



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

University libraries will host series of events and activities in observance of the weeklong celebration. **See Page 9**



TRACK AND FIELD

Men's and women's teams were recognized by the City of Edinburg after the WAC Indoor Championships. **See Page 11**

THE STUDENT VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

THE RIDER

MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018

WWW.UTRGVRIDER.COM

VOL. 3, ISSUE 25



/UTRGVRIDER



@UTRGV_THERIDER

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Bringing the conversation home Valley issues to be discussed at conference

Joahana Segundo
THE RIDER

The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life at the University of Texas at Austin invites all college and university students from the Rio Grande Valley to its first conference at UTRGV, scheduled from 8:30 a.m.

to 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus.

Vaquero Voice,
Page 4

The institute will be host The State of the Rio Grande Valley

conference in an effort to inform students about politics, the importance of community and political engagement, career development, Valley leaders and the current state of the region.

"We're going to talk about border relations, DACA, and the future of undocumented See **RGV**, Page 6



Joahana Segundo/THE RIDER

A State of the Rio Grande Valley conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus.

UTRGV



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

Julio de Leon, a biology junior, prepares a plant bed March 30 at the butterfly garden on the Brownsville campus. The butterfly garden is a service learning class project for Lecturer I Lucia Carreon-Martinez's Biology 3409 Ecology course.

BRINGING BUTTERFLIES BACK UTRGV plants garden in Brownsville

Steven Hughes

THE RIDER

The UTRGV Biology Department and the School of Earth, Environmental

and Marine Sciences have come together to add more flora on the Brownsville campus to provide a spot for monarch butterflies to breed.

"The main thing in conserving monarch butterflies is really to plant milkweeds and food sources for the [caterpillars]," biology

See **GARDEN**, Page 6

POLITICS

Fighting words Philosophy department to host presentations on Trump

Eric Montoya
SPANISH EDITOR

Lucia Barragan, a UTRGV nursing sophomore, said President Donald Trump should be more careful with his comments.

"I think he needs to sit down with someone who actually knows what they are doing," Barragan said, referring to Trump's tweets on April 1. "Although, it seems a little bit impossible, it affects a lot of people and we need those people here because they are the whole foundation of America."

"Trump I: Money and Propaganda," the first of a two-part event organized by the UTRGV Department of Philosophy, will take place from 12:15 to 1:20 p.m. Thursday in Education Complex 1.102 on the Edinburg campus.

"Trump II: Voices of the Valley" will take place at the same time and location on April 24.

Mariana Alessandri, a UTRGV philosophy professor and the moderator for the presentation, said the purpose of the event is to "get experts in the community to share their knowledge with our students about Trump's policies on immigration."

"It's mostly geared to our students because I think that they sometimes don't know what is going on in their communities," Alessandri said. "So, the idea is to bring the community inside the university to talk to our students, so that our students can get involved

See **TRUMP**, Page 10



Donald Trump

MCALLEN

Time flies by fast McAllen resident celebrates his 100th birthday with flight

Zugay Treviño
THE RIDER

On April 2, McAllen resident Dick Smith, a World War II U.S. Navy pilot, turned 100 years old and celebrated his birthday by flying an airplane from McCreery Aviation.

"It was a very big surprise and a wonderful, wonderful experience," Smith said about his birthday. "So many people

were so interested. I got probably over a hundred cards from people and calls from all over the United States. [It was] very uplifting to experience, to imagine, so many people who are interested."

Bob McCreery, president of McCreery Aviation, said the milestone flight was planned several years ago.

"I told Dick, 'If you make it See **SMITH**, Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY SUSANNA FANTICH

Dick Smith, a McAllen resident, celebrates his 100th birthday on April 2 by flying a McCreery Aviation plane.

THE
RIDER

The Rider is the official, award-winning student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The newspaper is widely distributed on and off campus in Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the newspaper or university.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Jesus Sanchez

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Sergio Garcia

SPANISH EDITOR

Eric Montoya

A&E EDITOR

Sydni D. Salinas

COPY EDITOR

P.J. Hernandez

CARTOONIST

Laia Vite

SPORTS REPORTER

Diana Navarro

REPORTERS

Nubia Reyna
Gabriel Galvan
Britney Valdez
Steven Hughes
Zugay Treviño

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Albert Monrroy
Robert Benavidez Jr.
Valeria Alanis
Lesley Robles
Joahana Segundo

ADVERTISING SALES
MANAGER

Leslie Medrano

ADVERTISING SALES
REPRESENTATIVES

Jessica Mendez
Jillian Glantz

DISTRIBUTION ASSISTANT

Victor G. Ramirez

FACULTY ADVISER

Michell Godinez

STUDENT MEDIA DIRECTOR

Azenett Cornejo

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 1.16

Phone: (956) 882-5143

Fax: (956) 882-5176

Email: TheRider@utrgv.edu

© 2018 The Rider

MORE THAN A
NEWSPAPER



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Ally Training

Student Involvement will host its **LGBT Ally Training** at 4 p.m. in Life and Health Sciences Building 2.604 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 882-5111.

Percussion

Chamber

Performance

The **UTRGV Percussion Chamber Ensemble** will perform works by **Michael Burritt, Joseph Harchanko, Nigel Westlake** and **Music Professor Mark Ramírez** at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Complex on the Edinburg campus. Admission is \$5. For more information, call 882-7025.

Tuesday

Ring Ceremony

The **Office of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement** will host the **Ring Ceremony**. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Complex on the Edinburg campus. For more information, email alumni@utrgv.edu or call 665-2500.

Trivia Night

The **Student Union** will host a **Harry Potter-themed Trivia Night** at 5 p.m. in the Student Union Game Room on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

Wednesday

Student Chamber Performance

The **Flute and Clarinet ensembles**, and **Low Brass and Horn choirs** will perform at 7 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in

Brownsville. Admission is \$5. For more information, call 882-7025.

Billiards Tournament

The **Student Union** will host a **Billiards Tournament** at noon in the Student Union Game Room on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

‘Mario Party 10’

The **Student Union** will host a “**Mario Party 10**” **Wii U Release** event at noon in PlainsCapital Bank El



Have an announcement?

Email us at
TheRider@utrgv.edu

Comedor on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

Thursday

Jazz Orchestra

The **Jazz Orchestra** will perform at 7 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville. Admission is \$5. For more information, call 882-7025.

Movie Showing

Student Involvement will show “**The Zookeeper’s Wife**” from 7 to 9 p.m. on the University Library lawn in Brownsville. For more information, call 882-5111.

Friday

Violin Performance

Violinist **Hong Mei Xiao**, winner of the Geneva International Music Competition, will perform at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Complex on the

Edinburg campus. The concert is part of the **Distinguished Performers Series**. Admission is \$15, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. For more information, call 665-3881.

Sunday

Violin Performance

Violinist **Sergiu Schwartz** will perform at 5 p.m. in the Performing Arts Complex on the Edinburg campus. The concert is part of the **Distinguished Performers Series**. Admission is \$15, \$10 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. For more information, call 665-3881.

Ongoing Support Group The **Collegiate Recovery Program** will host an **Addiction and Recovery**

Support Group at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Cortez Hall 220 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 665-2674.

Recovery Meetings

The **Collegiate Recovery Program** hosts **recovery meetings** as follows:

Alcoholics Anonymous at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays, **SMART Recovery** at noon on Tuesdays, **Narcotics Anonymous** at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and noon Fridays, **Tobacco Intervention** at noon on Wednesdays, and the **Al-Anon Family Group** at noon on Thursdays. All meetings are held in University Center 102 on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-2674.
--Compiled by Steven Hughes

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between March 28 and April 2.



March 28

11:20 a.m.: A student reported her vehicle was struck while it was parked unattended in Lot E19 and sustained visible damage to the

l e f t rear bumper. The case is under investigation.

4:21 p.m.: A UTRGV officer and detective assisted Edinburg Police detectives in serving arrest warrants on a non-affiliate who was residing with a student at the Village Apartments on the Edinburg campus. The warrants were for criminal mischief, theft and unlawful restraint.

She was located and detained by the Edinburg Police Department. UTRGV Housing and Residence Life was notified of the incident and the non-affiliate was issued a criminal trespass warning for all UTRGV properties.

March 29

9:17 a.m.: A student reported a minor

traffic accident in Lot E9. No injuries were reported.

12:06 p.m.: Officers responded to Lot E34 in reference to a staff member experiencing chest pains. She requested emergency medical services and was transported to a local hospital for further evaluation.

2:15 p.m.: A staff member reported two suspicious men selling bread on



University Police

Brownsville

Dispatch

882-8232

Edinburg

Dispatch

665-7151

Email: Police@utrgv.edu
Campus Emergency: 882-2222

the third floor of the Clinical Education Building on the Harlingen campus. The officer was not able to locate the men in the building.

April 2

3:11 p.m.: An officer responded to Lot E9 in reference to a minor vehicle collision. A student driving a vehicle

backed without safety and struck a university vehicle driven by a staff member. No injuries were reported and the vehicles sustained minor damage.

7:45 p.m.: A student reported another student made her feel uncomfortable by sometimes following her and attempting to locate her on campus. She also stated he attempted to message her via social media and was advised to notify him that his contact was unwanted.

10:26 p.m.: A student reported losing a set of personal keys while at the University Recreation Center on the Edinburg campus.

11:26 p.m.: An officer responded to a report of a student who suffered a seizure at the Liberal Arts Building South on the Edinburg campus. Hidalgo County emergency medical services arrived on the scene and transported her to a local hospital for further evaluation.
--Compiled by Britney Valdez

The pilot described the flight as having “high winds, but dusty as all heck.”

“We were bouncing all over the sky, about 75 miles an hour. ... I couldn’t see from Edinburg to McAllen in the air. ... It was a rough, rough, rough flying day,” he said.

For his flight, Smith took off from McAllen, flew around north of Edinburg and then came back.

Smith said to never give up on a desire.

“That’s No. 1,” he said. “You can have anything that you want if you work hard enough for it. I had my first flight since I was 18, and I’ve been flying ever since and life has been a great, great experience.”

said. “He was still flying his own little airplane until about two years ago.”

Smith stopped flying airplanes for about a year until his birthday.

“I was really happy,” he said. “That was quite a flight. ... I hadn’t been in an airplane for a year. I was just really thrilled to have McCreery arrange that.”

He said he has been a pilot since he was 18 years old.

“We had one of our instructors with him, but Mr. Smith did all the flying,” McCreery said. “The instructor pretty much sat there and watched him. ... [Mr. Smith] did everything. He took off and flew around and landed, and he’s still driving too, by the way. So, he drove out to the airport. ... He’s in good shape for a 100-year-old guy.”
Smith flew for about 50 minutes.

SMITH

Continued from Page 1

to 100 years old, we’ll take you flying,” McCreery said. “We’ll get you one of our airplanes with one of our chief flight instructors.”

McCreery has known Smith as a friend and customer of McCreery Aviation for over 30 years.

“He is a highly respected local within our community and a longtime personal friend,” he said. “It was a real pleasure to host his memorable milestone flight on his 100th birthday.”

McCreery said Smith has been a pilot since the 1940s, who flew with the Navy and in World War II, and became an aircraft owner.

“Most recently, he built his own airplane ... and he flew it himself,” he

Time cards and books

UTRGV to honor student employees this week

Jesus Sanchez
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For more than two years, psychology senior Alex Pepping has assisted organizations and departments at the university; this week, Pepping and more than 2,500 student workers will be honored for their dedication.

Pepping is a lead student assistant for the Student Involvement office. He told *The Rider* he applied for the position about two years ago and has been grateful ever since.

“When I became a student employee, I saw the opportunity as both, one that would allow me to continue my education but also improve my networking skills, and allow myself to become more familiar with the way the university works,” Pepping said. “At the same time, I [gained] more experience and [was] able to negotiate and communicate more with department heads and directors. ... I believe our bosses do the best that they can to make us as easily approachable as possible.”

National Student Employment Appreciation Week is a nationwide event that universities and colleges celebrate every year in the second week of April.

This year, the university will honor its student employees with a series of events and activities on both campuses.

Events include job fairs, in which students may be able to find jobs for the summer and fall; professional development workshops on résumé building, networking, social media and mock interviews; and award banquets. “I think it’s very important for us, the staff and faculty, to recognize and celebrate student employees because they do help a lot,” said Ana Perez, assistant director of Student Employment for the UTRGV Career Center. “The good thing about [National Student Employment Appreciation Week] is that we get to



Victor G. Ramirez/THE RIDER

Alex Pepping, a psychology senior and lead student assistant for Student Involvement, speaks on the phone and checks his email last Thursday in Student Union 1.28 on the Brownsville campus. Pepping has been working for the UTRGV Student Involvement office for more than two years. Over 2,500 student workers will be honored for their hard work as part of National Student Employment Appreciation Week.

celebrate those students that work on campus, [and who] also get good grades. I think it’s a very good thing that they do.”

Today, the UTRGV Career Center will host a Student Employment Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus. Another fair will happen at the same time Wednesday in Salón Cassia on the Brownsville campus.

Information tables providing résumé

reviews and professional attire tips will be available during the fairs.

Professional development workshops will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday with “Building a Career” in Salón Cassia on the Brownsville campus and in the Student Union Sage Room on the Edinburg campus.

That same day, a “Use of Social Media” workshop will begin at 12:15 p.m.; “Time Management,” 2:30 p.m.; and “From Student to Professional,”

5:30 p.m. All workshops will be held in the same locations.

Ceremonies for Student Employee of the Year and Supervisor of the Year will take place at noon Thursday in the Community Engagement and Student Success Building, located at 1407 E. Freddy Gonzalez Dr. in Edinburg, and at the same time Friday in PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus.

See **STUDENTS**, Page 10

UTRGV Chess Team conquers the boards

Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

The UTRGV Chess Team defeated five-time winner Webster University to become national champions in the 2018 President’s Cup held March 30 to April 1 at the Marshall Chess Club in New York City.

“I actually believed in them from the very beginning,” said UTRGV Chess Coach and Grandmaster Bartek Macieja. “We had a chance to fight for the win, so I wasn’t afraid to say that I strongly believed we had a very good chance to win the event.”

The team is composed of Grandmasters Vladimir Belous, Kamil Dragun, Andrey Stukopin, Carlos Hevia and Hovhannes Gabuzyan.

Dragun said he was feeling stressful because it was the most important tournament of the year.

“I was trying to focus to do my best, but I knew that if you cannot expect that, you’ll be in good shape. So, I had to be very careful because I didn’t feel that confident,” he said. “But fortunately, it was good for us.”

Macieja said he doesn’t like to be in the play hall during the games because “it is very stressful to see the games,”



Robert Benavidez Jr./THE RIDER

UTRGV Chess Coach and Grandmaster Bartek Macieja (left) holds the President’s Cup championship trophy won April 1 at the Marshall Chess Club in New York City. The team captured the top spot in the Final Four of College Chess. Also shown is Kamil Dragun, UTRGV Chess Team leader and a grandmaster.

so he watches all the games online instead.

“My students knew where I was, but I was not there at the play hall,” he said. “I was all the time checking the games. I had all the games open.”

The coach said the team was motivated to win the tournament even if not all the students were in perfect shape.

“Even if some of my students were not in the best

shape, they still tried and played their best,” he said.

The team beat Webster University 7.5 to 7.0 in the Final Four. The other two competitors were St. Louis and Texas Tech universities.

“The last round was very intense ... we were half a point behind Webster University,” Macieja said.

In the last game, the team won 3-1 against Webster.

“[They] have won five previous championships,” he said. “But our match finished very well.”

Dragun said the team did not have enough time to celebrate their victory in New York City because after the ceremony, the players had to leave to the airport.

The team will celebrate twice to commemorate their championship.

“One will be on Friday with the president of the university. He will come to the Brownsville campus at noon and the second will be on the Edinburg campus on Monday also at noon,” Macieja said.

The team’s next tournament will be the Texas Collegiate Super Finals in October.

“That will be a huge event and a huge challenge for us because UT-Dallas will try to prove that was just bad luck that they didn’t qualify to the Final Four,” Macieja said. “And Texas Tech will definitely want to take revenge for losing to us.”

VAQUERO VOICE

State of the Rio Grande Valley



"I feel like we're doing pretty well. I feel, like, business is better than it's ever been, kind of. I feel like we're growing a lot and really fast, so that's a good thing. I would like for the school to kind of cater to that and be a little bit more affordable, like their tuition geared towards being financially available for incoming freshmen."

Brandon Cavazos
Management senior

"Culturally, I think that we need to improve. Not everyone wants to help everyone. Like, I've seen on campus where people need help, but everyone ignores it and when you go somewhere else, it's like everyone tries to help you. Other than that, we're doing OK. Healthwise, I think we need to improve that as well. But, I mean, I like the state of Texas. That's why I chose to stay in my home state and not go abroad."



Verónica de León
Biology sophomore



"I say it's pretty well-oriented in how students are well in interacting with each other just by how the majority of us are Hispanic and then we have other minorities living with us and going to school with us. I feel, like, we all have a sense of camaraderie in the university, and I feel the university cares about us. ... In the news, [we see] how there's discrimination on other campuses, even here in Texas. I feel like that's not really an issue here."

Ariana Luna
History junior

"Yo pienso que el Valle está creciendo ahorita, siento que en menos de 10 años va a ser una ciudad muy grande, está creciendo ahorita, muchos lugares están construyendo ... y está creciendo, está creciendo mucho".

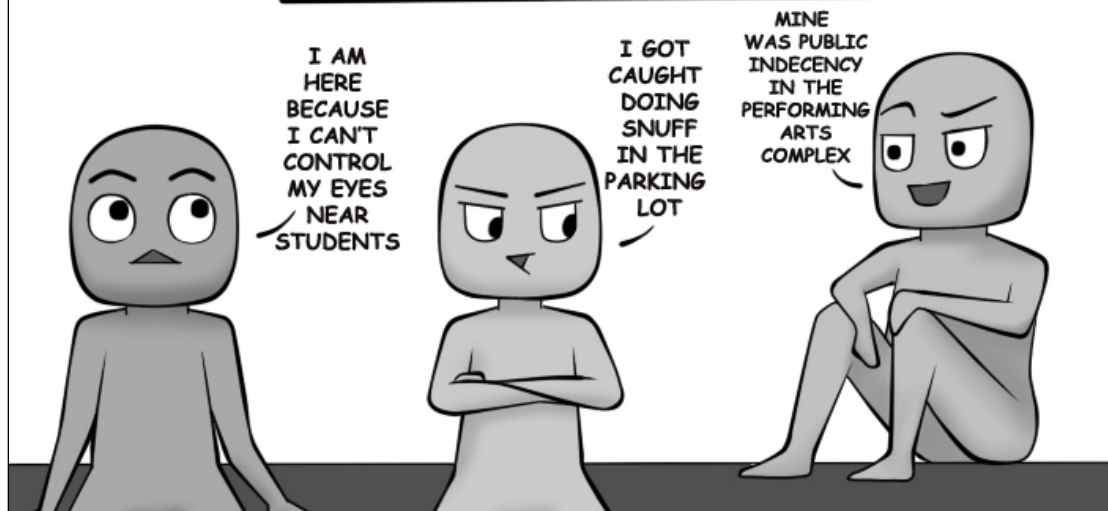


Javier González
Estudiante de segundo año de ciencias computacionales

--Compiled by Valeria Alanis and Albert Monrroy

Like
4/9/18

UNIVERSITY REHAB FOR CREEPS



Thank you



Victor G. Ramirez
THE RIDER

I come from a migrant family. My parents would travel 1,400 miles to Elwood, Indiana, each August and come home to Brownsville in October each year for 12 years. Both would work 12-hour shifts, seven days a week in a tomato processing factory while my brother and I would attend elementary school.

A noteworthy moment was in October 2004, when my father had to come back "home" to put on two extra layers of clothing and another pair of socks, so he could work in the freezing temperature. I knew that my parents had to sacrifice their own well-being in order to provide enough for my brother and me to become independent.

But, when I first applied to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, I was denied admission. Surprised? I was, too.

This happened an hour before I went in for work at McDonald's. I checked my admission status and saw that I would not be able to attend the university.

With no explanation, I was frustrated as to why I was rejected. Was I an idiot? I got accepted to Texas A&M University-Kingsville, but I wanted to attend UTRGV because it's close to home and it's less of a burden on my family financially. I appealed UTRGV's decision to prove that I could get in and I am now a sophomore majoring in mass communication.

Take that, President Bailey.

During my first year of college, I was in the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP). They assist students who migrate, seasonal farmworkers or children of migrant workers. The program guided me through my first year of college with tutoring, free textbooks and mentoring. I can't thank my parents enough for opening up a smooth path for me because of their hard work in migrating to Indiana.

My parents are my mentors. They guide me and encourage me to follow my dreams, whatever they may be. You know how it is.

Both of them saw how unhappy I was working at McDonald's and pushed me to apply for a more professional job. They encouraged me

when I changed my major to mass communication because I wasn't feeling comfortable with criminal justice. Even before I started working or going to college, my parents were the ones who bought me my first trumpet in order to play in my middle school band. They would make time to attend my concerts and the parades I came out in through all three years I was in band.

Now I am working for *The Rider* newspaper. I'm a distribution assistant, but I have written stories, taken photos and now here I am, writing my first column. My parents also helped me buy my first camera to delve deeper into photography, a recent hobby I've picked up since working at the paper.

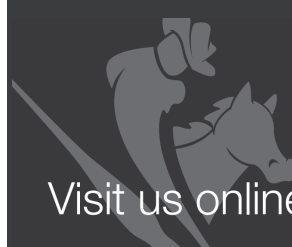
A lot of times, we take our parents for granted and don't appreciate their hard work and sacrifices, but I want to recognize all parents who are building promising paths for their children. My mom and dad have shown me what good parents are capable of: raising a hardworking, understanding, funny and patient man who will teach his own children how his parents taught him.

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.



WHAT DO YOU WANT
TO SEE IN THE RIDER?
CALL US AT
882-5143 OR 665-2541



Visit us online at utrgvrider.com

Palabras mayores

Departamento de filosofía organizará presentaciones acerca de Trump

Eric Montoya

EDITOR DE ESPAÑOL

Lucía Barragan, una estudiante de segundo año en enfermería, dijo que el presidente Donald Trump debería de ser más cuidadoso con sus comentarios.

“Creo que necesita sentarse con alguien que de verdad sepa lo que está haciendo”, dijo Barragan, refiriéndose a los tuits de Trump el 1 de abril. “Aunque, parezca un poco imposible, afecta a mucha gente y necesitamos a esa gente aquí porque son la base entera de América”.

“*Trump I: Money and Propaganda* (Trump I: Dinero y Propaganda)”, el primero de un evento de dos partes, organizado por el Departamento de Filosofía de UTRGV, tomará lugar de 12:15 a 1:20 p.m. este viernes en el Education Complex 1.102 en el campus de Edinburg.

“*Trump II: Voices of the Valley* (Trump II: Voces del Valle”, se llevará a cabo en el mismo lugar y localización el 24 de abril.

Mariana Alessandri, una profesora de filosofía de UTRGV y moderadora para la presentación, dijo que el propósito del evento es “conseguir a expertos de la comunidad para que compartan su conocimiento y experiencia con nuestros estudiantes acerca de las políticas migratorias de Trump”.

“Es más que nada dirigido para nuestros estudiantes. Ya que pienso que algunas veces ellos no saben lo que está pasando en sus comunidades”, dijo Alessandri. “Así que, la idea es traer la comunidad a la universidad para hablar con nuestros estudiantes, para que de esta forma nuestros estudiantes se puedan involucrar si así lo desean”.

Las cuatro organizaciones comunitarias que participarán en este evento son el Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights (Centro Juvenil para los Derechos de Niños Inmigrantes), Neta (una plataforma multimedia bilingüe situada en el Valle del Río Grande), Humanitarian Respite Center (Centro de Respiro Humanitario) y La Unión del Pueblo Entero (LUPE).

Las organizaciones comunitarias que se espera que asistan pueden cambiar, de acuerdo con Alessandri.

Ella dijo que la pregunta principal que estos grupos contestarán es el cómo afectan al Valle las políticas de inmigración de Trump.

Ambos eventos son gratis y abiertos al público.

El 1 de abril, Trump tuiteó “¡NO MÁS RESOLUCIÓN DE DACA!”, en inglés.

“A los Agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza no se les permite hacer su trabajo en la Frontera debido a las ridículas leyes (Demócratas) liberales como Atropa y Libera”, Trump publicó en Twitter. “Se está poniendo más peligroso. ‘Caravanas’ vienen. Los Republicanos deben optar por la Opción Nuclear para pasar leyes más fuertes AHORA. ¡NO MÁS RESOLUCIÓN DE DACA!”

Trump publicó esto horas



FOTO GAGE SKIDMORE

después de haber tuiteado “¡FELICES PASCUAS!”

El septiembre pasado, Trump rescindió el programa Consideración de Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia (DACA, por sus siglas en inglés), una orden ejecutiva ordenada por el entonces presidente Barack Obama que protegía a cerca de 800,000 personas.

DACA proporciona protección temporal en contra de la deportación a jóvenes que fueron traídos ilegalmente a los Estados Unidos cuando eran niños, siempre y cuando puedan satisfacer ciertos requisitos, de acuerdo con whitehouse.gov.

El 13 de enero, el Servicio de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de Estados Unidos (USCIS, por sus siglas en inglés) empezó a permitir que los beneficiarios de DACA aplicaran para renovaciones debido a una orden de una corte federal.

“Debido a una orden judicial federal, USCIS ha reanudado la aceptación de peticiones para renovar una otorgación de acción diferida bajo DACA”, el USCIS publicó en su página web. “Hasta nuevo aviso, y a menos que se indique lo contrario en esta guía, la política de DACA operará en los términos existentes antes de que fuera rescindida el 5 de septiembre de 2017”.

Barragan dijo que el programa de DACA no debería de ser anulado.

“Algunas personas vienen aquí para conseguir mejores oportunidades, una mejor vida, nuevas posibilidades”, ella dijo. “Si América dice ser el país donde puedes obtener todas estas oportunidades,

pero están quitando esto, entonces, ¿Qué es lo que tienes exactamente? Ahora, no puedes tener éxito sin los inmigrantes que hacen su parte en este país. Ellos no solo están viviendo la vida. De hecho, están trabajando y poniendo todo lo que tienen en sus trabajos o estudios. Si les quitamos esto, significa que básicamente tienen que regresarse y empezar desde cero”.

Mark Kaswan, un profesor de ciencias políticas de UTRGV, dijo que es difícil saber qué tan seriamente la gente debería tomar los comentarios de Trump.

causan miedo a la gente y los hace sentir incómodos.

“Por el otro lado, insta a la gente que es racista y nativista a continuar o expandir sus ataques”, Kaswan dijo. “Ciertamente, con cosas como su comentario acerca de la caravana de migrantes ... él está promoviendo activamente la información errónea. De nuevo, a sus seguidores ... les encanta y piensan que es maravilloso. Otra perspectiva de esto es que Trump ha sido criticado por la derecha por lo que de acuerdo con ellos es blandura en cuanto a la inmigración. Así que, en parte,

él está respondiendo a esas críticas”.

Él dijo que el efecto en la comunidad inmigrante es negativo y promueve el miedo y la desconfianza.

Durante los

primeros tres meses del 2018, 55,125 solicitudes iniciales y renovaciones fueron aprobadas por USCIS. Hasta ahora, 51,118 solicitudes están pendientes y solo 3,929 han sido rechazadas, de acuerdo con un reporte trimestral publicado por USCIS.

Una copia de este reporte está disponible en www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-studies/immigration-forms-data/data-set-form-i-821d-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals.

Trump también publicó un tuit ese mismo día, 1 de abril, amenazando con anular el Tratado de Libre Comercio de América del Norte (NAFTA, por sus siglas en inglés), diciendo que México no está haciendo lo suficiente para detener el flujo migratorio.

“México está haciendo muy poco, si es que NADA, por parar a la gente que entra a México a través de su Frontera Sur, y luego a EE.UU. Ellos se

ríen de nuestras tontas leyes migratorias. Deben detener los grandes flujos de drogas y gente, o voy a parar su vaca lechera, NAFTA. ¡NECESITAMOS EL MURO!”

Kaswan dijo que terminar con NAFTA no sería tan fácil como solo decir, “Esto es todo. NAFTA se acabó. Nos saldremos del tratado”.

“Trump no está muy bien informado sobre el proceso político y cómo funcionan las cosas”, él dijo. “Puede tener autoridad administrativa sustancial para acabar con el tratado efectivamente, pero mi juicio es que no es tan fácil”.

Alessandri dijo que los estudiantes deberían asistir a las presentaciones porque habrá voces de la comunidad.

“Ellos son activistas comunitarios. Son grupos sin fines de lucro”, ella dijo. “Algunos estudiantes, ya que están en el campus, quizás no saben qué es lo que está pasando en la comunidad. Así que, deberían asistir para que escuchan a las organizaciones comunitarias hablar acerca de su experiencia trabajando con la población afectada por las políticas de Trump.”

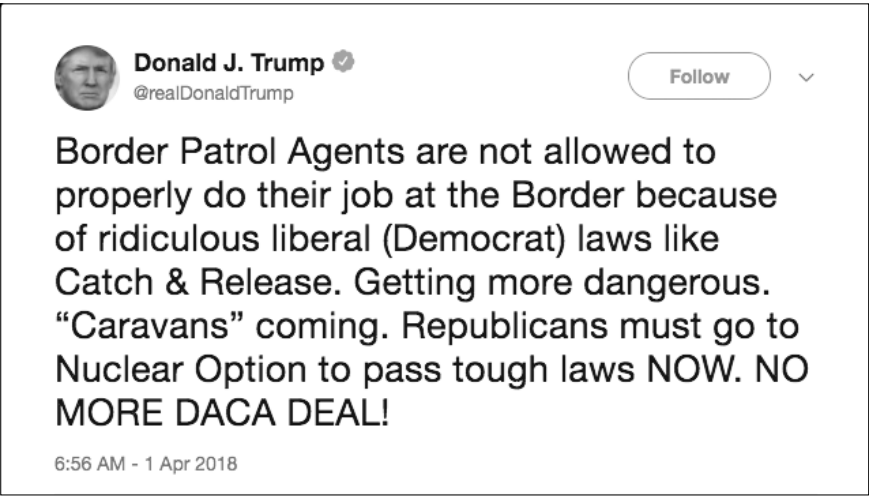
Se le preguntó si la gente se debería de preocupar por los tuits de Trump, Kaswan contestó, “Sí y no”.

“Por un lado, parecen delirios inmaduros de un hombre trastornado”, él dijo. “Por el otro lado, es presidente”.

El comparó la situación con un hombre mayor parado enfrente de una montaña y gritándole a dicha.

“La metáfora funciona de cierta manera porque el gobierno, de algún modo ... es un gran edificio y es, en gran parte, bastante sólido”, dijo Kaswan. “De la misma manera, sus gritos pueden espantar a mucha gente y si grita lo suficientemente fuerte, entonces las rocas pueden empezar a aflojarse y a venirse abajo y aplastar todo”.

Él dijo que lo que importa no es lo que Trump diga sino la manera en que la gente y los medios de comunicación respondan.



GARDEN
Continued from Page 1

Assistant Professor Julie Mustard said. Monarch butterflies are planned to be placed on the U.S. Endangered Species List next summer and establishing a spot for them to breed could help prevent that, Mustard said.

Nineteen flower beds were built, housing native plant species.

Aside from milkweed, the garden includes blackfoot daisies, white mist and sweet gaura.

“They are all native species that are good for pollinators and butterflies,” Mustard said. “So, with butterflies, there [were] two considerations: one was nectar, [the adult’s] fuel, and the other is plants they use to [lay their eggs and] for the caterpillars to live on.”

Funding was provided by the Transforming our World Strategic Plan from the Office of the Provost.

Mustard, biology Lecturer Lucia Carreon-Martinez and Jessica Solis, a recent biology graduate, wrote a grant proposal for \$12,060.

Solis assisted Carreon-Martinez in creating a video for the grant proposal in October 2017.

“Me and three other [students], we made a video talking about the importance of butterflies and their jobs as pollinators,” she said. “[Carreon-Martinez] sent that video out and she told me she [received] the [grant], but



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

Biology Lecturer Sara Black oversees student volunteers as they plant flowers March 30 outside the Life and Health Sciences Building on the Brownsville campus. The butterfly garden is an effort by the Department of Biology and the School of Earth, Environmental and Marine Sciences to bring butterflies back to the Rio Grande Valley.

then I graduated in December.”

Carreon-Martinez pushed for the butterfly garden because, in addition to liking them, she noticed there are not as many of them anymore.

“We used to see lots of them, I don’t know, maybe eight years ago or something,” she said. “I grew up here at Matamoros and suddenly I was, like, ‘Huh, we don’t see that many.’ There’s

a lot of efforts around the [Rio Grande] Valley for butterflies. So I was, like, ‘Why don’t we become part of that?’”

During the early stages of the project, Solis guided and enlisted volunteers whenever Carreon-Martinez was teaching.

“My job, mainly, was to supervise the students, her ecology students, and any other student who wanted to help, give

them tasks and tell them what to do,” she said.

Biology Lecturer Sara Black agreed to help with the project because she likes to conduct classes outside and do something long term.

“I thought this was a great opportunity to have the [Biology] II students do a semesterlong project,” Black said.

The garden is located between the Life and Health Sciences Building and the resaca on the Brownsville campus.

A website is planned to provide more information about the life cycle of butterflies, the native plant species and how to help in their conservation.

Mustard thanks Abraham Hernandez, director of Campus Facilities Operations in Brownsville; Rueben Zuñiga, general maintenance leader; Cruz Salinas, agricultural specialist; Alejandro Fierro Cabo, an assistant professor of earth, environmental and marine sciences; Franklin Benton, a biology lecturer; Soraya Delgado, a part-time employee; Andrea Schwarzbach, an assistant professor for health and biomedical sciences; Silvia Barr, a native gardening coordinator for Quinta Mazatlan; Matt Kauffman, a park technician from Valley Nature Center; Heep’s LRGV Native Plant Nursery in Harlingen; Lowe’s; and all student volunteers.

For more information about volunteering for the garden, email Carreon-Martinez at lucia.carreonmartinez@utrgv.edu.

Vivid and colorful Asia



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER

Chinese students prepared and presented the iconic dragon dance at the Asian Spring Festival hosted by the Department of Writing and Language Studies and the Korean Language and Culture Association.

RGV
Continued from Page 1

students in the Valley,” said Giovanni Rosas Escobedo, a political science senior, Texas Civic Ambassador and conference chair.

Other topics include the border wall, NAFTA and students.

Some speakers include current and former Mexico and United States officials, professors, journalists and individuals appointed to office.

“The Annette Strauss Institute [for Civic Life] ... wants to see the future ... [and] keep having these conferences here in the Valley on different topics,” Rosas Escobedo said. “... They want to expand the conference here ... and see how students react and what can be done different in the future.”

The conference will be student led and 120 students are expected to attend.

Organizations, such as the Association of Latino Professionals for America RGV (ALPFA), Political Science Association, Beta Lambda Chapter of Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Beta Chapter of Kappa Delta Chi, Rotaract Club, Student Government Association and the Pre-Law Society have contributed by helping organize the conference.

“It’s our civic duty to know what’s going on and that way we can make change,” ALPFA President Jose Javier Mireles said. “I promise you, you will learn a lot. A lot of people with like-minded points of view will be there. ... We highly encourage you to go.”



You have the talent, potential, intellect and drive.

At The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, we understand how difficult it can be to finance your college education and we’ll do everything in our power to make sure you can achieve your academic and professional goals.

Submit your application TODAY!

APPLYING IS EASY!

1. Create an account at [UTRGV.edu/applyscholarships](https://utrgv.edu/applyscholarships).
2. Fill out your student profile.
3. You will be matched to scholarships that best suit you.
4. Answer any additional questions (if applicable).
5. Submit an application via apply.texas.org.

Deadline to apply is April 15, 2018.

UTRGV
Division of Strategic Enrollment

To view UTRGV’s Clery Act visit: [UTRGV.edu/Clery-Act](https://utrgv.edu/Clery-Act)
For more information or special accommodations, contact us at scholarships@utrgv.edu or at (956) 665-2935.

Visit us online at **utrgvrider.com**



Triumph from the tip of Texas

UTRGV media programs capture 51 state awards

Jesus Sanchez
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students in five UTRGV media programs traveled across Texas to compete in the nation’s oldest and largest student press association convention and returned with 51 awards.

Members of *The Rider*, UTRGV-TV, UTRGV Radio, Pulse and Gallery magazines represented the university in the 109th annual Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention held March 22-24 in Dallas.

In the live competitions, *The Rider* won four awards. Reporter Britney Valdez received first place in Public Relations Release Writing; Spanish Editor Eric Montoya, second place in Spanish News Writing; Copy Editor P.J. Hernandez, honorable mention in Copy Editing; and Social Media Editor Sergio García, honorable mention in Magazine Design.

UTRGV-TV News Director J.P. Hernandez earned first place in the TV Sports Writing competition.

In the on-site Radio Advertising competition, Student Media Advertising Sales Representative Jessica Mendez captured second place.

Gallery magazine Poetry Editor Ashley Hernandez received honorable mention in Critical Review.

In a collaborative effort, Pulse magazine Photo Editor Erik Webster and Gallery magazine Prose Co-Editor Grecia Ramirez garnered honorable mention in the on-site Two-Person Photo Essay competition.

In the previously published and broadcast categories of the competition, works from UTRGV won 43 awards among Division 1 schools: 18 from *The Rider*, 12 from UTRGV Radio, six from Gallery magazine, four from UTRGV-TV, two from Pulse magazine and one from Student Media advertising sales.

Gallery magazine won first place in Literary Magazine Overall Excellence. The magazine also garnered first place in the Literary Magazine Overall Design category.

Gabriela Gonzalez Balderas, Lisa Marie Serna and José Chavero captured first place in Literary Magazine Cover Design; Gonzalez Balderas also placed first in Illustration.

Sydni D. Salinas, a contributor to Gallery and *The Rider* Arts and Entertainment editor, earned second place in Feature Photo and Daniel García Ordaz received third place in Spanish Feature story for his “*Romeo & Juliet ¿Y Qué?*” piece, which was published in Gallery.

UTRGV Radio placed first in Newscast Audio for its Oct. 2 broadcast and third in Overall Excellence.

Nathaniel Puente, Edinburg station manager for UTRGV Radio, earned first place for “History of UTRGV Sports” in the Documentary Audio competition. Puente also placed second in Feature News Reporting-Audio and swept the Sportscast Audio competition by winning first, second and third places.

Brownsville Station Manager Annet Del Toro garnered second and third place in the General News Reporting Spanish-Audio competition.

Former UTRGV Radio Intern and *The Rider* Editor-in-Chief Jesus Sanchez received first place in the Breaking News Audio and General News Reporting Spanish-Audio competition. Sanchez also placed third in In-Depth News Reporting-Audio for a radio story titled “UTRGV Haunted Tales.”



THE RIDER

UTRGV media programs won 51 awards at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention held March 22-24 in Dallas.

The Rider netted an honorable mention in the Newspaper Overall Excellence category.

Former Spanish Editor Rebeca Ortiz placed first in Spanish Feature Story for her “*Día de San Valentín: del amor y consumismo*” article.

Montoya earned first and third place in Spanish News Story, as well as second in Spanish Feature Story.

Sanchez earned second place in Breaking News, third in Best Online Engagement Strategy and honorable mentions in Breaking News Multimedia Story, In-Depth Multimedia Story and, alongside former Photo Editor Mario Gonzalez, Newspaper Feature Page Design.

Montoya and Sanchez received honorable mention in the In-Depth Reporting competition for an article headlined “The fear of uncertainty,” about the rescindment of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

In the Headline category, P.J. Hernandez placed second with “Keep your mind in the gutter” and Valdez third with “The tassel was worth the hassle.” Photographer Albert Monrroy garnered second place in Multimedia Slideshow; Photographer Joahana Segundo and Salinas, third in Multimedia Feature; former Cartoonist Clarissa Martinez, third in Cartoon Strip/Panel; former Sports Editor Nathaniel Mata, honorable mentions in Sports Page Design and Sports Feature Story.

UTRGV-TV placed first in Newscast Video for its Nov. 14 broadcast and third in Television Overall Excellence for its Sept. 26 newscast.

Assistant Station Manager Yuliana Quiroz received honorable mention in In-Depth News Reporting Video and Reporter Kenia Gomez earned honorable mention in General News Multimedia Story.

Alexandra Mendoza, a former advertising sales representative for Student Media, won first place in the Ad Design Static category. Mendoza is now Gallery magazine’s Art and Design director.

Pulse magazine won third place in General Magazine Overall Design and honorable mention in Overall Excellence.

Previously Published /Broadcast Awards

				
Third Place Overall Design HM Overall Excellence	First Place Newscast Audio First Place Documentary Audio First Place Sportscast Audio First Place General News Reporting Spanish-Audio First Place Breaking News Second Place Feature News Reporting-Audio Second Place Sportscast Audio Second Place General News Reporting Spanish-Audio Third Place Overall Excellence Third Place Sportscast Audio Third Place General News Reporting Spanish-Audio Third Place In-Depth Reporting-Audio	HM Overall Excellence First Place Spanish Feature First Place Spanish News Third Place Spanish News Second Place Spanish Feature Second Place Breaking News Third Best Online Engagement HM Breaking News Multimedia HM In-Depth Multimedia HM Feature Page Design HM In-Depth Reporting Second Place Headline Third Place Headline Second Place Multimedia Slideshow Third Place Multimedia Feature Third Place Cartoon Strip/Panel HM Sports Page Design HM Sports Feature Story	First Place Newscast Video Third Place Overall Excellence HM In-Depth Reporting HM General News Multimedia	First Place Overall Excellence First Place Overall Design First Place Cover Design First Place Illustration Second Place Feature Photo Third Place Spanish Feature
				
First Place Ad Design Static				Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER
				UTRGV Assistant Professor and Gallery Adviser Britt Haraway presents a workshop on “Telling it Slant: Building Creative Titles” during the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention, held March 22-24 in Dallas.

Looking to the future

UTRGV observatory to open in May



Victor G. Ramirez/THE RIDER

The Dr. Cristina V. Torres Memorial Astronomical Observatory renaming ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. May 5 at the Resaca de la Palma State Park, located at 1000 New Carmen Ave. in Brownsville. The observatory will serve as a tool for college and high school students to use in astronomy classes.

Britney Valdez

THE RIDER

At Tuesday night's Brownsville City Commission meeting, a UTRGV physics professor spoke about the opening of the new astronomical observatory in a local state park, which will be named after his late student.

The new observatory, which was formerly located on the UTRGV Brownsville campus and named the Nompwenu observatory, has been moved to Resaca de la Palma State Park and renamed the Dr. Cristina V. Torres Memorial Astronomical Observatory.

Resaca de la Palma State Park is located at 1000 New Carmen Ave. in Brownsville. The observatory is 30 feet

in diameter.

Mario Diaz, the physics professor, presented information on the observatory, which was named after his late student, Cristina Torres.

"Cristina was a student taking my physics class in 1996, the first physics class I taught here," Diaz said in an interview with *The Rider* last Wednesday. "I got her interested in physics, so she studied physics. She graduated, did her master's and her Ph.D., then she [left the Valley] to go work for Caltech. It brought her back as a research assistant professor and only after a couple of years after she came back, she passed away all of a sudden of a heart attack at 37 years old."



Mario Diaz

awarded in 2016.

"This prize is one of the most important prizes in physics, after the Nobel Peace Prize," Diaz said. "I got it, but Cristina would've gotten it if she hadn't

Torres died in 2015 and left the physics program \$10,000 in her will. To honor her memory, Diaz created the Cristina Torres Memorial Fund.

He also gives her credit for the Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics he was

passed away because she's one of the authors of the paper, a part of history."

The observatory was originally at UTRGV until it was moved about three years ago. It will benefit the Edinburg and Brownsville campuses, Diaz said.

"They will be able to use the observatory remotely, through the internet," he said. "All seven telescopes are going to be hooked to the internet and can be operated from anywhere they want."

UTRGV has signed an agreement with Texas Parks and Wildlife. This partnership will eventually lead to the development of a High Tech Planetarium and an Earth & Space Science Museum.

In 2017, the UTRGV Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy received the Nobel Prize in physics.

"Last year, for the first time, we succeeded in observing gravitational waves and electromagnetic radiation images from the same event," Diaz said.

Additionally, the observatory will be utilized as a community resource.

"The observatory will be a center of attraction for tourism and visitors, and a badge of pride for the community," he said.

It will serve as a scientific tool for general education science college students and for Brownsville Independent School District high school students.

BISD high schools will offer "hands-on, inquiry-based, student-centered learning" astronomy classes using the observatory next fall.

"The principle behind this is you don't learn science by reading books, you learn science by doing science," Diaz said. "We expect the students to come here to learn the excitement of discovery and learn science."

The renaming ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. May 5 at the Resaca de la Palma State Park. Admission is free.

Light it up blue

UTRGV information fair raises awareness on autism

Reprinted from utrgvrider.com

Jesus Sanchez

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Psychology sophomore Taylor Martinez learned how a person with autism can be treated with occupational and physical therapies to improve learning, communication and social skills during an event held Monday in Brownsville.

"I just wanted to be more aware of, like, autism and understand it a little bit better," Martinez said. "It's better to understand, so we can be more grounded and work with [people with autism]."

Several local and UTRGV organizations and departments joined forces on the Student Union lawn in Brownsville to provide information on autism and raised more than \$200 for a non-profit clinic.

More than 100 campus community members attended the event, which was hosted by the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Chapter at UTRGV in observance of Autism Awareness Day.

"The reason I wanted to create this event is so people can be aware of what type of opportunities are available to the

people [on] this campus," said Oscar Cazares, a UTRGV biology senior and AMSA president.

April is Autism Awareness Month. The event provided attendees with information on autism, mental health and disabilities.

Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by repetitive behaviors, social and cognitive impairments as well as communication difficulties.

Campus community members participated in a water paint balloon toss to raise money for Moody Clinic in Brownsville, which is a non-profit organization that offers physical, speech/language and occupational therapy.

Moody Clinic physical therapist Laura Terheggen, occupational therapist Bianca Garcia and Development and Communications Director Christine Cavazos attended the event.

Terheggen and Garcia told *The Rider* some of the early signs of autism include children not responding to their name, avoiding eye contact, wanting to be alone and having low to no social skills.

"A lot of the times, you get diagnosed as a child and it's something, unfortunately,



Jesus Sanchez/THE RIDER

Leila Flores-Torres (right), UTRGV Student Accessibility Services assistant director, and Kim Nguyen-Finn, a rehabilitation services and counseling lecturer, toss water paint balloons at clinical Assistant Professor Antonio Aguirre Monday during the Autism Awareness Day event on the Student Union lawn in Brownsville. The event provided attendees with information on autism, mental health and disabilities.

that doesn't go away," Garcia said. "There's no known cure yet for it. So then, you grow up with [autism] and that's why therapy is so important and early intervention."

The Moody Clinic information table had several items used to treat children who have sensory issues.

Items included a blanket, different types of fake grass, rice and toys. All props are used to help children develop their senses.

"[The props] help self-regulate and calm [children's]

sensory system," Garcia said. "We kind of just help and introduce new textures to, you know, get them used to it on their little bodies."

Moody Clinic is located at 1901 E. 22nd St. in Brownsville. To contact the clinic, call 542-8504.

Autism affects one in 68 children and one in 42 boys, according to autismspeaks.org. It is one of the fastest-growing developmental disorders in the U.S.

The UTRGV School of Rehabilitation Services and

Counseling was also present during the event.

"At both, the public-school level and at the university level, there are services and accommodations available for children with disabilities and young adults with disabilities" said Antonio Aguirre, a UTRGV clinical assistant professor. "So, making sure that those people know the services are there [is important] and they can reach out to them as well."

ONE FOR THE BOOKS

UTRGV hosts events for National Library Week

Britney Valdez
THE RIDER

Psychology junior Tabitha Rodriguez said she appreciates the library for giving her all the knowledge and resources she needs to be successful, as well as providing her with a place to relax.

“The resources that they have helped [me] a lot,” Rodriguez said. “With research, it’s a lot easier than having to pay for everything.”

National Library Week kicks off to-

Sharpe said.

This year’s theme is “Libraries Lead.” While it promotes reading and the use of libraries, it also encourages students to share their stories of how the library has impacted them.

“We want to know from the students, ‘How has the library led you to something of value?’” said Millie Hernandez, the Special Collections manager at the University Library on the Brownsville campus. “So, the question that will be on the board is, ‘How has the library led them in their lives?’ and they’ll be

It will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. at the library’s entrance in Brownsville and on the second floor commons of the library in Edinburg.

Also today, the Edinburg University Library will host a game of library *lotería* from 1 to 2 p.m in Classroom 1, while Brownsville will host another from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday in Instruction Room 1.118.

Tuesday, the Brownsville library will host the Chachalaca Review, which is a yearly multicultural journal produced by UTRGV students, at 12:15 p.m. in

such hot-button subjects as racism, sexism, homophobia, immigration, and more,” according to a University Library flyer. She’s the author of the novel, “Golondrina, why did you leave me?” (University of Texas Press, 2010) and “Las Nalgas de JLo” (Aztlan Libre Press, 2017), which is a collection of columns, articles, reviews and poems.

Her works are humorous political satire on the “cultural and social justice issues of our times.”

“We’re closing National Library Week with author, journalist, poet



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER

In addition to activities such as library *lotería*, Book Face Promotion and the Chachalaca Review, both campuses will host a presentation by author and journalist Bárbara Renaud González on Thursday in Edinburg and Friday in Brownsville.

day and students can expect a week of activities, including *lotería*, crafts and a poetry reading from author and journalist Bárbara Renaud González.

The events not only promote libraries, but also incorporate poetry in honor of National Poetry Month.

“National Library Week is a week each year that is used to celebrate libraries and their impact on our lives and society,” University Librarian Paul

able to share their story.”

The first event today is a Book Face Promotion, which is an ongoing activity across both campuses where students can take creative pictures of themselves that showcase books.

“We’re going to have some book covers with different faces on them,” Hernandez said. “They’ll be able to pose with the covers, making the covers replace their face.”



Robert Benavidez Jr./THE RIDER

Sociology sophomore Manny Lozano studies last Thursday in the University Library on the Brownsville campus. UTRGV will observe National Library Week with a series of events and activities.

Instruction Room 1.118.

In collaboration with the English and Mexican American Studies departments, González will recite poetry from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday in the Shary Room on the Edinburg campus.

She will also speak on the Brownsville campus at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Instruction Room 1.118.

González is an “important and dynamic Chicana/Latina voice tackling

Bárbara,” Hernandez said. “She will be doing some of her readings and it is a great honor to have her here.”

Rodriguez reminds the campus community that the library is not only a great place to study, but is also a great place to relax.

“It’s a nice place to socialize and keep calm when you’re studying,” she said.

For more information, call 665-2005 in Edinburg and 882-8221 in Brownsville.

Storyteller, playwright to visit UTRGV

Scribbles & Thoughts

By Laia Vite



Jelisa Jay Robinson

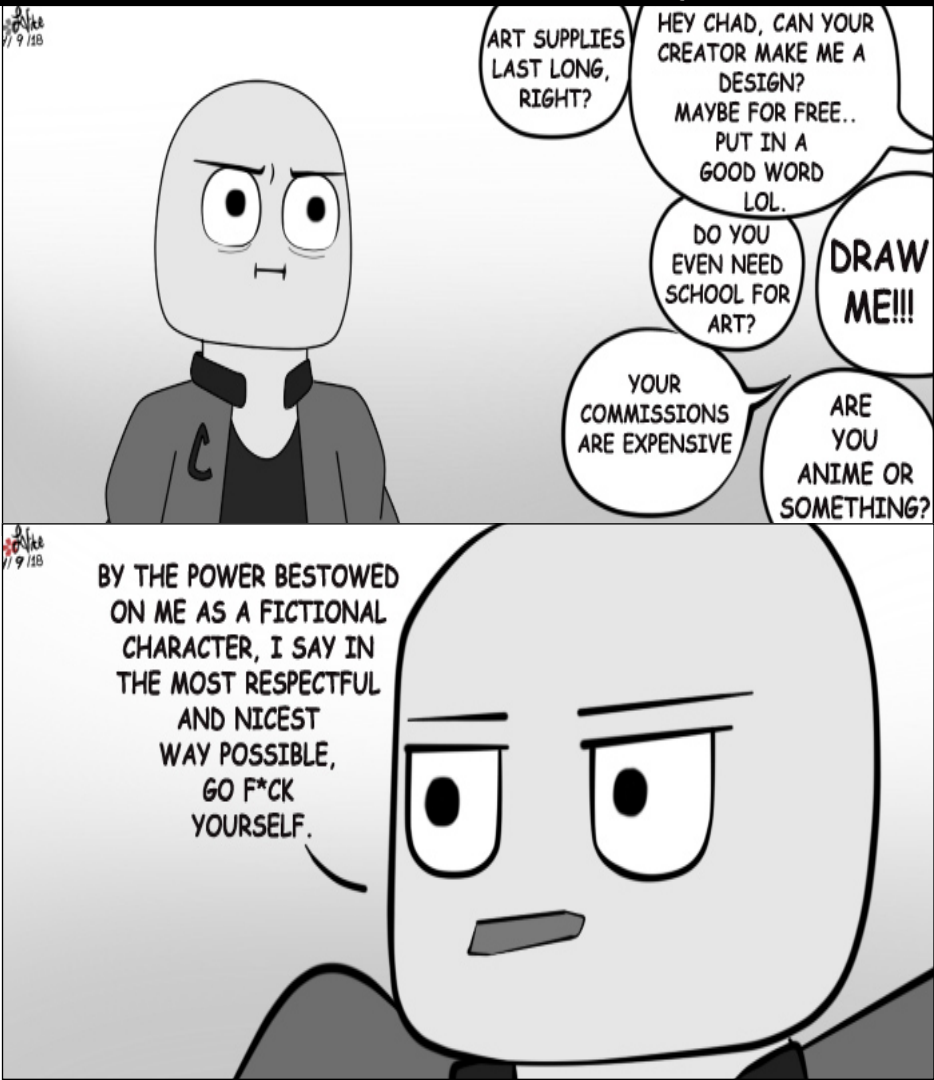
Jelisa Jay Robinson, an African-American storyteller, playwright and educator, will deliver a lecture and share her work at 12:15 p.m. today in Mathematics and General Classrooms Building 1.318 on the Edinburg campus.

A panel discussion on Afro-Latinx connections and legacies of black communities in South Texas will take place at 6:30 p.m. today in Academic Success Building 1.106 on the Edinburg campus. UTRGV history Assistant Professor Jamie Starling and political science junior Jillian Glantz will share their work on the topics and serve as panelists.

Marci McMahon, a UTRGV literatures and cultural studies assistant professor, will be the moderator for the Afrolatinidad Historias and Performance Panel.

The event is sponsored by UTRGV Leadership and Mentoring, Campus Programming Board and the Literatures and Cultural Studies department.

For more information and accommodations, email McMahon at marci.mcmahon@utrgv.edu.



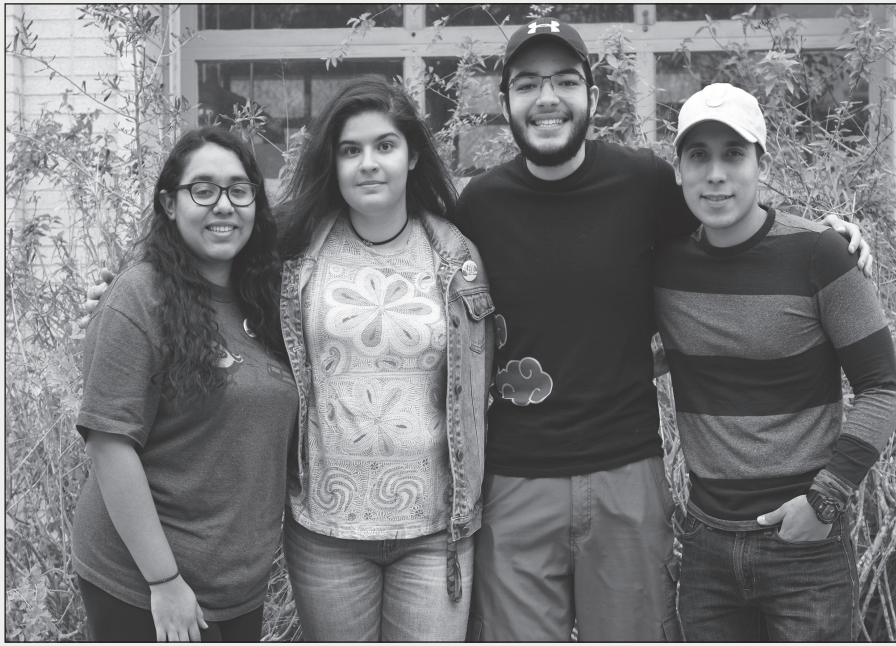
Have a story idea?

Let us know at
882-5143 or **665-2541**

Club Spotlight

Name: RGV Blend
Purpose: To be involved in the community and inspire creativity through visual art.
President: Jonathan Barrera
Vice President: Mayra Cerda
Secretary: Cecilia Sierra
Treasurer: Ted Flores
Social Media Directors: Manuel Gamez and Jorge Abundiz
Advisers: Art Lecturers Alejandro Macias and Stephen Hawks
Activities: A watercolor workshop that introduces those who have little to no experience to art.
Membership requirements: Must be a current student, faculty or staff member at UTRGV.
Meetings: 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. twice a month on Tuesdays in Rusteberg Hall 178 on the Brownsville campus.
For more information, email: cecilia.sierra01@utrgv.edu.
--Compiled by Steven Hughes

Want your club featured? Email us at TheRider@utrgv.edu or call us at 882-5143 in Brownsville and 665-2541 in Edinburg!



Steven Hughes/**THE RIDER**

The RGV Blend members include Vice President Mayra Cerda (from left), Secretary Cecilia Sierra, Social Media Director Manuel Gamez and President Jonathan Barrera.

STUDENTS

Continued from Page 3

Student Success Vice President Kristin Croyle will serve as the ceremonies' welcome speaker.

Perez told *The Rider* student employment on campus is important because it provides students with the opportunity and ability to develop professional skills through hands-on practices, which prepares them for future endeavors after graduation.

UTRGV Career Center Director Juan Rodriguez-Nieto said students who work acquire skill sets that they can apply in their professional jobs.

"We definitely want to be part of the national celebration," Rodriguez-Nieto said. "We want to make sure that we recognize that students, as employees,

are benefiting themselves by acquiring soft skills and also play a very important role on the daily operations of the university."

Pepping said being a student employee has helped him improve his communication skills and work ethic.

Once he graduates, he plans to continue his education at UTRGV and land a full-time position at the university.

"Since I plan to pursue a master's and Ph.D., I can't think of a better way to pursue that by working at the university full time as well," Pepping said.

For more information about National Student Employment Appreciation Week, call the Career Center at 665-2243 in Edinburg and 882-5627 in Brownsville.

AUTISM

Continued from Page 8

Aguirre said he was thankful to all the people who helped organize the event and for attendees. The clinical assistant professor also volunteered in the water paint balloon toss.

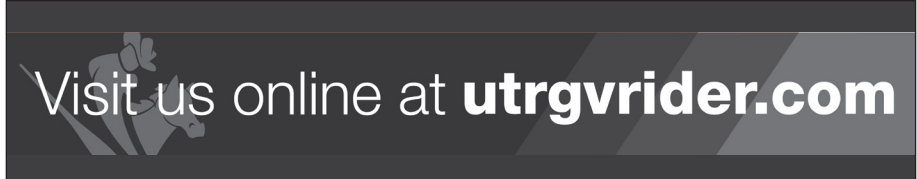
Other participants included *Familia Azul*, Team Mario, UTRGV Student Accessibility Services and the school's Leadership and Social Change department.

UTRGV Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall 129 on the

Brownsville campus and University Center 108 on the Edinburg campus.

The department is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Its services include evaluating disability documentation, arranging academic accommodations and providing consultation to students with disabilities, including those with temporary disabilities, according to the UTRGV website.

To contact Student Accessibility Services, call 882-7374 in Brownsville and 665-7005 in Edinburg.



TRUMP

Continued from Page 1

if they want to."

The four community organizations that will participate in this event are the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights, Neta (a bilingual multimedia platform based in the Rio Grande Valley), Humanitarian Respite Center and La Union del Pueblo Entero (LUPE).

The community organizations expected to attend might change, according to Alessandri.

She said the main question to be answered by these groups is how have Trump's immigration policies affected the Valley.

Both events are free and open to the public.

On April 1, Trump tweeted that there would be "NO MORE DACA DEAL!"

"Border Patrol Agents are not allowed to properly do their job at the Border because of ridiculous liberal (Democrat) laws like Catch & Release," Trump posted on Twitter. "Getting more dangerous. 'Caravans' coming. Republicans must go to Nuclear Option to pass tough laws NOW. NO MORE DACA DEAL!"

Trump published this hours after he had tweeted "HAPPY EASTER!"

Last September, Trump rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, an executive order by then-President Barack Obama that protected nearly 800,000 people.

DACA provides young people who were brought illegally to the United States as children with temporary protection from deportation if they can demonstrate that they meet several criteria, according to whitehouse.gov.

On Jan. 13, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services started to allow DACA recipients to apply for renewals

due to a federal court order.

"Due to a federal court order, USCIS has resumed accepting requests to renew a grant of deferred action under DACA," the USCIS posted on its website. "Until further notice, and unless otherwise provided in this guidance, the DACA policy will be operated on the terms in place before it was rescinded on Sept. 5, 2017."

Barragan said the DACA program should not be ended.

"Some people come here to pursue more opportunities, a better life, new chances," she said. "If America claims to be the country where you can have all these chances, but they are taking it away, then what exactly do you have? Now, you can't succeed without the immigrants that bring their part to this country. They are not just here living life. They are actually working and putting everything they have on their work or studies. If we take that away, then that means that they basically have to go back and restart from zero."

Mark Kaswan, a UTRGV political science professor, said it is difficult to know how seriously people should take Trump's comments.

"Donald Trump came into office thinking that he could issue orders and that they would be followed and that he could basically rule by himself. It does not work that way," Kaswan said. "He came into office very ignorant about the process of governing and he remains very ignorant about how our government works. So, I think his tweet more than anything else was an expression of frustration. ... So, when things don't turn out the way he wants them to turn out, then, he lashes out."

He said to some extent Trump's tweets depend on whom he has talked to most recently.

"Tomorrow, maybe he'll happen to

talk to, who knows, [U.S. Sen.] Chuck Schumer [D-N.Y.] or someone who thinks that DACA is a good thing and he will come out and say something completely different," Kaswan said.

He also said the tweets make people feel afraid and uncomfortable.

"On the other side, it encourages people who are racists and nativists to continue or expand their attacks," Kaswan said. "Certainly, with things like his claim about the caravan of immigrants ... he actively promotes misinformation. Again, his supporters eat it up and they love it, and they think it is wonderful. Another side of this is that Trump has been criticized on the right for what they think is softness on immigration. And so, in part, he is responding to that criticism."

He said the effect on the immigrant community is negative and promotes fear and distrust.

During the first three months of 2018, 55,125 initial and renewal applications were approved by USCIS. As of now, 51,118 applications are pending and only 3,929 have been denied, according to a quarterly report published by USCIS.

A copy of this report is available at www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-studies/immigration-forms-data/data-set-form-i-821d-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals.

Trump also posted a tweet that same day, April 1, threatening to end the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), saying that Mexico is not doing enough to stop the flow of immigration.

"Mexico is doing very little, if not NOTHING, at stopping people from flowing into Mexico through their Southern Border, and then into the U.S. They laugh at our dumb immigration laws. They must stop the big drug and

people flows, or I will stop their cash cow, NAFTA. NEED WALL!"

Kaswan said ending NAFTA would not be as easy as just saying, "That's it. NAFTA is over. We are pulling out of the treaty."

"Trump is just not very well-informed about the political process and how things work," he said. "He may have substantial administrative authority to effectively end the agreement, but my sense is that it is not so easy."

Alessandri said students should attend the presentations because there will be voices from the community.

"These are community activists. These are nonprofit groups," she said. "Sometimes students, because they are on campus, they might not know what is going on in the community. So, they should attend them to hear from ... community organizations talking about their experience working with the population affected by Trump's policies."

Asked whether people should be worried about Trump's tweets, Kaswan replied, "Yes and no."

"On the one hand, they seem like immature ravings of a deranged man," he said. "On the other hand, he is president."

He compared the situation with an old man standing before a mountain and yelling at it.

"The metaphor kind of works because the government, to an extent ... is a huge edifice and it's, for the most part, quite solid," Kaswan said. "By the same token, his yelling can scare a lot of people and if he yells loud enough, then the rocks may start to come loose and come tumbling down and crush everything."

He said what matters is not what Trump says but how people and the media respond to it.

On the right track

Athletes acknowledged for hard work

Gabriel Galvan
THE RIDER

The Track and Field teams had the best performance on record for UTRGV in the Western Athletic Conference Indoor Championships in Nampa, Idaho, back in February.

The Edinburg City Council honored the teams with a proclamation for their performance during last Tuesday’s meeting.

In accepting the proclamation, Track and Field Coach Darren Flowers said the team is “proud to represent the [Rio Grande] Valley in such a way, and also represent the City of Edinburg.”

Flowers said the teams have been training really hard from the end of the indoor championships until now.

He said veterans, such as juniors Anthony Magallon, Paul May and Idatonye Cheetham-West, as well as freshman Abraham Chirchir, have stepped up.

“[Magallon] has made drastic improvements. He’s from the Valley. He believes in what we’re doing here, and he won a conference title indoors,” the

coach said. “That’s a guy who has kind of taken ownership of this new team and this new direction, and has really helped. ... Paul had some success last year as well, but he has just built on that success, and he seems to get better and better as we go along.”

In the indoor championships, Magallon won the Men’s High Jump, clearing a height of 2.06 meters.

May won the Men’s Shot Put competition with a throw of 16.58 meters, while senior and fellow thrower Antonio Salinas placed third with a throw of 15.70 meters.

Chirchir won the 3,000-meter run after crossing the finish line in 8:28.40.

Cheetham-West garnered second place in the 200-meter dash, breaking her own program record with a time of 24.53 seconds and senior Jovanna Jones placed third in the same event with a time of 24.80 seconds.

For the Women’s Triple Jump event, junior Dai’ja Coleman placed second with a height of 12.10 meters. In the Women’s 60-Meter Dash, Cheetham-West placed third with a time of 7.54 seconds.



Paul May, track and field thrower and biology junior, prepares for next month’s WAC Outdoor Championships during practice last Tuesday at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex on the Edinburg campus.



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Track and field senior Jonathan Ojeda warms up during practice at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex on the Edinburg campus.

In the Men’s 400-Meter Dash, junior Yariel Matute placed second with a time of 48.40 seconds.

Sophomore Ricardo Mendoza placed second in the Men’s 800-Meter Run with a time of 1:53.86.

In addition, Jones, juniors Felicia Wills, Valeria King Mancha and Destiny Rutherford finished second in the Women’s 4x400-Meter Relay with a time of 3:50.43.

For the complete results, visit goutrgv.com.

May, a biology junior, said he is trying to improve his overall strength in order to prepare for next month’s outdoor championships.

Asked what his recipe for success is, he replied, “A lot of practice. Working on technique and getting solid throws.”

May also said the City of Edinburg’s proclamation is an indication of how well the team is doing.

“I think the team is doing a good job, you know, we got a lot

of recognition,” he said. “We’re doing good, we are representing the city good, we’re representing the school good.”

May said he tries to take a leadership role for the team.

“I’m one of the older kids here, so I try my best to help out the other kids,” he said. “Whatever Coach says to me that may make sense to me, I’ll try to reword it to try to help out the kids below me, or maybe say it a different way that would make sense to them.”

Cheetham-West, an exercise science junior, said the team is trying to stay tough, mentally and physically.

“We have to make sure we stay on top of everything,” she said. “We have to make sure we don’t lose sight of what’s important and lose sight of our goals.”

She said her recipe for success includes “trusting the process, training hard, trusting God, trusting that His plan is greater than mine, and really, not focusing on my competition.”

Last Saturday, the teams also competed at home in the South Texas Showdown, dueling against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Results were not available at press time.

They are looking forward to the invitational at the University of Incarnate Word on Friday.

The teams will also compete May 9 in the WAC Outdoor Championships in Lawrence, Kansas.

Asked what he thought about last Saturday’s duel, Flowers replied, “I really don’t know what to predict for this week. We just want to go out and compete hard, and have some fun.”

Flowers said winning isn’t everything.

“It’s not about winning or losing,” the coach said. “It’s about the complete immersion of your craft. When these kids go into the championships, I want them to feel completely free, to do what they do at the highest level that they can do it.”



Paul May is a biology junior and thrower on the UTRGV Track and Field Team.

If you could be any animal, what would it be and why? “I would pick an eagle or something, so I can fly and, you know, explore.”

What TV show are you currently into? “I don’t really watch TV too often, but I mean, I like to watch the ‘Rick and Morty’ show. It’s pretty interesting.”

Do you have any hidden talents? “I think the school knows most of my talents. I don’t think I have any hidden talents.”

If you could have dinner with any celebrity or athlete, who would it be? “I guess I would pick Ryan Crouser, just so I get in his head and figure out what he does to throw.”

Who is your personal hero, and why? “I think my personal hero, it’s my mom. A strong woman, she does a lot to support me and my family. She’s always been there along to support us and that’s why she’s my hero.”

Who makes you laugh the most on the team? “I definitely say it’s a tie between the coach, my throwers coach and one of my teammates, Christian [Hall-Garner], ’cause he’s from my high school, so we’re pretty close.”

What is the best advice you’ve received recently? “Best advice I’ve received recently is probably just, you know, relax and throw, don’t put too much pressure on myself. ... What’s meant to be is going to be.”

Pizza or tacos? “I’m from the Northeast, so I have to say pizza.”

If a song played every time you walked into a room, what song would that be? “I would say ‘Eye of the Tiger,’ it’s a good inspirational song.”

On your off time, what do you like to do? “On my off time I like to play ‘Fortnite,’ it’s a pretty fun game, helps me to relax.”

-- Compiled by Valeria Alanis



McCREERY AVIATION CO., Inc.

LEARN TO FLY
DISCOVER A CAREER WHERE YOUR OFFICE IS IN THE CLOUDS



\$100
Introductory
Flight
(956) 686-1774



National STUDENT EMPLOYMENT Appreciation Week

APRIL 9-13

**MONDAY,
APRIL 9**

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT JOB FAIR

Edinburg campus
(Ballroom)
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Information tables
(Resume review,
professional attire
tips, etc.)

**TUESDAY,
APRIL 10**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

Brownsville
(Salon Cassia)
Edinburg (ESTUN –
Sage Room)
• 10:00-11:00 a.m.
“Building a Career”
• 12:15-1:15 p.m.
“Use of Social
Media”
• 2:30-3:30 p.m.
“Time Management”
• 5:30-6:30 p.m.
“From Student to
Professional”

**WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 11**

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT JOB FAIR

Brownsville campus
(Salon Cassia)
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Information tables
(Resume review,
professional attire
tips, etc.)

**THURSDAY,
APRIL 12**

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AWARD CEREMONY

Edinburg
Student Employee of
the Year
Supervisor of the Year

**FRIDAY,
APRIL 13**

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AWARD CEREMONY

Brownsville
Student Employee of
the Year
Supervisor of the Year



For more information and for special accommodations,
contact the UTRGV Career Center:

Edinburg Campus, Student Services Bldg., Rm. 2.101 – 956-665-2243 • Brownsville Campus, Cortez Hall Rm. 129 – 956-882-5627