About The Cover Artist
Alejandro Macias

Urbanity & Equity

San Antonio’s City Architect Discusses Urbanity and Equity during National Preservation Month

Provided by Presa House Gallery

About The Cover Artist
Alejandro Macias

Let’s Talk About It
Protesting

Doble Cumpleaños En Adkins, Texas
Betty Martínez Y Su Nieta Camila Navarro En

Fight Today for a Better Tomorrow

By Yvette Tello
Por José I. Franco
By R. Eguia
Por Lorraine Pulido, Ph.D.

Via Ofrece Un Pase De Asistencia Laboral Para Pasajeros Desempleados Pases De 31 Días De Cortesía Disponibles A Partir Del 1 De Junio
Let’s Talk About It
Protesting

By Yvette Tello

Protesting is as ok as long as it is peacefully done. There was a post shared with me that talked about the protest at the Bexar county courthouse telling people to wear gear so they would not be identified. What do you think? Let’s talk about it...

Thomas Mc: “Protest needs to continue until reform is made. I can give you an entire history lesson of the times riots have led to change...Is it better to leave systemic racism and police brutality in place? If you’re already set in your ways that things are fine, there will be no change. Look at how many peaceful protestors have been filmed being beaten, sprayed, and hit with rubber bullets. How many reporters were filming when cops attacked them? The whole police system is built on systemic racism and needs to be dismantled and rebuilt.”

Mike Miller: Why keep destroying everything? How does that do anything good? I don’t see one protest where they are not destroy property and in their own neighborhood. These people go so called protesting and destroying things. People who had nothing to do with it are blamed by having their property destroyed. The officer involved is in custody and charged, as it should be. But they want the country to pay? That is just wrong. Blaming the total for the one. What if everyone did that? If you agree with other people getting beat up, shot, killed and property destroyed, you are just as racist as the people you accuse because people black and white are having lives turned upside down. One black man dies, everyone riots. White man died also, nobody notices. Black people kill each other more than any other group. Where is your outrage on that? There is also a statistic stating black officers kill more blacks than white officers. Where is the rage in that? It’s a tragedy from the word go. Why do we focus on the one? This does not propel us forward, it sets us back. How can you call destruction of property peaceful? There are black people and officers black and white all over this country standing together and people scream racism. People all over this country are standing together against this man’s death and against the destruction of people’s lives and property. Your CNN won’t show that.

Mary Svetlik Watkins: “I hope all of my San Antonio friends are safe. When you destroy businesses everyone suffers”.

Beverly Brooks: “Why would they need to be worried about being identified if it’s a protest? I hope and pray for the safety of all involved, too.”

Roy Cruz: “More is planned when they are saying to hide their identity. Protesting must be a code. It is just an excuse for looting.”

Yolanda Perez: “People can protest so there is reform. But trash local business is not making a statement; it’s setting the cause back.”

Jay Viveiros: “Why hide themselves? Be more than ready for them to mess up.”

Danny Rodriguez: “Protestors risk being doxxed and personally identified by people who do not agree with what they are doing. They wear protective gear to hide their faces in order to protect themselves from being outed by radical groups that do not want them to be there. Pray for reform and peace, complacency kills.”

Paul Crow Castillo: “I’m looking forward to seeing all those protestors get a taste of the police ‘riot sticks’...the protestors are in to get their butts kicked for sure. this is not for ‘JUSTICE FOR GEORGE FLOYD’...it’s for the pleasure of all the hoodlums that love criminal activity, Just the hoodlums being terrorists. They will show up with all kinds of stuff to hide their faces, so I hope the cops use dye on them so they can be identified later...& hopefully they will”

Luis Elizondo: “Punks that’s all the are”

Tea Santos: “Its SAD many won’t be leaving their kids at home”

Kristina Zavala: “Spray them with dye...so they can be identified later!”

Penelope Perez: “Protestors risk being doxxed and personally identified by people who do not agree with what they are doing. They wear protective gear to hide their faces in order to protect themselves from being outed by radical groups that do not want them to be there. Pray for reform and peace, complacency kills.”

La Prensa Texas San Antonio is published once a week by La Familia Duran Inc. San Antonio, Texas (210) 686-0600. Subscription price in the U.S.A. $125 per year (52 issues). The opinions expressed in the editorials of this publication represent the positions and ideology of this newspaper; the opinions expressed by writers and guest columnists are not necessarily the opinions of the management staff or ownership of this newspaper; the contents of which they are solely and exclusively responsible for. Letters from our readers are welcome and will be published, subject to space availability so long as they are signed and have a proper return address. All letters will be reviewed and edited for offensive language, libel, slander, defamation, proper grammar, spelling, and accuracy, according to our style. La Prensa Texas San Antonio is not responsible for advertisements that may be deceitful or fraudulent, and does not guarantee in any way the products or services offered, of which only the advertiser is responsible. All Rights Reserved. Published and printed in the United States of America.
About The Cover Artist
Alejandro Macias

Provided by Presa House Gallery
Born and raised in Brownsville, Texas, along the U.S./Mexico border, Alejandro Macias received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas at Brownsville in 2008, and a Master of Fine Arts in 2-D Studio Art from the University of Texas - Pan American in 2012.

His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Since 2016 he has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including notable and prestigious residencies at Vermont Studio Center, Chateau d’Orquevaux in Orquevaux, France, The Studios at MASS MoCA, and most recently Wassaic Project in Wassaic, NY (2021).

He has forthcoming exhibitions at the Visual Arts Center at the University of Texas at Austin, Rockport Center for the Arts, Centro de Artes in San Antonio, and the Tucson Museum of Art.

He currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Painting and Drawing at the University of Arizona School of Art in Tucson, AZ.

Website: alexmaciasart.com
Instagram: @alex.macias.art
Twitter: @alexmaciasart

Artist Statement
“My most recent work brings to light a number of topics that not only reflect my own humanity as a Mexican-American, but a wider range of borderland and Latinx issues.

I draw my inspiration from many Chicana/o artists that have addressed and propelled issues of identity, repression, civil rights, immigration, and cultural misconceptions to a broader audience.

Coming from Brownsville, TX, along the U.S./Mexico border, I often think about the conflict and merging of two cultures. My conceptual ideas point out the struggles and dangers of the assimilation process, which can be seen as one of construction or erasure of history, heritage, and culture.

On a broader note, under-representation, misrepresentation, and misconceptions of marginalized people along the borderlands is evident across the United States. I explore this by investigating personal socio-political trepidations, and the struggle of migrants across the border. “

Macias will participate in an exhibition of his latest work next month at Presa House Gallery. His earlier work and the work of other artists exhibited at Presa House Gallery will be available for purchase this month at PresaHouse.com, and new pieces will be added throughout the month. The gallery will receive 30% to 100% commission on select art pieces, which helps support exhibitions and programming. Once you make your purchase, local curbside pickup or drop-off will be available. Curbside pickup, delivery, and shipping outside of the San Antonio area will be arranged via email. A variety of online and virtual programming, including an Instagram Live performance by Jose Villalobos at the Luna Ranch, a live screen printing session with Omar González, and the continuation of our Instagram Live Artist Studio Visit series will occur in tandem with the fundraiser. Community members can also order one of three Official Presa House T-Shirt designs, each available for purchase for $20 plus $6 for shipping.

In these difficult and uncertain times, artists and the gallery need the support more than ever. The exhibition opens Friday, June 5, 2020, a 360° virtual tour of the exhibit, and a catalog of available works and the full list of participating artists can be viewed online at PresaHouse.com. Private viewings are available by appointment through June 27, 2020.

Event Link:
www.presahouse.com/portfolio/june-2020
(note: Exhibit goes live June 5th)

About the Cover Art:
Body Pains
“The work is intended to address concepts of identity, highlight the dangers of the assimilation process, and the psychological trauma that comes from trying to embrace “Americanization.” - Alejandro Macias

Macias will participate in an exhibition of his latest work next month at Presa House Gallery. His earlier work and the work of other artists exhibited at Presa House Gallery will be available for purchase this month at PresaHouse.com, and new pieces will be added throughout the month. The gallery will receive 30% to 100% commission on select art pieces, which helps support exhibitions and programming. Once you make your purchase, local curbside pickup or drop-off will be available. Curbside pickup, delivery, and shipping outside of the San Antonio area will be arranged via email. A variety of online and virtual programming, including an Instagram Live performance by Jose Villalobos at the Luna Ranch, a live screen printing session with Omar González, and the continuation of our Instagram Live Artist Studio Visit series will occur in tandem with the fundraiser. Community members can also order one of three Official Presa House T-Shirt designs, each available for purchase for $20 plus $6 for shipping.

In these difficult and uncertain times, artists and the gallery need the support more than ever. The exhibition opens Friday, June 5, 2020, a 360° virtual tour of the exhibit, and a catalog of available works and the full list of participating artists can be viewed online at PresaHouse.com. Private viewings are available by appointment through June 27, 2020.

Event Link:
www.presahouse.com/portfolio/june-2020
(note: Exhibit goes live June 5th)
Se ha llegado a un acuerdo de demanda colectiva de $38 millones en nombre de los beneficiarios de pacientes con cáncer pediátrico fallecidos, quienes recibieron tratamiento por leucemia linfoblástica aguda en UNM entre el 1 de enero de 1977 y el 31 de marzo de 1997.

Para una notificación en español, llamar o visitar nuestro website

Notificación de acuerdo de demanda colectiva autorizado por el Estado de Nuevo México, Condado de Bernalillo, Tribunal del Segundo Distrito Judicial

El presente aviso está autorizado por el tribunal para informarle sobre un acuerdo de demanda colectiva que podría afectarlo. El juicio alega que la Universidad de Nuevo México no administró los protocolos adecuados de tratamiento a pacientes pediátricos con leucemia linfoblástica aguda tratados en el Hospital o el Centro de Ciencias de la Salud de la Universidad de Nuevo México entre el 1 de enero de 1977 y el 31 de marzo de 1997. El acuerdo cubre a los pacientes con cáncer pediátrico fallecidos tras ser diagnosticado con leucemia linfoblástica aguda y después de recibir tratamiento en UNM entre el 1 de enero de 1977 y el 31 de marzo de 1997 y que haya fallecido hasta el 1 de diciembre de 2019 inclusivo.

¿Quién está incluido en el acuerdo? Usted podría ser miembro de la demanda colectiva si es familiar o beneficia- rio de un paciente con cáncer pediátrico fallecido tras ser diagnosticado con leucemia linfoblástica aguda y después de recibir tratamiento en UNM entre el 1 de enero de 1977 y el 31 de marzo de 1997 y que haya fallecido hasta el 1 de diciembre de 2019 inclusivo.

¿Qué otras opciones tiene? Si no desea estar obligado legalmente por el acuerdo, debe excluirse antes del 6 DE JULIO DE 2020, de lo contrario, no podrá entablar una demanda o seguir haciendo juicio a UNM con respecto a los reclamos legales de este caso. En caso de excluirse, no podrá obtener dinero del presente acuerdo. Si permanece en el acuerdo, puede interponer objeciones al acuerdo antes del 6 DE JULIO DE 2020. El aviso detallado explica cómo excluirse u objetar.

El Tribunal tendrá una audiencia en este caso, denominado Cummings v. Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico, et al. (Cummings v. Consejo Rector de la Universidad de Nuevo México y otros), Causa N.o CV 2001-00579 (consolidada con la Causa N.o CV 2001-01409), el 28 DE JULIO DE 2020 a las 9:00 a. m. para considerar si aprueba: (1) el acuerdo, (2) las indemnizaciones a los Demandantes de la demanda colectiva, y (3) la solicitud de los abogados que representan a los miembros de la demanda de recibir hasta un 35 por ciento del fondo del acuerdo en concepto de honorarios y reembolso de gastos razonables.


Vía Ofrece Un Pase De Asistencia Laboral Para Pasajeros Desempleados Pases De 31 Días De Cortesía Disponibles A Partir Del 1 De Junio

Por Lorraine Pulido, Ph.D.

Mientras nuestra comunidad se recupera de los efectos sociales y económicos de la crisis actual de COVID-19, Vía Metropolitan Transit ofrece opciones de tránsito seguros y confiables para ayudar a las personas a recuperarse, incluido un nuevo programa de asistencia con tarifas para clientes desempleados.

Si no desea estar obligado legalmente por el acuerdo, debe excluirse antes del 6 DE JULIO DE 2020, de lo contrario, no podrá entablar una demanda o seguir haciendo juicio a UNM con respecto a los reclamos legales de este caso. En caso de excluirse, no podrá obtener dinero del presente acuerdo. Si permanece en el acuerdo, puede interponer objeciones al acuerdo antes del 6 DE JULIO DE 2020. El aviso detallado explica cómo excluirse u objetar.

El Tribunal tendrá una audiencia en este caso, denominado Cummings v. Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico, et al. (Cummings v. Consejo Rector de la Universidad de Nuevo México y otros), Causa N.o CV 2001-00579 (consolidada con la Causa N.o CV 2001-01409), el 28 DE JULIO DE 2020 a las 9:00 a. m. para considerar si aprueba: (1) el acuerdo, (2) las indemnizaciones a los Demandantes de la demanda colectiva, y (3) la solicitud de los abogados que representan a los miembros de la demanda de recibir hasta un 35 por ciento del fondo del acuerdo en concepto de honorarios y reembolso de gastos razonables.


VIA Ofrece Un Pase De Asistencia Laboral Para Pasajeros Desempleados Pases De 31 Días De Cortesía Disponibles A Partir Del 1 De Junio

Por Lorraine Pulido, Ph.D.

Mientras nuestra comunidad se recupera de los efectos sociales y económicos de la crisis actual de COVID-19, Vía Metropolitan Transit ofrece opciones de tránsito seguros y confiables para ayudar a las personas a recuperarse, incluido un nuevo programa de asistencia con tarifas para clientes desempleados.

Cuando se reanuda el cobro de la tarifa el lunes 1 de junio, después de un periodo de alivio de la tarifa de 10 semanas, las personas que están desempleadas pueden solicitar el nuevo Pase de Asistencia Laboral de VIA. El pase de cortesía es válido por 31 días a partir de la activación y está disponible para cualquier cliente de VIA que presente una copia de su declaración de beneficios de desempleo (con fecha del 15 de mayo o posterior) y una identificación con foto actual en un boleto de VIA durante el horario comercial normal.

El programa continuará hasta agosto de 2020. Los clientes deben seguir las pautas de distanciamiento social y seguridad recomendadas en todas las instalaciones de VIA y las pautas del Código de Conducta mientras viajan, incluidos los requisitos para los pasajeros no exentos que usan cubiertas faciales y las reglas contra los viajes en bicicleta.

Tras la revisión de la declaración de beneficios y la tarjeta de identificación de la persona que ha solicitado el Pase de Asistencia Laboral, el lienzo de la tarjeta de identificación se emitirá. Via Ferrata, una vez que el servicio esté garantizado, se emitirá un pase con la aplicación gratuita VIA goMobile o con una tarjeta VIA goCard. Uno por cliente. Los clientes con beneficios por desempleo extendidos pueden solicitar un pase posterior de 31 días siguiendo el mismo proceso.

Durante más de dos décadas, hemos estado en una misión para proteger el medio ambiente e invertir en energías renovables. Estamos comprometidos a promover la adopción de la energía solar. Hasta ahora, más de 18,500 clientes se han beneficiado de nuestros reembolsos al instalar su propio equipo solar. Nuestra solución “Big Sun Community Solar” permite a los clientes beneficiarse de dicha energía sin necesidad de paneles en su techo.

A medida que construimos nuestro “Flexible Path” hacia el futuro, continuaremos equilibrando dicho compromiso y lo verdadero con nuevas tecnologías, al tiempo que brindamos a nuestros clientes energía confiable, segura y asequible.

¡Gracias a nuestros clientes de CPS Energy por su continuo interés y participación en la energía solar!

*San Antonio es #1 en Texas para la energía solar dentro de los límites de la ciudad y #1 en la región central sur definida del reporte.*
Bravos Ganó el Primero

Por Robbie Lam

La reanudación del béisbol Veterano y Libre en estadio Potranco Baseball Field, registró interesantes resultados. En partido amistoso entre Cachorros de Nava vs. Potosinos, programado por Eloy Rocha, gerente general y Simón Sánchez, presidente organizador, compilador y narrador.

La pizarra de 8-5 carreras favoreció a Nava, llevándose la victoria el serpentinero Rodolfo Briseño, con bateo oportuno del campo corto y quinto bate Mauro Rodríguez, quien con imparable le dio la vuelta al marcador. Cachorros festejó con cena a base de “Filete de Tilapia” preparado por Víctor Silva de “Tacos al Minuto”. Sus directivos Alejandro (Rábano) Becerra, Benito Martínez y Adolfo Morones, agradecieron el efectivo trabajo de sus jugadores.

Bravos de José Mendoza y el timonel Efraín Cruz Franco, con pitcheo de Rick Felán, se adjudicaron el primer partido de su serie final ante el seis veces campeón Broncos de Reynosa SA de los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza. La derrota fue para Gilbert Salazar, con pizarra de 16-6 carreras. Freddy García, pegó jonrón con las bases llenas y Felán, se ayudó pegando de 4-3, René Rodríguez, dio de 4-3. “Tras errores se logró salir adelante con efectivo bateo ya que estábamos empatados 6-6”, dijo Cruz Franco. “Los errores nos hundieron, para el segundo partido de la serie a ganar dos de tres. iremos con todo y así empatar la serie. Bravos tuvo buen juego”, indicó Garza. En liga Abierta dominical (Libre). Broncos y Piratas de Sabinas, finalizaron empatados 4-4 por limite de tiempo. Cardenales de Nacho García derrotaron a los Tecolotes de Gustavo Torres con marcador de 13-1 carreras. Escogidos dirigidos por Edwin Ortiz y el debutante coach Francisco Navarro, le sacaron de la bolsa la victoria al reforzado Rieleros que cayeron 6-5. Rol de juegos: 9:30 am Escogidos vs. Broncos. 12:45 p.m. Tecolotes vs. Piratas. 4pm Cardenales vs. Rieleros. En las fotos aparece el manager Becerra, con sus coaches Martínez y Morones, así como con valiosos jugadores.
Por José I. Franco

La estimada señora Elizabeth (Betty) Martínez, y su nieta Camila Navarro, en sus respectivos cumpleaños recibieron infinidad de felicitaciones por parte de familiares y amistades. En su colorida fiesta los invitados disfrutaron de la decoración con el tema de “Mermaid Squad”, así como del nombre de Camila, que fue ubicado en un costado del amplio jardín el cual resplandeció al anochecer con brillante alumbrado y a un lado el símbolo de la “Sirena” repleto de coloridos globos.

El doble festejo fue posible, por la colaboración del señor Arnulfo (Rusito) Martínez, esposo de Betty y abuelo de Camila, quien agradeció la ayuda de la feliz mamá de Camila, la joven señora Xóchitl Beltrán, quien diseñó colorida camiseta de “Mermaid” en la que incluyó el número 4 en referencia del cumpleaños de su hija Camila.

En la camiseta de su mamá Xóchitl, omitió los años de su feliz progenitora, quien feliz y agradecida de la vida, dijo a La Prensa Texas, sentirse afortunada porque El Creador Divino, le concedió celebrar sus 49 abriles.

“Gracias a Dios, gozamos de buena salud y unidad familiar. Gracias a todos mis invitados que hoy nos hicieron felices con su asistencia, y por igual a mi bonita familia”, dijo Betty, quien es propietaria del puesto ambulante “Beauty Spot y El Cevichero”, los cuales ha venido operando con el respaldo de su esposo Arnulfo, y sus hijos Abel, Brian, Erick, sus hijas Viridiana, Xóchitl y la menor Allissabeth, con quien el próximo año compartirá su fiesta de 50 años, cuando ella (Allissabeth ingrese al vergel de bellas Quinceañeras).

Durante la inolvidable doble fiesta, invitados y familiares, se divirtieron de lo lindo, participando y aplaudiendo los eventos, que fueron conducidos por Fernando Rodríguez, primo de Betty (a quien llama hermano), quien animó la competencia de “la silla”, rifa de regalos y la batida de dos piñatas con el símbolo de “Sirena”. Al final Betty, su hija Xóchitl e invitadas voluntarias, repartieron bandejas con golosinas, degustaron deliciosa cena y pastel, mientras que Camila, con la ayuda de su tía Allissabeth Martínez, compartió paseo ecuestre montando la yegua diez añera blanca “Fia”.

El ambiente musical para adultos, estuvo a cargo del mariachi Zacatecano (que ameniza en La Fogata Mexican Restaurant), y de Juan y su grupo norteño. Los esposos Martínez, agradecieron la asistencia de las familias Rojo y Trejo, así como de los esposos Armando y Jannet Aguilar, y de sus hijas Jannet y Fernanda Aguilar.

Cabe anotar que Camila, y sus invitadas guiada por su tía Allissabeth, se robaron el “Show” bailando al estilo Tik Tok, que está de moda en las redes sociales. (Fotos por Franco).
La Oficina del Censo entregará cuestionarios del censo 2020 en el condado de Bexar este mes

Por Ximena V. Alvarez
La Oficina del Censo de los EE. UU., En coordinación con los funcionarios de salud federales, estatales y locales, abrirá sus Oficinas del Censo del Área y reanudará las operaciones el 1 de junio, para sus ubicaciones en San Antonio. Las oficinas continuarán con sus operaciones de actualización y entrega de cuestionarios a los hogares que correspondan. Esto se hace en áreas donde la mayoría de los hogares no reciben correo en su dirección física. La Oficina del Censo comenzó a entregar materiales del censo en mano el 15 de marzo, pero suspendió todo el trabajo de campo para esta operación el 18 de marzo debido a la pandemia de COVID-19.

El personal de campo temporal ha sido entrenado para observar todos los protocolos de distanciamiento social y usará equipo de protección personal oficial provisto por el gobierno para su seguridad y la seguridad del público. Esta operación no tiene contacto y sigue las pautas federales de salud y seguridad más actuales.

La salud y seguridad del personal de la Oficina del Censo y del público es siempre una prioridad.

La Oficina del Censo entregará invitaciones del Censo 2020 y cuestionarios en papel en las puertas principales de aproximadamente 5.1 millones de hogares en los Estados Unidos. Esta operación es crucial para asegurar un conteo completo y preciso de todas las comunidades, lo que ayuda a guiar cientos de miles de millones de dólares en gastos del sector público y privado por año.

Se recomienda encarecidamente a las personas que respondan rápidamente al Censo 2020 utilizando el número de identificación incluido en el paquete del cuestionario. Responder con una identificación del censo o el cuestionario en papel ayuda a garantizar el mejor recuento de su comunidad. Las personas pueden responder en línea, por teléfono o utilizando el formulario en papel en el paquete.

San Antonio’s City Architect discusses Urbanity and Equity during National Preservation Month

By R.Eguia

Gopinath Akalkotkar, AIA, LEED AP, and San Antonio’s City Architect since 2019 spoke with community members via zoom last month at a virtual presentation called “Equity in Public Space”.

Akalkotkar, known as “Gopi,” brings to his role as City Architect three decades of global experience. He has a graduate degree in Architecture and Urban Design from UT-Austin and has held leadership roles at architectural and engineering firms, managing complex urban design, master planning and architecture projects worldwide. Locally he has taught at UTSA and served as a technical advisory committee member for the City Planning Commission.

The discussion began with a brief history of how land has been acquired and distributed in this country and how that has shaped the way city spaces are designed and who they cater to. Land distribution in Texas has a layered history through Spanish Colonization, Mexican Colonization and then the Republic of Texas Headrights that were granted after the Texas Declaration of Independence in the 1800s (Handbook of Texas Online, Aldon S. Lang and Christopher Long, “LAND GRANTS”).

All of these phases of Land Grants in the south were, “divided on the basis of merit and seniority, with the colonists divided into three categories: original, old, and recent settlers… Under the Constitution of 1836 all heads of families living in Texas on March 4, 1836, except Africans and Indians, were granted “first class” headrights of one league and one labor (4,605.5 acres).”

With all this in mind, Akalkotkar questioned how marginalized people get recognition in modern city development.

He said, “It begins and ends with educated and engaged communities.” He added that communities can support equity through collaboration and dialogue throughout design processes.

Accordingly, the presentation was hosted by the Design|Forum, a 501©(3) organization that advocates for design excellence in San Antonio. The discussion is part of the Design|Forum’s mission is to provide a platform for citizens and decision-makers to discuss the built environment -- architecture, urban planning, and landscape design, and their impact on neighborhoods and the city. It also publishes position statements on these matters periodically. Members include architects, landscape architects, academicians, real estate professionals, and community leaders with expertise in a variety of fields.

President of the Design|Forum and Associate Professor of Art and Art History at Trinity University, Kathryn O’Rourke, Ph.D. noted that a lot of what the city architect does is coordinate with other city departments.

“With 20 million new people expected to live in San Antonio, the clock is ticking and these conversations are necessary to examine structural inequalities. We need more voices in the room,” said O’Rourke.

Akalkotkar emphasized the importance of bringing communities together through design and most importantly via city budgets. He explained his constant collaboration with the city’s office of Equity to ensure that vulnerable communities are educated about and engaged with city development and design and how it affects them.

“The process of how public resources are allocated and used is very complex and can be highly political,” he said. “Oftentimes, they are skewed to benefit one part of the society over the others, intentionally or otherwise. Design decisions have a very long lasting impact, so design professionals must help to ensure resources are used in a way that makes good design sense and benefit citizens equitably.”

He highlighted 3 prominent city projects and discussed the history, compromise and barriers that had to be considered in the process with the Main Plaza downtown, the 1997 greenway trails and most recently the Broadway project which was met with a lot of controversy via bike lane access.

O’Rourke hopes the work of the Design|Forum will broaden the scope of these city projects to include bigger picture issues like restorative designs, educational accessibility, microeconomics of neighborhoods, culture, design heritage and legacy businesses. The discussion of land trusts in vulnerable neighborhoods is urgent.

She said, “No one has all the answers, we are not going to achieve the change we all need alone. In order to enact change, everyone will need to stay knowledgeable of new developments and participate in all the levels of application of city plans.”

The presentation explored how urban spaces funded with public funds can be developed in a way that makes good design sense and benefit citizens equitably and a vision of neighborhood leaders emerged.

“Everyone is a citizen and everyone is a stakeholder who must organize and define decision making in the city”, said Akalkotkar who encourages everyone to assess the 2022 city bond that will hold much opportunity for consensus.
Just a Thought: Remembering George Floyd

By Steve Walker

With numerous days now behind us the untimely death of George Floyd from choking to death due to 4 Minneapolis police officers choking him to death, thousands of Americans of all colors have been protesting in numerous states in response.

It is safe to assume at some level we have come this far one too many times. It is also assumed we still have to complete the journey of truly becoming a melting pot of all cultures and races.

History reminds us of the 1954 Brown v Board of Education landmark Supreme Court decision that declared state laws establishing separate public school for black and white students unconstitutional. In most places at that time it included Hispanic students as well. I was eight years old at the time.

As a former teacher who also taught a History class or two over the years, I covered some of those statistics and information in the classroom. The triumph paved the way for integration and was a major victory of the civil rights movement at the time. Now we have another opportunity to make greater strides for unity.

As a person who has seen major changes in my life time from segregation to the turmoil of the sixties to the eventual national Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday that was signed into law in 1983, I am still amazed at our progress.

I remember when President Ronald Reagan actually signed it, and it was first observed three years later. I would point out that at first; some states resisted observing the holiday.

Back in 1964 the year I graduated high school in June, the Congress passed the Civil rights Act of 1964 on July 2nd that outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

It ended unequal application of voter registration requirements and racial segregation in schools, at the workplace and by facilities that served the general public known as “public accommodations.” That same day President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Law at the White House. In fact I still remember watching the President live on our small Black and White TV, doing so.

The year before President Johnson signed that legislation, I also watched the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. “I have a Dream” speech on live TV, in the summer of 1963, August 28th.

What about Dr. King’s assassination in Memphis Tennessee, April 4th, 1968? I was in my sophomore year in Texas Wesleyan College in Fort Worth when Malcolm X was shot and my senior year when Dr. King was assassinated.

The summer after I graduated college just before I joined the Army I took a Black History class at Southern Methodist University in Dallas to learn about the contributions of Black Americans over the years. I was shocked to discover what some of them contributed to our country over the years. I had heard of many of their contributions but no one pointed out that they were Black Americans!

Did you as the reader know for example that it was Charles R. Drew a black surgeon who pioneered techniques for preserving blood plasma that saved countless lives during World War II? Later he became medical director of Freedmen’s Hospital in Washington. In his research he discovered that pure plasma could be used for blood transfusions. Who knew? I didn’t until I took that class so many years ago.

We are reminded that people of every color or race are still a part of the American dream to be all that we can be and add to the fabric of this country.

As always, I write “Just a Thought.”

Steve Walker is a Vietnam Veteran, former Journalist and Justice of the Peace

La Monita tortilleria
Barbacoa, Tamalez, Chicharrones Masa y Tortillas
(210) 432-0332
3202 Guadalupe St, San Antonio, TX 78207

“Let’s Make a Better Choice!”

Teled Health

CentroMed Healthcare from the safety of home.

210-922-7000
Jurassic Quest Drive Thru Experience Opens at the Freeman Coliseum This Month

By Kim Stoilis

Our dinosaurs are ready and raring to return from extinction. We’re kicking it off this month in SAN ANTONIO, June 12 - 21, with the FIRST EVER JURASSIC QUEST DRIVE-THRU! The nation’s best touring dinosaur exhibit has been transformed into an interactive drive-thru experience featuring over 70 moving and life-like dinosaurs, as well as our 50-foot-long Megalodon! Although the drive-thru experience means guests will stay safe inside their vehicle, you’ll still need to watch out for the swinging tail of our 80-foot-long Spinosaurus!

The Jurassic Quest Drive Thru welcomes families to encounter some of the largest dinosaurs to ever roam the earth, and some of the eeriest marine creatures to ever lurk the ocean’s depths, from the comfort of their vehicle. San Antonio guests will be the first in the nation to be able to go on a quest with complimentary access to our online audio tour that will lead them throughout this unique, thrilling dinosaur safari. For $40 per vehicle (9 people or less), your dino crew can time-travel and enjoy the 30 minute - 1 hour-long ride back in time.

Everyone’s favorite predator, the T. rex, along with Triceratops, Stegosaurus and Velociraptor are just a few of the life-sized, prehistoric creatures that you’ll be able to see (and hear) on your drive. Happening in the spacious Freeman Coliseum parking area, Jurassic Quest worked in collaboration with leading paleontologists to ensure each dinosaur was painstakingly replicated in every detail. Guests will have the chance to drive through 23 realistic dinosaur scenes, without leaving their own vehicles, depicting how we understand dinosaurs looked and moved. In addition to the realistic animatronic dinosaurs, there will be opportunities to visit with our one-of-a-kind baby dinosaurs and our team of dino trainers as well as the chance to capture the moment with a safari-style photo of your vehicle and family transported back in time to a Jurassic setting complete with a dinosaur backdrop. All attendees will leave with the same bragging rights, “We Survived Jurassic Quest 2020!” One photo per family is FREE and included in ticket purchase.

To help ensure guests and their families have a fun and safe experience, in alignment with state and local policy and our own additional internal guidelines, we continue to take extra precautionary measures to provide a clean and enjoyable event. Guests are to remain in vehicles and to wear face masks in the event they exit in allowed areas, including restrooms and the Dino Store. Social distancing will be requested of all guests and maintained by Jurassic Quest crew. We will be sanitizing equipment, dinosaurs, and work stations more frequently and thoroughly throughout the entirety of the event. Our employees will be applying hand sanitizer and washing their hands regularly each day, in addition to wearing masks. Guest safety and enjoyment is our top priority. Employees and guests are instructed to stay home if they have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other known symptoms of COVID-19.

Tickets for the San Antonio Drive Thru Quest are $40 per vehicle and should be purchased in advance online at www.jurassicquest.com. Guests will travel through the drive-thru in their own vehicle - no rentals or golf carts will be provided and walk around guests are not allowed. To ensure participant safety, all guests must ride inside their vehicles (yes, pets inside vehicles are allowed), no riders in truck beds, however. Trailers are also not allowed - we’re worried they might tempt the hungry dinos too much! Oversized vehicles and vehicles with more than 9 riders are allowed but will need to contact Customer Service, customerservice@jurassicquest.com, for pricing and scheduling. Shuttles - daycare, etc. - are also welcome with reservation at the Oversized vehicle rate. A full list of Frequently Asked Questions can be found online, https://www.jurassicquest.com/drive-thru-faqs. For more information and to buy tickets visit www.JurassicQuest.com.

Whether they are big or small, young or old, guests of Jurassic Quest have a dino-mite time! Currently touring as a Drive-Thru only, the largest and most realistic dinosaur exhibition in North America. Now with new animatronic water dwellers, Jurassic Quest is the only dinosaur event that has up to 100, true to life-sized dinosaur replicas from the very small, to the gigantic, to those found under the sea. Guests will witness their favorite dinosaurs move, roar and roam and have the chance to interact with baby dinosaurs and adolescent dinosaurs, including the T. Rex, Spinosaurus, Triceratops and many others. With the addition of Ancient Oceans, guests will also be able to “swim” with our 50 foot long, prehistoric Megalodon!

Event: Jurassic Quest

Place: Freeman Coliseum
Date: June 12 - 14, 17 - 21, 0
(Closed Monday & Tuesday, June 15 - 16)
Hours: 11 am - 8 pm opening day, June 12; 9 am - 8 pm daily

Admission: Cost for entry, $40 per vehicle - includes complimentary audio tour and souvenir photo

Tickets available online: https://www.jurassicquest.com/events/drive-thru-san-antonio-tx.

Contact for Availability
Kim Stoilis
kim.stoilis@jurassicquest.com
713-202-9170

Dustin Baker
dustin.baker@jurassicquest.com
504-352-1113

Octavio J. Visiedo

Following the resignation of New York School Chancellor Ramon Cortinas in 1995, Octavio J. Visiedo became the nation’s highest-ranking Hispanic superintendent. overseeing America’s fourth-largest school district, Dade County Public Schools in Florida, Visiedo began his career in 1971 as a bus aide. In 1990, at age 39, Visiedo assumed the superintendency. A visionary leader, he guided the district through its worst-ever funding crisis without laying off a single employee. He introduced “full service” programs to provide education and on-campus assistance to low-income families, expanded pre-kindergarten programs and upgraded classroom technology. By 1995, student test scores posted enormous gains in nearly every grade level, school, subject and ethnic group.
COVID-19 DRIVE-THRU TESTING

At No Cost to You. Anyone Can Get Tested.

PALO ALTO CLINIC
9011 Poteet Jourdanton Fwy. • San Antonio, TX 78224

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

When you arrive follow the directional signs and stay in your car.
No Car - No Problem. Schedule an appointment as a walk-up visit.

Schedule an Appointment
Call 210-922-7000