En El Querer Esta El Poder
Let’s Talk About It
Texas Opens

By Yvette Tello
The announcement has been made to end the Covid-19 mandates by Governor Abbott. What do you think? Is it time to end the mask mandate? Is it still too soon? Let’s talk about it.

Lonnlie Bradley: “Most people around here don’t wear them anyway.”

Carolina Roberts: “Again, needs to be out of office.”

Steven Espinoza: “Let him do it, and let the voters decide his fate.”

Benjamin Godina: “Are we back to COVID, just want to make sure we’re still SnOVID?”

Gilbert Dimas Jr.: “It’s about damn time.”

Louis Forte: “Abbott is by far a medical expert. He needs to start listening to the medical experts that are highly advising to continue to wear masks. I really do not give a damn what Abbott says and will continue to listen to the people that know this virus. Remember, not too long ago, Texas opened up bars, restaurants too quick and remember the spike? Guess what, that was Gov. Abbott’s doing!”

Will Rountree: “Only if we need to raise the number of cases and deaths! The virus mutates all the time and new variants keep arising to bypass our immune defenses. This may make vaccinations less effective. Vaccine makers are now working on booster shots to fight these mutations so this may be a never ending battle.”

Darrell Davidodetchenstein: “Just as new mutations come on to the scene and the number of vaccinations are diminished. Further proof that the Republican party is a demonic death cult.”

Rhonda Tael: “Not only will I not be listening to this governor, I won’t shop at any establishment the does not follow the guide-lines set forth by the CDC... this is ridiculous & the Media should be ashamed of itself, for not adding a safety disclaimer to this foolishness... I forgot must of you have gotten the vaccine.”

Pete Paul: “There are some “experts” that would have you in lockdown wearing masks until the end of time. God save our kids.”

Henry Lott: “He’s just trying to change the subject cause he is part of the electric grid de-bauchery!”

Jusme Monami: “The % of Texans that are fully vaccinated is too low right now. Wearing a mask HELPS. He should double-down on the focus and speed of getting the vaccines into the arms of Texans who want. Next push educational communications to areas that show people who are hesitant to take it because they don’t trust the reliability or safety of the vaccines. Knowledge is power. The more knowledge people have the more power they have in making better informed decisions.”

Florida Torres: “Every person is responsible for their safety at the end of the day. At this point everyone should know what to do. It doesn’t bother me to wear a mask.”

Pamela Karr Lockhart: “Good!! There has been no proof that the mask works!”

Vivian Carreño: “So will the governor’s mansion be open for a tour and no masks required? Asking for a couple covid19 positive patients?”

Ruth Barron: “NO NO NOT YET!!! You’ve done enough damage with your failing leadership!”

Erica Sanchez Zertuche: “He just wants us all to die. First lax covid restrictions, then he put ERCOT in charge and now no masks? Great...”

Floyd Guidry: “Horrible idea. But Abbott has been full of horrible ideas the last year and a half. This aint even a democrat vs republican issue either. Democrats should be licking their chops to try and tap him, Cruz and Patricks spots. Republicans should be lining up as well to primary these clowns out of there.”

Marta Gonzalez: “I would love for that to be over to wear the mask because I have trouble breathing with it.”

Danaisa Kitchens: “I haven’t worn one since the beginning so please end it and if you want to wear one then do it, but for those who choose to breathe freely let us.”

Michelle Powers Page: “Doesn’t he have other things to worry about. The mask ain’t broke, no need to fix it! Now the power grid is another story.”

Ashley Whetstone: “Too soon. Clearly he didn’t learn from the last time.”

Tina Stafford: “WE ALL STILL NEED MASK TILL THE WORLD HAS BEEN VACCINATED. If we see someone not wearing a mask we leave that place. It stays in the air up to 6 feet so that means that person has made that whole area up safe.”

Faith Young: “Too soon... what’s the rush?”

Rhonda Watson: “Listen to Scientists and Doctors NOT wealthy Texas businessmen. Only 5.1% of Texans are vaccinated. There are 5 variants of the virus in Houston. Don’t lift the mask mandate yet! Remember last year you opened bars too early and there was a surge that took lives. Yes, things are improving but we are not there yet.”

Joe Kapp
Known as “El Cid” to die-hard football fans, Joe Kapp led the University of California to the Rose Bowl. Leading the conference in quarterback rushing and named to the All-American team, he was drafted by the Washington Redskins. Opting for the Canadian Football League, he played eight years, where he was a two-time All-Star Quarterback and led the Calgary Stampeders to the Grey Cup Championship. In 1967. He began playing for the Minnesota Vikings, took them to two Central Division titles and their first Super Bowl appearance and tied an NFL record for throwing seven touchdown passes. Remembered as one of the few quarterbacks who would charge a linebacker rather than step out, Kapp was inducted into the CFL Hall of Fame.

By Leonard Rodriguez
This column highlights inspiring stories of Latino leaders. For more than 50 years, Latino men and women have positively influenced the face of the United States society. Let us celebrate these outstanding hispanics.
Diana Molina: The Art of the Borderlands

By Ricardo Romo, PhD

Diana Molina’s 2020 book, Icons & Symbols of the Borderlands, is a rich compilation of more than 100 contemporary art images and photographs of the U.S.-Mexico border. She notes that the artists, all members of the Juntos Art Association, “explore the region’s animal and plant ecosystem, food and religious culture, and history.” The book is based on an exhibit curated by Molina which opened at San Antonio’s Centro de Artes in 2017 and has traveled to five cities over the past five years.

Molina is no stranger to the borderlands. She lives on a mesa overlooking the Mesilla Valley near Anthony, New Mexico, a few miles west of her hometown of El Paso. She grew up in the Texas border town’s famed Segundo Barrio, a few blocks from the Rio Grande. Her early interest in computers and programming led her to the University of Texas at Austin in the late 1970s where she majored in computer science. Following her graduation from UT Austin in 1981, she joined IBM working in the early stages of robotics and automation.

The high tech world bored the young Latina and she left IBM in 1987 to pursue a career in photography and writing. Molina found work in Amsterdam as a photographer and writer for international magazines including Esquire, Elle, National Geographic Traveler, and Vogue.

In the late 1990s Molina moved back to Texas and dug deeper into her Mexican roots. After learning that her great grandmother had been raised among the Tarahumara in the Sierra Madre, she pursued her idea of learning more about this Mexican Indian tribe known for producing some of the world’s best long distance runners. Over the period 1993 to 2011, Molina spent the winters among the Tarahumara tribes of the Sierra Madre. Several of her photographs from that region are included in the book.

In a Forward for the book, art historian Professor Teresa Eckmann writes that “[w]ith diverse content, style, sources, and materials,” the borderland “artists shape border identity as colorful and dynamic, one full of tension, contrast, and power struggles.” Eckmann, who writes about modern Mexican and Chicano artists, has closely followed the career of several Icon artists, including El Paso native Ricky Armendariz.

Armendariz uses an electric rotor to carve his drawings onto birch plywood, finalizing his powerful imagery with oil paints. His visual narrative of borderland culture includes wilderness and desert animals, as well as military-like security systems that hunt down immigrants. In one painting of a horse with a machine in his belly, Armendariz explains that he “depicts a horse as a midwife deity ingesting drones and missiles on a dystopian border” [p.54].

Cesar Martinez’s images are recognizable to almost all who follow Chicano art. Martinez was a featured artist in Molina’s curated show at the Centro de Artes in San Antonio in 2017. His digital print, “Hombre que le Gustan las Mujeres” [40 x 32: 2003] is prominently displayed on the cover of Molina’s Icon book. Originally printed in the mid 1980s, this popular image has gone through various versions, including a silkscreen print of a similar size produced in the mid 1990s. An oil painting on canvas of a similar image was acquired in 2000 by Chicano art collector Cheech Marin of California.

Laredo-born Martinez lives in San Antonio and his national reputation was enhanced when he was among a very small number of Tejanos selected for the Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation [CARA] 1990 exhibit in Los Angeles which traveled across the United States. Although his “batos” and “batas” are well known to collectors and museums, Martinez’s art also addresses the borderland environment and the animals common to the region. Martinez captures dust storms, bright suns, as well as jaguars and bulls. Molina’s selection of several of Martinez’s works consciously demonstrates his artistic versatility and brilliant use of color. In 1999 Martinez was the first Chicano artist to have a solo exhibition at the McNay Art Museum of San Antonio, and several of his paintings and prints are currently on exhibit there.

Another portrait in the Icon book is an art piece, “Chang ing Gears,” by borderland artist Lydia Limas that is based on the difficult lives of women working in the maquiladora industry of the Mexican border towns. In Juarez, Mexico, women work for as little as 55 cents per hour in factories where repetitive work motion competes with daily indignities. Molina notes that “women earn barely enough to support a family and are sometimes subjected to unsafe and unsanitary work conditions.”

I have followed the creative works of many of the artists featured in Icons & Symbols of the Borderlands. I was pleased that Molina included the works of Gaspar Enriquez, an artist I have long admired. Following his career for some 25 years, I have learned much about Chicano and borderland art. Enriquez lives in San Isleta, one of the oldest communities of the United States. His portraits of border people and everyday life in the region reveal the beauty and complexities of the borderlands. His work and that of others in the book should be celebrated.

Molina’s book captures the essence of life along the U.S.-Mexico border and more significantly brings attention to important borderland artists. The Juntos Art Association borderland Icons exhibit opens this May in Carlsbad, New Mexico where it will remain until September, 2021. It is an exhibit well worth seeing.
LIFTFUND’S WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTERS HOSTS “WOMEN OF COLOR: SHAPING THE FUTURE CONFERENCE” ON MARCH 25 WITH CORNERSTONE PRESENTATIONS FROM SOME OF THE NATION’S MOST SUCCESSFUL MINORITY BUSINESSWOMEN

By LPT Staff

In the United States, more than 11.6 million businesses are owned by women, and 5.4 million of those businesses are majority-owned by women of color—a statistic that LiftFund Women’s Business Centers (WBC’s) would like to see dramatically scale in the coming years. To better empower and support minority women business owners, LiftFund Dallas and San Antonio Women’s Business Centers are pleased to announce the Women of Color: Shaping The Future Conference, on March 25. Featuring some of the nation’s most successful minority business leaders, including Lisa Price, founder of multimillion-dollar beauty brand Carol’s Daughter—the one-day virtual conference aims to inspire and provide useful tools for minority businesswomen to thrive as successful entrepreneurs, and ultimately help close the inequalities gap.

“The Women’s Business Center has always been a reliable resource and safe space for female business owners to connect with like minded individuals and advisors to help reach their potential,” says Tarsha Polk Hearms, director of LiftFund Dallas/ Ft. Worth Women’s Business Center. “However, this conference is set to not only help inspire and shape, but to truly elevate minority businesswomen and take their businesses to the next level in 2021, by giving them the necessary tools and lessons learned by leading business owners and entrepreneurs.”

Registration for the Women of Color: Shaping The Future Conference is currently open and only costs $15 to participate. The virtual conference targeted to women business owners across the state of Texas and will provide participants with useful resources, as well as give them an incredible opportunity to learn from and engage with some of the most prominent minority business owners and entrepreneurs in their local communities. Engaging speakers for the day include, but are not limited to:

- Anjie Vichayanonda, Leg Up Legal CEO and Founder – Speaker
- Janice Omadeke The Mentor Method CEO and Founder – Speaker

Conference speakers will share insights into their own journeys as successful business owners and entrepreneurs, as well as touch on topics for the 2021 business owner, including:

- Lessons Learned: Marketing strategies in a post-COVID world
- Self-Care for the ShePreneur
- Breaking the Mold, Shaping the Future: Stories and triumphs from women of color in underrepresented industries
- 10 Leadership Virtues for Women During Disruptive Times: Coaching your team through immense change and challenge
- In Your Corner: How to have an impactful mentor relationship

“Ultimately, we want minority businesswomen to walk away from this conference feeling empowered, more educated and equipped with real solutions to level the playing field for women of color. The resources and knowledge they acquired at the Women of Color Conference, will give them new ideas to implement into their businesses with the goal of reaching beyond their potential,” says Zindy Infante, director of LiftFund San Antonio Women’s Business Center.

In addition to an impressive roster of speakers and engaging topics, the conference will also host breakout sessions for participants to immerse themselves in, on topics of:

- Find Funding: Let’s discuss all the options
- Hold Your Own: Moving past imposter’s syndrome
- Hand in Hand: Building a community that uplifts us all
- Leveraging Certifications to Scale Your Business
- Women of Color Need Allies and Advocates
- State of Women in Color

“When starting my business, I could only dream of participating in an event or networking with professionals of this caliber. The opportunities were few and far between. Some might say, if I were building Carol’s Daughter today, perhaps things would have been easier. I doubt it. Business is hard. Period. What would have been different is seeing others who look like me doing it,” says Lisa Price, founder of Carol’s Daughter. “I never get tired of saying it because it is true “Representation Matters.” We must see it to be it. We must hear the stories and learn from the experiences and be guided on the path. There isn’t a standard playbook for Black business owners and entrepreneurs, but there is a greater sense of awareness, and support more than ever before to foster and help grow, Black business professionals; and I am thrilled to see these resources becoming more accessible year after year.”

More than 250 virtual attendees are expected to participate in the inaugural conference, and it’s encouraged that those interested in the event purchase their tickets early, as similar past events have sold-out quickly. Additionally, there are still multiple sponsorship opportunities available for businesses, individuals, and nonprofits to take advantage of. Sponsors of the conference will reach minority female business owners generating under $1M in revenue throughout Texas, with the sponsorship dollars providing the necessary tools and guidance for businesswomen of color to grow their businesses.

To date, the LiftFund Women’s Business Centers has served more than 4,800 clients and helped them gain access to more than $11.7 million dollars in funding. In addition to its DFW and San Antonio locations, LiftFund serves the entire state of Texas, with its corporate offices located in San Antonio. For more information about the Women of Color Conference, to register, or sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.womenshapingthefuture.com.
Por Franco

Tras una larga jornada de trabajo y convenimiento ejecutada por el incansable ejecutivo RC Buford, (Spurs Sports & Entertainment CEO), se dio a los medios locales de San Antonio la buena noticia que la franquicia pentacampeón Spurs de San Antonio con afiliación al circuito National Basketball Association (NBA), bajo la dirección del experimentado entrenador en jefe Gregg Popovich (Pop), cumpliendo con todos los códigos sanitarios, el 12 de marzo SA abrirá las puertas de su estadio AT&T Center, para darle la bienvenida a un número aproximado de 3,200 aficionados.

La NBA se encuentra jugando la segunda mitad de su temporada 2020-21, por lo que con los buenos resultados de higiene por la pandemia Covid-19, ha dado luz verde para que Spurs pueda ofrecerle espectacular acción y buen pasatiempo a su legión de fanáticos.

La fecha del 12 de marzo será la primera de 17 fechas en las que tentativamente jugarán en calidad de locales bajo patrocinio de la cadena de supermercados H-E-B, que es la presentadora oficial de campaña. En el comunicado de prensa, SS&E, indicaron qué su estadio ha sido regularmente higienizado en todas partes de su instalación. Todo bajo la asociación con la empresa Xenex, que desde hace tiempo ha trabajado en la limpieza general utilizando robots.

"Todo está listo para darle la bienvenida a nuestros aficionados. Quiénes luego de cumplir con los protocolos requeridos, podrán entrar y pasear libremente por la arena. Contentos porque ya vamos a escuchar en vivo las emociones de fans qué a partir del 12 de marzo, vendrán de nuevo a la casa de su querida equipo", dijo Buford.

"Durante los últimos 10 meses SS&E, se ha enfocado implementado la alta seguridad higiénica y segura en tres áreas: La gente. Superficies y en el ambiente de aire puro. La empresa, ha hecho todo lo posible para asegurar un clima higiénico, para darlo conocer qué el estadio AT&T Center, es un inmueble seguro en dónde los asistentes podrán divertirse sin ningún riesgo", afirmó Casey Haverling, vicepresidente y gerente general del estadio en mención.

Los aficionados como requisito tendrán qué usar máscaras tapabocas y guardar distancia social. En los momentos de comer o beber podrán quitarse sus respectivas máscaras. Los servicios gastronómicos y bebidas serán servidos mediante especial sistema digital sin contacto humano.

(Foto de fans por Franco. Foto del guardia estelar DeMar DeRozan y el alero Trey Lyles (41), cortesía de los Spurs)
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California Contractors and Plumbers Providing Much Needed Services to San Antonio Residents

By LPT Staff

San Antonio’s Westside and neighboring communities are受益 from a group of generous contractors and plumbers who are providing pro-bono services to local Westside residents in San Antonio from the San Diego Area.

Kingdom Builders, a contractor in Carlsbad, California and its affiliated licensed plumbers have joined forces to drive to San Antonio across the country to assist residents of the most distressed communities with their plumbing repairs this weekend.

Not only will they be bringing a trailer full of supplies and plumbing materials to make the necessary repairs for residents, but they have also raised over $10,000 with a “Go-Fund Me Initiative” for drywall and painting repairs that these homeowners will be required to undergo.

The heart of district 5 is within the original 36 square miles of the city with many historic walkable neighborhoods. Regrettably, for many years this area experienced an exodus due to declining investments in public infrastructure and services, especially in the years before single member districts. While they continue to need significant public infrastructure investments, District 5 is home to some of the city’s most historic and beautiful sites. It has a unique culture kept alive by vibrant resident neighbors. The neighborhoods have the grid design to cost effectively provide sustainable infrastructure, parks, walkability, bike lanes, accessible public transit, and traffic calming streets.

Photos: Nicholas Gonzalez-homeowner, Kingdom builder’s Bernie Lopez, The Koffie Co’s David Chiddick, Brad Jones and Collin Chiddick)
SAWS Act PAC ‘Not Done Yet’ - Says City Council
Mayor’s Race is Referendum on SAWS

By Reinette King

The SAWS Act PAC announced that it will not continue its petition drive for a November election, but intends to make SAWS accountability one of the top three issues in the May election for Mayor and City Council. They will use their lists of voters – the 14,000 who signed the SAWS petition before the deadline – together with thousands of signatures that continue to come in – to inform voters as to where 81 candidates running for ten City Council seats really stand on SAWS accountability. Candidate responses are due on March 9, and will be posted in real time as they are submitted to the PAC.

The questionnaire asks candidates where they stand on the five provisions of the SAWS Accountability Act. The PAC asks candidates to pledge to within 30 days of election, move to pass an ordinance ordering a performance audit of Vista Ridge pipeline, move to pass an ordinance ordering a performance audit of Vista Ridge pipeline, the driver of 58% (so far) rate hikes and an investigation into the expensive stealth legal attacks on their petition by SAWS. The questionnaire also seeks to turn up the heat on SAWS by asking candidates where they stand on election of the SAWS Board of Trustees and expansion of the board to include representation for ratepayers throughout the service area, whether they live the City proper or not.

The SAWS Act PAC released to the candidates and to the public a copy of their candidate questionnaire (posted here page 2 excerpt) and a nearly 5,500 word analysis documenting their claims for accountability measures needed at SAWS.

Reinette King, a spokesperson for the SAWS Act PAC, said, “Our opponents have really stepped on a rattlesnake, that is, our right to petition for something we should have received two years ago when we politely asked the council for transparency at SAWS and an independent performance audit of Vista Ridge. I’m going to remain an activist here in District 10 for this May election to ensure that our petition drive pays off by making SAWS accountability the top issue here and throughout the city in this election.”

Stan Mitchell, Treasurer for the SAWS Act PAC, and fiscal watchdog, said: “SAWS’ management attacked our petition with impunity because not even the City’s Audit and Accountability Committee will stand up to them. My own Council Member, John Courage, has stood by and watched SAWS and CPS attack our right to petition – using who knows how many of our own tax dollars in a frivolous and failed lawsuit and even now is trying to control Public Comments by simply leaving them off his agenda.”

George Alejos of LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383, said, “Our communities are going through a very frightening time. The last thing we need is continued tone deafness at City Hall. It is our hope that voters and local organizations will use our questionnaire to form their own opinions about the candidates. After this May election, and hopefully with COVID behind us, will come our next stage in the battle to bring the public back into our public utilities.”

The SAWS Act PAC questionnaire can be viewed on their homepage. Candidate answers are due on March 9 and will be immediately posted as they are received. https://www.sawsact.org/

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NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY

WITHIN THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN – UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) is inviting public input on any practicable alternatives for a proposed activity within the 100-Year floodplain at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA)-Lackland, Texas. The Proposed Action involves the phased demolition of existing facilities and construction of new facilities and associated infrastructure to meet current and future mission requirements for units of the 16th Air Force assigned to JBSA. The Proposed Action would develop the approximately #-acre Security Hill Campus into three mission-focused areas via 11 phases of demolition/construction over a period of approximately 20 years. Because the Proposed Action has the potential to affect cultural resources, JBSA is formally consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office.

The USAF is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action. The USAF will make the Draft EA available for public review and comment in summer 2021.

This early public notice is required by Executive Order 11988 and has been prepared and made available to the public by the USAF in accordance with 32 CFR 989 and Air Force Instruction 32-7064 for actions proposed within the 100-year floodplain.

Address written comments to the DEPARTMENT, ADDRESS, EMAIL, or via phone: PHONE NUMBER.
Portada 

Por Sendero Deportivo 

En series de semifinales del playoff Semi-Pro en Colt 45 Baseball League, el campeón Águilas de Veracruz eliminó al trabuco Piratas de Sabinas.

El partido empatado 2-2 carreras en el noveno episodio, lanzando el izquierdovenezolano Gregorio Quintero de Sabinas con las bases llenas aceptó doblete de Édgar Montes, quien produjo 3 anotaciones, su compañero Tony González, fue el productor de las primeras dos carreras.

El triunfo fue para el abridor cubano Juan Serrano.

Por su lado Indios de Nava qué habían perdido su primer partido ante Broncos de Reynosa SA con pizarra de 9-2, con racimo seis carreras en la apertura del sexto capítulo se encaminó al triunfo por score de 10-8.

Por Nave destacaron bateando Henry Pichardo con jonrón llevándolo a un compañero por delante. Óscar Márquez con bases llenas pegó doblete y Rudy Barrientez "Pee Wee", también con doblete produjo par de anotaciones.

La victoria en relevó sé la agencia Albert González, quien superó a su primo Jorge González quien había entrado al relevo de Jason Manzueta.

El tercero de la serie se jugará este domingo 7 de marzo en el horario de la 1pm.

En el estadio Potranco, sé inauguró la temporada Veteranos de primavera 2021. Sultanes noqueó a Missions SA 11-0.

El súper campeón Cachorros de Nava en siete entradas noqueó 12-2 su duro rival Red Sox. La victoria fue para René Rodríguez con relevo de Héctor "Papo" Garza, por la gente de Pedro Espinoza y Catarino Obregón, lanzaron Raúl Originales, Hilario Álvarez y Alfredo Obregón.

Por el campeón "El Caminante" Víctor Mercedes pegó jonrón con uno abordo. Seguido por sus compañeros Óscar Márquez con 4-4, Danilo del Olmo, campeón bateador de 5-3. Johnny López de 3-2, René Rodríguez de 3-2.

"Seguimos con buena racha. La temporada promete fuerte competencia, los cinco equipos se han reforzado”, indicó el timonel Catarino Obregón "Rábano".

Pedro Espinoza, sé mostró confiado por seguir adelante con nueva alineación. "Fue bueno el partido, así nuestros refuerzos sé conocerán en el plan de juego de Red Sox", añadió Espinoza.

En el playoff Liga Masters 50 y mayores. El visitante Tecos-Tigres de Laredo, derrotó al local Rangers de Benito Martínez. La victoria fue para el lanzador ex profesional Luis Alfonso Velázquez (Chorejas), con pizarra de 5-2.

En partido de práctica Astros del scout Frank Torres empató 5-5 con el nuevo equipo Dodgers de Macario Rosas.

En liga dominical Abierta, Cardenales blanqueo 10-0 a Tune-ros, poniendo marca de 3-0 bajó el timón de la dupla Nacho García y Efraín Cruz Franco.

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RESET

RESET is a program through YWCA to empower girls and young women, ages 16 – 24, to create a personal pathway toward self-sufficiency through education, training, work, support, and mentoring.

RESET will provide resources and tools to girls and young women:
• Overcome challenges
• Educational success
• Financial stability
• Gain hope for their future

For more information contact Leslie Green.
210-433-9922  lgreen@ywcas.org
YWCA IS ON A MISSION

Culebra Road Arterial Study
TALLERES COMUNITARIOS VIRTUALES

La Ciudad de San Antonio está llevando a cabo el estudio de la calle arterial Culebra para identificar oportunidades multimodales a lo largo del corredor y mejorar la seguridad, la movilidad peatonal y el acceso a la micromovilidad.

Está invitado a asistir a una de tres talleres comunitarios virtuales para compartir su visión para el corredor, y cualquier oportunidades o desafíos que le gustaría ser considerados por el equipo de estudio. Dos de los talleres serán en inglés y uno en español. Los tres presentarán información idéntica.

Para registrarse, visite: www.CulebraRoadWorkshops.org

TALLERES COMUNITARIOS VIRTUALES

Para registrarse, visite:
www.CulebraRoadWorkshops.org

INGLÉS
miércoles, 24 de marzo de 2021
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

INGLÉS
miércoles, 24 de marzo de 2021
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

ESPAÑOL
jueves 25 de marzo de 2021
6 - 8 p.m.

Una vez registrado, recibirá el enlace apropiado para unirse su taller seleccionado. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llame a Linda Vela al (210) 349-3273.

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History of Police Association:
Riddled with Criminal Behavior, Abuse, Corruption, and Protecting Bad Cops

By Mario Marcel Salas

Those of us with police officers in our families know how important it is to get rid of bad cops. The San Antonio Police Officer’s Association (SAPOA) has a history of criminal conduct, political corruption, and strong-arm politics aimed at protecting BAD COPS. The association has become a large political contributor to council and mayoral campaigns for the purpose of keeping a flawed anti-citizen contract. The City of San Antonio and the Association are in contract talks now, but many are saying that it is bent on using bad faith tactics at their disposal. For years, citizens that filed an abuse complaint against an officer were threatened by the so-called union with threats of lawsuits and perjury charges.

In addition, the association has used racist arbitrators to prevent the discipline of an officer for calling a black man the “N” word multiple times and used a flawed contract to let a bad cop escape that fed a homeless man a feces sandwich. The effort to remove this association will come to a head on April 19th (Early Vote) and on May 1st of this year. The San Antonio Police Officer’s Association (SAPOA) has a history of criminal conduct, political corruption, and strong-arm politics aimed at protecting BAD COPS. The association has become a large political contributor to council and mayoral campaigns for the purpose of keeping a flawed anti-citizen contract. The City of San Antonio and the Association are in contract talks now, but many are saying that it is bent on using bad faith tactics at their disposal. For years, citizens that filed an abuse complaint against an officer were threatened by the so-called union with threats of lawsuits and perjury charges.

In addition, the association has used racist arbitrators to prevent the discipline of an officer for calling a black man the “N” word multiple times and used a flawed contract to let a bad cop escape that fed a homeless man a feces sandwich. The effort to remove this association will come to a head on April 19th (Early Vote) and on May 1st of this year. Studies show that many unarmed citizens have been shot in the back and there is no discipline for it. This association has to change its anti-people philosophy or it must go on May 1st.

SAPOA, like many other police unions across the country, has conditioned harassment of Black Lives Matter demonstrators. In fact, one leaflet being placed on doorsteps shows a riot from another city being used to imply that voting yes for Proposition B is in support of violent acts that white racists perpetuated. One side of the leaflet it has a photo of a black protester with a “Defund” mask which the leaders of FIXSAPD never supported. The association is engaging is racist and bald-faced HOGWASH. It makes sense because the association never cared about black citizens or black police officers. SAPD had few black officers in its ranks for many years and making that problem worse was the criminal leadership of SAPOA at that time.

Back when Harold Flammia was in charge of the association he was engaging in political corruption and was sent to prison as he tried every trick in the book to protect corrupt officers and make a living using corrupt methods. According to an Express News article, the association (SAPOA) President Harold Flammia, was strong-arming a lawyer for money, “It started with a “recruiting fee” of $25,000. Then he started getting checks of just more than $4,000 a month. But every time Souza’s firm got a raise, so did Flammia . . . . Soon Flammia was earning $72,000 a year. By the time he was indicted, his tab totaled more than $500,000.”

Attorney General Ken Paxton, who is being investigated for federal crimes, is calling for the removal of Chief William McManus because he refused to obey a racist order to detain migrant workers. Now, guess what group took a racist position? SAPOA! According to Channel 5 News, former SAPOA president Mike Helle, is the one that called upon the Texas Attorney General to file against McManus. Most important is the use of false rhetoric that is reminiscent of the KKK by John Diaz, the new political boss of SAPOA, when he falsely accused FIXSAPD efforts from folks from out of town when over 50% of SAPD officers do not live in San Antonio. Many Union members are supporting the ballot Proposition B because protection of bad cops is a violation of human rights and civil rights and not just about collective bargaining. Voting yes for Proposition B has nothing to do with fire fighters The effort to prevent bad cops from being police officers has nothing to do with any other union.

Good officers must be thanked, but not the corrupt and racist ones that threaten the community at large. We expect a mountain of lies from them claiming that we will lose police officers and safety and other HOGWASH, but the real issue must be BAD COPS must go.

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La Fecha Límite de la Solicitud es el 12 de Marzo del 2021.

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Se puede obtener un paquete de solicitud de cualquier centro de CPS Energy, la oficina del Secretario de la Cuidad de San Antonio, o llamando al 210-353-3788.
La Senadora Judith Zaffirini, demócrata de Laredo, presentó una serie de proyectos de ley el martes (2 de marzo) para reforzar las leyes de gobierno abierto del estado, específicamente la Ley de Reuniones Abiertas de Texas (TOMA) y la Ley de Información Pública de Texas (TPIA). Siete propuestas se presentaron como Proyectos de Ley del Senator (SB) 924-930 y también se combinaron en un proyecto de ley general, SB 923, titulado "relativo al gobierno abierto".

"La transparencia es esencial para preservar la gobernabilidad democrática”, dijo la Senadora Zaffirini. "Los tejanos necesitan saber qué sucede en los pasillos del poder para que sus líderes rindan cuentas. Estoy encantado de defender no solo estas propuestas, sino también la causa del gobierno abierto en general ".

Las propuestas del senador abordarían algunos de los problemas de transparencia más urgentes y emergentes del estado. Al definir "día hábil" en el TPIA, por ejemplo, la SB 925 cerraría un vacío legal que ha permitido a algunas entidades evitar solicitudes de información pública de forma permanente al reclamar todos los días como un día de "tripulación mínima", que actualmente no se considera un día hábil.

Tres de sus proyectos de ley crearían un mecanismo de quejas para que los solicitantes informen a los organismos gubernamentales que no responden a las solicitudes de TPIA (SB 927), garantizar que los brotes de enfermedades en los hogares de ancianos se puedan informar como información pública (SB 930), y proteger el derecho del público a participar en reuniones abiertas realizadas mediante teleconferencia o videoconferencia (SB 924), respectivamente.

La senadora Zaffirini ha sido autora y ha apoyado la legislación de gobierno abierto a lo largo de su carrera. Su interés en estas reformas específicas, sin embargo, se deriva de la discusión durante un seminario web de Zoom que organizó en octubre titulado "Transparencia gubernamental durante emergencias". Las lagunas en estas leyes deben cerrarse para que todos los tejanos puedan mantenerse informados y participar plenamente en nuestra democracia. Este paquete de legislación del Senator Zaffirini hará que Texas vuelva a encaminarse en la protección del derecho del público a saber ".

"Cuanto más complicado se vuelve nuestro gobierno, mayor es el daño potencial de la mala administración o el abuso absoluto, y mayor es la necesidad de transparencia", agregó la Senadora Zaffirini. “Esto es especialmente cierto durante las emergencias, ya sean tormentas de invierno, pandemias o incluso recesiones. El derecho del público a la verdad nunca cambia, pero su necesidad nunca es mayor que en tiempos de crisis ".

Por Laura Felix

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Historias Familiares:
FREE virtual workshop about caring for your documents, photos and memories Saturday, March 13, 2021, 11am

By Ingard Rop

The Museo del Westside, and the Esperanza Peace and Justice Community Archives are sponsoring a series of three workshops to share knowledge that will support the community in learning the basics of preserving family and community history.

In the “Historias Familiares” workshop, you are welcome to join Donna Guerra, a professional certified archivist and a Co-Curator with the Museo del Westside. She will share practical suggestions for taking care of our family historical materials, even in conditions that are not ideal, in our humid climate with plenty of critters! She will also present budget-conscious ideas for protective storage for: different types of photographs; paper documents; digital files; leather items; clothing; and old family films.

Most importantly, we want YOU to be part of the conversation. Those who register to participate by Zoom are eligible to “show and tell” (3 minutes) about an item, and get advice about how to best care for it. We will likely only have time for a few participants, so please have your item ready.

In addition to Zoom, the workshop will be viewable on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. Would you like to become a westside focused “community archivist?” Attend our three upcoming workshops and let us know if you want to know about our follow-up community archivist training!

The next two workshops will be “Recuerdos y Memorias: Telling our Family Stories,” on gathering oral history, on April 10, 2021 at 11am CST with Museo Co-Curator Laura Hernandez-Ehrisman, followed by “Finding Your Mexican Ancestors: A Genealogy Workshop,” on May 8, 2021 at 11am CST with Donna Guerra.

The Museo del Westside and the Esperanza Peace and Justice Community Archives are community-driven and dedicated to preserving, documenting, and presenting the unique history, heritage, culture, pride, work ethic, and diverse experiences of la gente del westside, to increase understanding by building and strengthening knowledge of the historic westside for a more vibrant future for our community. The Historic Westside Neighborhood Association and the Westside Preservation Alliance are also proudly co-sponsoring these workshops. If you wish to join us in our cultural heritage work or have any questions, please contact us at pr@esperanzacenter.org or call 210.228.0201 and 210.454.7292.

Register: bit.ly/HistoriasFamiliares
www.facebook.com/EsperanzaCenter
www.youtube.com/esperanzacenter
Raul Ramos, brother of film director Danny Ramos and former youth football coach of 30 years, would not be yet another Covid-19 statistic from the Westside of San Antonio. After being sent home from his initial medical visits with little to nothing due to the fact that facilities had no oxygen tanks to give for those who were in need at the expense of this pandemic, Ramos was at a loss.

Without any other options and despite concerns of neighbors with mounting distrust of the capabilities of hospitals, he and his wife Yolanda Ramos, who also tested positive for Covid, set out to Houston after a suggestion from his daughter to attend HCA Houston Healthcare Hospital. With his wife at the helm, and Ramos in tow in the back seat, both were unaware if he would survive the tumultuous journey.

Once reaching the end of their voyage and finally being admitted to the facility, Ramos’ health continued to deteriorate. In a hospital bed with an IV and oxygen mask, survival seemed dismal, even though his nurses and doctors took great care. Suddenly, in an almost dreamstate, Ramos began to see strangers entering and exiting his room. Slowly, he began to realize who they were as he would greet them. As the nurse walked in, she tried to wake him, telling him he was dreaming, but he knew he was awake...knew what, or rather who, he was seeing. He was seeing Covid-19 victims from all over the world walking through his room, and they were his heroes for trying to survive as best they could. He told them all he would keep fighting for them; he would not let go.

Later that day, Ramos’ doctor offered an alternative option, a plasma infusion using antibodies from recovered Covid-19 patients, Convalescent Plasma, which was a Hail Mary for Raul Ramos. With the strength of those who endured this struggle before him, he was able to rise from the ashes of the fallen like a phoenix.

Convalescent Plasma saved one man’s life. Imagine how many lives you could save today if you are a Covid Survivor willing to donate your plasma.
Thursday, March 11th from 6:30PM to 8:00PM
The Public is Invited to Attend

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