Let’s Talk About It
Defunding the Police

By Yvette Tello

Defunding the police is a huge topic right now. Do you believe that by defunding the police, this will stop racism, power-hungry police officers? Someone mentioned to me that if you want a solution, we should remove the union that disallows these people from being fired. What do you think? Let’s talk about it. #defundtacoboot

Darwin Walker: “No, I don’t. We need policy change.”

Kellie Williams Smith: “I can’t believe it’s even up for debate”

Jesus Tello: “The union’s got to go.”

Monica Monica: “We have a Citizens Action Review Board that listens to complaints about officers and it has benefited the department. You should look into being a part of it, Yvette. You can sit in and read all of the evidence presented to you. It’s quite interesting. I guarantee you will be shocked at how fair and open the process is. But to defund is... really? No. I’m sure Minneapolis citizens are crapping in their pants right now. In fact, SAPD is leaps and bounds ahead of most major police departments when it comes to policy changes. Many people say bad things about us because as usual the news ALWAYS has the correct information about a case but no one ever researches thoroughly”

Mary Svetlik Watkins: “No. New York did this under Dinkle and it made crime worse. Defunding leads to no new equipment or training.”

Paul Budak: “Getting armoured cars don’t help. Funds for those can be used elsewhere. Minneapolis police are very bad and it does not matter what color you are.”

Javier Antonio Guzman: “We should strengthen the 4th and 14th amendment; anytime the is an infringement or circumvention of our constitutional right those people at the margins of our society pay the price. Arbitrary arrest lead to the problems the people in lower incomes areas face today.”

Richard Perez: “So you define a public service and do what? Privatize it? So basically only the wealthy will be able to sleep peacefully at night? If you want to see what happens when law enforcement is removed, you only have to look at the protests and riots. Mob mentality becomes the norm and innocent people get hurt. People forget that”

Candace Price: “A perfect example is South Africa. The wealthy live in fenced-in communities with private security and have the rest less fortunate sectioned off with minimal aid and very little support. Women are literally raped everyday. Vice news reported on this”

Thomas Mc: “Amazing how many people will admit there’s a problem but the idea of dismantling a broken system for a new one is just out of the question”

Sandy Encina: “If you actually listen to what Minneapolis city council and the protestors are saying, it’s, defund the current departments where the police are abusive and out of control, shift the massive budgets towards starting rebuilding, bring the good cops along, listen to the experts who have been studying this for decades, and according to expert advice use alternatives which don’t require force–like one example I’ve seen quite a few times is, send people trained in how to handle a mental crisis to a suicide call, and one I saw which I hadn’t thought of before but is definitely important, figure out ways to reintegrate the cops who clearly hated their jobs into other positions.”

Richard Perez: “You realize that “Defund” literally means stop paying. Right? Use words like “Reallocate” or “Reduce” if you really mean to change how a budget is spent. But let’s call a spade a spade. The intent of “Defunding” is to stop paying and since no one works for free, essentially abolish the police force. If that is not your intention then use better words to describe what you are doing.

Mark Alfaro: “Shouldn’t be defunded but they should be investigated as to what crimes they do and cover them up. There can be NO change until City Hall, SAPD and the DA tell the truth.”

Jennifer Perales: “Yeah “defund the police” is a huge mistake in messaging. People are not going to get behind that like much more universal messages of “independent oversight for police” or “criminal consequences for police brutality” or “with great power comes great responsibly.” Big majorities will agree with these but “defund the police” will have somewhat fringe impact and ultimately not really the point.”

Maria Alicia: “I really hope “defund the police” is shorthand for demilitarization and shifting focus to community policing, desecralization, training, and social services. Slashing police budgets with no additional reforms will only result in worse outcomes. Overworked, underpaid cops will be even more reckless. No-go neighborhoods will become more common. Even more rape kits will sit untested.”

Nicholas Rodriguez: “At the very least, move the militarized parts of the US police into a separate bucket with a hell of a lot more oversight and keep them far away from regular police until they are needed.”

Roseana Lopez: “This officer in Oakland who’s killed 3 black people makes nearly $340k.. At the same time, Oakland is slashing it’s budget for public schools. The police consume 40% of the city’s budget. We really do mean “defund the police”.

Larry Holmes: “Reallocation of police funds away from militarization and towards mental health and community services since that’s the case majority of 911 calls.”

Roger Dillon: “Nobody talks about the number of police that were killed last week in America” OK, let’s talk about that; 5 cops died in the line of duty last week - 1 from COVID-19, 1 in a car crash, 3 from gunfire. In that same period of time - at the height of the protests when everyone was watching - police killed 4 people by gunfire. But in the previous weeks since the beginning of the year - before the protests and scrutiny - police killed an average of 25 people a week. So far this year, police have killed 431 people. In that same time, 99 police have died in the line of duty. Almost half of those, 43, have been from COVID-19, 24 from gunfire, 24 in vehicle accidents or vehicular assaults, and the rest, 8, from heart attacks or 9/11 related cancer.”

Rob Lare: “In 2018, 106 police officers were killed in the line of duty. That same year, police killed 992 suspects. Of those 117 were not armed and 671 were not fleeing from them. Let’s talk about all these numbers.”

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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.

Antonio R. Sanchez Sr.
Co-founder of the International Bank of Commerce in Laredo and the Sanchez-O’Brien Petroleum Group, Antonio Sanchez is known for creating one of the largest Hispanic Business Empires in the Southwest. By the early ‘70s, his financial empire included two banks, a construction company, an industrial park, a horse farm and real estate. In 1984, along with his son, Sanchez organized Bankshares, a multi-million dollar holding company which controls three banks. He then expanded his empire to include automobile agencies, a savings and loan company and a Laredo daily newspaper. Dubbed the “Latino Petro-Baron,” Sanchez was a highschool dropout with an undying will to succeed. Recently passing away, he was born in 1916 in Webb County, Texas.
About The Cover Artist

Jesus Barraza: Artist, Activist, and Teacher

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

Jesus Barraza is a San Francisco Bay area artist, teacher, and community activist. He is the co-founder, with Melanie Cervantes, of Dignidad Rebelde, a community arts organization that produces art prints and teaches young people the art of printmaking.

Over the past ten years, Barraza has worked with Cervantes to create political posters and multimedia videos. Early in his career Barraza was inspired by the works of famed Mexican graphic artist, Jose Gaudalupe Posada, and today creates art in the spirit of California artist Juan R. Fuentes, whose artwork has been a pivotal part of social movements.

Barraza has taught Ethnic Studies and Art and Social Movements classes at California State University at Hayward and at San Francisco State University. He is currently a Lecturer in the Ethnic Studies Department at UC Berkeley.

Barraza describes his art as “grounded in Third World and indigenous movements that build people’s power to transform the conditions of fragmentation, displacement and loss of culture that results from this history.”

Barraza works closely with numerous community organizations in the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area to create prints that visualize, in his views, the struggles for immigration rights, housing, education, and international solidarity.

Over the past twenty years Barraza has also assisted dozens of community organizations committed to social and environmental justice by designing and printing posters and prints about their cause. His silk screen art of Chicano/a cultural and political leaders have been acquired by museums, galleries, and private collectors across America.

His recent La Prensa Texas cover image of Dolores Huerta was donated to the University of Texas Benson Latin American Collection by Drs. Harriett and Ricardo Romo. The Romo collection at the Benson is one of the largest Chicano and Latino print collections in America, with over 700 prints.

ATTENTION ALL DBE/SBE/MBE/AABE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

Harper Brothers Construction is requesting bids from Subcontractors and Suppliers for the City of San Antonio W Commerce St. Project # 23-01617 that bids July 7th. Plan available free on Civcast. Concrete Work, Utilities, Electrical, Asphalt Paving, SW3P, Landscaping, Demo, Hauling comprise major needs for the project. All inquiries shall be directed to 210-740-0099 Attn: Carlos Benavides or bidssa@harperbro.com. All quotes shall be in our office by close of business on July 6th. Please email quotes to: bidssa@harperbro.com or fax: 210-740-0056. Harper Brothers Construction is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
AVISO DE ELECCION
CONDADO DE BEXAR
14 de julio de 2020
EL ESTADO DE TEXAS
CONDADO DE BEXAR

A TODO LOS VOTANTES CALIFICADOS Y REGISTRADOS DEL CONDADO DE BEXAR, TEXAS:

Tenga en cuenta que el Condado de Bexar llevará a cabo una Elección Primaria Conjunta de Escoorrentía para el Partido Republicano y el Partido Demócrata del Condado de Bexar para cada uno de ellos para nombrar oficiales federales, miembros de la Legislatura del Estado, estado, distrito, condado y oficiales del distrito el martes, julio 14 de 2020.

Visite www.bexar.org/elections para obtener una lista completa de los candidatos por los que es elegible para votar en función de su partido y distrito electoral.

Los Centros de votación disponibles para votar el día de las elecciones, martes 14 de julio de 2020 a partir de las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. serán los utilizados por el Condado de Bexar, según lo publicado el 12 de julio de 2020. Los Centros de votación podrán aceptar a cualquier votante registrado de cualquiera de las Partes en cualquiera de los sitios.

La votación anticipada por comparecencia personal también se llevará a cabo en los lugares, fechas y horarios que figuran en el archivo adjunto.

Las solicitudes para votar por correo pueden solicitarse al Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Bexar, Jacquelyn F. Callanen al 210-335 (VOTACIÓN) 8683 o por correo a la dirección que figura a continuación:

Jacquelyn F. Callanen
Administrador de elecciones del condado de Bexar
1103 S. Frio, Ste. 100
San Antonio, TX 78207

Las solicitudes de boleta por correo deben recibirse a más tardar a las 5:00 p.m. el jueves 2 de julio de 2020.

ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA CONJUNTA PRIMARIA 14 DE JULIO DE 2020
14 de julio de 2020

LAS HORAS DE VOTACIÓN TEMPRANA SERÁN:

Lunes 29 de junio a jueves 2 de julio de 2020..................................................8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Viernes 3 de julio a sábado 4 de julio de 2020....................................................CERRADO
Domingo 5 de julio de 2020...........................................................................12:00 del mediodía a las 6:00 pm
Lunes 6 de julio a viernes 10 de julio de 2020..................................................8:00 a.m. a 8:00 p.m.

29 de junio de 2020 - 10 de julio de 2020

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Leyenda: * * * Indica fechas abiertas para la votación anticipada

Lugar principal de votación temprana:

DEPARTAMENTO DE ELECCIONES DEL CONDADO DE BEXAR.................................................. 1103 S. Frio
DEAFLINK disponible para personas con discapacidad auditiva

Además del lugar principal de votación anticipada, la votación anticipada se llevará a cabo en los siguientes lugares:

BIBLIOTECA DE BROOKHOLLOW.................................................................................. 530 Heimer Road
AYUNTAMIENTO DE CASTLE HILLS ... (SALA COMUNITARIA)........................................ 209 Lemonwood Dr.
CLAUDIA BLACK CENTER .................................................................................. 2805 East Commerce
BIBLIOTECA CODY................................................................................................. 11441 Vance Jackson
BIBLIOTECA DEL JARDÍN DE COLLINS................................................................. 200 N. Park
BIBLIOTECA ENCINO BRANCH............................................................................. 2515 East Evans Rd.
AYUNTAMIENTO DE RANCH FAIR OAKS ... (CÁMARAS DEL CONSEJO)........... 77268 Dietz Elkhorn
QT FUTURO ...... (LOGWOOD Y SW MILITARY)................................................ 1901 S. W. Military
GRAN BIBLIOTECA DEL NOROESTE.............................................................. 9050 Wellwood
CENTRO CÍVICO HARLANDALE ....................................................................... 115 W. Southcross
HENRY A. GUERRA, JR. BIBLIOTECA........................................................... 7978 W Military Drive
BIBLIOTECA JOHN IGO....................................................................................... 13330 Kyle Seale Parkway
JBIBLIOTECA JOHNSTON .................................................................................. 6307 Sun Valley Drive
JULIA YATES SEMNES BIBLIOTECA @ Comanche Lookout Park....................... 15060 Judson Road
BIBLIOTECA DE LAS PALMAS ........................................................................ 515 Castrovillar Road
CAMPO DEL LEÓN .............................................................................................. 2309 Broadway
MAURY MAYERICH, JR. BIBLIOTECA............................................................. 8790 Mystic Park
BIBLIOTECA SIN MECANISMO.......................................................................... 1023 Ada Street
BIBLIOTECA MEMORIAL .................................................................................. 3222 Culebra
BIBLIOTECA DE MISIONES.............................................................................. 3134 Roosevelt Ave
CENTRO DE ACTIVIDADES DEL NORTE .......................................................... 7001 Culebra
NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE .... (MOUNTAIN LAIRE(EL)............................. 3535 N. Ellison Dr.
BIBLIOTECA PARKMAN @ Stone Oak.............................................................. 20735 Wilderness Oak
BIBLIOTECA SCHAEFFER................................................................................. 6322 US Hwy 87 E
AYUNTAMIENTO DE SOMERSET .................................................................. 7360 Wildwood Rd.
SOUTHSIDE ISD ADMIN BLDG...................................................................... 1460 Martinez Losoya Rd.
BIBLIOTECA TOBIN @ OAKWELL ................................................................. 4134 Harry Wurzbach
BIBLIOTECA UNIVERSAL DE LA CIUDAD ..... (SALA COMUNITARIA)......... 100 Northview Dr.
WINDCREST TAKAS PARK CIVIC CENTER .................................................... 9310 Jim Seal Dr.
WONDERLAND MALL OF THE AMERICAS @ CROSSROADS (ESPAÑOL Y INGLES)..... 4522 Fredericksburg

Sujeto a cambios

Para más información contacte a la oficina del Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Bexar, Jacquelyn F. Callanen, at (210) 335-VOTE (8683)
A Latino Perspective on Protest, Justice, and Reform

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

In the Opinion page of the Dallas Morning News on June 7, 2020, Rene Martinez wrote of a tragic shooting 47 years ago by a police officer of a 12 year Mexican American boy handcuffed in the back of a police car. Rodriguez was shot in the head at very close range by officer Darrell Cain. Martinez wrote that as a result of the senseless killing, 5,000 marchers protested in the streets of Dallas. Cain was sentenced to prison for the murder.

Some events, even those nearly fifty years ago, cannot be forgotten. More recently there have been many shootings of Mexican Americans by police officers in Texas. It is because of the persistence of police violence against people of color that many Latinos have joined the Black Lives Matter protest movement.

The Black community has been confronting racism in policing since the end of slavery in 1863. In the famed Tulsa Riots of 1921, the police made no effort to stop the White vigilantes and rioters from burning the Black community and killing more than 300 Black residents. For generations, there have been calls for reform.

I came of age in the turbulent sixties when the last great social protest movements swept across America. There were actually three major types of protests and political rallies in that decade. First, the Civil Rights Movement initiated by Dr. Martin Luther King and other religious leaders associated with his campaign for justice and peace. Second, there was the Anti-Vietnam war and peace movement, which had many authors and had its origins in the universities and colleges of America. And third, there was the farmworkers’ labor movement led by Cesar Chavez and members of the United Farmworkers of America, UFW. In a small, but dedicated manner, I was engaged in all three of these social and labor movements.

There are great differences between the protests of the sixties with the events of today. What is different in the aftermath of the George Floyd killing is that a significant number of White, Black and Brown elected officials have responded to a call for an end to police violence against Black men. Many political leaders are pledging reform, including the establishment of new laws that promote fairness and justice in the American criminal system. The needed changes could not come fast enough.

Several cities and states are banning police from using chokeholds. Governor Cuomo announced this week he planned to set aside one billion dollars [from a total budget of $6 billion] for community programs from the New York police budget. Los Angeles has cut the police budget by $150 million [of a total of $2 billion] in order to address related racial issues including affordable housing, poverty, education, and homelessness.

The rapid response to police reform in Los Angeles is a result of pent-up anger which dates back at least to 1992 with the Rodney King beating in Compton. For one of the first times in America, the public was able to see the actual beating thanks to a video taken surreptitiously by a concerned neighbor. If not for the video, few outside the Black community would have believed King’s description of the violence directed at him. That video and subsequent videos leading up to George Floyd’s death made all the difference.

Today’s Black Lives Matter [BLM] movement is unlike any we have ever seen in America. Its rapid rise has astonished all observers. BLM was started by Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Alicia Garza, and Opal Tometi in the aftermath of the tragic murders of Trayvon Martin and Mike Brown. It has been active for nearly four years, and those involved have been largely young black activists.

The BLM movement exploded onto the world scene when a handcuffed Black man and father of young children, George Floyd, died at the hands of a Minnesota police officer who knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes as he cried “I can’t breathe.” A video which captured the full tragic incident sparked outrage as the video recording reached billions of people across the globe.

In response to the death of George Floyd, BLM leaders organized marches across American cities, and the rallies instantly became a powerful worldwide movement. The uniqueness of the movement is its diversity: attracting White, Black, and Brown demonstrators. BLM marches have engaged the young, the old, and those of ages in-between. Protestors come from inner cities, suburbs, and rural communities. The BLM movement is already the largest protest movement in American history. There have been protests in all fifty states and well as in Europe and Asia.

We are encouraged by demands for criminal justice reform and the gestures of progressive change in this era of protest. For example, thanks to a young Black college graduate, the Merriam Webster Dictionary has expanded the definition of ‘racism.” The new meaning has been “divided to express, first, explicit institutional bias against people because of their race, and, second, a broader implicit bias that can also result in an asymmetrical power structure.” A simple change like this can have significant long-term positive outcomes enabling many to better understand the extent of racism.

Several Texas cities, including Austin and Dallas, have moved toward altering policing in handling protesters. The Austin City Council voted unanimously to prohibit the use of deadly force and “less lethal” munitions such as rubber bullets during protests. In addition, Austin’s city manager has been instructed to find ways to reduce next year’s budget for the police department and find ways to prevent police abuse.

Other positive change recommendations across the country include greater support for community needs, such as housing, education, and social services and for police to be properly trained to protect people rather than to use military combat tactics against their community residents.

The call for police reform dates back several generations. What is new is the urgency for action and a movement that has strong leadership and broad appeal. There are no longer just Black leaders asking for change--it is a BLM movement supported by Blacks, Whites and Latinos. I hope that meaningful changes will result from this movement. Our democracy can not tolerate injustice, bias, and unfairness.
Congressional Black Caucus PAC Endorses Gina Ortiz Jones

By Sharon Yang

Last week, the Congressional Black Caucus PAC announced its endorsement of San Antonio native and Iraq War veteran Gina Ortiz Jones, the Democratic nominee in Texas’ 23rd Congressional District.

“As an Air Force and Iraq War veteran, Gina Ortiz Jones knows what it means to serve our country,” said CBCPAC Executive Director Yolonda Addison. “Now more than ever, we need leaders in Congress like Gina who will be unafraid to stand up for our shared values, fight against injustice, and work to create an opportunity for all Americans. We are proud to endorse her campaign for this open seat in Texas’ 23rd Congressional District.”

“For nearly fifty years, the Congressional Black Caucus has been leading the fight for equality in our country, and I’m honored to receive their endorsement,” said Gina Ortiz Jones. “From protecting and restoring voting rights to expanding access to affordable health care to addressing long-standing racial inequities throughout our economy and society, we still have so much work to do. In Congress, I look forward to working with the CBC to ensure that our country’s legislation reflects our founding principle — that all people are created equal.”

CBCPAC’s endorsement comes on the heels of other recent endorsements from organizations including Brady PAC, New American Leaders Action Fund, and Taking the Hill PAC. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus’ campaign arm BOLD PAC has also endorsed Jones, citing her ability to build “a coalition of support that reflects Texas’ diverse and vibrant Latino community” and commitment to fighting for “a better future for Texans.” In addition, ASPIRE PAC, the political arm of Asian American and Pacific Islander Members of Congress has endorsed Jones, calling her a “tireless fighter for Texas.”

Gina Ortiz Jones is running for Congress in Texas’ 23rd District, which stretches from San Antonio to El Paso. A first-generation American, Jones graduated from John Jay High School in San Antonio where she earned an ROTC scholarship to Boston University. Jones served as an Air Force intelligence officer and deployed to Iraq. In 2018, Jones ran for the seat, coming within just 926 votes — 0.4 percent — of unseating incumbent Representative Will Hurd. Shortly after Jones announced her second challenge to Rep. Hurd, Hurd announced he would not seek re-election at the end of his current term.
Black Lives Matter....

By Manuel C. Ortiz Jr.

As I rarely write any post or give my opinion on such matters I do believe this is a great opportunity to share my experience as a minority in a profession that doesn’t employ a lot of minorities in our positions because of what I consider the point of the following short story. “Opportunities”

I come from a migrant family whonaturalized Legally here in the USA in the mid 1900’s. My mom and dad do not have a college education but still found a way to successfully manage their own restaurant for now 28+ years and put me through college to achieve a first step for our family to have an educated generation.

The question is how does a minority choose his or her path of profession and find that it is a job that is not a job but a hobby because you can wake up and love what you do every single day. Well growing up we do hear a lot about becoming a professional athlete, singer, military, or restaurant owner.

However I went into a field where until 1961 it removed its Caucasian-only clause. So my first opportunity was when my dad learned to play golf from his white friend who in turn encouraged my dad to teach me golf at 3 years of age. So I went on to learn the game and played in my first tournaments wearing baseball shoes as golf shoes and a set of clubs from KMART branded Northwestern.

I won my first tournament and didn’t really know what I did to do that. During my high school golf experience I was able to play in many tournaments and win many tournaments. The person who helped me along with my father was Neil Sconiers who also was a white man who gave me a shot and opportunity to learn from him.

At 16 years of age I went to Moorhead Minnesota to work with a migrant family in the Red Beet Fields. That meant I walked rows and rows of farming fields with a hoe in hand removing weeds. I would get back to the multi-family housing we lived in which we furnished with furniture from the near by college that the college kids would throw away when they were going back home for the summer.

I would remember saying wow this stuff is like new and well I made my sleeping quarters using that stuff. I also got a cheap set of clubs and found a near by course that was 4 miles away. After working the fields I would walk with that bag to the course and pay my fee to hit balls on the practice facility every day that I could.

The Golf Pro there was named Russ Nelson. He saw my work ethic and asked me if I would clean carts, he would let me hit balls for free. Again (Opportunity). He gave me some lessons and helped me improve my game as well. After the summer was done I left and all he asked of me was to give him a good hot sauce recipe which I made good on after I became a PGA professional which I explained to me that was a possible career choice I never even knew of.

I would go on to go to college for to become a Certified PGA Golf Professional which again did not have a huge minority percentage. There was a PGA Professional who took me under his wing and taught me many things to become a golf professional and again this was a White Man who gave me an opportunity.

I would go on to get my first salaried professional Job in Lajitas, Texas at what was named Ambush At Lajitas. Gavin Heap another PGA professional who was also a White Guy took me into his team and further Polished me in becoming a better Golf Professional. He gave me an opportunity. I would then go on to get another Job and was hired by a very successful businessman to oversee a project he had. Again a White Man who gave me an opportunity to grow myself and learn more.

After 6 years of working with him I found myself in a position for another opportunity to grow myself and guess what it was another White Man this time it was Jason Hase another great PGA Golf professional who also helped polish me further to becoming a better golf professional.

This launched me to what was the highlight of my career to go do a Full Start up of a Gary Player Signature project. This time it was another PGA Golf Professional Jim Bellington who is a White Man who introduced me to a Latin Owned Company to lead there golf project. While there I was able to put everything I learned into changing a culture of golf and training a team that successfully executed 3 years of a PGATOUR Latino America Tournament.

I now find myself in Garden City, Kansas employed by another White Man who like many others I have met is a totally awesome individual who gave me an opportunity to be part of this project.

What is the point to this whole story?? Well here is how I see it. Yes I get racially profiled in this industry, Yes I have to prove myself time and time again, Yes I am expected to fail and deal with great amounts of doubt. However what made the difference is those (Opportunities). So I believe the key to all this is yes we have ways to educate ourselves now, yes we can find ways to pay for things to help us get those opportunities, but if we as minorities are not given the opportunities to do jobs that are other then hard labor or put ourselves in leading roles then I agree we don’t have the privilege’s needed to achieve great things.

So I ask all my friends and fellow professionals if an opportunity presents itself to help a minority by giving him or her an opportunity then that is a huge step into making All Lives Matter a little more. There are countless stories and Individuals that helped me in my career that I didn’t name I would have to write a book on all those stories. Thank you all and I hope my humble post will inspire someone to give out some opportunities.

P.S. not all white people are Racist, bad, & evil. Not all immigrants want to cause harm and cause harm to this country.
My name is Herb Nance and I am the Chair of the Board of Directors of the United Communities of San Antonio. The United Communities of San Antonio, Inc. (UCSA) is a human relations organization dedicated to creating safe and inclusive communities, while advocating for social justice, by promoting understanding and respect among all people through awareness, education, and dialogue (mission statement).

Our community continues to address unprecedented times due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, we are now experiencing the transparent evidence of increasing racial injustices, hate-filled rhetoric, bullying tactics, and abusing of power which has most recently led to an uptick in discriminatory treatment of minority groups. UCSA unequivocally condemns all acts of hatred and violence against any individual or group. We send our deepest condolences to the families of all victims who are currently grieving. We also send our wishes and energy for a speedy recovery to those who are attempting to heal. Many are asking, “What do I do now?” Respectfully, I would universally suggest the following:

**STEP ONE:** Keep your heart available which will allow your mind to remain open. When ready, consider participating in dialogue with your family, friends, acquaintances, neighbors, or affiliates. Note: This is not an exercise to argue, debate, or lecture, but instead to listen and share about topics of bullying, bias, bigotry, prejudice, racism, and/or discrimination.

The Purpose of Dialogue: A. To get to know one another on a more personal level. B. To build trust for the individuals or within a group. C. To create a safe environment for all participants to be open and honest. D. To build mutual understanding and respect among participants. The Four Pillars of Dialogue: 1. Clarity. 2. Fairness. 3. Empathy. 4. Responsibility.

**STEP TWO:** Locate your local social services organization who is committed to public work and request support or offer to help. As an example, UCSA has built a distinguished record of 65 years of service to the San Antonio Region through our portfolio of services; https://ucofsa.org/services. More specifically, Community Outreach, Diversity Training (Adult), Social Justice Initiatives, and Programming (Youth).

As it relates to Dialogue Initiatives, UCSA goals are:

- To participate in and/or facilitate dialogue initiatives with citizens and local groups, bringing all key leaders together, while creating a safe space to allow for respectful communication.

**STEP THREE:** Remain committed to ensuring equality is no longer dismissed as a luxury, but instead recognized as a commodity, in hopes for it to be realized!

Personally, I am proud to be an African American male who was instilled with the parental life lessons on how I may inevitably be treated and/or judged because of the color of my skin. I was also very fortunate to be surrounded by the UCSA community who helped me prepare by understanding rights, risks, and responsibilities.

Together, as a united community; we can be collaborative champions to create just, safe, and inclusive communities for all people. If you would like more information, please contact our office at 210-229-1991.

In Unity, Herb Nance, Chair of the Board of Directors

MISSION United Communities of San Antonio is a human relations organization dedicated to creating safe and inclusive communities, while advocating for social justice, by promoting understanding and respect through inclusion, education, and dialogue.
Diablos firmes para playoff en Colt 45 Baseball League

Por Sendero Deportivo

El timonel Starky Dávila, guio a su club Diablos, a efectivo triunfo de 15 carreras por 9 ante el duro rival Texas Jays del manager John Alvarado, que descendió del tercero al cuarto escaño en el standing de la temporada 2020 en el histórico circuito Colt 45 Baseball League.

Diablos con sus dos triunfos consecutivos pudo lograr boleto para estar presente en la postemporada, mientras que Jays con dos revces seguidos, cayó al cuarto lugar, sin embargo ello, no parece haber hecho mella entre la plantilla de Alvarado, que ha venido jugando espectaculares partidos con la meta de estar presentes en la fiesta grande.

La tabla general es liderada por Indios de Nava del estratega internacional Juan (Pachín) Martínez y el coach Rudy Barrientes, que en ocho fechas sigue invicto tras haber noqueado el Día del Padre, a los Yankees con pizarra de 21-0.

Por otro lado Águilas del Veracruz, con su victoria de 11-1 ante Mets, se fijó en el segundo lugar, el manager Luis Cerros, estuvo ausente para cumplir compromiso familiar en el festejo Father’s Day, su gente le respondió y ahora se prepara, para enfrentarse ante el gigante Indios de Nava en partido estelar dominical a jugarse este domingo 28 de junio en el horario de las 12:20pm en Colt 45 Baseball Field, del cual es gerente Jaime Guerrero.

Continuando con el partido Diablos vs. Jays, la pizarra, estuvo 6-5 hasta el séptimo episodio, en el que los diabólicos se impusieron en la ofensiva marcando racimo de tres carreras impulsadas por el receptor Aaron Gutiérrez, quien en lanzamiento de “wild pitch” anotó la novena carrera. Diablos, se fajó, hasta el noveno capítulo a pesar de haber permitido tres anotaciones, cerrando en su defensiva para celebrar su triunfo con pizarra de 15-9. Ambos equipos pegaron 10 imparables y cometieron par de errores.

Jaime Guerrero, al culminar las acciones agradeció a la noble afición, equipos y familiares su asistencia, felicitando a los papás por haber estado presentes en el tradicional festejo del Día del Padre. “Estamos agradecidos porque se tomaron el tiempo de venir a respaldar a sus equipos (jugadores). Hoy en el Father’s Day. Que Dios nos siga bendiciendo para seguir adelante en la promoción del béisbol en San Antonio”, dijo Guerrero.

Colt 45 Oldtimers Baseball League, inaugurará este sábado 27 de junio la temporada de Veteranos Colt 45, 2020 con tres partidos en los horarios de las 9:15am. 12:20pm y 3:25pm.


En Potrancos Baseball League, sus directivos Eloy Rocha, gerente general y Simón Sánchez, presidente y compilador oficial, tienen programado partido estatal amistoso entre el seis veces campeón Broncos de Reynosa SA de los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza, que serán dignos anfitriones para recibir al trabuco visitante Padres de Eagle Pass en el horario de las 11am en el campo 1 del estadio Potranco Baseball Field.

De acuerdo al presidente Sánchez, la liga dominical Abierta reanudara acciones el domingo 5 de julio, mientras que la apertura del circuito sabatino Veteranos, se espera se realice el sábado 4 de julio.


Los equipos Broncos de Reynosa SA (subcampeón Veteranos 2020), y Bravos (campeón Veteranos 2020), de José Mendoza y el manager Efraín Cruz Franco. (Fotos por Franco).
La Junta Directiva De Via Toma Medidas Para Abordar La Brecha De Oportunidades Causada Por Los Fideicomisarios Con Fondos Insuficientes Que Mantienen La Esperanza De Llegar A Un Acuerdo Con La Ciudad Sobre La Creciente Necesidad De Financiación Sostenible

Por Lorraine Pulido, Ph.D.

La Junta de Síndicos de VIA tomó medidas el martes para crear un camino para abordar la historia de financiación insuficiente de VIA y rediseñar el sistema de tránsito regional para un futuro posterior a COVID-19.

Los miembros de la Junta del Distrito de Transporte Avanzado, que también sirven como la Junta de VIA, acordaron presentar la notificación a la Ciudad de San Antonio y el Condado de Bexar sobre su intención de ordenar un referéndum sobre un impuesto adicional sobre las ventas del 1/8% para el tránsito en noviembre para que las discusiones puedan continuar con los líderes de la ciudad y el condado. Una votación sobre la resolución se llevará a cabo en una reunión especial convocada por la Junta el 2 de julio de 2020.

Este paso administrativo requerido le permite a la Junta convocar a una elección para reasignar una parte del 1/8% del impuesto a las ventas existente. Actualmente, solo la mitad del impuesto de ventas de un centavo, puesto a disposición por la Legislatura del Estado de Texas para apoyar el tránsito, se está utilizando en esa capacidad. La fecha límite legal para llamar a una boleta electoral de noviembre es el 17 de agosto de 2020.

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La acción de buena fe de la Junta alienta el progreso continuo en las discusiones en curso con el alcalde, el juez del condado y el liderazgo de VIA que están trabajando juntos para asegurar un 1/8 por ciento adicional de financiamiento sostenible, VIA podría comenzar a abordar la falta de fondos crónica y ayudar a cerrar la brecha de oportunidades que afecta a nuestras poblaciones más vulnerables que carecen de opciones de movilidad equitativa.

VIA ha esbozado un plan para nuevas inversiones que sería posible gracias a la financiación sostenible. Incluyen fortalecer el servicio en el centro de su área de servicio e innovar con nuevos tipos de servicio, como las opciones de movilidad bajo demanda, en otras áreas menos densas. El plan “Mantener a San Antonio en movimiento” está diseñado para preservar el servicio de tránsito esencial como parte de la recuperación de la región y ayudará a evitar los recortes de servicio y mano de obra más severos causados por los déficits financieros previstos.

El Secretario de la Junta, Ezra Johnson, quien votó en contra de la moción para retrasar la votación, dijo que no reflejaba su continuo respeto por el Presidente de la Junta o sus compañeros Fideicomisarios, sino por preocupación y frustración por la acción tardía.

“Vuelvo a mi punto sobre la preparación para el futuro para absorber estos choques sistémicos de lo que pudimos esta vez”, dijo. Sin una fuente sostenible de financiación, “no vamos a estar en condiciones de proteger a nuestros pasajeros a menos que estemos en una posición mejor que la que tenemos ahora”.

La fideicomisaria Kristi Villanueva, que votó a favor de la moción, instó a los fideicomisarios a recordar a las personas a las que VIA sirve y relató los momentos de su vida en que no tenía acceso a un tránsito personal confiable, sino que confió en VIA.

“Yo era esa niña, era esa madre soltera que viajaba en el autobús…” dijo Villanueva, quien ahora es Presidente / CEO de la Cámara de Comercio de West San Antonio y propietario de una pequeña empresa. Pidió a sus compañeros fideicomisarios que tengan “un poco de paciencia” y permitan que el presidente Andrade y el liderazgo de VIA continúen buscando un terreno común sobre el tema con los líderes de la Ciudad y el Condado.
**DACA Y LOS DREAMERS UNA VICTORIA**

Amaneció un nuevo día con sorpresas para todos, al parecer como cualquier otro día, pero no fue así puesto que La Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos por votación de 5 magistrados a favor contra 4 en contra, rechazo la demanda de la administración actual para eliminar o cancelar el Programa de Acción Diferida para los llegados en la infancia DACA, en una decisión histórica que trasciende lo político, analizando desde el punto de vista de las protecciones constitucionales el procedimiento administrativo, es decir el debido proceso y por otra parte el derecho a la igualdad ante la ley, los tópicos morales y humanitarios decidió decidir si al futuro de DACA, declarando ilegal suspenderlo.

El presidente de la Corte Suprema John G Roberts jr., señaló que “los funcionarios... (de la administración actual) no presentaron una razón válida para revocar el programa DACA, así como dijo que no proporcionaron una razón válida para añadir el tema de la ciudadanía en el censo” calificó “la acción de cancelar DACA como arbitaria y no justificada” escribió “nos ocupamos únicamente de si la agencia cumplió con el requisito de procedimiento de dar una explicación razonada sobre el tema y que debe resolverse con una ley y que no es el momento de jugar con los soñadores.

Quienes tienen el privilegio de tener DACA podrán renovarlo, es el momento de llorar, reír, compartir con la familia padres, madres, tíos, hermanos, hijos pero no olvidar que la decisión se basa en un fallo en los procedimientos administrativos que puede ser replanteado.

DACA respeta y rinde un homenaje a los soñadores que perdieron sus vidas en la línea de confrontación contra el COVID-19 médicos, doctores, enfermer@s, paramédicos, asistentes de salud, operadores de radio y de teléfono, trabajadores de supermercados y ventas al menudeo, venta de alimentos, agricultura, transporte y otros oficios; señores políticos es el momento de actuar con justicia, compasión y humanidad.

A mi manera.

Juan Carlos Valderrama.
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