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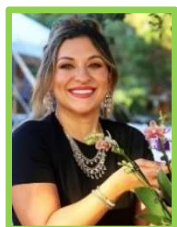
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Seventeenth South Texas Botanical Gardens *MOONLIGHT* fundraiser dazzles with nine eateries, signature drinks, butterfly décor, Clarissa Serna, comedian Trey Armijo!

CORPUS CHRISTI—It's been moon light 24 hours a day at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center as the non-profit prepares for "**MOONLIGHT & *Mariposas* in the GARDENS**", its 17th annual signature fundraiser, **6-9:30 pm, Friday, October 10**, 8545 S. Staples. The popular casual event is set among lush botanical floral surroundings, lots of butterflies (*mariposas*), under an anticipated full moon!

Drinks, Dining, Dancing—Laughter!

Beverage bars open at 6 with a signature craft beer, signature cocktail, traditional beer and wine, and non-alcoholic options when the first guests valet their cars and head to the Silent Auction! At 7, nine local eateries, new and returning, serve a tasty and varied dining experience, from appetizers and main entries to desserts! 🍷🍰🍹



Local favorite **Clarissa Serna** with a sound blending soul, rock, R&B and Latin influences starts mellow for strolling, chatting, dining, later heating up the vibe with her band for dancing. Serna has opened for Meghan Traynor, Pat Green and Los Lonely Boys, and got "four chair turns" on The Voice for her rendition of The Cranberries' "Zombie." Fan-fave comedian **Trey Armijo** takes over the mike the end of the evening with a humorous event send-off!

Butterfly Decor

Delightfully themed around "*Mariposa Palooza*" featuring 70 vibrant 24-inch metal butterflies designed by area artists, a live butterfly release, lighted butterflies, and drought-tolerant Guara plants with tiny blooms like "Whirling Butterflies" on each table. The Butterfly House will be full, and migrating Monarchs likely dining on Butterfly Hill! 🦋🦋🦋

Botanical Gardens leadership says the south side nonprofit major visitor attraction hopes to raise at least \$200,000 for current and upcoming additions, plus funds lost skipping this year's BIG BLOOM Plant Sale supporting city watering restrictions.

Reservations Required

Sponsorships and single admissions may be purchased on-line at STXBOT.ORG, or 361-852-2100. Guests must be at least age 18. Sponsorships required by September 27; single reservations by October 6.

Besides top sponsor CITGO-Corpus Christi Refinery, **Supporting Sponsors** are Joyce Barnette, Ken & Amanda Kellar. **Major sponsors:** The Adlers, Cindy & Mike Boudloche, Carmen Rodriguez--in memory of Eugene H. Bouligny, Sally & James Gill, Kitty & Dr. Dean Hommer, Debbie Isaacs, Port of Corpus Christi. **Leading sponsors:** Aransas-Corpus Christi Pilots, Corpus Christi Medical Center, Del Mar College, Devary Durrill Foundation, Gulf Coast Growth Ventures, W.O. Harrison, Jr. Family LP, H-E-B, Hicks Automotive Group, Hollon Safe Company, B.J. & Mike Kershaw, Mazda Corpus Christi, Bob Paulison & Debbie Noble, Manette & Richard Scanio.

