U.S. Tariff on Mexico Would Hurt Both Nations

Community Council of South Central Texas Will Host A Night Out with Congressman Joaquin Castro

Sólo un Pensamiento: Día de la Bandera

Spurs Orgulloso del Equipo en Sillas de Ruedas

Breaking a Bad Habit

By Dr. Ricardo Romo
By Ramon Chapa, Jr
By Steve Walker
By Tammy C. Perez
**Let’s Talk About it...**

**Gentrification**

By Yvette Tello

Gentrification is the process of renovating and improving an area so that it conforms to middle-class taste. This has been happening in San Antonio starting with King Williams, Southtown, and So-Flo areas. These are great improvements but unfortunately, at a cost to existing residents that have lived in these areas for generations. Taxes are increasing rapidly. The Westside and Eastside Corridors seem to be the next in line for the next areas of gentrification. Do you have any concerns regarding gentrification and/or displacement of neighborhood residents due to new businesses and new housing developments moving into these areas? Let’s talk about it....

**Alice Herrera**

“So true!! Too many people do not understand the economics or the repercussions of gentrification. It’s good for the people who have the financial means to “gentrify” but negatively impacts the citizens who are on a fixed income. Home values swing up which increases property taxes.”

**AR Sifuentes**

“That’s what happens when you vote for the wrong people! Don’t vote for the wrong people and we won’t have that problem.”

**LeAnn M Dinsdale**

“People who have lived in the neighborhood for generations should have tax exemptions.”

**Gilbert Dimas Jr.**

“No problems with gentrification at all. No matter what the cost. There are so many areas added to the city to enjoy. We spend more time downtown enjoying what the city has to offer more than any other time. Living outside the city 35 minutes and traveling into downtown on weeknights to have dates is not a problem. 10 yrs ago we would not have bothered. Having my business in this area for the last 24 years, I have seen this change. I’ve enjoyed watching the change and enjoy what the area has to offer.”

**Javier Antonio Guzman**

“The need to cap the property taxes at the purchase price of the home, after a sale than they can undergo revaluation on the property. The tax rate is not the problem its valuation of the home. We have to pay more attention to the county commissioner elections, those guys sit on that panel unending.”
By Dr. Ricardo Romo

In 1977 Jesse Trevino painted “Progreso” as part of his Westside series, which included several other acrylic paintings from that period. His best known paintings of that era include; “Raspa Man,” “La Cita Lounge,” and “Liria’s Lounge.” The “Progreso” painting was purchased by public relations guru Lionel Sosa in the 1980s and is part of Lionel and Kathy Sosa’s private collection.

Trevino is perhaps best known for his monumental art mosaic—the “Spirit of Healing” at Christus Santa Rosa and the “Veladora” at the Guadalupe Cultural Community Center. In 1999 Trevino also painted a beautiful rendition of a Mexican American healer called “La Curandera” for the Texas Diabetes Institute near the corner of Guadalupe and Zarzamora.

Trevino admired the men and women who worked in the Westside and considered small businesses such as “Progreso” to be an important part of the Westside experience. Trevino grew up in the Westside and from an early age drove by or visited many of the sites that he would later choose to paint.

Jesse Trevino’s early interest in art and design led him to Fox Tech where his older brothers had attended. In his early years of art training at Fox Tech High School, Trevino found inspiration in the American portrait tradition.

During his first year at Fox Tech High School, Trevino painted a portrait of Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson which he titled simply “LBJ” (1962). Trevino’s biographer, Anthony Head, whose book about Trevino was reviewed recently in La Prensa, noted that Trevino found inspiration in the work of portrait artist Norman Rockwell.

Trevino is also well known for his numerous portraits of San Antonio’s Westside heroes including Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez, community leader Ruben Munguis, and singer and dancer Rosita Fernandez. Trevino has been painting for more than fifty years and fortunately Anthony Head’s publication, Spirit: The Life and Art of Jesse Trevino, provides us with a fuller account of Trevino’s remarkable life.

Jesse Trevino is one of San Antonio’s great living treasures and everyone appreciates his many artistic accomplishments.
The Westside’s Gateway Businesses

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

Mexican American businesses in San Antonio date back to the early 1850s shortly after Tejanos, as they were called, became American citizens by virtue of the American victory in the war with Mexico.

Latino businesses were generally small family enterprises, and the majority of the initial family-run businesses disappeared by the 20th century. With the exception of Jose Cassiano and his heirs who outfitted cowboys and the cattle drives, we know little about these 19th century San Antonio businesses. This is because the early observers and historians never thought it important to mention them.

This essay is an account of a few of the 20th century Mexican American businesses that contributed to the expansion of the city’s Westside. In the 1920s Latinos began moving west from the center of town (Laredito)--and with their movement west, Latino businesses gained new customers by providing services and goods to Mexican immigrants who were arriving in significant numbers during the Mexican Revolution and the 1920s.

Mexican Americans were especially active in the food industries. The B. Martinez Sons Company, which sold tortillas and other corn products, opened its doors in San Antonio in 1896 (initially known as El Azteca Molinos). Located on Leona Street just west of San Pedro Creek, the business is listed today as a tortilla factory and it recently celebrated 123 years of making corn products in San Antonio. The factory, across the street from the Navarro Achievement Center, has a long history. The company was founded by Jose Bartolome Martinez, known as Bartolo Martinez in the 1910s.

Roy G. Martinez and other members of the Bartolo Martinez family credit their grandfather with selling more corn than anyone in the United States in the early 20th century. The family also credits the elder Martinez with commercializing corn chips in America. Bartolo Martinez was certainly a pioneering Latino businessman of a national stature. He introduced ideas on how to mass produce tortillas to an American market, as well as how to take surplus tortillas and turn them into corn chips. Today there are about 418 tortilla factories in the United States whose sales amount to $5 billion in revenue annually.

Another businessman in the Westside neighborhood, Fernando Guerra, attended elementary school across the street from B. Martinez Sons Company and went on to the University of Texas to study pharmacy. After his graduation, Guerra worked at
the Socorro Drug Store and Navarro Drug Store before opening his own pharmacy on the corner of South Pecos and Guadalupe. Guerra’s Drug Store and the surrounding neighborhood were the gateway to the growing Westside of San Antonio. 

As San Antonio Westsiders traveled west on Guadalupe Street, passed the Martinez Funeral Home, and crossed the railroad tracks, the three major icons of the Westside—the Guadalupe Theater, the Progreso Drug Store, and Progreso Theater—became visible.

The Progreso Theater opened in the late 1920s just as the film industry converted from silent to “talking” movies. Former Texas State Senator Joe Bernal grew up a block from the barrio theater district and remembers selling candy to customers entering the Progreso Theater in the mid-1930s.

Bernal loved watching movies at the Progreso and would stand near the entrance on Tuesdays and Thursdays when “dos por uno” (two for one) promotions were in effect. He got in free by convincing someone attending the movie alone to include him. On the weekends the Progreso offered popular Hollywood movies featuring Tarzan and Flash Gordon.

Bernal called the corner of Brazos and Guadalupe the “center of my universe.” His father’s cousin, Pedro Bernal, operated the Progreso Drug Store and his family frequented Progreso Cafe, a Mexican restaurant next door owned by Santos Villarreal’s family. These three businesses were located on Brazos and Guadalupe, across from the well-known Casa Grande Restaurant. After school and on the weekends, Bernal and his friends would stop by Casa Grande or Progreso Cafe next to Progreso Drugs to buy pan dulce. In the late 1930s, Casa Grande was owned by Pancho and Rosa Gomez. No other intersection in the Westside of San Antonio had as much popularity and fame.

Bernal’s Guadalupe neighborhood included the Black Cat taxi stand next to the Guadalupe Theater, as well as the Mexican Christian Institute, a block away on Guadalupe and San Jacinto. Bernal worked part-time at the Mexican Christian Center under the direction of executive director E.G. Luna. Bernal had fond memories of taking woodwork classes at the Inman Center on Colima and San Jacinto which the Mexican Christian Center operated. The Inman Center offered after-school programs in the arts and crafts as well as family counseling.

A major Federal Housing project came to San Antonio in 1938 and changed the landscape of the Westside. By 1939, the land had been acquired to build two large public housing structures in the Guadalupe church Parish area.

The Alazan Courts were completed in 1941 and the Apache Courts followed that same year. Green Peyton, author of San Antonio: City in the Sun, wrote that the “two projects covered about sixty acres—ten city blocks” providing housing for 1,180 families or nearly sixty-five hundred people.

My own family moved to the new Apache Courts on the southern edge of the housing project in 1941. They did not stay long as my dad joined the Army Air Corp after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and we moved to the back of my grandmother’s grocery store on 900 Leal Street.

In 1941, a construction crew had already demolished Juan Vidaurri’s tire shop on the corner of Guadalupe and Brazos streets and had started building the Guadalupe Theater. The famed theater opened its doors in 1942, just as the Westside was sending its sons and daughters to fight in World War II.

The theater took the name Guadalupe to compliment the well known Guadalupe Catholic Church located one block north on El Paso Street. Centrally located, the Guadalupe Theater and Guadalupe Church stood at the hub of a newly created commercial zone west of downtown.

There had never been a better time to open a Spanish language theater than in the 1940s. The Guadalupe Theater opened as “La Epoca de Oro” (the Golden Era of Mexican Cinema) was underway. In this famous cinema period, 1936-1958, Mexico’s film industry flourished and Mexican films gained great popularity in the barrios of the United States as well as in South America and Spain. For the Spanish speaking world, Mexican films featuring great singers, beautiful actresses, and entertaining comedians more than filled the movie void. The Guadalupe Theater featured only Spanish language movies, while the Progreso Theater offered English language movies on the weekends.

The Westsiders flocked to the Guadalupe to see Pedro Infante, Jorge Negrete, Maria Felix, and Dolores de Rio, but for many movie fans, young and old, the films by Cantiflas and Tin Tan delighted the most. In the age before television, everyone went to the movies.

The early success of both the Progreso and Guadalupe Theaters demonstrated that Westsiders appreciated neighborhood entertainment venues. While film lovers from the Westside could see movies at the downtown Spanish-language theaters, they actually had a choice of two excellent movie houses on Guadalupe and Brazos streets.

Much has changed in the old commercial hub of the Westside. Today the Guadalupe and Brazos corner is home to the Guadalupe Cultural Center which uses the old Guadalupe theater for cultural events. The Cultural Center has also opened a small gallery at the old Progreso Drug Store. The Progreso Cafe and Progreso Theater closed their doors in the early 1960s and today the buildings are utilized by numerous Guadalupe cultural activists. Near the corner is the well known Jesse Trevino Veladora sculpture, a new art landmark for the neighborhood.

The entrepreneurial spirit is still thriving in the Westside. Many of San Antonio’s 44,000 Latino small businesses are located west of I-35. Westside businesses include small barber shops, pharmacies, funeral homes, raspa stands, and food trucks. Nonetheless, Westsiders continue to spend more and more each year in the larger national chains, such as Family Dollar and McDonald’s.
ACUSE DE RECIBO DE SOLICITUD E INTENCIÓN
DE OBTENER UNA MODIFICACIÓN AL PERMISO DE CALIDAD DEL AGUA

PERMISO NO. WQ0001517000

SOLICITUD. City Public Service de San Antonio, P.O. Box 1771, San Antonio, Texas 78296, propietarios de la Estación Eléctrica de vapor en Leon Creek, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) que modifique el Sistema de Eliminación de Descarga de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) Permiso No. WQ0001517000 (EPA I.D. No. TX0063703) para autorizar la eliminación de todos los requisitos de permiso asociados con 40 CFR 423, Categoría de Fuente de Generación de Energía Eléctrica de Vapor; la eliminación de Salidas de Drenajes 001; reducción de la Frecuencia de Monitoreo de Cloro; eliminación de los Requisitos de Monitoreo de Cobre y Hierro; y la eliminación de Otros Requisitos Nos. 9 y 13. Las instalaciones están ubicadas en 7718 Quintana Road, San Antonio, en el condado de Bexar, Texas 78211. La ruta de descarga es desde el sitio de la planta hasta una zanja de drenaje de la ciudad; de allí a Lower Leon Creek. TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 1 de mayo de 2019. La solicitud de permiso está disponible a la vista y para fotocopiarla en la Oficina Principal de City Public Service de San Antonio, 145 Navarro Street, 4th Floor, San Antonio, Texas. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico del sitio o la ubicación general de la instalación se proporciona como una cortesía al público y no como parte de la solicitud o aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la aplicación. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.351675&lng=-98.57574&zoom=13&type=r

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviados a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean recibir avisos de esta solicitud. El aviso dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso. Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el periodo de comentarios; y la declaración “[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado”. Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los periodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el periodo de comentarios.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado especificado. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN A LA AGENCIA. Todos los comentarios públicos y solicitudes deben ser presentadas electrónicamente vía https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/ o por escrito dirigidos a la Comisión de Texas de Calidad Ambiental, Oficial de la Secretaría (Office of Chief Clerk), MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Para obtener más información acerca de esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al programa de educación pública de la TCEQ, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. También se puede obtener información adicional sobre City Public Service de San Antonio en la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Summer Johnson al 210-353-2770.

Fecha de emisión: el 14 de junio de 2019
EVENTOS ESPECIALES

Spurs Hype Squad Auditions Set For July 14 & July 27

As the official entertainment team of the San Antonio Spurs and ambassadors of the Spurs brand, the coed dynamic group brings and elevated approach to engaging and energizing the Spurs’ crowd inside the AT&T Center on game days, all while taking active leadership role in the San Antonio community through hands-on volunteer work. Registration is now available at Spurs.com/hype-squad, and prospective members will receive a specific time closer to their chosen audition date. The Spurs Hype Squad is seeking entertainers in several talent performances, a few spots will be reserved for high-energy crowd leaders that will raise the hype and engage the NBA’s most loyal fanbase. All members of the Spurs Hype Squad will also become ambassadors of the Spurs brand and will strive to make a positive impact through community engagement. Auditions will be private and will include a group interview with a panel of judges, a fan engagement evaluation session and a team-building exercise. Those auditions for a talent spot will also be evaluated on a short, choreographed dance ending with a freestyle element.

Spurs Hype Squad members must be at least 18 years of age and must be able to work a minimum of 32 home games and 10 appearances throughout the 2019-20 Spurs season. The Spurs Hype Squad will have an informal session on Monday, July 8 at 7 p.m. to be held at the AT&T Center (Rock & Brews), 1 AT&T Center Pkwy. Registration fee: $15. (Photos by Franco)

Ma Hila’s Heart Project Receives $100,000 Donation

Money will fund the Christmas in July event benifitting children living with cancer
Baño de champaña para Broncos

Invitación Al Torneo Independencia 2019

Por Sendero Deportivo

Broncos de Reynosa SA defendió su corona de campeón del playoff Veteranos de Potranco Baseball League, que presiden Eloy Rocha y Simón Sánchez. Red Sox (su rival), dirigidos por Pedro Espinoza y René Juárez, volvió a quedarse en el camino sumando tres subcampeonatos.

Broncos se impuso 7 a 2 carreras, con victoria para Gilbert Salazar y salvamento de Óscar (El Giro) Rodríguez, la derrota fue para Chris Lee, quien en el noveno capítulo fue relevado por José Espinoza.

Broncos con su timonel Roberto Garza, el coach y jugador Rick Felán, así como el resto del equipo le cumplió a su gerente general, señora Linda Garza y su base de seguidores.

En la serie destacó Tomás Rodríguez, de Broncos bateando de 9-11, con 4-3 en el tercer cotejo y 2 carreras producidas. Red Sox, tuvo oportunidades de aumentar el marcador a su favor, pero la defensiva de Broncos los superó cerrando la novena entrada con doble matanza.

Ambos equipos se felicitaron deportivamente.

Eloy Rocha, ayudado por colaboradores, presentó los trofeos de campeón de temporada a Red Sox que a la vez recibió el galardón de subcampeón del playoff 2019. Broncos por su segundo campeonato. Premiación individual: Doug Rosini, de Broncos mejor bateador con promedio de .700. Tony Montes de Red Sox, subcampeón de bateo. Chris Lee, campeón lanzador con marca de 5-0. En cuadrangulares hubo cuatro jugadores empatados con dos vuelacercas, Henry Pichardo y Brandon Palomo de Broncos, Freddy García de Cachorros de Nava, y Gonzalo Bocanegra de Rieleros.


“Sé logro defender el campeonato ante dignos rivales Rieleros (semifinal), y Red Sox en la final. Iremos por la tercera corona en Veteranos”, afirmó Garza. En su festejo Broncos tuvo su tradicional “Baño de Champaña”, el cual inició el jugador Mauricio Esparza (Malacas), y compañeros para darle su baño a los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza.


Piratas a cargo del timonel Sergio De Luna, recientemente ganó serie de playoffs a Mineros, en la máxima categoría del béisbol independiente en San Antonio.

Sergio Macías encabezó la ofensiva de Piratas con, imparable, doblete, jonrón y cuatro carreras producidas, el capitán Brayan Guerrero, dio de 4-2 con 3 carreras impulsadas y Johnny López con 2-1, anotó la séptima carrera. “Mineros siempre seguirá siendo cliente de los Piratas”, dijo Iván Rubinsky, coach y jugador de los bucaneros. (Ello basado en que Piratas como no “favorito” le ganó el pasado campeonato a Mineros en el tercer combate de su serie a ganar 2 de 3 tres partidos, y así defender su banderín ganado en 2018).

Cabe anotar que Sendero Deportivo estará dispuesto para recibir opinión al respecto por parte de directivos de Mineros que preside el timonel y jugador Jesús Ramírez.
Elizondo Flower Shop
433–445 Castroville Road History

By: Rachel Delgado

WPA interviewed Olga Elizondo Perez, second generation owner, about the family flower shop. The third generation also helps run the business founded in 1924. Olga said that up to the mid 30s, cattle were still herded down Castroville Rd. on the way to the stockyards. When this happened, they had to rush to bring in the tubs of flowers. The original house was added on to and is part of what is 445 Castroville Rd. The Belgian farms came up to Castroville Rd where the cemetery and the Las Palmas Shopping Center are now. Olga Elizondo Perez’s story (from her email): “Since 1921 when Juan and Margarita Elizondo were forced by Mother Nature (the big flood of September 1921) to move to higher ground. That was a lot on Castroville Rd. which they paid $100 for. Mr. and Mrs. Elizondo had to work pretty hard in order to make the payments. A humble house was built at which Margarita would later add plants and flowers. About that time, San Fernando Cemetery #2 opened. When people visiting the Graves saw her yard, they would stop and ask about buying some of her flowers. She would end up selling a big armful of flowers for 5 or 10 cents. So that’s how it all started. I say with a lot of pride and love to everything and serving our community for all this time. We paid our first business license about 1928. Isn’t that wonderful. We love San Antonio and our community!”

Public Comments
Business grew on commercial corridor for Westside community. Three generations. It’s Westside and supports cemeteries. The family service is of great value. Thanks to San Antonio and our Westside community for giving the opportunity to serve you with great pride from 1925 to the present, our humble business will be there to carry on. Thanks again, Elizondo’s / Alga Elizondo Perez

The original shotgun house is inside the building. An original wall can be seen from a workroom. It exists for our “ante-pasados” who are buried at San Fernando Cemetery. The affordable flowers and wreaths sold at Elizondo’s allowed us to show our respect to our deceased relatives and friends.

Elizondo Flower Shop
433–445 Castroville Road History

By Leonard Rodriguez

This column highlights inspiring stories of Latino leaders. For more than 500 years, Latino men and women have positively influenced the face of United States society. Let us celebrate these outstanding hispanics.

Marshall Bernardo de Galvez
While serving as governor for Spanish Louisiana during the Revolutionary War, Marshall Bernardo de Galvez led his troops to numerous victories against the British, greatly relieving pressure on Gen. George Washington’s troops. His victories helped open supply lines for money and military goods from Spain, France, Cuba and Mexico and helped the cause of the American Revolution. In honor, Texas named the city of Galveston after him and statues of him have been erected in his hometown of New Orleans and Washington, DC. To increase awareness of this American Hero, Congress is considering dedicating July 23 as Bernardo de Galvez Day.
Dreamonoids Westside HI–FI Speaker Shop

Bringing Concert Sound Home

By: Isa Fernández

Dr. Joey Lopez, a San Antonio native, received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in New Media, a specialized Act Lab program headed by Sandy Stone, who is well known for being one of the founders of Transgender Studies, a sound recording engineer who memorably worked with Jimi Hendrix, and a former employee of Bell Labs, which was akin in the 50s what Google is today.

The core tenants of the Act Lab program were to “make stuff, take risks and be awesome” said Lopez. Lopez took that attitude to the University of the Incarnate Word where he ran a convergent media program as a professor. He met future business partner Christian Rios, a student at the time earning his degree in the discipline who shared a love for HI-FI stereo and gaming. Rios refamiliarized Lopez with the San Antonio scene after returning from Austin and they joked about one day starting a HI-FI shop, which Lopez had experience with having helped run Concert Sound, a local HI-FI shop (now located in Austin operating as an importer of electronics) from 2000-2010.

Rios, an industrious student interested in business development, found the building which would become an arcade first, then the HI-FI shop in 2013 after an exhaustive search on the South and West sides of town. The name “dreamonoid” is based off “asteroids, gal-lika, dream cast...back when I was in college there was Sega-Dream Cast and I was torrenting and a member of demonoids, which was an invite-only torrent site that had some good stuff. And so, one day, I used to DJ in college for extra cash and I need an alias and was on “demonoid” playing Dream Cast and I just googled it and literally, no one has it, so I got the domain name.”

The building is a bright and colorful graffiti-like mural painted by artist Louie Chavez of Laredo. It depicts stereo, cartoon characters, a bustier-wearing woman appearing to enjoy music and the phrase “make the city shake.” Prior, the building was home to nonprofit Hope Action Care and was carpeted with many rooms. Rios demoed and cleared out the place, filling it with 20-30 arcade machines, including pinball. Although it was successful, it closed after two and a half years because it wasn’t the vision Rios had hoped for which was to be a “haven for young youths” from the community. Instead, it became more of a hang-out spot for adult males that ended up driving away kids, who had to wait too long for advanced adult gamers to finish exhaustive gaming sessions. With the help of a friend and his former professor, Joey Lopez, Dreamonoids 2.0 was reimagined as the business it is today selling exclusive HI-FI products.

Lopez knew how to get in touch with distributors from his work with Concert Sound and Rios knew how to run a business. They formed a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), working with a lawyer and a CPA and began the business, advertising solely online. The prices range is 1k to 30k, so they only need a few customers a month to be profitable. They also sell used equipment ranging from “a hundred to a couple of thousands” and can recommend sound systems at all levels for anyone who comes into the shop. People will come in to see hundreds of records ranging from Beethoven to 2Pac from the private collection of Lopez to hear firsthand the quality of the music they love blasting from handmade sound equipment. I am played a demo of Led Zeppelin’s “Whole Lotta Love” and indeed, it sounded like I was seeing the band play live. So, not only are you paying for world-class quality but for the livable wages paid to the adult artisans working at Rega (the primary brand they sell) who handmake the equipment. Once customers decide on the type of speaker, turntable or stereo they want, Dreamonoids places an order with the distributor and it is delivered.

In addition to working towards the growth Dreamonoids, the team is active in helping the community thrive and other businesses develop. Says Lopez, “There is a network from San Antonio, Austin and College Station that Dr. Joey Lopez helps to “cross-pollinate.” Lopez now has his own lab at Texas A & M and is receiving funding to build a New Media program which focuses on social and cultural issues, such as the intersection of homelessness and meth addiction. This is a topic he is studying with an addiction physician from Boston to find out “how much of it is mental health, how much of it is drugs, how much of it is homelessness, what’s contributing to the cycle.”

Another is an idea Lopez and Rios are working on is one with Launch SA (the local program focused on educating and supporting small business), which focuses on entrepreneurship at the collegiate level. The goal is to have students work collaboratively with small businesses as a pipeline of resources to help businesses develop. As a professor, Lopez builds his program and promotes community engagement, “so it works serendipitously with what I do.” The duo is knowledgeable about the resources that have helped them, such as the matching grant they received from geographic nonprofit, Westside Development Corporation, to help repair a costly A/C. Lopez and Rios have a 5 to 10-year plan. They are currently in year two going on year three. They did not take a business loan. They went lean, taking a “boot strap approach.... We aren’t looking at our immediate success. We’re looking at building long term, personal relationships with our customers, vendors, and distributors.”

1711 Guadalupe St. San Antonio, Texas 78207
Business Hours: Saturday & Sunday 12-5 PM (Appointments available for other days)
210-880-5706, email Dreamonoids@gmail.com
https://www.dreamonoids.com/
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Call or visit for best pricing.
**Taco Icon – Ray’s Drive Inn**

By Melinda Gonzalez

“Hello, Welcome to Ray’s!”

The friendly and genuine greeting from several employees provides a warm welcome as you enter Ray’s Drive Inn, located on 800 block of Southwest 19th Street and Guadalupe Street, adjacent to Castroville Rd.

Following in his parent’s entrepreneurial footsteps, Raymond “Ray” Lopez opened up Ray’s Drive Inn on the Westside of San Antonio in 1956. From that moment, the building that was once known as the Cibolo’s Ice House was transformed into the future home of the infamous Puffy Taco.

In 1982, Ray unfortunately became ill, but was able to sell the restaurant to his brother Arthur “Arturo” who took pride in continuing to craft the Westside San Antonio icon that we all know and love. On November 3, 1992, “Ray’s Drive Inn” received the Official “Trademark” for the “Puffy Taco”. Arturo became known as the “King of Puffy Taco” and passed on his legacy to his children. His daughter Maria Rambo “Lollie” is now partial owner of the restaurant and still owns the house across the street where Arturo was born and raised in.

Ray’s Drive Inn is a special place. You can feel it as soon as you walk in the door. Oldies music plays in the background and you are surrounded by memorabilia that has either been in the Lopez family for generations or has been donated.

General Manager, Norma Navarro, fully embraces the history and legacy of Ray’s. You can see it in the way she respects the traditional characteristics that make the restaurant special and leads by the example of hard work guided by corazon. She tells her staff, “Serve with love, don’t serve a plate.”

On June 24, Ray’s survived a grease fire that was thankfully contained to the kitchen. Norma Navarro was shocked to receive the news on a Monday when the restaurant is usually closed, but rushed over and did not hesitate to work late to ensure that everything was in place to open up on schedule the following day. The history and memories contained within Ray’s were safe.

If you get a chance to walk through the building, you will see pictures and paintings that tell the story of the Lopez family - 3 sisters and 5 brothers - one of which is the owner of Henry’s Puffy Tacos that opened in 1978. In the back room sits Arturo’s beloved truck which is now retired, but has previously been a fixture in Fiestas’ Battle of Flowers Parade.

Mary Lou Beltran has worked at Ray’s Drive Inn for 14 years and takes pride in knowing that she is part of the history and the future of the restaurant. “The atmosphere, it feels so nice. People come here and they say that they feel like they are at home. It’s a family environment,” says Mary Lou.

Ray’s Drive Inn will always be the historic Westside San Antonio icon that has proved throughout the decades that tradition, quality, and love are the cornerstones of delicious food and that feeling of being at home. “These cooks that I have back there have been here over 37 years. Same hands, same cooks. The traditions have stayed. From when they first started, until now,” says Norma, General Manager.

Along with other San Antonio staples, Ray’s Drive Inn was recently listed as one of the top 25 restaurants to try before you die by the San Antonio Current. In addition to their Puffy Tacos that come with a variety of fillings like picadillo and carne guisada, Ray’s Drive Inn offers savory crispy dogs along with a full menu of options you can pair with a cold beer of your choice.

There has long been rumors of a rivalry between Henry’s Puffy Tacos and Ray’s Drive Inn, but to my surprise and honor, I had the privilege of seeing Henry himself walk through the doors of Ray’s Drive Inn and sit down for a meal as I concluded my interview with Norma and Mary Lou.

Despite numerous celebrity visits and national attention, Ray’s is humble true to its roots. They know their customers and their customers know them. Norma adds, “Arturo never changed anything and stayed true. Ray’s is where everything started. This is the original.”

Follow them on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RaysDriveInn/
FINANCIAL FOCUS
Work Toward Your Own Financial Independence Day

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.

Once again, it’s time for fireworks, picnics and parades as the nation celebrates Independence Day. Collectively, we enjoy many liberties, but some freedoms can be elusive – and financial freedom is one of them. What actions can you take to help yourself eventually declare your own financial independence?

For starters, you’ll want to determine what financial independence means to you. Is it the liberty to meet all your cash flow needs? The freedom to retire comfortably, at the age you choose? The ability to set up the kind of legacy you’d like to leave?

• Liberate yourself from oppressive debts. The cost of living is certainly not cheap, so it’s hardly surprising that so many people incur significant debt. Yet, the higher your debt load, the less you’ll have available to invest for the future. Debt might be one of the biggest barriers you face on the road to your financial independence. To avoid piling on too much debt, live within your means. Take steps such as saving for a vacation, rather than putting it all on your credit card, and getting just one more year out of that old car. Look for bargains everywhere – and find out what you can live without. If you have sizable debts, see if you can consolidate them and lower your interest payments.

• Free yourself from chaotic investing. The financial markets can be unpredictable – but that doesn’t mean your investment moves have to be chaotic. So, for example, instead of responding to a sudden plunge in stock prices by selling stocks that still may be fundamentally sound with strong growth potential, you might be much better off by holding your ground. And you’ll be in a better position to do nothing during periods of market volatility when you’ve already done something – namely, built an investment portfolio that reflects your goals, time horizon and risk tolerance. With this type of portfolio in place, you’ll be in a good position to overlook the day-to-day fluctuations in the market and keep your focus on your long-term goals.

• Unleash the potential in your retirement plan. Your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan is a great way to save for retirement. You can contribute pre-tax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow tax deferred. (With a Roth 401(k), you put in after-tax dollars, but your withdrawals are tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.) But despite these tax advantages, your 401(k)’s full potential won’t be realized unless you fund it adequately. Try to contribute as much as you can afford each year and increase your contributions as your salary goes up. Another way to uncaps your 401(k)’s potential is by choosing appropriate investments. Your 401(k) likely contains a dozen or more investment options, so you’ll want a mix that offers the greatest possibilities for growth within the context of your personal risk tolerance.

Gaining your financial independence requires time and commitment. But once you’ve achieved this freedom, you’ll know it was worth the effort. And who knows? You might even want to wave a sparkler or two to celebrate.

For more info contact Ernest J. Martinez
210-354-4915 or ernest.martinez@edwardjones.com

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AVISOS DE PUBLICIDAD

Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas

AVISO DE RECIBO DE SOLICITUD E INTENCIÓN DE OBTENER RENOVACIÓN DE PERMISO DE AIRE

SOLICITUD Bluebonnet Pet Crematory, L.L.C., ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) para renovación de Permiso Núm. 40398 de Calidad de Aire, el cual autorizaría el funcionamiento continuado de un/unidad de cremación de la canal animal ubicado/a en 8714 Business Circle, Converse, Condado de Bexar County, Texas 78109. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía pública 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. La instalación existe está autorizada para emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosféricos: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less, and sulfur dioxide.

Esta solicitud se presentó a la TCEQ el May 24, 2019. La solicitud estará disponible para ser revisada y copiado en la oficina central de la TCEQ, en la oficina regional de la TCEQ en San Antonio, y la Converse Public Library,601 South Seguin Road, Converse, Bexar County, Texas, comenzando el primer día de la publicación de este aviso. El expediente de cumplimiento normativo de la instalación, si alguno existe, está disponible para su revisión en la oficina regional de la TCEQ en San Antonio.

El director ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud está completa administrativamente y llevará a cabo un examen técnico de la solicitud. La información contenida en la solicitud indica que esta renovación del permiso no daria lugar en un aumento de las emisiones permitidas y no daria lugar en la emisión de un contaminante del aire no emitido previamente. La TCEQ puede actuar sobre esta solicitud sin buscar comentarios públicos adicionales o dar una oportunidad para una audiencia de caso impugnado si se cumple con ciertos criterios.

COMENTARIO PÚBLICO Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos, o solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial al domicilio a continuación. La TCEQ tomará en cuenta todos los comentarios públicos en la decisión final de la solicitud. La fecha límite para presentar comentarios públicos es 15 días después de que se publique el aviso en el periódico.

Después de la fecha límite para presentar comentarios públicos, el director ejecutivo preparará una respuesta para todos los comentarios públicos pertinentes y materiales, o significativos. Cuestiones tales como valor de propiedad, ruido, seguridad del tráfico, y zonificación no están dentro de la jurisdicción de la TCEQ para abordarse en el proceso del permiso.

Después del examen técnico de la solicitud se completa, el director ejecutivo tomará en cuenta los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos pertinentes y materiales, o significativos. Si sólo se reciben comentarios, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decisión del director ejecutivo con respecto a la solicitud, será enviada por correo a todas aquellas personas que presentaron comentarios públicos o quienes se encuentren en la lista de correo para esta solicitud, a menos que la solicitud sea remitida directamente para una audiencia de caso impugnado.

OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO Usted puede solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado. El solicitante o el director ejecutivo también pueden pedir que la solicitud se remita directamente a una audiencia de caso impugnado después del examen técnico de la solicitud. Una audiencia de caso impugnado es un proceso legal parecido a un juicio civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado. A menos que se presente una petición por escrito para una audiencia de caso impugnado dentro de 15 días de esta notificación, el director ejecutivo puede autorizar la solicitud. Si no se recibe una petición para audiencia dentro del plazo de 15 días, no se dará otra oportunidad para una audiencia. De acuerdo con la Ley de Aire Limpio de Texas, § 382.056(0), sólo se puede conceder una audiencia de caso impugnado si el historial de cumplimiento normativo del solicitante se encuentra en la clasificación más baja de acuerdo a los requisitos aplicables de historial de cumplimiento normativo y si la petición para audiencia está basada en cuestiones de hecho en disputa que son pertinentes y materiales para la decisión de la Comisión con respecto a la solicitud. Además, la
Comisión solo concederá una audiencia sobre esas cuestiones que se presenta durante el periodo de comentarios públicos y no se retiren.

Una persona que puede estar afectada por contaminantes de emisiones atmosféricas de una planta tiene derecho a solicitar una audiencia. Si se solicita una audiencia de caso impugnado, debe presentar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o para un grupo o asociación, un representante oficial), dirección, y número de teléfono; (2) el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; (3) la declaración “[yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de un caso impugnado”; (4) una descripción específica de cómo se vería adversamente afectado por la solicitud y emisiones atmosféricas de la planta de manera que no es común para el público en general; (5) la ubicación y la distancia de su propiedad con relación a la planta; (6) una descripción de cómo usa la propiedad que pueda ser afectada por la planta; y (7) una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el periodo de comentarios. Si la petición la hace un grupo o asociación, uno o más miembros que tienen derecho a solicitar una audiencia deben ser identificados por su nombre y dirección física. Los intereses que el grupo o la asociación busca proteger también deben identificarse. También puede presentar sus modificaciones propuestas a la solicitud/al permiso que satisfarían sus inquietudes. Las peticiones para una audiencia de caso impugnado deben presentarse por escrito dentro de 15 días después de este aviso, a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial a la dirección a continuación.

TCEQ - (APDG 628247_pim-atfr, Revisado el 5 de junio de 2019)

Si cualquier petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado se presenta a tiempo, el director ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. A menos que la solicitud se remite directamente a una audiencia de caso impugnado, el director ejecutivo enviará por correo la respuesta a los comentarios junto con notificación de la reunión de la Comisión a todas personas que presentaron comentarios o que se encuentren en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad atmosférica que se hayan planteado durante el periodo de comentarios. Cuestiones tales como valor de propiedad, ruido, seguridad de tráfico y zonificación no están dentro de la jurisdicción de la Comisión para abordarse en este proceso.

LISTA DE CORREO Además de presentar comentarios públicos, puede solicitar que le incluyan en una lista de correo para esta solicitud al enviar una petición a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial de la TCEQ en la dirección a continuación. Los que están en la lista de correo recibirán copias de futuros avisos públicos (si hay) para esta solicitud, enviadas por la Oficina del Secretario Oficial.

CONTACTOS DE LA AGENCIA E INFORMACIÓN Comentarios públicos y peticiones se deben entregar por el Internet a www14.tceq.texas.gov/epicleComment/ o se deben enviarse por escrito a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Tenga en cuenta que 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 más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o sobre el proceso de permisos, por favor llame sin cobro al Programa de Educación del Público al 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Se puede obtener información adicional también de Bluebonnet Pet Crematory, L.L.C., 8714 Business Circle, Converse, Texas 78109-2056 o al llamar a Ms. Judy E. McKee, Office Manager/Ownerspa al número (210) 566-4501. Fecha de Expedición: June 5, 2019

TCEQ - (APDG 628247_pim-atfr, Revisado el 5 de junio de 2019)
For Dr. Blanca Gray, Medicine is Truly a Family Affair
She joins HealthTexas Medical Group’s Las Palmas Clinic

Dr. Blanca Gray had two perfect mentors along her path to pursuing her medical degree – her parents. Her father, in fact, was a pathologist for Webb County and her mother was a general practitioner. So it was a natural inclination to follow in their footsteps.

“Initially, I pursued a career in business, but I felt out of place,” the Laredo native said. “When I went into medicine, I loved the interaction with patients and being able to help them.”

Dr. Gray, who practices internal medicine, joins HealthTexas Medical Group’s Las Palmas Clinic starting July 1. The public is invited to meet her during an open house from 10 a.m. to noon July 11 at the clinic, 911 Castroville Road.

It was during an integrated medical residency at the University of Hawaii that she was influenced to concentrate on internal medicine.

“One of my professors encouraged me to go into internal medicine because of the need for more internists. You treat the whole spectrum of a patient and not just one area,” Dr. Gray said. “You’re able to diagnose the patient and then refer them to the specialist they need to see. In some cases, you’re their only doctor. My professor impressed upon me the need for primary care and how important it is.”

Her parents, she said, prepared her well in advance for her career in medicine, especially since she was often with them while they were with their patients. “My parents would see patients, diagnose and treat them, and they also developed a special bond with them. That’s something that I picked up from them,” Dr. Gray said. “They had a lot of compassion, so it taught me to respect patients in all stages of their health and well-being.”

Since becoming a physician, Dr. Gray has received many accolades for her service to the community and commitment to her patients. Two awards that she is particularly proud of are the Kentucky Colonel Award bestowed upon her by the governor of Kentucky in 2008, as well as the Yellow Rose of Texas given by Governor Rick Perry in 2007.

Prioritize Your Life with Therapy in San Antonio and Change Your Habits

By: Maria Cisneros

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Se Habla Español • Most Insurances Accepted
Torch Awards 2019 Kick Off

By Jason Meza
Regional Director
Better Business Bureau
13750 San Pedro Ave, Suite 400 San Antonio, Tx. 78232
p: 210.260.9843
bbb.org Start With Trust®

On Monday, June 24th, Better Business Bureau (BBB) marked the beginning of the 2019 BBB Torch Awards for Marketplace Ethics nomination period! The award promotes the importance of ethical business practices and highlights the willingness and efforts made by local businesses who demonstrate a dedication to marketplace trust. Entries will be accepted until Friday, September 6, 2019.

Of the many qualified entries submitted from across BBB serving the Heart of Texas’ 105-county region, six winners were chosen: three in the Fort Worth area (Olympic Restoration Systems, Firefighting’s Finest Moving & Storage and Apex Capital Corp), one in Austin (Dochen Realtors), one in Boerne (Taurean) and one in Lufkin (McWilliams and Son). Could your business be in the spotlight this year? BBB has some answers to a few frequently asked Torch Awards questions:

How do I enter? Entry is free and easy! Simply complete the online form, which can be found at us.bbb.org/centex-torch. Criteria for entries is based on community involvement and BBB’s core values: excellence, integrity, teamwork, trust and respect.

Who will we be competing against? Businesses compete with businesses with a similar number of employees. There are six size categories: 1-10, 11-20, 21-40, 41-60, 61-99 and 100+.

Who can participate? The Torch Awards are open to all for-profit businesses headquartered within the 105 counties served by BBB serving the Heart of Texas. Applicants must be in business for a minimum of three years and maintain a rating of B or higher with BBB. Accreditation with BBB is not a requirement, and winners may only enter once every three years. To find your BBB, visit bbb.org.

Who are the judges? Candidates will be evaluated by a panel of judges from the business and academic communities. Entries are judged on an overall best score, with each category valued at 10 points. The maximum score is 60 points.

Why should I enter? Torch Award winners receive an in-person trophy presentation by BBB, website recognition, lifetime use of the BBB Torch Award Seal and more. Plus, winning is a way to showcase your business’ hard work and commitment to promoting ethical marketplace standards in your community.

This is an exciting time for BBB serving the Heart of Texas! We love to see businesses upholding our standards of trust! If you own or know a business that would be perfect for a Torch Award, visit us.bbb.org/centex-torch to enter and learn more about the competition.
By Joel Settles

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center celebrates the Fourth of July with a very special edition of Celebrando Tradiciones, its monthly dance and music series running every First Friday.

“Historias y Recuerdos” honors the lives and voices of the Mexican-Americans who built the Westside of San Antonio in the years before and following World War II. Often called the ‘Greatest Generation’, it was these men and women, our parents and grandparents, who were the backbone of San Antonio’s Mexican-American working class and its early civic leaders. They built communities, opened business, powered the local economy, developed our local arts and cultural spaces like the Historic Guadalupe Theater which opened in 1943, and started organizations like the American GI Forum that initiated the Mexican-American Civil Rights movement. On July 5th the Guadalupe Dance Company will bring these powerful stories and oral histories to life in a unique dance and music experience.

Historias y Recuerdos: A Mexican-American Story pays homage to the Mexican American voice of San Antonio’s Westside recounting the stories that make up the fabric of our history and experience. Expressed through a Folkloric dance perspective, the choreography honors the memories of generations past bringing them to life on stage through a unique interweaving of oral histories and traditional dance and media interspersed with video segments of stories as told by people within the Guadalupe community. Community members have unselfishly shared deep rooted stories about their lives growing up in the Guadalupe barrio. These stories have included going to the Guadalupe Theater on Saturdays to watch movies and variedades, working at the local pecan factory, going off to war, and many others. Pieces like Fronteras, a piece that takes the audience on a border crossing voyage, and Noticias de Mama, a suite recounting one soldier’s supernatural experience while serving overseas, continue to hit close to home with their ever-current subject matter while other suites like La Variedad pays homage to the rich history of the Guadalupe Theater and Westside community. The original choreography and staging was created by a team of dancer-choreographers led by Jeannette Chavez, Denise Rios, Jorge Gaxiola and Luis Garcia.

“Unique in their expression, the dancers translate stories collected from local community members into beautifully choreographed dance theater segments. Informed by video interviews, the dancer-choreographers designed the staging and dance segments based in the Folkloric tradition,” said Jeannette Chavez, said Dance Company Director.

“In an effort to discover their own identity and gain more opportunities, many Mexican families moved away from their beloved barrio,” says Belinda Menchaca, education director for the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. “Along with them went the countless stories of generations past that live only in the minds of many community members’ parents and grandparents. Years of service in the military, Grandma’s delicious menu-do, playing games on the corner and listening to the radio, were all part of life many years ago.”

Today is a very different world, but those same moments of sharing and family values are still at the core of many families’ roots and rich heritage. Family, youth, love and sacrifice are the themes of the inspiring original choreography by the Guadalupe Dance Company honoring the memories of generations past and bringing them to life on stage.

WHEN: First Friday, June 7, 2019
TIME: 8:00PM ( Doors Open at 6:30PM )
ADMISSION: Tickets range from $10 - $25 | Reserved Tables of Four are $125
WHERE: Guadalupe Theater | 1301 Guadalupe St. SA,TX 78207
For more information visit www.guadalupeculturalarts.org or call 210-271-3151
Just a Thought
History of Castroville

By Steve Walker

Castroville was established in 1844 by Henri Castro, an Empresario of the Republic of Texas, who brought several dozen European families to the area from Alsace. Alsace is a cultural and historical region in eastern France, on the west bank of the upper Rhine next to Germany and Switzerland. When I backpacked Europe in 1972 after being discharged in Augsburg, Germany, I did some traveling in that area. It was beautiful.

The Medina River is located in south central Texas in the Medina Valley. It was also known as the Rio Mariano, Rio San Jose, or Rio de Bagres. Its source is in springs in the Edwards Plateau in northwest Bandera County, Texas and merges with the San Antonio River in Southern Bexar County, for a course of 120 miles. Castroville is a city in Medina County.

The population was 2,680 at the 2010 census. Prior to 1893, Castroville was the first county seat of Medina County. Castroville is part of the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Over 30 years ago I taught Special Education in the elementary school in Castroville for a year. What a blessing that turned to be. It was a long drive to get there from home, but the kids were great and the faculty very supportive.

The first post office in Medina County opened in Castroville in 1847. In 1848 the Texas legislature established Medina County and designated Castroville its county seat. In 1853 Castro donated two lots for the site of the new courthouse, which when completed in 1855 served as a school. A rock dam, still intact in 1945 (a year before I was born!) was built in 1854 to furnish power for a gristmill.

It should be noted that at the time of the Civil War, wagon trains loaded with freight stopped overnight at Castroville on their way to Mexico, and the town thrived. By the mid-1860s Castroville was the twelfth largest city in Texas. In 1884 the town had a population of 1,000, a weekly newspaper called the “Brackett Weekly News,” a steam gristmill and cotton gin, a brewery, Catholic and Lutheran churches, a convent, and a public school.

In 1880 the Southern Pacific Railroad, extending its line to the west, passed south of Castroville because the town refused to grant the railroad a bonus. Hondo became the county seat in 1892. Castroville citizens voted that year to dis-incorporate their town, and it remained unincorporated until 1948.

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1908 the school in Castroville had 172 white students, twelve black students, and four teachers. In 1915 the old courthouse was converted into a school with three large classrooms. You could call that early de-segregation.

In 1936 the population was 787 which was 65 percent German, 15 percent were Mexican American, and 20 percent were French or American. Most farmers in the community lived in town and farmed their small tracts in the surrounding territory.

In 1962 it had 1,508 residents and forty businesses. The following year the Castroville Public Library, the first public library in Medina County, opened. In 1979 Castroville had a population estimated at 2,146 and thirty-five businesses.

Castroville has been recognized as a national and a Texas historic district. Many of the ninety-seven Historical American buildings in Castroville can be seen on a walking tour; they include the Landmark Inn State Historic Site, the St. Louis Catholic and the Zion Lutheran churches, the Moye Formation Center, the Tarde Hotel, and Henri Castro’s original homestead. Castroville celebrates St. Louis Day on August 22 each year. Oh by the way, quite a history for a little town not far from the city limits of San Antonio.
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