

# COMMUNITY

GET THE WORD  
**OUT**

To submit a  
community brief:

Call Laura Martinez at  
(956) 982-6628, send an email  
to [lmartinez@brownsvilleherald.com](mailto:lmartinez@brownsvilleherald.com)  
or submit online at  
[events.brownsvilleherald.com](http://events.brownsvilleherald.com).

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Brownsville Literacy Center's Summer Reading Program

**When:** Through Aug. 16  
**Where:** Brownsville Literacy  
Center, 245 E. Levee St.  
**Cost:** \$25  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 542-8080

Please join us for a fun-filled summer with activities, arts and crafts, games, reading and more.

### August Historical Happy Hour: Game Night

**When:** 5-7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17  
**Where:** Historic Brownsville  
Museum, 641 E. Madison St.  
**Cost:** Free for BHA members, \$5  
RSVP and pay before event, \$10  
at the door  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 548-1313

It's game time! Join us at this month's happy hour for a night filled with your favorite board games. Feel free to bring your own as well. Be sure to check our Facebook event page for this month's featured beers. Attendees must be 21 years & older. No refunds.

### Dean Porter Park Rummage Sale

**When:** 6 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Saturday, Aug. 18  
**Where:** Dean Porter Park,  
501 E. Ringgold St.  
**Cost:** \$20 vendor fee (10x10 slot)  
\$10 table fee (bring your own for  
free or request one from us for an  
additional \$10)  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 465-9442

There will be food, furniture, household items, electronics, jewelry, books, clothing, and much more for sale. Browse, shop and enjoy. Bring your friends and family. Event is free to the public. For vendor information call Yoli Ayala Perez at 465-9442.

### Back to School Event

**When:** 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Saturday, Aug. 18  
**Where:** Brightwood College in  
Brownsville, 1900 N. Expressway,  
Suite O.  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 547-8200

There will be grilled hamburgers and hot dogs for guests, crafts and games for kids, family-friendly movies and a photo booth. These events are part of Brightwood College parent company Education Corporation of America's national Back to School Events being held at 62 other Brightwood College, Brightwood Career Institute and Virginia College locations throughout 17 states.

### From the Vaults of Market Square

**When:** 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25  
**Where:** Heritage Museum,

1325 E. Washington St.  
**Cost:** Free and open to the public  
**Register today by calling:**  
(956) 548-1313

The vaults of Market Square house fine art, historical costumes, furniture, sculptures, and numerous documents. Join BHA for this exclusive viewing of select pieces from the BHA vaults.

### Carnival/Kermes Fundraiser

**When:** 6-10:30 p.m.  
Aug. 31, Sept. 1-2  
**Where:** Our Lady of Good  
Counsel Church, 1055  
Military Highway  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 541-8341

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church will have its annual Carnival/Kermes. There will be food, games, live music and a raffle. First prize for the raffle will be a \$5,000 Visa gift card. All proceeds will benefit the church.

### Summer Safari Camps and Classes

**When:** Through August  
**Where:** Gladys Porter Zoo, South  
Texas Discovery Education Center  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 548-9453

What is your child doing this summer? Let your kids have fun while enhancing their skills. Summer Safari classes have been especially designed to stimulate learning and encourage conservation. Each day includes fun-filled activities such as puppet shows, games, stories, crafts, and tours. Each child will receive a certificate of completion, rewards, and mementos for participating. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided each class day. Each class runs for two days. Camps run all day, Monday thru Thursday with the Starlight Sleepover on Friday. The minimum age level for the week-long camps is 7, while the minimum age is 4 for the two-day, 3-hour classes.

### Brownsville into the 21st Century

**When:** Through Sept. 29  
**Where:** Historic Brownsville  
Museum, 641 E. Madison St.  
**Cost:** Exhibit is included  
with paid museum admission  
**For more information:**  
Call (956) 548-1313

From New Year's Day 1900 to December 1950, Brownsville, much like the rest of the US, was focused on the science of transportation. Civic groups assembled around the call for railroad service, and in 1904, the goal was brought to fruition. Efforts were then turned to the skies, and within the following twenty-five years that dream became a reality. Another five years beyond that, Brownsville had a world-class seaport. The BHA is proud to spotlight the individuals who contributed to these developments in our latest exhibit, Brownsville into the 21st Century (Brownsville's Pioneering Families Exhibit, Part II.)



COURTESY PHOTO

Five University of Texas Rio Grande Valley students went to Dublin, Ireland, this summer as part of a study abroad mini-mester course called "Irish Plays and Playwrights" taught by Brian Warren, UTRGV associate professor of theater. The students studied Irish history, culture, folklore and plays and studied Gaelic, and were able to enjoy the sights and sounds of Ireland. Shown here, from left, are UTRGV students Felicia Wills and Zoe Sesin, both theater arts majors; Warren, who led the group; UTRGV theater arts major Selina Soto; UTRGV theater/TV/film major Gerardo Segundo; and Julieza Flores, UTRGV English major.

# An Irish Summer

## UTRGV students study in Ireland

BY AMANDA L. ALANIZ  
SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The flight to Dublin, Ireland, was a long one, but once the UTRGV students touched ground on the Emerald Isle they found the countryside breathtaking.

"I would've taken 10 flights to get there, it was so beautiful," said Felicia Wills, a Refugio resident and UTRGV theater arts major. Mission resident Zoe Sesin, a UTRGV theatre arts major, said she was sad when the day came to leave Ireland because she was completely captivated.

"I had just fallen in love with Dublin. I was at the point to where I thought, OK, let me stay here or send me home now because otherwise I just want to stay here," she said.

The students were part of a UTRGV study abroad mini-mester course, "Irish Plays and Playwrights," led

by Dr. Brian Warren, associate professor of theater.

The group arrived in Ireland on May 29 and stayed through June 10, living in Dublin at the University College Dublin campus, where they would meet for class to discuss Irish history, culture, folklore and plays, and studied Gaelic.

One of the most captivating memories for the students was experiencing Irish theater. They saw three Irish plays:

"Assassins" by John Weidman, at the Gate Theatre.

"The Kite Runner" by Matthew Spangler, at the Gaiety Theatre.

"The Pillowman" by Martin McDonagh, at Trinity College.

"One of them was student-directed and a student-run show, and that was really cool to see," Sesin said. "As a student who does theater, and to

see another student direct a play, I thought it was a great experience."

Traveling from Southern Ireland to Northern Ireland, the group visited significant landmarks like Cliffs of Moher, Merrion Square Park and the statue there of famed man of letters Oscar Wilde, and the monument to Irish abolitionist Daniel O'Connell, along O'Connell Street.

Warren said he wanted his student to have two significant takeaways – that they can indeed study abroad, and that they should appreciate cultures different from their own.

"A true student of the world should be of the world," Warren said. "It doesn't have to be Ireland, it could be other trips that they take. So, we accomplished that."

Students said they were in Ireland for about two weeks. It was too short a time, most said, but the

wonders and experiences are something they will carry with them always.

"You enrich yourself with the knowledge of another country or another culture," Sesin said. "I won't forget ever about going to Dublin."

Gerardo Segundo, a UTRGV theater/TV/film major and Florida native, said study abroad has opened his eyes.

"This trip has made me realize that traveling around the world is an achievable plan. It also made us realize that there is so much to see, not just around the world, but in our own country," he said.

UTRGV English major Julieza Flores, of Weslaco, said her biggest lesson has been an understanding of how much the world has to offer us.

"But it's up to the individual to go out and take it," she said.

## FIND YOUR EVENT

Tuesday

► **BHS CLASS OF '68** will be having its 50th class reunion from Sept. 7-9. For more information email Mera Champion Garza at [MChampion2@aol.com](mailto:MChampion2@aol.com) or George M. Garcia at [gmgarcia50@yahoo.com](mailto:gmgarcia50@yahoo.com)  
► **BHS CLASS OF '63** will be having its 55th class reunion from Sept. 14-16 at the Rio Events Center. For more information call Steve Tullios at (956) 639-5800 or email [stevetullios@gmail.com](mailto:stevetullios@gmail.com)  
► **PACE CLASS OF '78** will be having its 40th class reunion from Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at Lake Travis, Dripping Springs and Austin. \$15 deposit is now being accepted. For more information call Mary Hinojosa-Pancoast, (956) 639-1716, or email [angelsvoicem@yahoo.com](mailto:angelsvoicem@yahoo.com)  
► **CITIZENS AGAINST VOTER ABUSE** meets every third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 1175 W. Price Road. CAVA is a group of nonpartisan volunteers working on ending corruption in the electoral process of Cameron

County via voter education and outreach. For more information call Mary Helen Flores at (956) 280-5965.

► **ACIM** (A Course in Miracles) study group meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Unity Church of Brownsville, 100 Seville, across from the Margaret Clark Aquatic Center. For more information call Barbara at (956) 346-6650.

► **WARRIORS UNITED IN ARMS** Brownsville Veterans Group meets at 11 a.m. every first Tuesday of the month at the IBC, 1600 Ruben Torres Blvd., second floor. For more information call Jesse Huerta at (956) 371-2768, Tony Garcia at 459-9375 or Manuel Mares at 371-2975.

► **GIRL SCOUTS BROWNSVILLE** Service Unit Leaders and Assistant Troop Leaders meet at 7 p.m. every first Tuesday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 1225 Boca Chica Blvd. For more information call (956) 655-1786 or (956) 495-6142.

► **BROWNSVILLE DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB** meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at La Canterina in the Omni Plaza on Frontage Road. For more information call Martha Cramer at (956) 579-5324.

► **THE SOUTH TEXAS UNITED AUTO WORKERS RETIREES**

meet the second Tuesday of each month at the Elks Lodge No. 1889, 126 S. Commerce St., Harlingen. For more information call, (956) 428-3555.

► **AA SERENITY GROUP** meets from 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. For meeting place and more time schedules call (956) 404-9425 or (956) 542-0043.

► **CHURCH OF THE DIVINE SPIRIT** offers Reiki Share spiritual healing at 6 p.m. every Tuesday; guided meditation and spiritual healing at 6 p.m. every Thursday; and Intention Circle at 4 p.m. every Sunday at 15 E. St. Charles St. Call Dr. Roberta Dahl, (956) 621-3520.

► **THE NARCISO MARTINEZ CULTURAL ARTS CENTER** Writers Forum meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m., at 225 E. Stenger St., San Benito. Contact facilitators Beto Conde, (956) 350-3905, or Mel Hinojosa, (956) 244-3731, for details. Writers and performers receive 7½ minutes to present original works, usually in Spanish or English.

► **BROWNSVILLE MUSEUM OF FINE ART** board of trustees meets at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the museum, 660 E. Ringgold St. Call (956) 542-0941.

► **CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF**

**THE AMERICAS** St. Mary's Mother of the Church Court Bishop Adolph Marx No. 1988 meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the Ferreira Parish Hall. Call Norma Valdez, (956) 579-4702.

► **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL NO. 1553** meets at 8 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month at the K.C. Hall, 525 Old Port Isabel Road. Call Grand Knight Mike Solis at (956) 466-9370.

► **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ASSEMBLY 1127** meets at 8 p.m. every second Tuesday at K.C. Hall, 525 Old Port Isabel Road. Call Faithful Navigator Jesus Muniz at (956) 466-1777.

► **THE BROWNSVILLE COMPOSITE SQUADRON** meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Pan American Building, 495 S. Amelia Earhart Drive. Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization staffed by civilian volunteers that serves local communities in the areas of emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education. For more information call Lt. Col. Juan Arredondo, (956) 755-9539, or go to [www.gocivilairpatrol.com](http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com).

► **ALANON** meets from 7 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at 1225 Boca Chica, call (956) 459-3764. Meetings also are held at 12:10 p.m. every Saturday at 450 Palm Blvd., call (956) 504-1720.