Soil Health to Prevent Trees from Toppling

Following in My Father’s Footsteps

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Let’s Talk About it...

Father’s Day

By Yvette Tello
Happy Father’s Day. Today is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. There are good Dads. There are bad dads. There are absent dads and then there are dads that are the best, like mine. He has always made me feel safe. I always knew he was there for me. I knew I was special because he made sure I knew I was. I knew I had what most of my friends growing up didn’t. Unfortunately, children do not come with manuals. So when you have a father that gets it right most of the time, you are blessed. Dads, let’s talk about it...

Joann Laque: “My father was not perfect. He never gave us anything but he loved us with all his heart and we always came first. He lived alone and never let any woman come between us. I was Daddy’s girl, his only daughter. I would not allow any women to use him. My poor daddy loved us like no other man will ever. May he RIP. I miss my daddy soooo.”

Sandy Rodriguez: “Missing my dad who left 3 yrs ago. My Hero forever.”

Willie Williams: “I’m in a new dad role again and loving it. The kids are very respectful and receptive. I never thought I would be in this position again but I am blessed. I also have 2 grown daughters of my own and 3 grandchildren. Living my best life.”

Jesus Tello: “Me too. My dad is the best. Love him to the moon.”

Charles Cervantes: “Good and great Dad’s learn from Dads who were difficult to understand, but years later, now I understand”

May Ray: “My dad, that raised me, was my grandpa. He was the best. He was there for me when I needed him and I was there for him when he needed me. When he got diagnosed with Alzheimer’s, mom and I took care of him. We gardened together before he couldn’t remember. These were awesome moments and I’ll never trade those for anything.”

Sandra Barber: “I raised my son as a single mom. His dad was mostly absent BUT my son has 3 kids, and he is the BESTEST Dad ever. I’m very proud of him.”
About the Cover Artist

Steven DaLuz

By Steven DaLuz

Steven DaLuz is known for figurative works and imagined landscapes, employing a process he devised using metal leaf, oil, and mixed media.

Born in Hanford, California, Steve retired from the Air Force after living 13 years abroad. He completed a BA degree in Social Psychology, and an MA degree in Management, before earning the Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in 2003.

His drawings and paintings are represented in private and corporate collections in 26 States and overseas. He was a featured speaker at The Representational Art Conference, 2014, and was invited to participate in the International Masters of Fine Art exhibition in 2014. He has exhibited internationally, and his work has been published in art books, and magazines, such as Art in America, American Art Collector, Fine Art Connoisseur, The Huffington Post, Encaustic Art, Professional Artist and The Artists. The publisher of Poets and Artists magazine, invited him to curate an entire issue, called, “The Power of Drawing”, released in December, 2014, which featured 100 drawings by 50 artists from across the globe.

DaLuz was a finalist for the prestigious 2015 Hunting Art Prize. He is an “Art Ambassador” for Canson, Inc. and Royal Talens, promoting Canson, BFK Rives, and Arches papers, as well as Rembrandt oil colors. He is represented by AnArte Gallery in San Antonio, The Marshall Gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Laura Rathe Fine Art in Houston, and Dallas, Texas.

Artist Statement:

“I am compelled to do work that conjures up a sense of mystery and ethereal light. While identified with works that are often referred to as “imagined landscapes”, employing a process using metal leaf, chemically-induced patinas, oil, and other mixed media, I also consider the figure as endlessly relevant, with inherent potential for poetic introspection. I am most concerned with the sublime, the expressive beauty of the human figure, and the aesthetic power of light moving through an imagined atmosphere. My intention is not literal narrative. Instead, I strive to evoke a feeling within the viewer. My artwork need not answer any questions, present a political position, nor expound upon a narrative. For me, the pure “beauty” or personal aesthetic need not explain anything. The raw image alone can be enough to ignite the imagination of the viewer.”

“Inheritance” 12X12” Encaustic on Panel PRIVATE C

Steven DaLuz
The World of Our Fathers
Westside Life 1920–1950

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

The Westside of our fathers, especially during the years between 1920-1950, represent memorable times. The majority of our fathers living in San Antonio during the “Roaring Twenties” and the Great Depression years were initially Mexican immigrants. This population evolved over the later decades into first-generation Mexican Americans.

In 1920 San Antonio had the largest Mexican population in the United States and the majority lived in Laredito, west of San Pedro Creek, San Fernando was in close proximity to the Laredito neighborhood. By the mid-twenties, the Mexican community in Laredito had grown sufficiently to merit an additional church of its 250-year history, San Fernando Cathedral has served the Mexican Community. Located just a few blocks east of San Pedro Creek, San Fernando was in close proximity to the Laredito neighborhood.

The Westside of San Antonio over the period 1920-1950, shows interesting familial intersections as well as business relationships between numerous Mexican families. Here we will look at how these families met and helped each other.

I. THE EARLY YEARS OF THE WESTSIDE

The Westside of our fathers had its birth and coming of age years during a time of global conflict, economic destabilization, and transformational cultural values. San Antonio, with Mexican populations of 41,469 in 1920, the largest in the United States, witnessed a growing Latino community and expansion of new neighborhoods further west and south.

By tracking the rise of Catholic churches, for example, one can determine the direction of that growth. For much of its 250-year history, San Fernando Cathedral has served the Mexican Community. Located just a few blocks east of San Pedro Creek, San Fernando was in close proximity to the Laredito neighborhood.

By the mid-twenties, the Mexican community in Laredito had grown sufficiently to merit an additional church west of San Pedro Creek. The Immaculate Heart of Mary (Corazon de Maria) parish near Santa Rosa and Durango (now Cesar Chavez Boulevard) was in close proximity to meet that religious need.

During the 1920s, San Antonio also struggled to maintain its status as the largest city in Texas. The construction of the Transit Life Tower during this decade was consistent with big city life. The Tower Building with 29 floors was designed to be the tallest building west of the Mississippi. With this landmark and other related road and highway construction projects, Mexican skilled and unskilled workers found jobs in the building industry in significant numbers.

A building and construction boom and the utilization of thousands of workers near the center of the city prompted the rise of small businesses. Laredito, with its Mexican theaters, drug stores, and restaurants was considered the most active Latino neighborhood in Texas.

At the center of the community was Chapa’s Drug Store, owned by the influential Francisco Chapa. To live in San Antonio in the 1920s is to have known or visited Chapa’s drug store on the corner of Santa Rosa and Commerce. A native of Matamoros, Tamaulipas and a graduate of Tulane University, Chapa moved to San Antonio in 1890. Four years later he founded Chapa’s Drug Store in the heart of Laredito, one block west of San Pedro Creek.

Chapa was elected as an alderman to the 3rd Ward of the city and served as a lieutenant colonel on the personal staff of Texas Governor Oscar B. Colquitt. Mexicanos had lost out politically after the Mexican War of 1846 and Chapa was the first 20th century politicians to win a city post. Chapa ran his drug store, but also published El Imparcial de Texas, a conservative Spanish-language newspaper, that was active in Mexican and Texas politics. Research by Teresa Palomo Acosta shows that Chapa was one of the leading Mexican American businessmen.
in Texas.

Following the elder Chapas death in 1924, his son, also Francisco, ran the drug store. The pharmacy, also known as La Botica del Leon had an African lion mural on the side of the store. That mural has been recently replicated on Santa Rosa Street by Westside artist, Jesse Trevino.

When Ignacio E. Lozano, a native of Mapimi, Durango, Mexico, arrived in San Antonio in 1908, he initially worked in the Spanish-language newspaper El Imparcial, published by drug store owner Francisco Chapa. In 1913, after four years of learning the Spanish-language newspaper business, Lozano utilized his savings to start La Prensa, directly competing with El Imparcial.

Over the next fifteen years, Lozano hired many journalists and printers, including the exceptional San Antonio Westsiders Leonides Gonzalez and Romulo Munguia.

When Leonides Gonzalez fled Mexico, he was serving as mayor of Mapimi in the Mexican state of Durango. Given Gonzalezs prominent position, he likely knew the Ignacio E. Lozano family who were from the same town. The Gonzalez family arrived in San Antonio in 1911 just as the Mexican revolution was breaking out. In San Antonio, Leonides Gonzalez met Ignacio E. Lozano, the publisher of La Prensa. Gonzalez joined La Prensa and by the 1920s he moved up to serve as managing editor.

Romulo Munguia, Henry Cisneros grandfather, came to San Antonio in the generation after Francisco Chapa and Leonides Gonzalez. Munguia arrived in San Antonio in mid-1926, two years after the elder Chapa had passed away. Munguia, a native of Guadalajara, Mexico, had started his printing career at age 12. Born in 1885, Munguia lived in Mexico City and Puebla, where he was a printer, labor organizer, revolutionary journalist, and educational reformer. His wife, educator Carolina Malpica also from Puebla, traveled with him to San Antonio. At La Prensa, Munguia met Leonides Gonzalez, grandfather of former Congressman Charlie Gonzalez.

Romulo Munguia was active as a journalist and printer in San Antonio from the mid-1920s to his death in 1975. While Munguia arrived in San Antonio with little money, he had more than 25 years of experience as a printer and journalist in Mexico.

Upon meeting Ignacio Lozano, publisher of La Prensa, Munguia joined the newspaper as a printer. Mexico appointed Munguia honorary consul in 1958 and he is credited with convincing Mexicos largest national university to open a branch of the UNAM in San Antonio. Munguia considered himself a devoted patriot of Mexico and never applied for American citizenship.

Many Mexican immigrants, as in the case of Romulo Munguia, remained interested in the affairs of Mexico and active in supporting Mexican Americans for political office. Munguia’s son Romulo Munguia, Jr., followed him in the printing business and ran a print shop for nearly fifty years on Buena Vista Street in the Westside.

Even though these families and others lived in different neighborhoods of the Westside, the Mexican exile community, especially those engaged in religious affairs or small businesses such as the Chapas, Gonzalezes, and Munguias made staying connected easier for those with deep Mexican roots. They used their writing, printing and leadership skills gained in Mexico to build a sense of community in San Antonio and beyond.

Ignacio Lozano, for example, moved to Los Angeles and started La Opinion in 1926. I have written about his community role in my book, East Los Angeles: History of a Barrio. Today, a granddaughter, Monica Lozano, runs the family publishing business in Los Angeles.

The Chapa family kept the pharmacy business open in the Westside for fifty years after the death of the elder Francisco Chapa. Their business closed when Urban Renewal bought up hundreds of properties and demolished many businesses and homes in the Laredito community to build Interstate Highway 35 and other city buildings, including the city and county jails.

The Chapa family ran Chapas Drug Store from 1894 to 1970, a record for Mexican American small businesses. That record was recently topped by the Pete Cortez family who opened Mi Tierra Mexican Restaurant in 1946 and continues to serve residents of the Westside and beyond.

Leonides Gonzalez and his heirs, son Henry B. Gonzalez and grandson Charlie Gonzalez, became politicians and attorneys. The Gonzalez family continues to be one of the most prominent families in Mexican American history.

On this Father’s Day 2019, it is an honor to write about some of the many stories of our fathers from the Westside. It will help historians if Westside families document their histories and record information such as when their families arrived in San Antonio and what work or businesses they were engaged in during their lifetimes. These stories are an important part of the history of San Antonio.
NOTICIA PÚBLICA
COMISIÓN DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DE TEXAS

AVISOS DE SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA UN PERMISO DE CALIDAD DE AIRE

SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR. Ameresco Inc., 101 Constitution Avenue Northwest, Suite 525, Washington, District of Columbia 20001-2133 ha solicitado de la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ por sus siglas en inglés) el Permiso de Calidad de Aire Número 155691 para autorizar la construcción de a dos 2-megawatt motores de pico de gas natural con el JBSA Peaking Units en Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, aproximadamente 1.000 pies al sureste de la intersección de Springvale Drive y Valley Hi Drive, San Antonio, , condado de Bexar County, Texas 78236. Esta solicitud se presentó a la TCEQ el 19 de febrero de 2019. La instalación propuesta va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosféricos: monóxido de carbono, contaminantes atmosféricos peligrosos, óxidos de nitrógeno, compuestos orgánicos, material particulado menor a 10 micrómetros de diámetro y menor a 2.5 micrómetros and dióxido de azufre. El director ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha concluido la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un permiso preliminar, el cual si es aprobado, establecerá las condiciones debajo de las cuales el sitio deberá operar. El director ejecutivo a hecho la decisión preliminar de otorgar este permiso. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del director ejecutivo, y el permiso preliminar estarán disponibles para ser revisados y copiados en la Oficina de la TCEQ y en la oficina central de la TCEQ, la oficina regional de la TCEQ en San Antonio y 14250 Judson Road, San Antonio, Condado de Bexar, Texas. Los archivos del cumplimiento de la leyes de la facilidad, si existen, están disponibles para la revisión del público en la Oficina Regional de San Antonio de la TCEQ.

COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS/REUNION PÚBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o solicitar una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de la reunión pública es el proveer la oportunidad de someter comentarios o hacer preguntas sobre esta solicitud. La TCEQ tendrá una reunión pública si el director ejecutivo determina que hay suficiente interés de parte del público en esta solicitud o si es solicitada por un legislador local. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia de caso impugnado. Puede enviar comentarios públicos adicionales por escrito dentro de los 30 días posteriores a la fecha de publicación periódica de este aviso en la forma establecida en el CONTACTO E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA que se encuentra en el párrafo a continuación.

RESPUESTA A LOS COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS Y ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO. Después del plazo final para someter comentarios públicos posteriores el director ejecutivo considerará los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes y materiales o significativos. Porque no se han recibido peticiones para una audiencia de caso impugnado, el director ejecutivo aprobará la solicitud para este permiso. La respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decisión del director ejecutivo sobre la solicitud, será entonces enviada por correo a todos aquellos que hallan sometido comentarios públicos o que están en la lista de correo de esta solicitud, y será puesta electrónicamente en la Base Integrada de Datos de los Comisionados.

DISPONIBILIDAD ELECTRÓNICA DE INFORMACIÓN. Por medio del sitio web de la Comisión, en la página www.tceq.state.texas/goto/eid, se pueden obtener los siguientes documentos: la respuesta del director ejecutivo a los comentarios y la decisión final sobre esta solicitud. Una vez que usted haya obtenido acceso a la Base de Datos Integrada de los Comisionados (en inglés. Commissioners’ Integrated Database, o CID) usando el enlace de arriba, favor de poner el número de permiso de esta solicitud, el cual se encuentra en la parte superior de este aviso. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.380833&lng=98.633333&zoom=13&type=r.

LISTA PARA ENVÍO DE CORREO. Usted puede solicitar ser incluido en una lista de correo para recibir información adicional con respecto a esta solicitud. Para ser incluido en una lista de correo, envíe su petición a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial a la dirección que se encuentra en el párrafo titulado “Información.”

INFORMACIÓN. Los comentarios públicos se debe presentar a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, o por el Internet al www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/ cualquier información de contacto que proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física, se agregará al registro público de la agencia. Para mayor información sobre esta solicitud para permiso o el proceso para permisos, por favor llame a la TCEQ sin cobro al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, al 1-800-687-4040.
Soil Health to Prevent Trees from Toppling

By Rachel Cywinski
Life Member of Native Plant Society of Texas

Large trees across San Antonio uprooted and toppled, or shattered into pieces during unusual storms that brought winds at cross directions. Photos of the damage showed many trees that had root systems smaller than the tree canopy. This is not normal root development. Trees growing in urban areas often do not have adequate space for their roots to form, making them more susceptible to damage from inclement weather.

A Live Oak normally has tree roots extending four to five times the width of its canopy. Cypress trees have roots extending down into the rivers and up into the river bank for stability. Other trees may have smaller root systems but they also need at least as much space as the width of the tree canopy.

Space for tree roots extends beyond ground level. Local arborist David Vaughan says that there are no trees native to compacted urban soil. Soils on the city are usually so compacted that a growing tree may not get the water, air and nutrients it needs.

Once the tree roots begin to grow, other urban enemies of good tree health may prevent it from being healthy or living a long life. We all recognize that a bulldozer driven over a construction site will damage the soil where a tree might be planted. But routine activities after the tree is planted can often cause more damage to the tree than a bulldozer driven across the ground.

Planting grass under a tree will cause it to constantly struggle to get water and the right nutrients because the grass will soak up the water before it gets to the tree roots and the chemicals the grassroots give off into the soil are not the ones that the tree needs to grow. In nature, large trees and smaller plants that grow in the same habitat often grow well together.

In our area, Sophora secundiflora “Mountain laurel” often grows under Quercus virginiana “Live Oak” and so the Live Oak is referred to as a nurse tree for Mountain Laurel. The Live Oak absorbs the first inch of rainfall in its leaves and so the Mountain Laurel is not as susceptible to fungus that attacks it in overly-wet soil. The Live Oak provides shade and a more-humid atmosphere to the Mountain Laurel growing under its arching branches. The Live Oak drops its leaves and rapidly grows new ones just at the time of year when the Mountain Laurel blooms so that the understory Mountain Laurel gets full sun during the one time of year it needs it to flower and seed.

Utilizing these beautiful natural combinations of plants in our yards is healthier for the trees. It provides habitat for hummingbirds and butterflies and allows us to have a beautiful landscape without using any fertilizers or pesticides.

Going grass-free under trees prevents the other common routines that compact soil and harm tree roots, including using a lawn mower or leaf-blower and walking on the roots. One way to cause severe damage to a tree is to mow a lawn while it is still damp from the rain, as this forces soil particles so close together that tree roots begin to suffocate.

If you have compacted soil under your trees, adding compost will help rebuild the soil structure. Consider ways to protect the tree roots from damage caused by people, animals and lawn equipment that compact the soil.

The CPS Energy tree guide is a helpful tool to use for reference. It can be downloaded from the first of the “helpful links” on the bottom of this web page:

Por Sendero Deportivo

El club de béisbol Red Sox, categoría Veteranos que es dirigido por Pedro Espinoza (manager) y René Juárez, con marca de 11 partidos ganados y una derrota en el rol regular, tras eliminar a su oponente de postemporada (semifinales), Cardenales (clasificado en cuarto lugar), en el tercer partido de su serie pactada a ganar 2 de 3 partidos en la Liga Veteranos Potranco con pizarra de 12-3 carreras, por segunda ocasión consecutiva, tratara de agenciarse el banderín del playoff ante su rival Broncos de Reynosa SA que luego de eliminar a Rieleros, cómodamente se encontraba en espera de Red Sox, o Cardenales.

Con su victoria Red Sox, pasó a la ronda final, donde estará por segunda vez consecutiva disputándose el campeonato a Broncos de los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza, quienes tienen el respaldo de los coaches y jugadores Richard Felán y Sergio Torres.

Red Sox con su lanzador Chris Lee, campeón de temporada con marca de 5-0, le devolvió la paliza a Cardenales que fue por 12 a 3 carreras. Cardenales, dirigidos por Efraín Cruz Franco, Saúl Navejar y Nacho García, habían emparejado la serie ganando el segundo partido con pizarra de 13 a 3 carreras.

Lee, se agenció el triunfo para poner su récord en 2-0 en la postemporada, la derrota fue para el abridor derecho Jaime Garza, quien aceptó cinco anotaciones en el quinto capítulo, lo cual bastó para asegurar el boleto a la gran final. Por Cardenales en la serie destacó el bateador José Martínez, quien dijo orgullosamente haberle conectado a Lee, 8 imparables en 10 turnos al bate, lo cual le dio un promedio de .750.

Cabe anotar que antes del comienzo del partido Red Sox, Cardenales, espectadores y los directivos Eloy Rocha (gerente general de Potranco Baseball League) y don Simón Sánchez, presidente y compilador oficial, rindieron minuto de silencio en memoria del beisbolista y ampáyer Homer Flores, apodado “La Viagra”, quien recientemente paro a mejor vida (QEPD).

“Ahora no queda más que venir preparados para disputar nuestra tercera serie de playoff aquí en Potranco, donde nos hemos quedado en el camino con dos subcampeonatos (ante Yaquis y Broncos), y también con la misma marca en el circuito de Colt 45 Oltimers Baseball League.

“Broncos ha ganado seis títulos, con cinco del playoff. Con esa marca estamos confiados defender la corona, a pesar de que Red Sox es un duro rival. Por igual reconocemos la participación de postemporada de los equipos Rieleros y Cardenales, que fueron duros rivales en la semifinal”, apuntó el timonel Garza. “Cardenales, tuvo comienzo lento. De cierre se logró la clasificación al playoff (como cuarto lugar). En la serie semifinal se hizo lo que se pudo por llegar al tercer partido. Red Sox nos regresó la paliza. Para la siguiente campaña no queda más que reforzarnos y ver las posibilidades de retornar a la postemporada”, apuntó Efraín Cruz Franco.

De acuerdo a Eloy Rocha la serie final comienza este sábado 8 de junio en el campo 1 de Potranco Baseball Field, en el horario de las 2 p.m. En la categoría Abierta dominical, el pentacampeón Piratas de Sabinas blanqueó 4-0 carreras a Calaveras, por lo que sigue invicto en cinco fechas. El zurdo fronterizo Devon Torres, se agenció su cuarta victoria por los Piratas que dirige Sergio De Luna y son capitaneados por Brayan Guerrero, jugador de cuadro. Por otro lado los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza (directivos del club Broncos de Reynosa SA), festejaron interesante victoria ante Cubs que cayeron con la cara al sol doblegados con pizarra de 13-6, encuentro que fue presenciado por un buen número de fanáticos que disfrutaron de su tradicional “dominguito beisbolero”. En las fotos aparece el lanzador Gilbert Salazar, en partido regular contra Red Sox, al que ya le tiene “tomada la medida”. El club Red Sox, que dirigen Pedro Espinoza y René Juárez. Suerte y que gane el mejor.

(Fotos por Franco)
**Following in My Father’s Footsteps**

By Yvette Tello

I am truly blessed. My father is the strongest, smartest, most amazing man I’ve ever met my life. He is also the most difficult, the most stubborn, the hardest and the most kindest man that you could ever meet. He will help a perfect stranger on the side of the road. He will help a friend in need, whether it’s financial or just to lend an ear. He will buy you food if you don’t have any. He will lend you his car if you don’t have one working at the time or he’ll give you a ride because you need one. One of my funniest memories is when a friend of mine (that I had just met) ended up in jail because she owed traffic tickets. She called me collect. My dad answered and accepted the call. I was at work at the time. Luckily I got home when I did. He was on his way out the door to go get her out of jail. I had just met the girl! That story is so crazy, right? Well, guess what? I did the exact same thing last year for a young lady I had just met; I bailed her out of jail. If I have the money and you need it, I will give it to you. I have opened my doors to people who need a place to live or buy food for people who are going through hard times. I will lend you my car if I can and I will always try to help you when I can. I will listen to your problems, hardships, or victories. I will always be truly happy in my heart for someone’s success. My lifestyle is quite the opposite of my fathers. He works for Boeing and has a retirement plan. He lives in the same house we grew up in. He paid it off more than 20 years ago. He has all his affairs in order and he is very structured. He prays for one hour a day on his hands and knees at the same time everyday. He has his dinner at the same time and God forbid you take him out of his routine. I, on the other hand, have no routine. I have several jobs, with no retirement plan. I don’t receive a regular paycheck and I volunteer as much as possible (meaning I don’t get paid) I buy houses and sell them then buy more. I enjoy learning about different cultures and different ways of life. I accept change and actually like it; Daddy does not. But at the end I know I am who I am because I walk in his footsteps. I am fearless because that is what I have been taught to be. I take chances because I know I will always be ok; I learned from the best, my Daddy, Ralph Tello Jr.. Happy Father’s Day.
Following in My Father’s Footsteps
An Interview with the Publisher

By: Yvette Tello

What do you remember most about your Father?
His craziness, his personality. He was the funniest guy I knew. Loved to joke- that’s where I get it from.

Your son Christopher Duran, his grandson said he was all work no play.
That was my Dad, even after a funeral, we went to eat and then he said, ”ok let’s get back to work.” He even said it after my grandfather’s funeral. “I told him after you die, I am going to close the paper for two weeks!” He said, “You son of a Gun, you better not!”

How do feel about running the paper without your dad at the helm?
I really don’t feel like I am doing this without him. 15 years ago, I told him when I retired from Alamo Colleges, I would come and help him for free. I am ready to retire and I am running the paper and working for free like I said I would do. I feel like I am helping him. This is my way of honoring him and keeping him alive.

You have partnerships now with La Prensa Texas; your father did not.
Tino wanted it to be Durans only. We use to tell him we thought he loved the newspaper more than us. He would say, “if I stop, the money stops. As long as I keep going, you guys have all this.” When we grew up, we had a 2 acre lot with a two story house; 4 bedrooms. That was unheard of for Hispanics to have that much property and to live like that in 1968. He provided for us really well. He left so many wonderful memories. There isn’t one day that I do not hear a story about my dad.

Now that you have a board, do you think it was right to go with your decision to become a non profit organization?
Absolutely, This has been a very positive addition. They have all contributed to keeping the reputation of La Prensa Texas alive. They remind other boards they are part of us to advertise with us. Our partnership with the WDC has been the biggest asset of all. They stand and deliver on their mission statement to foster economic development, and preserve the character, culture and history of the Westside.

There were things your dad wanted to keep in place but at the time you did not want to.

He was headstrong against my ideas. People often ask me, “Why do you help him? He is so mean to you.” I would tell people, “you see it that way but I see that he’s trying to teach me something” and he was. He taught me right from wrong. He taught me how to survive. In my whole life, I have never applied for any government assistance or unemployment benefits. He taught me more than any teacher could have.
taught me, any instructor, any college, anyone in this world. There are times that people ask me “why did you do it that way?” I would say because I’m a Duran. That’s the Duran way; you wouldn’t understand.

If you could have one more conversation with your father what would it be?

I would like to talk about the time my grandmother, who was his mother, picked me up for the first time ever. She favored my other two brothers because I was usually with my other grandma. She really never cared for me. That day, she made up for it. It was the best day of my life. She bought me ice cream and she bought me shoes. I even got to spend the night at her house. That night, an ambulance picked her up. I never saw her again; she passed away that night. It is strange because I don’t remember any of the bad stuff. I just remember that very special day. I would like my dad to know that. We never talked about it

When you look back now, do you see that you are exactly like your father?

I have his temper and I have his love for the community of San Antonio. Like him, to this day, I feel like I haven’t done enough. My wife asked me when will enough be enough. I feel like I would like to make a bigger impact than I have. I was the trouble child. I would quit jobs all the time just because they upset me. I finally found my way. I grew up and I did what I needed to do. My dad did tough love on me and that was hard but I learned from it; I learned how to survive on my own. I am like my Dad because nothing can keep me down. If I have something to say, I say it. If I say I am going to do something, I do it.

When the publisher chose to close La Prensa down rather than pass it on, what was the most difficult part of that for you?

The hardest thing was taking the money out of my retirement, and not knowing if the paper was going to survive. Everybody asked me to keep it going, but nobody stepped up to help me get it done; nobody said, “let me help you do this financially.” Then tragedy couldn’t have struck at a worst time. There was a flood that destroyed our home, vehicles, and all we owned. If it wasn’t for my staff and our board, I would have closed down 6 months ago. The only reason I keep going is because I made a commitment to San Antonio and I want to stand by my commitment.

Before I leave this earth, I want to make sure La Prensa Texas continues to serve the community; This is how I walk in my father’s footsteps.
By Edward Jones
Edward Jones is a licensed insurance producer in all states and Washington, D.C., through Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. and in California, New Mexico and Massachusetts through Edward Jones Insurance Agency of California, L.L.C.; Edward Jones Insurance Agency of New Mexico, L.L.C.; and Edward Jones Insurance Agency of Massachusetts, L.L.C.

If you’re a dad, you may well be pleased to unwrap some tools as Father’s Day gifts. Of course, it might be a stereotype that all men are handy at repairs; women certainly can be every bit as good when it comes to building and fixing things. In fact, the construction process is valuable for anyone to learn – and the same skills that go into creating and mending physical objects also can be applied to financial projects – such as working toward a comfortable retirement.

Here are a few of those skills:

• Diagnosing the challenge – A good crafts-person knows that the first step toward accomplishing any outcome is to assess the challenge. So, for example, if you want to build some bookshelves right into the wall, you’ll need to locate the wall studs, determine if you have adequate space for the shelving you want and allow room for future expansion. Similarly, if you want to retire at a certain age, you need to consider the key variables: your current and future income (How much can you count on from your retirement plans?), where you’ll live (Will you downsize or relocate? Will you rent or own a house or condominium?) And what you’ll do as a retiree (Will you travel extensively or stick close to home? Will you do some type of work for pay or pursue your hobbies and volunteer?).

• Assembling the right tools and materials – To put together your bookshelf, you will need the right tools – saw, hammer, drill, sander and so on – and the right building materials – plywood, nails, screws, glue, brackets, moldings and so on. And to work toward a comfortable retirement, you’ll also need the right tool – in the form of a long-term financial strategy, based on your specific retirement goals, risk tolerance and time horizon – along with the appropriate materials – the mix of investments you use to carry out that strategy. These investments include those you’ve placed in your IRA, your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, and those held outside your formal retirement accounts.

Ideally, you want a diversified mix of investments capable of providing growth potential over time, within the context of your individual risk tolerance.

• Review your work – Once you’ve finished your bookshelf, you occasionally may need to make some minor adjustments or repairs in response to slippage, cracks or other issues that can develop over time. As an investor, you also may need to tweak your financial strategy periodically and adjust your investment mix – not necessarily because something is broken, but to accommodate changes in your life, such as a new job, new family situation and new goals. Furthermore, over time, your risk tolerance may change, and this needs to be reflected in your array of investments. Consequently, conducting an annual portfolio review with your financial professional should be a priority.

Tools are a big deal on Father’s Day. But the construction-related tasks they represent, physically and symbolically, go beyond any one holiday and can be used by anyone interested in working toward a solid financial future.

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THIS DAY IN
LA PRENSA HISTORY

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Ron Nirenberg Wins Runoff Election—Women Hold the First Female Majority of City Council Seats in a Decade

Joseph Pena Awarded Gold Medal in Sweden Competition
Por Sendero Deportivo

En el partido SAFC vs. Reno 1868 FC, el tradicional evento denominado Military Appreciation Night, con el que se rinden honores a hombres y mujeres que prestaron servicio militar y quienes se encuentran enlistados en las Fuerzas Armadas, recibieron merecido tributo presentado por el San Antonio Fútbol Club (SAFC), y la compañía automotriz Toyota, el cual resultó todo un éxito celebrado en el estadio Toyota Field.

El evento comenzó con la ceremonia del juramento oficial de reclutas enlistados en la Texas Air National Guard, y posteriormente del Himno Nacional que fue interpretado por Steven Camacho (Petty Officer First Class).

En la cancha estuvieron presentes selecto grupo de militares de las Fuerzas Armadas, quienes acompañaron a los equipos SAFC y el visitante Reno 1868 FC, que tuvieron de escoltas a pequeños futbolistas de la región de El Álamo.

Jugadores del SAFC durante su calentamiento previo al partido, vistieron camisetas alusivas las cuales fueron puestas en subasta. Lo recaudado fue donado al programa de beneficio en la organización Soldier’s Angels. Las promociones del medio tiempo, fueron conducidas por la presentadora Rebecca Pérez, quien felicitó a dos elementos representativos de la US Navy, quienes participaron en el espectacular juego “tic-tac-toe). Toyota, donó mil toallas refrescantes a los primeros mil espectadores que temprano hicieron su arribo al esperado evento deportivo y militar.

“SAFC una vez más se enorgullece de asociarse con Toyota para honrar a las Fuerzas Armadas y militares que prestaron su valioso servicio”, dijo Tim Holt, gerente de SAFC.

Los 7,467 espectadores que presenciaron el partido, se divirtieron con todos los atractivos, en especial con la victoria de SAFC ante Reno 1868 FC que finalizó con marcador de 3 a 2 goles.

Reno, tuvo a San Antonio contra la pared, tras anotar dos goles ejecutados por los delanteros Corey Hertzog al minuto 9, y Cade Cowell, al minuto 17.

El delantero estelar mexicano Ever Guzmán, al minuto 44 abrió el marcador por SAFC, y en la segunda mitad, los novatos locales Ethan Bryant, puso la pizarra 2-2 al minuto 61, José Gallegos, que entró por el defensa Jack Barmby, en el minuto 62 anotó el tercer gol, y a la vez fue nombrado al “USL Championship Team of the Week”.

“Orgulloso del equipo, se realizó nuestro plan de juego, a pesar de no haber destacado en los principios del plantel. Las cosas se hicieron correctas y al final nos quedamos con los tres puntos. El partido fue fantástico”, indicó Darren Powell, director técnico de SAFC.

(Fotos por Franco).
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Non-Profit Highlight

The Alamo Kiwanis Club Premieres the First Fiesta Noche del Rio Performance of the Summer this Friday

By: R. Eguia

Fiesta Noche del Rio was under the direction of Elizabeth “Lisa” Sanchez-Lopez, who directed, choreographed, and performed as the lead female singer. In 2018, after 27 seasons, Lisa retired.

Katie Rodriguez Hall was named director for the 2019 season. Katie, a former Miss Fiesta San Antonio, has trained exclusively with the San Antonio School for the Performing Arts. She has performed with the Alamo City Dance Company and was a Fiesta Noche del Rio dancer in 1999 and 2000.

The shows occur on Friday and Saturday nights, from June 21 through Aug 10, at the Arneson River Theatre (418 Villita St.), from 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM.

It’s a fun show for the whole family, featuring music and songs from Spain, Argentina, the Caribbean, Texas, and Mexico, along with a few surprises. It also features a flamenco guitarist, Mariachi band, and a cast of singers and dancers.

Tickets are available online (fiestanochesa.com), at HEB Business Centers, and on show days at the Arneson River Theatre. Drinks and snacks are available for purchase during the show. All proceeds benefit local children’s charities.

Mission:
“The Alamo Kiwanis Club exists for the sole purpose of raising funds for children in need.”

Founded in 1947, Alamo Kiwanis is a service organization in association with Kiwanis International. They host several fundraising events including Fiesta Noche del Rio, performed at the Arneson River Theater since 1957, “K” Fore Kids, a golf tournament held at Quarry Golf Course in the spring, and Clays for Kids, a sporting clays shoot held in the fall at San Antonio Gun Club. These events have energized close to $3 million dollars to donate to local children’s charities such as Any Baby Can, The Children’s Shelter, Children’s Bereavement Center, Respite Care and more.

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Timeshare Broker Scam
A Growing Concern

By Jason Meza
Regional Director
Better Business Bureau
13750 San Pedro Ave, Suite 400
San Antonio, Tx. 78232
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Buying a vacation home can be out of reach for many people. But what about buying a “piece” of a vacation home? That’s the idea behind timeshares – you pay a fraction of the cost for a property and have access to it for a set amount of time each year.

As the industry has grown, it has expanded to include opportunities to trade your timeshare for time in another property – meaning you can pick a different location for your vacation every year. And at the same time, the business of selling timeshares has also boomed.

There are many ethical timeshare companies but of course, every industry has its share of bad actors.

A Laredo consumer recently contacted Better Business Bureau of San Antonio to report losing over $8,000 to a group posing as a legitimate timeshare broker. The victim received a call from a Colorado-based brokerage offering to help sell his shared property. Since the property is in Mexico, a lawyer from that country was also involved in the setup. The group insisted on requesting initial funds for capital gains and other fees necessary to sell the timeshare. Documents and emails impersonated actual brokers, attorneys and even Mexican government forms. However, after questioning the legitimacy of the money requests, communication stopped and funds totaling $8,000 was lost. The victim is in contact with authorities.

No matter what form this scam takes, the calls lure the victim to transfer money to pay various “fees”, “taxes,” or even “commissions” to move money from one country to another. Because they use general wire transfers, any funds the victim sends are rarely recovered. According to the FBI, consumers lose millions of dollars annually to this scheme.

BBB offers the following advice to avoid becoming a victim of this type of scam:

- Be wary of unsolicited offers. If an opportunity to sell your timeshare simply falls in your lap (or your inbox) and appears too good to be true, it probably is.
- Do your research. Visit bbb.org to review legitimate timeshare resellers, complaints and reviews. Look on the secondary market for properties being resold.
- Be suspicious of transactions that involve initial fees. Scammers will often tempt you with a great offer and request several rounds fees to further the transaction. Never share bank account numbers or other personal information with someone you’ve never met. Use credit cards if you must dispute charges.
- Don’t be pressured to act immediately. Scammers typically try to make you think something is scarce or a limited time offer. They want to push you into action before you have time to think or to discuss it with a family member, friend, or financial advisor. High-pressure sales tactics are also used by some legitimate businesses, but it’s never a good idea to make an important decision quickly.

Consumers can report scams to the Federal Trade Commission at ftc.gov and the FBI at fbi.gov. For International assistance, consumers can reach out the Department of Homeland Security. Consumers can also report scams to BBB.org/scamtracker.
Sólo un Pensamiento:
Día de la Padre

Por Steve Walker

Hoy es el día del padre. Es el día para celebrar a nivel nacional y honrar a todos nuestros padres que aún están vivos y aquellos que han fallecido.

En mi caso, mi padre falleció a la edad de 62 años en 1985. Mi abuelo (su padre) falleció a los 65 años en 1962. Cuando era adolescente, visité a mi abuelo tal vez tres o cuatro veces antes de mudarnos por enésima vez.

Al crecer en los años cincuenta, recuerdo que el Día del Padre en mi casa era tan memorable como un niño pequeño. Más tarde, cuando era un adolescente en los años sesenta, recuerdo que la familia cargaba el auto con mis cinco hermanos menores, mi madre, mi padre y yo, y nos dirigíamos a un restaurante local para esa comida especial del domingo que celebraba la paternidad.

Como éramos muchos, nos obligaban a esperar una mesa mucho más tiempo que las familias más pequeñas. Recuerdo que por mucho tiempo que tuvieron que juntar dos o más mesas para que todos pudieramos hacer una ronda alrededor de las mesas para la comida del Día del Padre.

Una vez que me gradué de la preparatoria en el estado superior de Nueva York, salí para ir a la universidad en Fort Worth y después de eso no estuve cerca de esas celebraciones.

Irónicamente, cuando trabajé como reportero de fin de semana en KENS-5 Eyewitness News en 1982, mi primera tarea fue hacer una historia del Día del Padre sobre George Cisneros, el padre del entonces alcalde Henry Cisneros, a quien he escrito previamente una columna o dos para “Sólo un pensamiento.”

Fue emocionante visitarlo en su casa y entrevistarlo sobre las tradiciones del Día del Padre de su familia, ya que anteriormente había servido en las Reservas del Ejército con él en los años 70 mucho antes de conocer al Alcalde.

Él era el comandante de mi unidad en el ARCOM número 90 en Harry Wurzbach Road. Todos los lunes por la noche, reunión de reserva) informaría al ARCOM y lo pasaría por el pasillo o informaría directamente a la oficina del Coronel Cisneros para las tareas de la noche. Recuerdo estar parado frente a él en su oficina saludándolo con elegancia hasta que él me devolvió el saludo.

Cuando lo entrevisté para la historia, él se había retirado de las Reservas y me lo contrarrestaría en el gimnasio local donde los dos trabajábamos. En cierto modo me recordó a mi propio padre.

Durante nuestros entrevistamientos visitábamos y conversábamos en familia. Como mi padre, el Coronel Cisneros era un estricto disciplinario, pero un hombre justo y un gran comandante. Alrededor de ese tiempo sufrió un derrame cerebral y se movió con algo de ayuda. Cuando hacíamos ejercicio, lo veía cuando intentaba levantar pesas ligeras.

Eventualmente falleció algunos años después y asistí a su funeral que atrajo a cientos de familiares, amigos y dolientes. En conversaciones con Henry y su familia en ese momento, compartió que su padre era un gran padre.

Tuve el privilegio de haber servido con ese gran padre, pasar tiempo con él militarmente y en el gimnasio. Finalmente, me reunió con mi propio padre para sus dos últimas celebraciones del Día del Padre aquí en San Antonio, antes de que él también falleciera.

¡Estuve de acuerdo!

Hoy es el día para pasar con tu padre, ya sea en su casa o en la tuya o tal vez en un restaurante local. De cualquier manera, les deseo a todos una feliz celebración del Día del Padre.

Un especial deseo del Día del padre feliz para el editor Steve Duran y su esposa Virginia que ahora dirigen el periódico. Steve es el tercer editor de Duran con el que he tenido el honor de trabajar para continuar el legado de su padre.
GAS NATURAL OTORGÁ PODER A LAS COMUNIDADES

GAS NATURAL: FUENTE EN GENERACIÓN DE ENERGÍA ELÉCTRICA EN NORTEAMÉRICA


INCREMENTO DE MÁS DEL 57% EN LA PRODUCCIÓN DE GAS NATURAL (1990-2017)

EL GAS NATURAL APORTA FUERZA ECONÓMICA A NUESTRAS COMUNIDADES BENEFICIANDO EL PROGRESO

MÁS ENERGÍA, MENOS IMPACTO AMBIENTAL
Generational Work Ethic Fuels Westside Legacy Business

By Isa Fernández

My father has been self-employed for most of his adult life, just like his father, my grandfather. My dad has always taught my siblings and I and now his grandchildren, the importance of hard work, perseverance and commitment to family. He is someone I consider not just my father, but a friend and a mentor. And while none of us are engineers like he is, two out of four of his children are also self-employed and we all use his (and our wonderful mother’s) guidance to help us through life. So, I was interested in learning about three generations of San Antonian Garza’s who have for 67 years and counting, run La Monita Tortilleria, the staple molina on the Westside. It was established in 1952 by patriarch Henry Garza, taken over by his son Joe Garza in 1976 and today is run by third generation owner Richard Garza.

Henry Garza included his seven children in the operations of La Monita Tortilleria, each helping their father around the shop after school and in the summer. As an adult, his son Joe demonstrated a heightened interest in how the business was run. and in 1976, while concurrently working three jobs to support his growing family, decided to purchase the business from his father when he retired. Taking helm, Joe also showed his children what his dad Henry had demonstrated to him and his siblings – a strong work ethic needed to run your own successful business.

Joe’s son Richard, the youngest of four, learned that “nothing is given” and you must work hard to succeed. His spirit of entrepreneurship started early, when at age 10 he started selling the San Antonio Light newspaper to customers, 300 weekend editions at a time. When he was older, he worked the cashier and conduct sales. He also learned to make the corn-based products that are the foundation of La Monita Tortilleria, starting with masa that is created from scratch using an 80-year old metal machine used by each generation - grandfather Henry, father Joe and Richard. Tortillas, tamales, gorditas and other maize-based specialties are popular. Tailored tamales made using requested ingredients (like vegan, plant-based “meats” or organic beans, for example) are available for customers who place orders at least two weeks in advance.

As an adult in 1976, he switched gears temporarily working in the truck driving industry, which prompted his father Joe to begin asking him, “what do you want to do in life?” That question resonated and fueled Richard’s decision to follow his father Joe and grandfather Henry’s path in becoming his own boss and continuing the family business. However, this time he returned as his own boss with the creation of La Morenita, a branch of La Monita Tortilleria, in 1993.

Sadly, in 1995, his father Joe passed away, leaving his mother Ramona to take over La Monita Tortilleria. Having a close relationship not only as father and son, but also as colleagues, Richard tells me that not only did he lose his father, but his best friend, someone he talked to every day. Joe Garza was missed by his customers who remember his kind spirit and friendliness. Dedicated customers often share personal stories and photos from the past 67 years, such as the photo Richard showed me of his dad, the second-generation owner of La Monita Tortilleria, in what appears to be the late 70s or early 80s.

In 2004 La Morenita, Richard’s spin-off of La Monita Tortilleria, closed due to family issues, but he credits his father, whom he remembers fondly as “strong, an achiever, ambitious,” with bringing him back to the family business. When his mother Ramona retired, Richard took over La Monita Tortilleria as owner and operator, making him the third generation of Garzas to hold the position. Of it, he says, “My Dad’s heart brought me back to the molina.” Today, he and Nadine Garza, his wife and best friend of nearly 23 years, run the business happily together. They’ve built on the success of La Monita Tortilleria and La Morenita and business has doubled.

True to the family legacy, Richard and Nadine’s children, ages 14-20, help on the weekends, the busiest time of the week. Daughter Chanel, only 14, already has a passion for cooking and business and has shown the most interest, like her father and grandfather before her, of taking over the family business, telling her father, “you might be lucky, one day I might want to run this place.”

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Texas HB 3529 Signed into Law

By Rosie Speedlin Gonzalez

Co authored by Senator Jose Menendez and State Representative Gutierrez, Texas HB 3529 was signed into law today. This innovative and forward looking legislation was developed together with Bexar County Judge Rosie Gonzalez and Stacy Lynn to establish a family violence pretrial pilot diversion program in Bexar County. The program would involve assessments to analyze the needs of participants; a comprehensive substance abuse disorder and chemical dependency treatment program; a procedure to rapidly respond to participants who fail to comply with program requirements; and the use of a video teleconferencing system in court to facilitate cooperation of witnesses and reduce costs.

Thank you Governor, Senator Menendez, Representative Gutierrez, Judge Gonzalez & Stacy Lynn!
Walking in My Father’s Footsteps

By: Ernest J. Martinez, Chairman for the Cesar E. Chavez Legacy & Educational Foundation & Cesar E. Chavez March for Justice

This Father’s Day weekend marks the second one without my father, my best friend, and mentor Jaime P. Martinez who would have turned 72 this year. What a life he lived! A testament to the remarkable life and journey he experienced, are the many stories shared about my father from those he organized with and touched over the last four decades at the local, state, and national levels of the labor and civil rights movement. That was his work, but most remember him as the founder of The Cesar E. Chavez Legacy & Educational Foundation, a 100% volunteer led 501c3 organization and founder of the Annual Cesar E. Chavez March for Justice which I currently lead alongside a dynamic group of committed individuals.

Today’s political tone presents both an opportunity and challenge. There are many challenges, but for me central to the biggest challenge is connecting with today’s generation who are so far removed from the history of La Causa, primarily because our educational system doesn’t acknowledge the accomplishments of Cesar Chavez, or Dolores Huerta. This must change.

As for the future growth opportunity of The Cesar Chavez March for Justice and CECLEF, it is predicated upon remaining true to the mission of educational outreach started by my father, and engaging the youth of our community. The mission is above any one individual, and focuses on one thing, and in our case, the community at large. Totally following in my dad footsteps is impossible, but thanks to a great father that instilled hard work and commitment to community, forging ahead with faith unshakable with the same Si Se Puede mindset of my father, that will always remain. While my father loved community, he loved God and Familia’ even more. Dad, I miss you this Father’s Day, you will never be forgotten. Adelante’ and forever Si Se Puede!
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