who started the UTRGV golf program when it first began and has participated in all seven tournament wins.

He plans on continuing his

golf career after graduation.

"I'm going to go professional right after I finish this summer and then go start playing professional tournaments," Portelli said. "I already have a schedule of the tournaments [that I] am going to play."

He said Kobe Bryant has always been his sports idol.

"It's always been Kobe Bryant for me," said Portelli, a native of Milan. "He lived in Italy for a long time, so we consider him half Italian. Yeah, I grew up watching him and taking him as an inspiration. And, you know, [even] today, I always listen to his interviews or watch his videos and stuff like that."

UTRGV Men's Golf Coach Philip Tate said his favorite memory of Portelli was in California.

"I remember, I think it might have been his freshman year or something like that," Tate said. "We were fortunate enough to travel to California and walk through Los Angeles. It was just fun to kind of spend some time with the guys and Luca, especially. We went to an Italian restaurant. He hadn't been home in a while and so to go to a nice Italian restaurant and get some good Italian food [was] good."

The golf coach offered advice on how Portelli should approach the end of his collegiate career.

"It's run through the finish line," Tate said. "We have a lot of work left to do and if you take one step short of that finish line, you're going to regret it because you're going to leave a stroke out there on the golf course or a test unfinished or something more that [could be] done."

This Week in Athletics

Women's Golf

- 8 a.m. today, Tuesday and Wednesday in the Western Athletic Conference Championship in Boulder City, Nevada

Baseball

- 6 p.m. Tuesday vs. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi at home

- 6 p.m. Friday, 1 and 4 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday vs. Seattle University at home

Men's Track and Field

- 8 a.m. Saturday at the J. Fred Duckett Twilight meet in Houston

Women's Track and Field

- 8 a.m. Saturday at the J. Fred Duckett Twilight meet in Houston

--Compiled by Ruben Mohme

Two Sides of the Moon by Yvana Gonzalez

Belzec
July 1942

"What was that?" Axel spun around and found himself eye to eye with Franz. Axel held his stare for a while, hoping Franz would drop it. Franz crossed his arms and raised an eyebrow.

"Nothing." Axel sighed then turned curtly towards the commandant's office with Franz close on his heels. "You looked like you saw a ghost-" Franz promptly shut up with a glare from Axel and walked along silently.

They quickly arrived at their destination. The commandant's office was the only thoroughly clean building in the camp, mainly since the only people who dared walk in there were higher ranking officers.

Axel and Franz walked past the front doors, barely acknowledging the soldiers posted outside. They both hesitated before reaching Herr Schulze's office, sparing a nervous glance at each other. The commandant was prone to disliking anyone, who entered his workspace where he liked to stay and brood in silence.

Both young men hated visiting him as much as he hated seeing them. Leaving this place would be a blessing solely to never see that man again. Or Joseph, Axel thought. A ghost, as Franz had said. Axel's guilty conscious began to slowly dominate him over the years, each person begging or child crying adding to the weight on his chest. He learned to ignore it. However, now that his old friend crossed paths with him once again, his conscious decided to use this opportunity to bring out the guilt tenfold.

This is idiotic. Axel's witnessed countless of innocent men and women slaughtered, abused, or broken. Children died from disease and hunger. He was living in a place that was a shining example of the worst of humanity, and he was the enforcer. Joseph has no power over me. One desperate, glassy, green eyed look will not shake me. The person you knew is long gone. Focus on the task at hand. These people deserved it anyways. It was for the survival of Germany. Deep down he knew he kidded himself. Over the years, Axel steadily realized the politics of Nazi Germany were inhumanely twisted, but he found himself too entangled in it to do anything about it. He taught himself to see the incoming people as numbers, and unfortunately, Joseph was one of them. Axel lightly blew some air from his lips, breath slightly catching every other moment.

The mahogany doors creaked open, allowing a thin secretary to slip into the waiting room.

"The commandant will see you now."

Axel stifled a yawn, blinking his eyes rapidly to wake himself up. He wasn't able to sleep last night, mulling over what the commandant told them yesterday afternoon. He wasn't sure why it bothered him so much.

"So neither one of us is leaving anytime soon, huh?" Axel glanced at Franz, who suddenly stepped up next to him and shrugged. "I suppose not. A surge in Jews is not the best time for a change in command."

The mud left cold sprinkles on their pant legs as they trudged their way to the middle of camp for morning roll call. The cold never seemed to let up in Belzec, though anyone with a superstitious mind would tell you it is not the weather.

Axel did not like thinking about that.

They slowly approached a shivering mass of men, many with slightly sunken eyes and bony hands, all making as low a noise possible to avoid any special attention. Franz sighed and fixed his hat, mumbling under his breath as he approached the group with his clipboard. Axel tried desperately to avoid any eye contact, putting up a ruse of a haughty attitude. He was not particularly

eager to see any green eyes today.

"Alright! When I call your number respond with present. I will not repeat myself." Franz curtly called out to the crowd. Axel stood to the side and scanned the tops of every man's head. As Franz droned on, Axel's boredom increased. It was easy to stand at attention, but his eyes glazed over, and his mind wandered as the Jews made their responses. This was tedious at best for both groups, and he observed as several soldiers discreetly shuffled side to side to prevent their legs from getting tired. He gently smirked at that, oddly feeling proud that he couldn't be bothered at all. His father had put him in early training camps as a child, so his standing position was second nature to him. Joseph would've stop.

"Number 25894." Silence. Axel glanced up, partially in surprise, partially in annoyance. His breath hitched. Immediately, his eyes found green ones-the slight gold color reminding him of a time when he was happier. His heart clenched with guilt, and it stuttered a bit as they conveyed emotions of betrayal, defiance, anger. They didn't move as words matched emotions: "My name is Joseph."

The camp seemed to hold its breath. Franz sneered next to him. "Really? Eager to make a statement, aren't we?" Joseph's eyes slowly moved to acknowledge Franz. He kept his mouth shut. Franz narrowed his eyes. "I see. Shall we show him why he's here?" Franz quickly glanced at Axel; he didn't meet his gaze, eyes calculating and seemingly sizing up Joseph. He blinked. "I have a better idea. We're in need of some man-power, don't you think?" he hastily suggested. Franz raised an eyebrow, then shrugged. "Alright. 25894, step forward and follow Axel. The rest of you, follow the soldiers to the showers." Franz curtly nodded, and the men jumped to action, herding the mass of Jews to the east side of camp, near several furnaces and muddy trucks. Axel's focus stayed on Joseph, however, as he was pushed to the front, curiosity and fear gleaming in his eyes. He waited till the man finally made it to the front, then wordlessly walked towards a small group of tired men across camp, busy constructing a new building.

"Where are you taking them?" Joseph asked quietly. Axel ignored him. "Do I want to know?" Joseph whispered after a beat. "I heard rumors, but-" Axel stopped abruptly. "Whatever you heard, it is wrong." He turned his head slightly. "It's worse." He let that sit comfortably between them. "Now, address those in uniform as sir, keep your head down, and hope you survive. Never address me personally or attempt to converse with me. Be smart. That is the most I can give you." Axel moved to lead him to the entrance of a looming wooden warehouse.

Joseph abruptly moved to follow him. "Why are you helping me?" Axel shook his head. "I don't know. Keep your tools and do not break anything if you want to avoid a beating." He swallowed roughly, finally allowing his hands to fall from behind him and hang at his sides. His chest constricted harshly as he finally completely faced Joseph. "I'm sorry." His icy blue eyes tried to tell him for everything. Joseph nodded, bright green eyes hardening. He pushed past Axel, turning to throw a small smile of comfort. It's ok.

Axel stiffened. A moment. A memory. A decision.

I need to get him out. Now.

Comic discussion series hosted by University

Adalia Garza
THE RIDER

The Research and Instructional Services department of the University Library is hosting a virtual series of comic discussions called “Graphic Thoughts” via Zoom to connect with students amid the pandemic.

The weekly series began shortly after COVID-19 restrictions mandated the shut-down of in-person meetings. Carlton Nelson, a research and instruction librarian, said the library wanted to interact with students and provide a “relief valve” for them during the pandemic.

“The goal is to get people to interact with librarians and the library in a non-traditional kind of way,” Nelson said. “The other goal was to provide some sort of programming to students during the pandemic and also to, kind of, provide a relief valve, some way to have fun, through the university.”

Nelson explained the importance of the library.

“The library is an important part of the university,” he said. “We provide many services and many resources that I don’t think the students are too familiar with, and one of those services is access to experts, access to librarians.”

Nelson said it was a good

idea to host a non-academic outlet for students.

“[The library] opening up another avenue for [students] to interact with us is always a good idea because it, basically, allows us to talk with patrons but in a non-official capacity.”

According to its monthly flyers, “Graphic Thoughts” is a series of discussions on graphic novels, cartoons, and other pop culture issues.

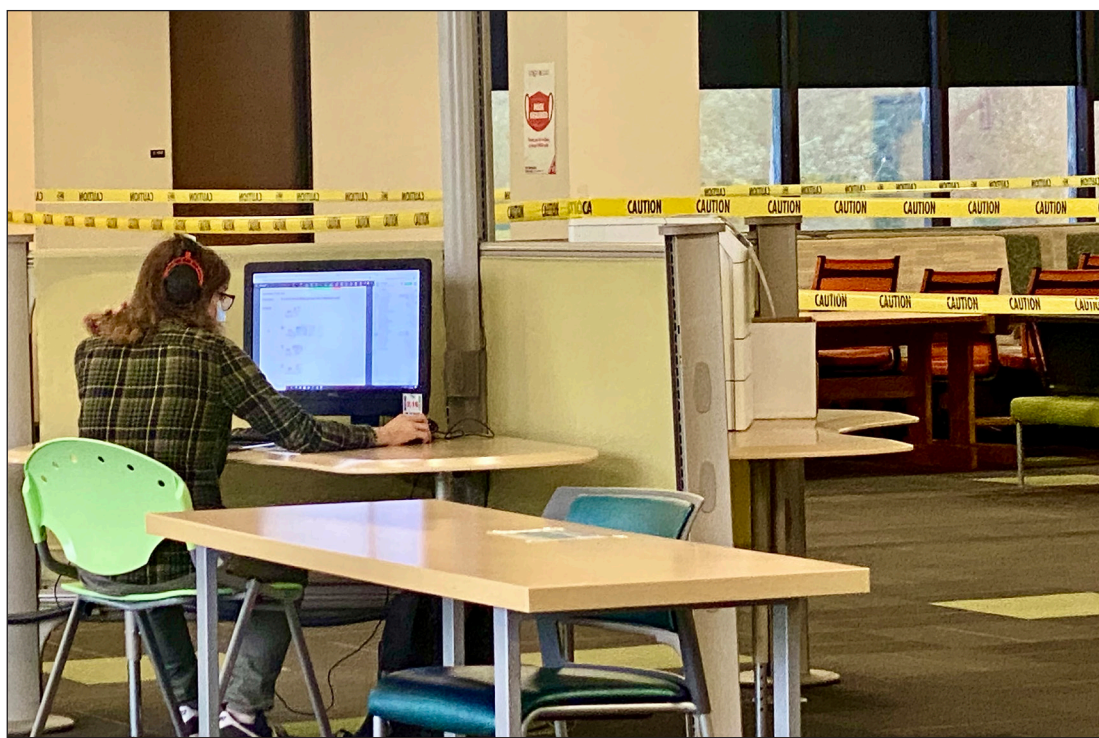
Nelson said small groups discuss different types of comics with several talking points.

“Generally, we talk about comics, which includes not only comic books, graphic novels, but also cartoons—more traditional [ones], like Sunday comics, online web comics and graphic literature,” he said. “Whether it’s the story, the actual art, the political, social, cultural content of comics, the history of it, it just depends on what the topic is.”

Shawn Vela, an entrepreneurship and innovation freshman, said comics are an outlet for him. He has attended two meetings since enrolling in UTRGV this spring.

“Had I been in college, you know, a lot longer, I would have without question attended the meetings because it’s a very engaging discussion outlet for me,” Vela said.

He plans to establish his own comic publishing business and



Jacqueline Wallace/ THE RIDER PHOTO

The University Library provides many services, resources and presentations, such as “Graphic Thoughts,” a series

said the discussions help him understand his audience.

“This sort of discussion helps me get further insight as to what the audience is, what they want, what they don’t want, what they’re seeking, what they seek in types of works,” Vela said.

He said creating his own comics is something he will continue as it has helped him

through difficult times.

“I had very troublesome middle school years and high school years, but one thing that kept me going was just, you know, investing my time into these stories, which have inspired me, uplifted me in some way, maybe reshaped my view of the world, and I want to do that again,” Vela said.

Nelson said furthering the knowledge of a student’s in-

sight on comics is satisfying.

“It’s always neat when a person says, ‘Hey, I’ve never heard of that particular comic before. Where did you find it? How can you get a hold of it?’” he said. “You know, allowing people to discover different types of graphic narrative is really cool.”

The upcoming discussion will be held at 5 p.m. April 28. RSVP is available on V Link.

The Doodler

By Elizabeth Mendoza

POET
Continued from Page 6

York for a graduate degree in creative writing. Eventually, she relocated to El Paso, where her mother was from.

In 2006, Pérez moved to the Valley, where she began instructing at legacy institution University of Texas-Pan American. She also serves as the associate director of the Center for Mexican American Studies at UTRGV.

“Solstice,” released in 2003, details living in those different states.

“The first collection, ‘Solstice,’ is a lot about different times that are inspired by my life in California and New York, in El Paso, where my mom is from, when I moved there,” she said.

In 2016, “With the River on Our Face” was published, which was about her experiences in El Paso and the Valley.

“A lot of that work is about the natural world in both places, but also the social issues at

the time that I wrote it,” the author said. “It’s about a lot of things. There’s love poems, and there’s everything.”

Since then, Pérez has been working on her third poetry collection, which will be released next year. It will include some of her older and newer poems.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pérez has continued to write poetry but through a different writing process than she used for “With the River on Our Face.”

“A lot of that work, I wrote by being outside and taking walks through wildlife refuges and going to visit different places along the [Rio Grande], including all the way through New Mexico and up to Colorado, but for this [new] book I can’t do that.”

Instead of looking for external inspiration, Pérez has had to rely on inspirations from herself and her home.

“It’s amazing how you can start to develop different kinds of sensory motivation,” she

said. “Before ... I would see things and those images would appear in my writing, and now I’m mostly listening from the inside of my house.”

Through lyric poetry, Pérez finds her voice.

“It’s a little song, and so it doesn’t necessarily have to have a beginning, middle and the end, although it has movement,” she said. “I enjoy creating new ways of saying things that we may have heard before because we’re all trying to describe our human experience. ... The lyric poetry lends itself to that kind of writing.”

Some of the other experiences she writes about is her family history and life as a woman of color.

Pérez is the granddaughter of “three Mexican immigrants and a Tejano from El Paso.” Her parents both grew up in borderland areas, and Pérez draws on her family’s experiences as inspiration.

“I just deeply honor and respect their experiences,” she said. “We never really learned

about our histories, in the official textbooks, in public schools, and even in my college experience. Those histories ... [were] not really widely available, and so I think that I’m motivated to write about my own experiences as a Chicana in this world.”

Last year, Pérez became the Texas Poet Laureate, winning a fellowship with the Academy of American Poets. She imagined she would travel often to meet other poet laureates from other states but due to the pandemic, that experience was mostly virtual.

However, she remains grateful for the fellowship, especially because she is using the funds to create a digital archive of Texas borderland poets, as well as other poets.

“They will be a collection of videos, and the poets will be performing their work,” Pérez said. “They will have Spanish translations, literary translations of their poetry in subtitles below and if they read in Spanish, or in both languag-

es or other languages, those translations will be provided as well.”

The archive should be completed this summer.

For Pérez, poetry is an outlet for reflecting upon the natural world, her family’s history and what is occurring in the world, like family separation on the border and the border wall.

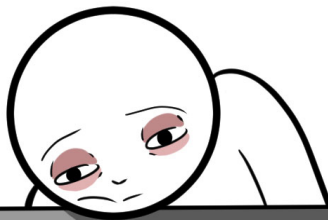
“As a writer, I’m not going to remain silent about issues that affect me and that affect my communities and that also affect other communities that I care about,” the McAllen resident said. “I care very deeply about what happens in the world beyond me.”

When discussing creating poetry about similar issues, Pérez informs her students that courage is necessary.

“I tell my students: When we do that, it requires courage because not everybody’s going to agree, but we’re poets. Poets throughout time have always tried to tell the truth as they see it,” she said.

To learn more about Pérez’s work, visit her [website](#).

Don’t overwork yourself while burned out.



Use self-care to give yourself the time needed to recover.



SPACEX
Continued from Page 2

Friends of the Wildlife Corridor also asked the FAA to review the company's impact on vegetation, wetlands and wildlife in the surrounding area. The organization also requested that the FAA conduct a thorough launch failure analysis of SpaceX.

Last month, the FAA released the Scoping Summary Report for the Draft Environmental Assessment for the SpaceX Starship/Super Heavy Launch Vehicle Program at the SpaceX Boca Chica Launch Site.

The report states that the FAA is evaluating SpaceX's proposal to operate the Starship/Super Heavy launch vehicle at its Boca Chica Launch site.

"SpaceX must obtain an experimental permit and/or a vehicle operator license from the FAA to operate the Starship/Super Heavy launch vehicle," the report states. "Issuing an experimental permit or a vehicle operator license is considered a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)."

The report also acknowledged the public's scoping comments, including concerns about potential impacts on protected species and habitat, the level of environmental review (i.e., the appropriateness of an EA versus an EIS), potential impacts on airspace, potential impacts on land of cultural importance, safety of launch operations given the proximity to nearby liquefied natural gas facilities and degradation of the en-

vironment due to test and launch operations.

The Rider asked the FAA questions regarding the report, but as of press time Friday, the agency had not responded.

The FAA has not issued a new environmental assessment.

Asked what his thoughts are on SpaceX choosing Boca Chica as a launch site, Chapman replied, "As a testing and development facility, they don't need to be there. You know, when you're developing and testing brand-new rockets, that should be at some facility that's far away from people, that's not adjacent to wildlife refuge land and not adjacent to wetlands. So, my feeling is that the experimentation in testing should be done elsewhere."

He said his message to Elon Musk,

SpaceX CEO and founder, and the community is that what SpaceX is proposing has too many environmental impacts on Boca Chica wildlife.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said SpaceX actively communicates and collaborates with the state agency, as well as USFWS, given its role as the landowner and its overall responsibility to provide recommendations to protect fish and wildlife resources.

The long-term disturbance or impacts from the debris onsite are not known and are being carefully considered in collaboration with SpaceX and other responding parties, according to USFWS.

BILL
Continued from Page 3

you know, ethnic studies is so critical to helping, you know, diffuse a lot of these racial tensions that are going on in our community right now," Morales said.

Diaz, a contributor to the bill said there are several reasons why culturally relevant courses, such as Mexican American and African American studies, are important.

"At the strictly logical facet, there's [research](#) that proves beyond a reasonable doubt that students that take culturally relevant courses excel, not just in that class, but across the board," he said. "Dr. Noel Cabrera, he was the leader for this group of researchers from the University of Arizona who did all the research on the positive effects of Mexican American studies at Tucson Unified School District. Tucson Unified School District went from double-digit dropout rates to a 90% graduation rate for students who took those courses."

Diaz said his findings were used as evidence at the Arizona Supreme Court to overturn the state's ban on ethnic studies.

"Now, on an emotional level, in the past, we didn't have evidence such as that, but we had a lot of personal evidence where many people did not read stories about Latinos or by Mexican Americans in their curriculum and

when they finally were exposed to it, it changed the way they thought," he said.

Diaz said he was a junior in college when he was exposed to stories about Latinos and the narratives transformed the way he wrote. He said he had not written about his own experience before that because he thought it did not have a place in literature.

"It's about time that Texas cultivated a curriculum that the logical side is proven to help students like fire them up, get them excited, give them pride and get them really engaged in education," Diaz said.

Morales said there is no additional cost to adding ethnic studies classes to the curriculums of public schools.

"Because instead of having to provide extra staff to teach this as an elective, this will be part of the core curriculum," she said. "So, it'll already be included as part of the, you know, the cost that we already have."

Morales said students will be empowered by learning their own ethnic histories.

"I, personally, am very engaged and connected with my own family's history of success and trying to make, create change in our community and a lot of times, our students aren't exposed to their own histories and don't feel connected," she said. "They don't see people who look like them, have names like them or they don't learn the history of those people being in positions of power

and success and wealth and so, we need to empower them by making them feel like they do belong."

Christopher Carmona, an associate professor and interim director of the Mexican American Studies Academic Program at UTRGV, said he helped write the bill and explained that ethnic studies courses help high school students pass standardized tests and raise graduation rates.

Carmona said he has taught early college classes in Brownsville and that students get an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of the country and the roles that Mexicans, Mexican Americans and African Americans play.

"There's a sense of appreciation and a desire to learn more," he said. "And that is really what we want. The more we get the history out about what's going on with this country and the histories we can tell about, you know, Mexican Americans and African Americans and others, the more critical thinking skills are brought up."

He said two of his previous students have gone on to pursue a master's in Mexican American Studies and a doctorate in ethnic studies.

"So, usually what happens when the students get into these classes, because there's an awakening that happens within them ... they start getting excited about what they're learning," Carmona said.

He said an unintentional effect of

these classes is bridging a divide between younger and older generations of Mexicans and Mexican Americans.

Carmona said he has assignments in which students must interview their family members and talk about the different things they experienced regarding the topics the students are learning in class.

"What happens is that when they start talking to their grandparents or asking them questions about things, different things, like Cesar Chavez and all this different stuff, and they begin to form a relationship with the older generation, and they start opening up," he said.

Asked how likely the bill will become law, Morales replied, "I believe that it's very likely. We structured the bill so that there's no physical note. So, there's no cost to this. This class is already built into the system. Both classes are electives. So, just switching them from an elective to one of the options towards the credit to graduate should be fairly simple."

She presented HB 1504 to the Public Education House Committee on April 6 and the bill was approved last Thursday. HB 1504 now advances to the House floor.

If approved, HB 1504 would apply only to students entering the ninth grade during the 2022-2023 school year or later.

"We need to be more unified as a nation and recognize each other's backgrounds and history," Morales said.

PASANTÍAS
Continúa de Página 5

Kaufold dijo que su mayor consejo para los estudiantes es que apliquen a pasantías, incluso si sienten que no las conseguirán porque nunca sabrán hasta que apliquen.

"Hay muchas cosas diferentes que, ya saben, los estudiantes pueden hacer para aprovechar al máximo su pasantía pero lo primero por hacer es aplicar", él dijo. "Ya saben, eso es con lo que considero que los estudiantes vacilan al ver un puesto de trabajo y, ya saben, a veces tienen requisitos para una posición o cualificaciones que sienten que no satisfacen y ... eso depende en la organización que está ofreciendo una pasantía a los estudiantes".

Kaufold dijo que los empleadores buscan ciertas habilidades.

"Lo que se me viene a la mente, sería la comunicación", él dijo. "La comunicación en una variedad de maneras, verdad, ya sea verbal o escrita, hablar para presentaciones. Ya saben, tienen que tener buenos métodos de comunicación para una experiencia, verdad, y eso solo para la contratación general".

"Además, ya saben, está la colab-

oración. Ya saben, la mayoría de los empleadores quieren personal que trabajará bien en equipo y aquellos que puedan colaborar con otros. Y, ya saben, si hay un proyecto específico, no solo para un estudiante, pero para un grupo, cuál es su esfuerzo y cuál es su compromiso en ello, y pueden desarrollarlo con otros jugadores del equipo".

Kaufold dijo que la tercera habilidad crucial sería la administración del tiempo. Los estudiantes deben ser capaces de administrar su tiempo con ciertos proyectos y fechas de entrega. Él dijo que si no poseen esa habilidad, casi siempre, los estudiantes terminan procrastinando y puede parecer que no son exitosos en su función como pasantes en la organización.

"La cuarta cuestión ... es ser adaptable", él dijo. "Ya saben, ser capaces de moverse en diferentes tipos de entornos laborales, ser capaces de encargarse de diferentes tipos de proyectos, ser las personas que puedan tomar la iniciativa. Pero que también sean proactivos, dado el cambio de entorno, ya sea trabajando, ya saben, en un proyecto, cómo pueden adaptarse y trabajar en un proyecto diferente, y asegurarse de que puedan con los dos.

"En realidad es sobre ser adaptables en también el tipo de entorno en el que están trabajando. Y cuando digo entorno, puede ser, como, ya saben, trabajar en el inicio con cinco a 10 personas o trabajar en una corporación grande de miles, ya saben, y cómo encajan y destacan".

Kaufold dijo que las últimas dos habilidades son la investigación y el pensamiento crítico.

"Tienen que hacer su investigación, aún al principio de la pasantía", él dijo. "Pero, incluso cuando están en la pasantía haciendo investigación en los diferentes, ya saben, componentes de un proyecto o, ya saben, si tendrán que desarrollar un programa o ayudar a promover un servicio o un producto, qué investigación tienen al principio de todo que puedan presentar y que terminaría siendo exitosa, ya saben, que tenga relación al proyecto".

"Además, tienen el pensamiento crítico. Ya saben, necesitan ser capaces de pensar sobre la marcha y rápido, ya saben, resolver problemas, y, ya saben, con la ayuda de otros. Por supuesto, no siempre tienen que hacer esto por su cuenta, pero, solo ser rápidos sobre la marcha, siendo capaces de pensar en

cómo resolver asuntos para, ya saben, problemas que se están compartiendo o, ya saben, que son preocupantes para, a veces, los empleadores o los proyectos".

Se le preguntó cuál es mejor, una pasantía o un trabajo. Kaufold contestó que los dos ayudan a desarrollar habilidades en diferentes áreas.

"Entonces, si en realidad están, ya saben, gastando cuatro años de universidad para recibir una licenciatura en cierta especialidad, una experiencia de pasantía les dará más experiencia a comparación de un trabajo de medio tiempo", él dijo. "Un trabajo de medio tiempo puede ayudarlos a desarrollar habilidades, pero una pasantía les dará las habilidades y la experiencia que son más propicias al tipo de trabajo que quieren después de graduarse".

Kaufold dijo que es importante que los estudiantes consideren las pasantías en una etapa temprana de su carrera universitaria. Mientras estén en su primer o segundo año, incluso en su tercer año, y no se esperen al final para perseguir ese tipo de oportunidades.

--Traducido por Paulina Longoria

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times, when you go into a big modeling agency outside of Texas, they expect you to change everything about yourself in a week and to really find something that ... might not necessarily match your identity or match the message that you're trying to convey."

They emphasized that they really just want people in their agency to be proud of who they are.

"One of the bigger projects that I'm working on at the moment is Texas Fashion Week, which used to be Brownsville Fashion Week," Fiorucci said. "It's a fashion week that I created a few years ago. ... It usually happens around the time of June but with the new updates that we're having, we're trying to convert our way over into the bigger scene of Texas Fashion Week."

They said the shows will explore all facets of Texas fashion.

"Come October, you can expect to see fashion shows all over the Valley, going up to Corpus [Christi], San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, just the option to really get an experience of what fashion [is] like all over Texas," Fiorucci said.

Submissions for f10 is open year-round via email to people of all backgrounds and experience. To apply, send an email to info@fiorucci.com with the subject "online submission," of a full-body shot, half-body shot, profile shot,

and headshot, along with your name, age and height, chest, weight and hip measurements.

For photo submissions, Fiorucci recommends applicants use a plain background with natural lighting and simple makeup and clothing, such as jeans and a T-shirt. Photo submissions do not have to be high quality or professional.

For additional information, contact @fiorucci on Instagram.