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## Social justice talk



**Aura Velasquez/THE RIDER**  
 Photographs and art pieces featuring Dolores Huerta's life as a civil rights activist are on display at the Brownsville Museum of Fine Art. Huerta was a co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union.

### Brigitte Ortiz THE RIDER

As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, the UTRGV Center for Mexican American Studies, College of Fine Arts and Office of Public Art will host a symposium featuring Dolores Huerta, a labor rights activist, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. today in the Texas Southmost College Performing Arts Center in Brownsville.

The free event will begin at 11:15 a.m. with the first panel, "La Unión del Pueblo Entero (LUPE) and the United Farm Workers," and talk about Huerta's impact on the Rio Grande Valley.

From 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. the second panel will feature *Cosecha* Voices, an organization of former migrant farm workers, to discuss how storytelling was used to talk about the migrant farm worker experience in order to effect social change, according to Stephanie Alvarez, director of the Center for Mexican American Studies and associate professor in Mexican American Studies.

The third panel will take See **JUSTICE**, Page 8

# LEGACY

## UTRGV honors Juliet V. García



State Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr. (D-Brownsville) gives Juliet V. García a Texas flag and state senate gavel that was used to pass legislation she worked to have approved at the reception last Thursday in the PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus. The event was held to honor García, one of 17 Americans to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom July 7 in Washington, D.C.

Reprinted from *utrgvrider.com*

### Natalie Lapsley THE RIDER

Last Thursday, UTRGV hosted a "one-of-a-kind" event honoring Juliet V. García, former president of both

Texas Southmost College and legacy institution University of Texas at Brownsville and, now, an awardee of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Dozens of people, many of whom used to work for or with García, gathered in the PlainsCapital Bank El Gran

**Arisbeth Rodriguez/THE RIDER**

Salón in the Student Union on the Brownsville campus to celebrate her, one of 17 people to receive the nation's highest civilian honor from President Joe Biden on July 7 in Washington, D.C.

"There are a lot of things See **LEGACY**, Page 8

## 'The desire to help'

### Teresita Dominguez THE RIDER

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at UTRGV, which took 13 years of planning, has begun this semester with a cohort of 14 students.

The DNP program is aimed at current nursing professionals who hold a Master of Science in Nursing and registered nurse license in their state of practice.

The new program prepares nurses for leadership roles in improving health-care systems, not only locally, but also at the state and national levels.

"The DNP is prepared to look at [a problem], evaluate it and then look for ways that we can really improve it," said Lilia Fuentes, interim dean for the School of Nursing and liaison to the provost. "How can we remedy this problem? When they create those plans, they're bringing in [a team of experts] to come in and solve that issue."

Fuentes said work on the proposal for the DNP program began in 2018 and was approved in 2021.

"However, the initial inquiry and plans began back in 2008 when we were UTPA," she said.

The DNP program is a 45-hour curriculum that offers most courses online via Zoom.

"It is online, and we only require them to come mandatory in the beginning of See **DNP**, Page 8



PAUL CHOY/UNIVERSITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

# Transportation department addresses concerns



**Isabel Morales/THE RIDER**

Valley Metro driver Sherry Banks (left) greets Noelia Villasana, an art education senior, last Wednesday before taking her to the UTRGV Visual Arts Building in Edinburg.

### Juan Villarreal THE RIDER

UTRGV Parking and Transportation Services has reinstated the 8:10 p.m. campus connector bus route after it was discontinued at the beginning of the semester.

This was a direct result of student concerns.

"I'm glad they put the 8:10 p.m. line, because I [got] home around 12 a.m. and I [had] to wake up at 4 a.m. to come [back to campus]," graphic design senior Ayeli Garcia said. "I take the 7:30 a.m. bus and my classes end around 7:25 p.m."

Garcia is from Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, and makes

the commute from Brownsville to Edinburg Monday through Thursday.

Students in similar situations to Garcia were key in the addition of this line.

"The change was motivated by demand," said Rodney Gomez, executive director of UTRGV Parking and Transportation Services. "We wanted to make sure that we were able to meet that demand and not leave anybody behind."

Gomez said the department was able to get an additional bus to meet demands.

"We shifted [a] coach bus into the 8:10 p.m. slot," he said.

Gomez said the bus was added because of a larger-than-

expected evening ridership.

Education senior Roy Arambula said, "There was a situation where the bus was so full at 9:30 p.m. that they told me I had to wait until 11 p.m. for the bus."

Higher demand is not only a concern in the evenings.

"We're averaging a little under 2,000 trips a day," Gomez said, referring to the number of times someone boards a campus connector or VOLT. "If we project the number of service days, that's over 400,000 trips in a year."

In Fiscal Year 2020, the department facilitated half as many, at around 200,000 trips, See **TRANSPORTATION**, Page 8

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Monday Internship Week Kickoff Event

UTRGV will hold an event to inform students about **Internship Week activities** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Main Building Courtyard on the Brownsville campus and Student Union on the Edinburg campus.

**Christians at RGV Tabling**  
**Christians at RGV** will hand out **flyers** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Student Union lawn on the Brownsville campus.

**V Link and Engagement Zone 101**  
The **Center for Student Involvement and Student Ambassadors** will host an **informational event** about getting involved on campus from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union Sage and Palmetto rooms on the Edinburg campus. **Coffee** will be served.

**Kappa Sigma Tabling**  
The **Kappa Sigma** fraternity will hold a tabling event from noon to 1 p.m. today and Wednesday on the Chapel Lawn on the Edinburg campus. Members will answer questions about the fraternity. Attendees can play **spikeball** and **football**.

**Host Club General Meeting**  
The **Host Club** will meet from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship Room 121 on the Edinburg campus.

**K.I.S.S. General Meeting**  
The **Korean International Student Society** will meet from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in Health Affairs Building West Room 1.404 on the Edinburg campus and at the same time and place through Thursday.

**Cosmic Rodeo**  
**Sigma Delta Lambda** will hold a **recruitment event** from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus. There will be **games** and **prizes**.

**Tau Kappa Epsilon**  
**Tau Kappa Epsilon** will meet

from 6 to 7 p.m. in the University Center Bronc Room on the Edinburg campus.

**Encounter Campus Ministry**  
The **Encounter Campus Ministry** will conduct a **Bible study** from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Interdisciplinary Academic and Engineering Building on the Edinburg campus. There will be **free food**.

**Tuesday Internship Panel**  
The **College of Engineering and Computer Science** and the **Association of Latino Professionals for America** will host a panel from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. The panel will discuss the value of internships and provide tips. The event is open to students, staff and faculty.

**Holy Mass**  
The **Catholic Student Association** will celebrate **Mass** from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in the Chapel on the Edinburg campus.

**Involvement Fair**  
The **Center for Student Involvement and Involvement Ambassadors** will host an **Involvement Fair** from noon to 1:30 p.m. on the Chapel Lawn on the Edinburg campus. There will be **free food** and **giveaways**. RSVP on V Link. For questions and accommodations, email [csi@utrgv.edu](mailto:csi@utrgv.edu).

**Café Latino Americano**  
The **Council for Cultural Activities** and the **Center for Student Involvement** will hold a **café** at 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Main Building Room 2.402 on the Brownsville campus and from 5 to 6 p.m. Friday in the University Center Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. Students can taste the cuisines of different Latin American countries.

**Criminal Justice Meeting**  
The **American Criminal Justice Association Sigma Kappa Chi** will meet from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Brownsville Bible Reading**  
**Christians at RGV** will host a **Bible reading** from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in Student Union Room 2.24 on the Brownsville

campus. There will be **free food**.

**RGV German Club Meeting**  
The **RGV German Club** will meet from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the Main Building on the Brownsville campus.

**Filipino Student Association**  
The **Filipino Student Association** will meet from 12:15 to 2 p.m. in Science Building Room 2.102 on the Edinburg campus. Students interested in participating are welcome to attend.

**3 Keys to Landing the Internship**  
UTRGV has partnered with **TRiO Student Support Services** to host an **informational session** from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Salón Cassia in the Main Building on the Brownsville campus and in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. The speakers will give tips on networking, resumes and interview preparation.

**Delight Ministries**  
**Delight Ministries** will host a **chapter meeting** from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in Liberal Arts Building South Room 177.

**Wednesday Turning Point Tabling**  
**Turning Point USA** at UTRGV will hold an **informational session** about the organization from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union on the Brownsville campus. Members will hand out **stickers, posters** and **buttons**.

**Involvement Fair**  
The **Center for Student Involvement** and **Involvement Ambassadors** will host an **Involvement Fair** from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Main Courtyard on the Brownsville campus. Students can learn about university organizations. There will be **free food** and **giveaways**. RSVP on V Link. For questions and accommodations, email [csi@utrgv.edu](mailto:csi@utrgv.edu).

**Internship Panel**  
UTRGV has partnered with the **Office of Governmental and Community Relations** for an internship panel from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

UTRGV faculty and staff will discuss the benefits of offering internships, development tips and best practices.

**Brownsville Bible Reading**  
**Christians at RGV** will host a **Bible reading** from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in Student Union Room 2.24 on the Brownsville campus. There will be **free food**.

**Defining Your Leadership Journey**  
The **Student Leadership Academy** and the **Center for Student Involvement** will host a workshop on identifying personal values from 2 to 3 p.m. in Music, Science & Learning Center Room 1.105 on the Brownsville campus. They will also meet from 5 to 6 p.m. in the University Center Cenizo Room on the Edinburg campus.

**Dental Meeting**  
The **Pre-Dental Society** and the **American Student Dental Association Pre-Dental Chapter** will hold a meeting from 3:50 to 5:15 p.m. in Music, Science & Learning Center Room 1.112 on the Brownsville campus and at the same time in Education Complex Room 1.502 on the Edinburg campus to discuss volunteer and academic opportunities regarding dentistry. There will be **free food**.

**Doves and Donuts**  
**Sigma Delta Lambda** will hold an informational session about the sorority from 5 to 6 p.m. in Engineering Building Room 1.262-ITV on the Edinburg campus. **Free doughnuts** will be available.

**Turning Point USA**  
**Adam Hinojosa**, a Republican candidate for Texas Senate for District 27, will speak from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Music, Science & Learning Center Room 1.105 on the Brownsville campus. Hinojosa will speak about how inflation is affecting small businesses.

**Thursday IMA General Meeting**  
The **Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business**

will meet from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. at Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship Room 120G. There will be **free food**.

**Micro-Internships**  
The **Career Center** and the **Parker Dewey organization** will host a presentation from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. Attendees will explore different career paths while participating in activities.

**Arts and Crafts with APsi**  
**Alpha Psi Lambda** will hold an arts and crafts meeting from noon to 2 p.m. in Interdisciplinary Academic Building Room 1.219 on the Brownsville campus.

**K.I.S.S. Fundraiser**  
The **Korean International Student Society** will sell **Asian snacks** from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on the Campus Outdoor Grounds on the Edinburg campus.

**Internship Coffee Break**  
UTRGV will be partnering with **University College - Learning Framework** to hold a coffee break from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Interdisciplinary Academic Building South Lobby on the Brownsville campus and in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus.

**NBA 2K23 Tournament**  
The **Student Union** will hold a **video game tournament** from 5 to 7 p.m. in Room 2.100 on the Edinburg campus.

**Chi Alpha Meeting**  
**Chi Alpha Campus Ministry** will gather from 6 to 9 p.m. in Science Building Room 2.102 on the Edinburg campus. They will worship God and meet in fellowship.

**Friday HACU National Internship Program**  
**Robert C. Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship** and **Enactus** will co-host a presentation about the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

--Compiled by Landon Burns

## POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Sept. 7 and 8.



### Sept. 7 10:32 a.m.:

Officers responded to the UT Health RGV Multispecialty Clinic in Edinburg in reference to a man being verbally abusive toward clinic staff members. He was arrested and booked into the Edinburg Municipal Jail on a charge of disorderly conduct (class C misdemeanor).

### Sept. 8 11:01 a.m.:

A UT Health employee reported a suspicious man at the UT Health RGV Area Health Education Centers Primary Care in San Carlos. The man had previously been seen in the women's restrooms several times, and the employees were concerned with his behavior and did not want him at the location. UTRGV police officers made contact with the man and issued a criminal trespass warning prohibiting him from all university properties.

**5:26 p.m.:** An officer checked the status of a vehicle stopped on the roadway and impeding traffic on the 500 block of North Sugar Road in Edinburg. The officer made contact with the occupant of the vehicle, who was sleeping behind the wheel and exhibited signs of intoxication. A field investigation revealed the man was under the influence of narcotics. The man was arrested and booked into the Edinburg Municipal Jail on a charge of public intoxication (class C misdemeanor).

**8:50 p.m.:** An officer conducted a

traffic stop after observing a vehicle failing to drive in a single lane and striking a safety construction barrel on the 1200 block of West Chapin Street in Edinburg. A field investigation revealed that the non-affiliated driver was intoxicated and, after a search incident to arrest, three alprazolam tablets were allegedly found on her person. She was booked into the Edinburg Municipal Jail and the vehicle was impounded by the on-call wrecker service.

--Compiled by Arisbeth Rodriguez



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Brigitte Ortiz  
Landon Burns  
Andrea Flores  
Teresita Dominguez  
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**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
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Jesus Sanchez

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS**  
Ana Sanchez  
Maggie Castillo

**CONTACT:**  
**EDINBURG CAMPUS**  
1201 West University Dr.  
ELABS 170  
Phone: (956) 665-2541  
Fax: (956) 665-7122

**BROWNSVILLE CAMPUS**  
1 West University Blvd.  
Student Union 2.16  
Phone: (956) 882-5143  
Fax: (956) 882-5176

Email: [TheRider@utrgv.edu](mailto:TheRider@utrgv.edu)  
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# SGA to brainstorm solutions

**Andrea Flores**  
THE RIDER

The Student Government Association has announced plans to discuss issues regarding parking with the head of Campus Auxiliary Services.

During the senate's Sept. 9 meeting, SGA Vice President Jose Herrera said the executive team hopes to meet with Associate Vice President of Campus Auxiliary Services Letty Benavides this Friday to address student concerns about parking and transportation.

He also said the team has some solutions in mind.

"The idea we had was with changing the zoning designations to something more hybrid with the payable meters," Herrera said.

On another note, the team met with Walter Diaz, dean of the College of Liberal Arts; Sheila Dooley, associate dean for Undergraduate Education; and Odalys Saenz, senator for the College of Liberal Arts, to get approval for a Student Advisory Council for the college.

Herrera said the council was approved before the Sept. 9 senate meeting.

"We will be soon establishing it as soon as we finish the details," he said.

The upcoming council will facilitate communication among the 13 departments inside the College of Liberal Arts.

SGA Vice President Kimberly Escalante said the team met with the University Library department to create a survey for the student body for feedback regarding the library's hours of operation and resources.

Escalante said the SGA received concerns about the library closing on Saturdays.

"As of right now, the library does not have enough [staff] to be able to open up on Saturdays because of low funding that they have, so we're trying to help the library," she said.

Dean of Libraries Paul Sharpe said the library has been closed on Saturdays since the pandemic and their current data demonstrates that Saturdays have the lowest student attendance.

"The survey that we're getting ready to roll out, we will be ... trying to find out [students'] preference between Saturday hours or later evening hours through the week," Sharpe said.

The answers collected will demonstrate how many students would use the library on Saturdays if it were open and for how many hours to allow the executive team to find ways to fund the library. Other questions included in the survey will be about how many students are aware about library resources offered, such as the Textbook Affordability Project, with which students can get textbooks for free or at a low cost.

Escalante said the team plans



Abigail Ollave/THE RIDER

Student Government Association senators and the executive team give their attention to presenters during the Sept. 9 senate meeting in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus.

to share the survey at the end of September or beginning of October via social media and is considering a tabling event where students scan a QR code to access the questions. She said they also plan to randomly reward students who complete the survey.

SGA President Jonathan Dominguez said the team was scheduled to meet with College of Sciences Dean Vivian Incera last Friday "to talk about why students are choosing to take more classes at the Edinburg

campus."

"The executives believe it might be due to more courses being provided at the Edinburg than the Brownsville campus and more instructors teaching a specific subject," Dominguez said.

The executive team will also meet with the Athletics Department to discuss future events the SGA has planned to get the student body and leaders involved.

Academic Affairs Chair Cassandra Garcia, senator

for the College of Sciences, said Meet the Deans will be rescheduled to Nov. 1 and 8. Meet the Deans is an event hosted by SGA where students can interact with the dean of their respective college to talk about any concerns or ideas.

"We have partnered with Campus Life and [the] Community Affairs Committee ... just so we can make sure that this event gets, like, marketed correctly," Garcia said. "We want a lot of students to be able to just, like, know about it."

# A celebration of our roots



Aura Velasquez/THE RIDER

Julissa Lara (from left), early childhood education freshman; Erika Chavez, clinical professions freshman; Primavera Lopez, nutrition junior; and Maria Mendoza, communication studies junior, enjoy a game of *loteria* during *Fiestas Patrias* last Wednesday in La Sala in the Student Union on the Brownsville campus.

**Fatima Gamez Lopez**  
SPANISH EDITOR

Jose Ponce, a mathematical and statistical sciences lecturer, grew up on the other side of the border.

"I was born here, in Brownsville, Texas, but I lived most of my life in Mexico until I was a teenager," Ponce said. "I came back to the United States. I had to learn English on my own, and then

look for ways to complete my education."

Asked about his transition from living in Mexico to moving to the U.S., Ponce said it was a difficult path.

"It was hard, you know, in the '90s there was a lot of discrimination," he said. "There [were] a lot of things that, today, people can't do to you, but in those days, it was all about groups staying together and being non-

inclusive of outsiders."

Ponce said he knew that if he wanted to learn English, he had to start integrating with other groups.

"I reached out to other groups because I wanted to learn English and I wanted to learn English in a very good way," he said. "So, I immersed myself into the other groups, even though they weren't accepting me, but that didn't bring me down. It made me

learn English better so I could communicate [with others]."

Ponce said it is important to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

"It is very important because Hispanics make a lot of contributions to everything in this country, not only in education, but in the workforce, in government, in science and many other fields," he said. "It is very important to recognize that we are a minority, that we're no longer that minor and it's fast-growing, and it's part of everything."

When Ponce was 16 years old, he returned to the United States to learn English and study. One thing he would tell that 16-year-old boy is not to give up.

"It doesn't matter how they make you feel and what they say about you, and you are stronger than you think you are," he said. "It took me some time to get through and bring down all those barriers and if I were to see myself, I will say, 'You can do this faster. You can do this with determination. Don't give up.'"

Azucena Herrera Aguado, a management clinical assistant professor, agreed that it is important to recognize the contributions of Hispanics.

"It is part of our culture and our traditions," Herrera Aguado said. "We must have symbols that are associated

with our identity. When we have something nice, we want to show it to others and so, I think, this month contains very important dates for those of us who are Hispanic [and] for those of us with Hispanic heritage."

Her first steps as a member of the UTRGV faculty were to become an advocate and educator for the Center for Diversity & Inclusion and DREAM Resource Center and the DREAM Zone.

Herrera Aguado said her experience moving from Central Mexico to the Rio Grande Valley was not easy.

"Interacting with a language that is not yours is not easy," she said. "Work hard, study hard, because part of the American dream has that formula. If someone comes to the United States but is not willing to follow the formula ... the American dream can be distorted because it is not going to be the dream that they imagined."

Herrera Aguado said she continues her family traditions through Mexican cuisine.

"For me, September is the month of Hispanic heritage," she said. "This period from September to October, for me, is represented with *jicamas*. ... *Jicaletas* are made with chile, lemon and *chamoy*. It is associated with many typical dishes, such as *pozole*,

See HERITAGE, Page 8



# #ENDALZ



**Danielle Perez**  
ONLINE EDITOR

Two years ago, my grandmother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and a year ago, she died because of it. It wasn't until then that I became familiar with this disease that took over my grandma and caused a great pain in my family.

To this day, I still question why there hasn't been a cure or why there is such a thing. Many people believe it is something that just comes with age, but it is not. There is way more to it. Just like cancer, it can be random and latch onto anyone it can get.

Alzheimer's disease is a brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and mental functions, such as the simplest tasks we do in our everyday life. This disease is ranked the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S., according to the U.S. National Institute on Aging.

On Wednesday, we have a chance to bring awareness to this disease by wearing purple in observance of World Alzheimer's Day.

To this day, scientists study the complex changes the brain goes through during Alzheimer's. Changes in the brain can begin a decade before symptoms start to appear, which is why I suggest getting tested whenever you have the chance.

This will give you more time to create memories, not only for you but also for your family to hold onto. It will also give you a chance to take medication to try to prevent it from getting severe and, most importantly, to give your

If Alzheimer's disease can take life from us, why don't we bring light to it and spread awareness?

family time to prepare and heal from the pain it'll cause.

Unfortunately, my grandma's Alzheimer's developed very quickly and advanced severely every month that there was no planning; there were no more memories created when there could've been if we had just been aware earlier on and hadn't ignored the little signs.

Memory loss happens

because toxic changes start to develop within the brain, according to the National Institute of Aging. Healthy neurons stop functioning and lose connections with other neurons and die. Damage starts to happen in the hippocampus and the entorhinal cortex, which are parts of the brain that are important when forming memories. As this keeps happening, the brain starts to shrink, eventually leading to a widespread destruction where the brain tissue shrinks greatly.

I saw life leave my grandma with my own eyes; the death cycle happened very slowly but aggressively all at once. How does someone ever recover from this? How is someone not supposed to fear getting old when there are diseases out there just waiting to eat your brain?

I tried to help my grandma remember by showing her photos or videos of past memories to help her regain them but I failed, not knowing the neurons were already damaged and there was no way I was going to retain them.

If only my family was more educated about this disease, we could've helped extend her lifetime or had the chance to create more memories before

See **ENDALZ**, Page 8



## Who has been your favorite professor and why?



**Sebastian Alvarez**  
biomedical sciences junior

"I would say my favorite professor, so far, in my whole three years here would have to be Dr. Sue Anne Chew. She teaches biomedical sciences. I took one class with her and I think she specializes in cell biology. And, well, the reason why I find her my favorite professor is the way she explained things was very in detail. She was nice to me. She made a lot of jokes and just made everything easier to retain."

"My favorite professor would have to be Boris Ermolinsky, and he's a biology professor. I just really like how into detail he is. He does have, like, a harsh Russian accent, but he just goes really into depth with everything and he, like, explains really well. So, that's why I like him."



**Soleil Dixie**  
biology sophomore



**Zan Sherkoti**  
biomedical sciences junior

"So, my favorite professor is Dr. Lorena Lopez. She teaches biomedical sciences also. Her specific classes are, like, anatomy, for example, and she is a really good professor. She teaches everything in an extremely good manner."

*"Mi profé favorito debería que ser [el] Dr. [Hugo] Rodriguez de BMED. Me gusta mucho como enseña. Me gusta cómo relaciona mucho el contenido de la clase con casos clínicos y es muy buena persona."*



**Augusto Ruiz**  
biomedical sciences junior




**Susan Guajardo**  
biomedical sciences junior

*"Mi profesora favorita es la Dra. [Lorena] Lopez. Me gusta mucho su clase por la estructura que tiene y porque siempre interactúa con todos los estudiantes de la clase."*


--Compiled and photos by Roxanna Miranda

### WACKY WEB POLL

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# Una celebración de nuestras raíces

**Fatima Gamez Lopez**  
EDITORA DE ESPAÑOL

Jose Ponce, profesor de ciencias matemáticas y estadísticas, creció del otro lado de la frontera.

“Nací aquí, en Brownsville, Texas, pero viví la mayor parte de mi vida en México hasta que fui adolescente”, dijo Ponce. “Regresé a los Estados Unidos. Tuve que aprender inglés por mi cuenta y luego buscar formas de completar mi educación”.

Cuando se le preguntó sobre su transición de vivir en México a mudarse a los EE. UU., Ponce dijo que fue un camino difícil.

“Fue difícil, ya sabes, en los años 90 había mucha discriminación”, dijo. “Había muchas cosas que, hoy en día, la gente no puede hacer, pero en esos días se trataba de que los grupos se mantuvieran juntos y excluyeran a los extraños”.

Ponce dijo que sabía que si quería aprender inglés, tenía que empezar a integrarse con otros grupos.

“Me acerqué a otros grupos porque quería aprender inglés y quería aprender inglés de una manera muy buena”, dijo. “Entonces, me sumergí en los otros grupos, aunque no me aceptaban, pero eso no me deprimió. Me hizo aprender mejor inglés para poder comunicarme [con otros]”.

Ponce dijo que es importante celebrar el Mes de la Herencia Hispana, que comenzó el jueves pasado y finaliza el 15 de octubre.

“Es muy importante porque los hispanos hacen muchas contribuciones a todo en este país, no solo en la educación, sino en la fuerza laboral, en el gobierno, en la ciencia y en muchos otros campos”, dijo. “Es muy importante reconocer que somos una minoría, que ya no somos tan menores y está creciendo rápidamente, y es parte de todo”.

Cuando Ponce tenía 16 años, regresó a los Estados Unidos para aprender inglés y estudiar. Una cosa que le diría a ese chico de 16 años es que no se dé por vencido.

“No importa cómo te hagan sentir y lo que digan de ti, eres más fuerte de lo que crees que eres”, dijo. “Me llevó algún tiempo superar y derribar todas esas barreras y si me viera a mí mismo, diría, ‘Puedes hacer esto más rápido. Puedes hacerlo con determinación. No te rindas’”.

Azucena Herrera Aguado, profesora asistente clínica en el departamento de administración, estuvo de acuerdo en que es importante reconocer las contribuciones de los hispanos.

“Es parte de nuestra cultura y nuestras tradiciones”, dijo Herrera Aguado. “Debemos tener símbolos asociados con nuestra identidad. Cuando tenemos algo bonito, queremos mostrárselo a los demás y, por lo tanto, creo, este mes contiene fechas muy



Aura Velasquez/FOTOS RIDER

Julissa Lara (de izquierda), estudiante de primer año de educación infantil; Erika Chávez, estudiante de primer año de profesiones clínicas; Primavera López, junior de nutrición; y María Mendoza, estudiante de tercer año de estudios de comunicación, disfrutaron de un juego de lotería durante Fiestas Patrias el miércoles pasado en La Sala en la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Brownsville.

importantes para aquellos de nosotros que somos hispanos [y] para aquellos de nosotros con herencia hispana”.

Sus primeros pasos como miembro de la facultad en UTRGV fueron convertirse en defensora y educadora del Centro de Diversidad e Inclusión y del Centro de Recursos DREAM y la Zona DREAM.

Herrera Aguado dijo que su experiencia al mudarse del centro de México al Valle del Río Grande no fue fácil.

“Interactuar con un idioma que no es el tuyo no es fácil”, dijo. “Trabaja duro, estudia mucho, porque parte del sueño americano tiene esa fórmula. Si alguien viene a Estados Unidos pero no está dispuesto a seguir la fórmula ... se puede distorsionar el sueño americano porque no va a ser el sueño que se imaginó”.

Herrera Aguado dijo que continúa sus tradiciones familiares a través de la cocina mexicana.

“Para mí, septiembre es el mes de la herencia hispana”, dijo. “Este período de septiembre a octubre, para mí, se representa con jícamas. ... Las jicaletas se hacen con chile, limón y chamoy. Se asocia con muchos platos típicos, como pozole, tostadas, enchiladas. Entonces, esto fue lo que se hizo en mi familia. Me enseñaron a celebrar las fiestas

patrias de esta manera y asistir a los desfiles”.

Algo que a Herrera Aguado le hubiera gustado decirle a su yo más joven cuando vino a los EE. UU. era que no tuviera miedo.

“ Siempre te asustará, pero eso no debería detenerte. Empieza y no lo dejes y ve por lo que quieres. Ve por lo que es tu sueño”.

**--Azucena Herrera Aguado  
profesora asistente clínica en el  
departamento de administración**

“Yo diría, ‘No tengas miedo’”, dijo. “Hazlo. Decídate ahora. Siempre te asustará, pero eso no debería detenerte. Empieza y no lo dejes y ve por lo que quieres. Ve por lo que es tu sueño”.

En conmemoración al Mes de la Herencia Hispana, UTRGV organizará diferentes eventos desde el lunes hasta

el 28 de septiembre.

La Biblioteca de la Universidad ofrece libros electrónicos, libros impresos, transmisión de películas, exhibiciones en línea, etc., durante la celebración.

Para obtener más información y acceder a los recursos, visite LibGuides del Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

El Consejo de Actividades Culturales y el Centro para la Participación Estudiantil organizarán el Café Latino Americano desde 12:30 hasta la 1:30 p.m. el martes en el Salón Cassia del campus de Brownsville y de 5 a 6 p.m. el viernes en el University Ballroom del campus de Edinburg. Los asistentes podrán probar comidas de diferentes países latinoamericanos. De 1:30 a 2:30 p.m. el 28 de septiembre, la Unión Estudiantil

organizará una reunión del club de lectura sobre el libro “Dominicana” de Angie Cruz en el Loft de la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Edinburg y al mismo tiempo en La Sala de la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Brownsville. Los estudiantes pueden registrarse en V Link para recibir una copia gratuita del libro electrónico.



La estudiante de posgrado en negocios Maggie Haro (izquierda) y la estudiante de tercer año de nutrición Primavera López obtienen sus mangonadas durante Fiestas Patrias el miércoles pasado afuera de la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Brownsville.



El Ministerio Estudiantil Bautista (BSM por sus siglas en inglés) en UTRGV recluta miembros durante Fiestas Patrias el miércoles pasado afuera de la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Brownsville.

## Helping cats through art

**Omar E. Zapata**  
A&E REPORTER

“For the Love of Cats!” an art exhibition at La Chicharra Studio in Brownsville featuring 16 artists and benefiting Murphy’s Safe Haven, will open with a reception at 6 p.m. Friday.

The show, curated by artist Melina Muñoz Kosturakis, features cat-themed pieces.

Kosturakis said the idea for the show came from having to foster two cats that were left at her front door. Already having two cats at her apartment, which is the maximum allowed, she found herself trying to find homes for the two foster kittens.

“Through Facebook, I discovered groups and in those groups, they helped cats,” Kosturakis said. “I noticed it was like a tight network of people. ... They just have good intentions and their love for animals. ... They helped me find someone that could take care of it really fast.”

Inspired by people’s willingness to help and Murphy’s Safe Haven, a nonprofit, the artist came up with “For the Love of Cats!”

Upon hearing the idea, Ruby Garza, director for La Chicharra Studio, immediately agreed to it.

“It’s going to be a great exhibition,” Garza, current owner of seven cats, told The Rider. “It’s a collaboration where curator, artists and community are coming together for a good cause. We have seen the need of shelters, especially for cats, because we have so many on the streets.”

“For the Love of Cats!” will be La Chicharra Studio’s ninth exhibition since opening on June 26, 2021. The venue also offers workshops, private events and personal studios.

Alejandra Martinez, an exhibition artist, told The Rider she decided to get involved since it is for a good cause.

“I have three [cats], so that’s why I really like this,” Martinez said.

She wishes she had the time to create a cat-themed artwork but was already in the process of working on a new piece, which will be shown at the exhibition.

“That’s the beauty about the show,” Martinez said. “We can probably expect to see some pieces that are varied in subjects.”

The reception will feature live music by Guillermo Hernandez, a Brownsville musician.

“Hopefully, it’s something that becomes popular and, hopefully, something that we can do every year,” Kosturakis said.



PHOTOS COURTESY LA CHICHARRA STUDIO

“Los Tres Gatos,” by Frank Radam, is one of the cat-themed pieces of art that will be for sale at the “For the Love of Cats!” exhibition at La Chicharra Studio in Brownsville. The exhibit opens at 6 p.m. Friday.

After Friday’s reception, the exhibit, at 1400 E. Madison St., Suite 3, may be seen by appointment from noon to 5 p.m. through Oct. 13. Admission

is free. To set up an appointment, call 621-2366, or direct message La Chicharra Studio on Instagram @lachicharrastudio.

## Astrology Rider: Weekly Horoscopes

**Danielle Perez**  
ONLINE EDITOR

**Aries**-Doubt and regret will always creep into your everyday life. However, do not let this stop you from doing certain activities. Life is too short to not be enjoyed. Take a leap and let whatever happens happen.

**Leo**-Recently, a trip you went on provided the clarity you needed. Use this epiphany when making decisions. Having a clearer perspective will prevent future bumps in the road. It is always better to know now rather than later.

**Sagittarius**-Stress can start to build up when you don’t have things under control. For this reason, it is your responsibility to plan accordingly. If you want to avoid feeling this way, then you need to start taking matters into your own hands to avoid falling behind.

**Libra**-Communication is being highlighted for you this week. If there are certain emotions lingering about a situation between you and others, be open about it and discuss it further. Sometimes, all it takes for something to be resolved is a simple conversation.

**Gemini**-This may be a tough week, especially with people being nosy about your life. Protect your privacy by distancing yourself from them. Don’t let others get in your way. Instead, take control and create your own path.

**Aquarius**-Finding the middle ground may not come as easy to you as it does for others. Try letting go of your ego from time to time when facing disagreement. Keep in mind you aren’t always going to be right and that is OK.

**Scorpio**-Before purchasing a new item, refer back to your financial needs. Ask yourself if it is a need or a want. Refrain from spending money on random unnecessary things. Instead, start stacking up on your savings account for a rainy day.

**Pisces**-Your relationship may not be living up to your expectations, causing you to feel uncertain. While searching for the “perfect” relationship, you could be missing out on all the great things your current connection has. Recognize these features before it is too late.

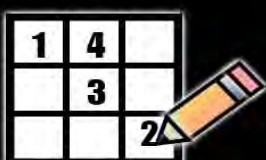
**Cancer**-This week, you will experience a lack of motivation. Address the harder assignments at the beginning of the week before you become unmotivated and leave the easier ones for the end so it won’t take a toll on you. Reenergize yourself for the following week.

**Taurus**-Take this week as a creative experience. De-stress by using your talents and turning them into something fun. Enjoy a drink with friends during a karaoke night or gather at the park for a painting date. Learn to express yourself through fun activities.

**Virgo**-Separating fantasy from facts can be difficult, especially when applying it to people in our lives. For that reason, the universe is challenging you to think about your friend’s truths versus the unreality you’ve made up about them. Be cautious of the circle you’re in.

**Capricorn**-In the next couple of days, your productivity may decrease due to your attention being scattered in every direction. Avoid feeling overwhelmed by doing all your responsibilities at once. Take small breaks and work through everything in sections.

## Sudoku



5	9			7				3
	6	7		8				5
8								2
		6				2		
3								9
	1		6		7			
						4	8	
				9				
7		2	4	1				

Last week’s puzzle answer key:

5	9	4	1	7	2	8	6	3
2	6	7	3	8	9	1	4	5
8	3	1	5	4	6	7	9	2
4	7	6	9	3	5	2	1	8
3	2	5	8	1	4	6	7	9
9	1	8	6	2	7	3	5	4
1	5	9	2	6	3	4	8	7
6	4	3	7	9	8	5	2	1
7	8	2	4	5	1	9	3	6

## Dibble Dabbles

by Alejandro Peña





## Amy Hislop



Jose Medina/THE RIDER

Amy Hislop, an exercise science sophomore, is a forward for the UTRGV Women's Soccer Team. She is 21 years old and is from Clyde, New Zealand. Hislop has played all six games of the season, so far, and scored two goals.

**Q: What are your career goals?**

**A:** "Hopefully, I can go professional after this. I just want to play soccer for as long as I can, to be honest. I played for a university at home, so I studied for three years before coming here. I played soccer for them. I was on a scholarship there with the University of Otago [in New Zealand]. And then I just wanted to keep playing."

**Q: What movies or shows do you like?**

**A:** "I don't actually have a lot of time anymore to watch them, but I really liked 'Prodigal Son,' I liked 'Killing Eve,' 'Love Island' is good as well. There's an Australian one and there's an American one as well. It's like a reality TV show. It's just basically gossip the whole time."

**Q: What kind of music do you like?**

**A:** "Honestly, I like a little bit of everything. I'm not very fussy. Like, I don't have a set genre. Honestly, just a little bit of everything. My playlist is a little bit of everything. ... I'll listen to more upbeat music, I guess you could say, like, pregame kind of vibes to get you pumped up."

**Q: Who is one of your role models?**

**A:** "I'd probably say my grandfather was one of my role models. He told me, 'Do everything once, and do it right,' and always believe in myself. He'd be really proud of where I am at the moment, actually. A lot of it was [because] he told me I could do it."

**Q: What has been your proudest moment?**

**A:** "My proudest moment was probably the goal against [Texas A&M] Corpus [Christi]. That was a nice goal."

**Q: Do you have any fun facts about yourself?**

**A:** "I have an identical twin sister."

**Q: Does she play soccer too?**

**A:** "She did, she doesn't anymore. This is the longest I've been apart from her."

--Compiled by Jose Medina

# Volleyball team raises the bar



Aura Velasquez/THE RIDER

Outside hitter Claudia Lupescu prepares to spike the ball during practice last Tuesday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse on the Edinburg campus. The team is scheduled to play against the University of Texas at El Paso at 2:30 p.m. today in the Memorial Gym in El Paso.

### Matthew Gonzalez

THE RIDER

This season has been one for the records for UTRGV Volleyball with outside hitter Sarah Cruz setting a personal best with 1,095 kills, putting her ninth in program history, and head coach Todd Lowery holds 14 school records, more than any coach in program history.

Cruz, who joined the team in 2018, reached ninth place on Sept. 10 during the game against Montana University.

"It was crazy because I didn't expect this to be, like, at the beginning of the season," she said. "I was working towards that. I wanted to reach that goal during the season. But then I was very shocked when they announced it, and then they [gave] me the ball. And then it was also very exciting. So I was very happy for that."

Lowery achieved his 14th record for most neutral site wins when the team won the game against Oral Roberts University at 10 a.m. last Friday in Lubbock.

His other records are wins, winning percentage, home wins, home-winning percentage, road wins, road-winning percentage, neutral-site-winning percentage, conference wins, conference-wins percentage, conference home wins, conference-home-win percentage, conference road wins and conference-road-wins percentage.

The head coach credits his success to everyone, from assistant coaches to support staff.

"Ultimately, whoever [is] sitting in

the head seat gets a lot of the credit, but it's never that way," he said. "I always say it's like a turtle sitting on a fence post, you know. They didn't get on a fence post without a lot of help. And that's kind of how I feel, everything from players to assistant coaches to support staff. That's ultimately what allows us to win and win at a high level."

Sydney [Schoen].

"And that blend of inner high-quality international kids with the next-level American kid and blending those two things together have allowed us to create a lot of depth in our program that we weren't creating early on."

In the theme of moving forward and evolving, assistant head coach Vinni Baigan has come up with different practice techniques for the team.

"I've been playing volleyball since I was 9 years old," Baigan said. "I could write a bible of volleyball drills. There is a point in time that you get bored of the same stuff, so you have to constantly be innovating and creating new stuff. I feel that this is [where] some coaches, they get lost."

"They're very traditional and they don't want to change it, but everything changes. We're in 2022. Whatever was happening in the world in 1970, it's completely different than what it is now. So for you to not get caught and be

stuck, you have to constantly be open to change and see what's working."

Like any team, there are bound to be some bumps in the road. Cruz said meetings address those situations.

"So, we have team meetings if something comes up," Cruz said. "So, we talked about it, like, in our small little group as a team. Or if it's just personal, like one-on-one [situation], then we just talk to each other [on] a personal level. We try to figure it out. ... That's how we fix things."

For more information, visit [goutrgv.com](http://goutrgv.com).

**"And that blend of inner high-quality international kids with the next-level American kid and blending those two things together have allowed us to create a lot of depth in our program that we weren't creating early on."**

**--Todd Lowery  
UTRGV Volleyball head coach**

The team consists of 12 international and five American athletes.

Lowery hopes to continue fostering the diversity and quality of players who are both international and American students.

"It's not easy to just go out and grab talent from the state of Texas or whatever it is, or across the country," he said. "And now, what it's grown into is we're starting to attract some next level of Texas kid or the next-level American kid. And that's what you see in the gym right now, is people like Perris [Key] and Natalie [Reyes] and

**THIS WEEK IN SPORTS**

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

**6:30 p.m. FRIDAY VS. NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**NOON SUNDAY VS. SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**AT THE UTRGV SOCCER AND TRACK & FIELD COMPLEX**

**LEGACY***Continued from Page 1*

I could say about [García] but if you simply go to Brownsville, and you walk the campus you will understand who she is, what she's about, what she's done," UTRGV President Guy Bailey said. "You continue to inspire and support us, and we see your footprint, your fingerprints here every day. We deeply appreciate that."

García, the first Mexican American woman to serve as a college president in the United States, continues to impact South Texas as a UTRGV communication professor.

She also serves as an advisory board member of both the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies in Austin and the Catholic Charities in San Juan and as a board member of the Ford Foundation in New York City.

"Every day, the university unfurls," García said. "It's in *desarrollo*, a strong word in Spanish, a young adolescent is in that moment ... where they're not sure

what they're going to be yet.

"They know they're going somewhere and they know they're going to be really good at it, wherever it is they go to. We're in our *desarrollo* and we will be for decades to come. ... We dreamed of having UT here. We got it. We dreamed of having a medical school. ... There were so many stopping points and pauses along the way but every one of them was necessary to make the next one work."

One of García's most impactful successes was accessing the Permanent University Fund for the Rio Grande Valley.

"We had to crack PUF, a multimillion-dollar fund that had for so long not been available to the Rio Grande Valley," she said. "It was wrong and people knew it was wrong and they tried to help us but couldn't quite make it over that line, crossing that finish line."

By dissolving UTB, therefore giving up her then-position as university president, García made way for UTRGV and brought PUF to the Valley.

"It wasn't a perfect solution to what we all want to have here eventually, but

it never is," she said. "UT Austin's not finished building itself. Why should we be so anxious to think it's done here?"

"We are simply stewards of our moment in our time and the best we can do is to do it nobly, honorably, honestly. And we did."

Talent is universal, but opportunity is not, according to Nolan Perez, a member of University of Texas System Board of Regents.

"And that's why it's a deep honor, here, to honor Dr. García, because that's been, really, the passion that she's been gifted with," Perez said. "It's just the gift of service in providing educational opportunities for the region that she so deeply loves."

State Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr. (D-Brownsville) said he and García go back 60 years and that they worked on so much together.

"Dr. García was a born leader back in junior high school," Lucio said. "She was something special. ... Leadership, as I've always said, is not the ability to tell people what to do. It is the ability to make people want to do the right thing through example."

He then presented García with a Texas flag and the same state senate gavel used to officiate a lot of legislation she worked to have passed.

Jeannette Garcia worked for the former university president for 10 years as an accounting technician and said she is a great role model.

"Being the first female, and then being recognized ... it's something remarkable," Jeannette Garcia told The Rider before the event. "It's something to admire her [for], right. ... I named my daughter after her."

Juliet García said everyone at the event and many others who were not present are a part of the journey.

"All of us got a chance to do important work, a little bit of time, and that's all we have," she said. "We don't have forever, just a moment, and that moment counts."

"Remember the old poem, 'Casey at the Bat.' The bases are loaded and it's Casey's turn to go up to bat, and I keep thinking, 'Come on. You gotta knock it out of the park. It's your turn.' We had our moment and it was our turn and we did good work together."

**JUSTICE***Continued from Page 1*

place at 3 p.m. and feature RGV Activism Today with Gabriel Sanchez, from South Texas Equality Project; Denise Palacios of Texas Freedom Network; and Josue Ramirez, who is a part of *Trucha*, to discuss their work and how Huerta has inspired them.

Following the keynote address by Huerta at 4:15 p.m. guests are invited to visit the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibit, "Dolores Huerta:

Revolution in the Fields," at 5:30 p.m. in the Brownsville Museum of Fine Art, which is a collaboration between UTRGV and the museum.

The Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Early College High School *conjunto* "Los PoderOsos" will perform during the reception.

Dahlia Guerra, assistant vice president of the Office of Public Art and Special Projects, said the symposium supports the exhibit, which will be on display until Oct. 1.

"So, usually when we have an exhibit,

we'll bring experts in the area," Guerra said. "And because we have the exhibit of Dolores Huerta, I didn't know if it was possible, but she did agree to come and we're very excited about that."

"And because she was going to be with us, I thought it would be great to build a symposium for the benefit of our students and our community to recognize not only Dolores Huerta, but also pioneers and activists who have fought for civil and human rights."

Alvarez said Huerta symbolizes hope

and possibility of what activism, using your voice and standing up for others can do.

"We feel very privileged to be able to host Dolores Huerta," she said. "She is an icon for the Latinx community, for *mujeres* everywhere around the world, I believe, but especially *mujeres* in the United States. There's no better way than to bring someone of her stature to the Valley, and, hopefully, inspire students and the community to be engaged with their community and to participate civically in their community."

**DNP***Continued from Page 1*

the year for orientation and then at the very end of their education," said DNP Program Coordinator Andrya Rivera-Burciaga.

Asked how she felt since starting the program, family nurse practitioner Doris Padilla replied, "It's a whole new concept to us. It's reading about what research is currently available and how we can implement that in practice."

Fellow student and family nurse practitioner Judith Perez said it is a new concept and is basically enhancing what they were previously taught.

"[In] early bachelor's degree, critical thinking was very important and I think

now with the DNP ... those skills are definitely getting honed," Perez said.

She hopes to use this opportunity to better her academic understanding and use what she learns in her current practice.

"I think as the leaders in our profession, we owe it to ourselves and to our community, you know, to educate ourselves to the best of our ability so we can be of service."

With the program focusing on leadership, the students will obtain the skills for a system-level approach to health care.

"Instead of focusing on one patient, they're working and taking care of populations," Rivera-Burciaga said. "Instead of working on some changes, some quality improvements ... they're

looking at higher-system-level changes, really some leadership opportunities."

Padilla and Perez both considered getting their doctorate but were discouraged by the thought of having to go to Houston to study.

"We were excited. ... This made quite a difference for us," Perez said about the doctoral program being offered in the Valley.

Since the program was announced, there has been an increase in local nurse practitioners and advanced nurses who are interested in earning a doctorate, Rivera-Burciaga said.

She said the program is an "amazing" opportunity for Hispanic nurses in the Valley who want to continue their

education close to home.

"We need more doctorate-prepared nurses because the RGV ... our population does not have a lot of insurance," Fuentes said. "We lack a lot of access to health care. We really need that doctorate-prepared nurse to really look at those issues, concerns or lack of health-care access and see how we could remedy that."

Rivera-Burciaga encourages those with a Master's of Science in Nursing to get a DNP.

"It's a game-changer, professionally, personally, and then also to really represent your community on different platforms because nobody knows your community better than you do," she said.

**TRANSPORTATION***Continued from Page 1*

due to COVID-19.

Gomez said the addition of this line will not overburden the department.

"We're going pretty good at meeting demand," he said. "It's never going to be a perfect system, but we will do whatever we can ... to make it better."

Traffic around the UTRGV area has only made the situation more chaotic.

"It is still very busy," Gomez said. "I

have seen it come down a little bit [in the past couple of weeks], but it is still very, very busy."

Gomez offered advice to students who take transportation, especially at peak hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

"I think it is a good rule of thumb to plan for delays," he said. "There can always be an accident or something on the expressway."

Some students seem to be understanding of the delays and with transportation at UTRGV in general.

Theatre sophomore Jacob Govba said, "I don't see anything wrong with it."

"I would suggest for people to bring a neck pillow because it can get really uncomfortable in there," biology junior Christopher Gonzales said.

There are other concerns about transportation that UTRGV has been dealing with.

Gomez responded to student concerns regarding the Visual Arts Building line being overcrowded.

"It's Valley Metro that operates that,"

he said. "They have different policies that they follow. ... If there is a specific situation, they can reach out to us. We can get in contact with Valley [Metro] immediately."

Overall, Gomez acknowledges that they have had to deal with a busy semester.

"I think we're doing a good job in terms of responding and adapting," he said.

For students who take the 8:10 p.m. line, the response has been appreciated.

"When they added that [8:10 p.m. bus] I was like, 'Finally,'" Garcia said.

**HERITAGE***Continued from Page 3*

tostadas, enchiladas. So, this was what was done in my family. They taught me to celebrate the national holidays in this way and attend the parades."

Something Herrera Aguado would have liked to say to her younger self when she came to the U.S. is to not be afraid.

"I would say, 'Don't be afraid,'" she said. "'Do it. Make up your mind now. It will always scare you but that shouldn't stop you. Start it and don't leave it and go for what you want. Go

for what your dream is."

In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, UTRGV will host different events through Sept. 28.

The University Library is offering resources such as e-books, print books, streaming films and online exhibits during the observance. For more information and to access the resources, visit Hispanic Heritage Month LibGuides.

The Council for Cultural Activities and the Center for Student Involvement will host Café Latino Americano from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in Salón

Cassia on the Brownsville campus and from 5 to 6 p.m. Friday in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. Attendees may get a taste of foods from different Latin American countries.

From 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 28, the Student Union will host a book club meeting on the book "Dominicana" by Angie Cruz in the Student Union Loft on the Edinburg campus and at the same time in the Student Union La Sala on the Brownsville campus. Students can sign up on V Link to receive a free e-book copy.

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it was too late. If it wasn't for this devastating disease, she would be here today celebrating her 84th birthday.

I encourage everyone to support the fight to end Alzheimer's by becoming an advocate. To learn more about how to become an advocate, visit the Alzheimer's Association website at [www.alz.org/advocate](http://www.alz.org/advocate).

If Alzheimer's disease can take life from us, why don't we bring light to it and spread awareness?