



DEL MAR COLLEGE Foghorn News

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Great awakening among the youth today

Voter turnout, activism on the rise with students all across the globe

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"Youthquake," a term first coined in 1965 by a Vogue editor-in-chief, was named Oxford Dictionaries' 2017 Word of the Year.

The dictionary defines the term as "a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people."

Imelda Gallegos, a student at Collegiate High School, was taken away by the word of choice this year.

"The word describes perfectly how young people today are reshaping the world. Our time is really now," Gallegos

said.

According to Oxford editors, the term saw a fivefold increase in usage in 2017 compared with 2016, with the word growing significantly in June during the United Kingdom's general election, when it highlighted an intensity of young people's engagement in politics during elections.

In April of 2016, UK Prime Minister and Leader of the Conservative Party Theresa May called a snap-election, causing seven weeks of high campaigning. Though the Labour Party, a center-left political party in the UK, lost seats in the June election, it drew the biggest rise of young voters to the polls in 25 years.

The youth in New Zealand felt the same way in its general elections in September, where voter turnout among youths took a

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Photo Illustration by Mia Estrada/Foghorn News



Photos by Mark Young/Foghorn News

Lionel Lopez goes through old documents from his work with the colonias. He and his wife, Juanita, run the South Texas Colonia Initiative, which has been helping residents of the colonias for over 40 years.

4 decades of selfless sacrifice

Couple dedicate lives to helping colonia residents

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Lionel Lopez remembers the night in 1974 that would put him on a course that would occupy the next 40 years of his and his wife's lives.

On a cold, raining night in 1974 during his days as a firefighter, Lionel Lopez responded to a call for an elderly woman suffering from a heart attack in one of the Nueces County colonias. He was made aware of the freezing interior of the unkempt home and the unstable surroundings she was living in.

"She was an elderly lady and we got her out, and golly..." he recalled. "You could see it was very cold inside. And I saw her conditions, and it needed a lot of work."

The next day, during his day off, Lionel returned to that colonia to talk to some of the neighbors about their lives. This is when he realized there was more help needed in these communities than what he could have imagined.

Lionel and wife Juanita Lopez, both Corpus Christi natives, have been working for and within colonias for about 40 years. Through

their time, they have been pushing for change in nearly every aspect in every colonia in Nueces County.

"Lionel and I service between 15,000 and 20,000 people in the colonias," Juanita said. "And at one time or another, we've talked to every single one."

The couple, married for over 40 years, has brought assistance to the colonias at first through bringing over extra groceries, stuff from their house and clean gallons of water. They then began bringing forward the advocacy of health programs, food distribution programs and environmental programs.

"Janie would buy a little extra at H-E-B. At that time I didn't know the water wasn't any good, but I would take water from here," Lionel recalled.

Since establishing the South Texas Colonia Initiative as a 501(c) nonprofit, they've remained active in keeping the topic of dis-



Juanita and Lionel Lopez talk in their office. They provide aid to colonia residents and advocate for them in the government.

cussion for conditions in the colonias to lawmakers, members of Congress, city council members, etc., with a notorious reputation.

"They do not want to have anything to do with us," Juanita said about the county commissioners.

Through perseverance and organization, Lionel and Juanita have been advocating change to improve the quality of life for residents of colonias who are stricken with health problems in which Juanita introduces health care services, and the unstable land

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Stuck on a cause: stopping suicides

Sticker sales by Student Veterans Association bring awareness to problem

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Every day, 22 veterans commit suicide. Navy veteran and psychology major Andie Gardner wants to change that by bringing awareness to their plight.

Gardner, with the help of the Student Veterans Association, came up with a sticker that students and staff can purchase.

"We want to raise awareness that suicide does exist and it's prevalent in veterans that come back," she said.

Gardner also hopes that this will help students who aren't veterans assist those who are going through this hardship.

Gardner said part of what inspired her is that she has known veterans who have been going through this.

"I've had many friends that have been on the brink and I've seen those who committed suicide," she said.

Seeing her fellow veteran friends, whom she calls her brothers, affected made her want to raise awareness for this frightening statistic among veterans.

The 4-inch by 4-inch stickers will be sold for \$1 and the funds will go to the SVA, which hopes to offer the stickers in future years too.

"We want this to be continuous semester to semester. We don't want this to stop. This a message that needs to keep going," Gardner said.

Gardner added that the SVA plans to look into donating a percentage of funds raised to a veterans counseling center to help aid veterans dealing with suicide. She hopes the SVA will be able to make T-shirts with the same design as the sticker to help raise further awareness for everyone can wear.

The sticker is modeled with the number 22 symbolizing the statistic with two flaming bullets crossed together with the words "prevent" on top and "prevail" on the bottom. They are available for purchase at the Veterans Services Office on the second floor in the Harvin Center.



Dual enrollment to be offered for Del Mar, A&M-CC students

Viking Islander Program allows use of housing, facilities, services, more

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A dual enrollment program for students to attend both Del Mar College and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will soon be implemented, but not for all students.

Beth Lewis, executive vice president and chief academic officer, and Rito Silva, vice president of student affairs, laid

out the plans for the new program at the March 6 Board of Regents meeting. The plans, according to Lewis, have been "many years in the making."

The VIP, Viking Islander Program, will see students concurrently enrolled at both Del Mar and A&M-CC at the same time, with students starting off at Del Mar while slowly integrating into A&M-CC.

Students in the program will be able to use services from both campuses, including housing at A&M-CC, and the program itself will be managed by both institutions.

However, the public will not be able

to apply to this program. Only "bubble" students will be invited to join. "Bubble" students are defined as students who receive around a 17-18 on their ACT. Silva says that currently "around 400 students qualify for this."

The majority of classes will be completed at Del Mar, with successful students who complete 30 credit hours a year with a 2.5 GPA automatically receiving enrollment to A&M-CC.

Silva said that while it is not required for the program, Del Mar will "encourage students to complete an associate degree."

President Mark Escamilla said the program takes after the "blend model" that is used in College Station and will not only benefit students, but both campuses.

"This is a great opportunity for students who aren't entirely ready for university life," Escamilla said.

More details on the program will be rolled out within the next couple of months.

Regents also voted 8-1, with Regent Guy Watts opposed, to increase student fees from \$7 to \$15 per semester. They also proclaimed April 8-14 as Del Mar College Library Week.

New DMC website has been uploaded

New features, accessibility were added to the site

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On Friday before Spring Break, Del Mar's website got a big update. The fresh look was designed specifically for the students, who often visit the site on their phones.

"This is the first time we've had an actual responsive mobile version. That's one of the biggest things for the students. We want to put the Web information right in their hands," said Claudia Jackson, executive director of community and legislative relations.

The new simple design is easier to read and easier to navigate. Smaller bits of clear information take the place of long, often outdated articles. Now the fresh site has photos and videos throughout to enhance the user experience.

The toolbar at the top of your page is "sticky," following your phone or computer screen while you scroll and navigate the site, so you always have quick access to the most useful links, such

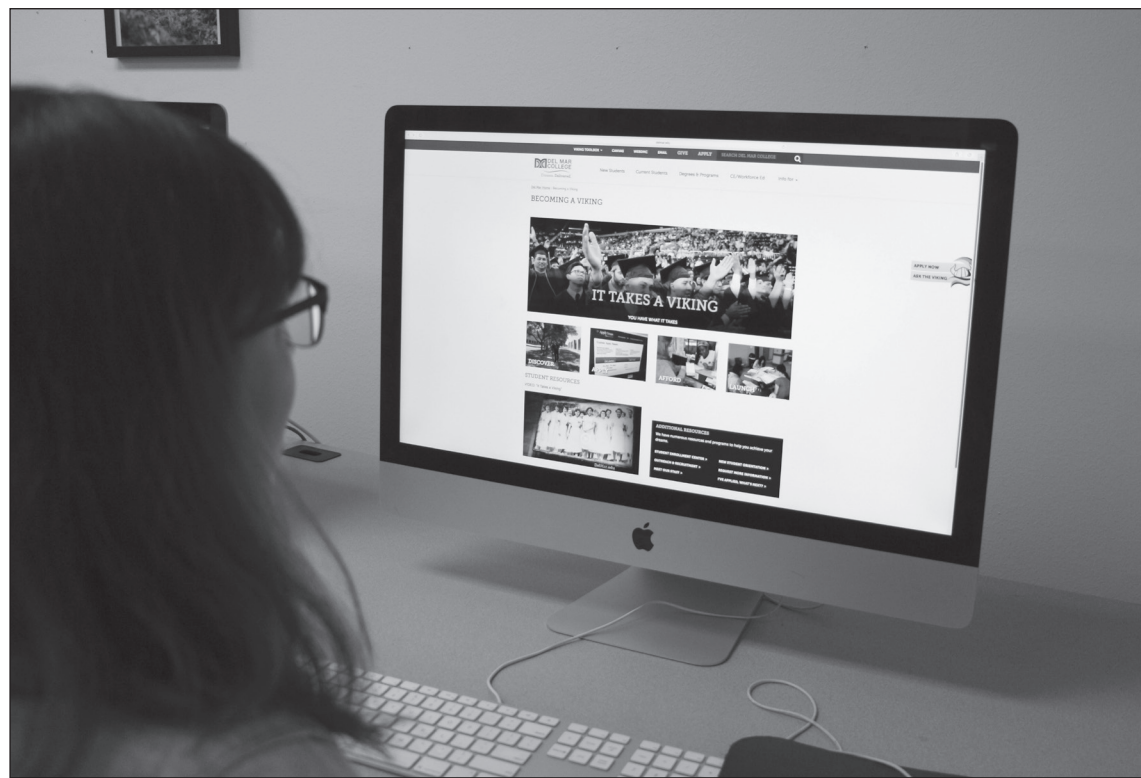


Photo illustration by Josselyn Obregon/Foghorn News

as Canvas, WebDMC, email and a search bar. The drop down menu at the top left called the "Viking Toolbox" features a list of frequently used links such as the Catalog, Campus Maps, Directory and Help Desk.

To make information easily accessible, the main navigation bar on the home page lists several user-specific categories, including new students, information on applying and financial aid, and current students.

The Degrees & Programs section adds several resources for students. Select one of the many degree plans that are all neatly categorized to find updated information about your major. From there, you will find a link

to a degree plan showing all class requirements, and the recommended order and semester one should take them in. Hover over or select a specific class for a description.

"We think this is a mass improvement," Jackson said. "The three premises of rebuilding our website were to be completely student focused, to be mobile focused and mobile friendly. The third thing we wanted to do is to improve on the website's ADA compliance."

The Americans with Disabilities Act says that just like any taxing entity, Del Mar has to make sure all of its information is available to people with disabilities.

"If you're visually impaired, all the information on a website would have to go through some sort of reader, and we have to make sure that text is readable. Another thing is all the videos on the site are close-captioned for the hearing impaired," Jackson said.

Each department has also been assigned a web content manager, Jackson said, which should help keep the site updated more frequently.

Check out www.delmar.edu to see all the changes.

Inmigración un reto en busca de soluciones efectivas

Efectos directos de la deportación en un país de inmigrantes

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Inmigración y deportaciones son temas de cada día, los cuales se han convertido en algo tan común dentro de la sociedad actual que se ha olvidado hablar realmente de que es el problema y a quienes afecta directa e indirectamente.

El pasado 8 de marzo en las instalaciones del Retama Room, Del Mar College East Campus. The Office of Student Leadership & Campus Life. Llevaron a cabo el Panel de Discusión "Inmigración Indocumentada, Retos y Soluciones". Dicha actividad conto con la presencia del Actor y conferencista Jesús Nebot, quien cuenta con una larga experiencia en el tema de inmigración habiendo sido el un inmigrante en diferentes países en su juventud. Nebot busca abrir espacios de discusión entre los estudiantes para comprender y atender el tema de inmigración como un verdadero reto a solucionar.

El panel de discusión conto con la participación de varios abogados de la Asociación RAICES, estudiantes DACA entre otros. Entre los puntos sobresalientes fue la intervención del abogado Justin Tullius, al momento que se solicito que los estudiantes DACA se presentaran y dieran su nombre. Tullius recordó, "Todos los Estudiantes DACA, tiene derecho a reservar su identidad por seguridad y mas en actividades publicas que son grabadas por los medios de comunicación." Recomendando no hacer ningún tipo de actividad que pudiera perjudicar a los estudiantes.

Jesús Nebot, presento parte de la película "No Turning Back" donde fue el protagonista. Historia de un migrante mexicano el cual se encuentra con una serie de problemas de inmigración y persecución policial tratando de escapar hacia la frontera de Canada. Esto con el objetivo de crear un ambiente confortable para que los estudiantes y claustro docente puedan visualizar que Estados Unidos es un país de inmigración tanto legal como indocumentada, lo cual afecta a millones de personas.

Jared Romero, quien es un es-

tudiante DACA y participo de la actividad manifestó, que la situación actual de los estudiantes DACA como de los inmigrantes indocumentados ha cregado una serie de frustraciones en su persona y familia. "Espero que el gobierno pueda resolver prontamente esta crisis de la forma más correcta posible."

Mientras que el Abogado Tullius, reconoció que la crisis de inmigración y deportación sigue creciendo cada día y actividades como estas son un motor de ayuda para los estudiantes y personas migrantes. También resalto que hay muchas formas legales de poder ayudar especialmente a los estudiantes DACA, entre ellos la creación de un nuevo fondo económico, para becas especialmente para estos estudiantes. Al igual que la asistencia legal de muchas asociantes y grupos.

Para solicitar asistencia legal en temas de inmigración o aplicar a las becas para estudiantes DACA ingresar al sitio www.raicestexas.org/ o llamar al 361-693-5838.



Josselyn Obregon/Foghorn News

Jesús Nebot en el panel de Inmigración indocumentada, retos y soluciones, impartida en las instalaciones de Del Mar College.

@JTO_NEWS

(Youthquake from Page 1)

Past Vogue editor-in-chief Diana Vreeland brought the word to life in the 1960s to characterize the culture of youth involving fashion, music and the rejection of traditional norms.

After Oxford Dictionaries claimed 2017 as a "difficult and divisive year," according to BBC, the word was a right fit.

More specifically in the United States, the term describes the current status of the youths seeking political, social and economic change in society.

Recently, the Parkland, Florida, shooting on Feb. 14 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School led to the survivors advocating for

gun reform — change that Douglas High School students such as Emma Gonzales, David Hogg and many others want to see.

This is one of the many examples of youths taking part in society, whether that be voicing concerns for gun reform, education or income inequality.

Collegiate High School teacher Tammy Alcala applauds teens of today for sharing their voice.

"The youth of today are more mature and I feel like they have more of a voice than they did when I was their age, and I say that because of everything that's going on right now with gun control and walkouts," Alcala said. "They are going to make a difference and I applaud them for that."

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conditions in which Lionel finds the environmental causes for. According to the Lopez and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, colonias in Nueces County have received violations for exceeding safe levels of arsenic since 2008, with the exception of a brief period in 2014. The high levels of arsenic consistently make the water unsafe for basic usage or consumption.

According to Juanita, it's Lionel who works with the environmental parts. It's Juanita who takes care of the health aspects. Although the executive direction of the initiative is split between the focuses of Lionel and Juanita, they receive help from university social work programs, volunteers and a small board who have grown the same type of passion.

Throughout their years working with residents of colonias, they have helped families through nearly everything, including parents suffering from depression and unable to take care of their children, to severe and terminal illnesses among the youngest of the residents. Lionel

recalls multiple cases of spirited children who he has only briefly been able to get along with until their conditions, usually unable to receive treatment, take their lives.

"They're like family, because we see them once a month — they have to tell us all the stories. We've had some with cancer that don't have insurance. What are you going to do?" Juanita said with a sigh. "A lot of times, they just want a shoulder to cry on."

Lionel and Juanita have been working with colonias since the mid '70s, but have been married since their adolescent days.

"It was a church dance," Juanita said with a smile. The couple, who both went to Carroll High School, met because they both had glasses, and have stayed together since.

It was never anyone's obligation to watch over the forgotten communities of Nueces County; it was the drive that pushed two local activists to create an initiative and devote their lives to it. Lionel and Juanita have continued to lead the initiative and reassure a change for the residents of the outskirts of Nueces County.

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IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, YOU CAN ALSO JOIN US IN 105B IN THE WHITE LIBRARY

9:00 am – 10:00 am
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm