

LA PRENSA TEXAS

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Provided by Rigoberto Luna

LA PRENSA TEXAS

This grass roots publication is the life source for a community that is not easily afforded viable access to diverse and accessible media. San Antonio and the surrounding counties have become accustomed to relevant news brought to them in both English and Spanish since 1913.

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The vision is a vibrant Westside community where people want to live, work, and visit.

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Let's Talk About It Civil War in 2020 Could it happen?

By Yvette Tello

I saw a news report that here in Texas we are on the verge of a second civil war. People do not believe in our system. There has been so much corruption exposed within the legal system that citizens believe they have to defend themselves and take matters into their own hands. Now people are attending protests with guns because it is their constitutional right to bear arms. The BLM movement was started to stop and prevent violence and has evolved to violence. All they were trying to accomplish was equal protection under the law for all American citizens. We have never seen so much division in our country in our entire history. It's black against white. Red against blue. Citizens against the Law. When is it self defense or when is it a provoked attack? What side do you think is right? Do you think anything good will come from this? Why do you think this is happening? There is no right or wrong answer; Let's talk about it...

Roxanne Perez: "I'm just gonna say this, and honestly, I don't care who is offended. All Lives Matter, black, white, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, who truly lost more than most, Muslim, Police Officers, everybody! There's no need for division, that's how I feel about all this non-



sense. Rioting, protesting while being ready to attack, bulls***! Sorry, that's how I feel, we are One Nation Under God, we should act accordingly!"

Alan Thomas: "The majority of people in this country have grown tired of having things forced upon them. The majority just wants to be left alone and to live their lives without turmoil."

Beverly Brooks: "Doesn't matter. No ONE persons post is gonna make anyone change their mind. Not a lot of people on the fence, my friend. Social media is NOT the place or the way to change people--no offense, I know you mean well. But honestly, my friend, this further divides us. Just my opinion. I always say, "that, and a buck-oh-eight will get you a drink at Sonic."

Jerry Leonard: "If anyone thinks the vocal minority speaks for all, then the republic is lost. We are two sides of the same coin and

are united in the struggles of humanity. Stop letting people tell you how to feel."

Robin S Tello: "This is my thought...I haven't been paying attention to the news but I know I should....I personally don't like how people are taking care of this by starting riots to prove they are right and such. It's a bunch of bull...I don't want to take sides...If Abraham Lincoln were to be here he would put us all in shame because he worked hard to ensure the blacks to be free and equal with the whites and vice versa. I feel our fore fathers worked hard for nothing to forge this country. How would it have been then if England would have won? Would we still act like a lot of bloody idiots or bastards? We are human stupid humans to be exact. How should we raise our children in this kind of society? How should they act or to deal with our "childish" problems as adults. I'm pissed about our world but I am waiting for an actual adult to step up to clean up our childish mess."



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 United States society. Let us celebrate these outstanding hispanics.



Josefina Lopez

At age 26, Josefina Lopez is the most produced Latina playwright in the country. Writing since age 17, her first play, "Simply Maria or the American Dream" aired on PBS-TV in 1988. Two years later she began working on her 1994 hit, "Real Women Have Curves." The play grossed over \$1 million and launched Lopez as one of the most produced playwrights in the country. Teaming with Jon Mercedes III, Mercedes/Lopez Productions has three production deals for TV pilots. Among them are the NBC production, "La Fiesta," a comedy variety half-hour show and, "The Chavez Family," a collaboration with Norman Lear. An extraordinary talent, Lopez is the first Latina writer to have a drama and a comedy being developed and produced for TV simultaneously. (Photo courtesy of Shane Sato)

About The Cover Artist Cassie Gnehm

Provided by Rigoberto Luna

The cover art this week is a Painting of Madame Candelaria by Cassie Gnehm. The painting is part special outdoor exhibit featuring the works of 11 San Antonio artists curated by Rigoberto Luna. "Alive in Memory & Spirit" is a visual interpretation of some of the critical contributors to San Antonio, the Missions and the surrounding area. Each of the large-scale reproductions of original artworks commissioned by the World Heritage Office is a traditional or non-traditional portrait of these departed individuals whose memories are celebrated and honored. Artists for this exhibit include: Fernando Andrade, Richard Arredondo, David Blancas, Adriana M. Garcia, Cassie Gnehm, Omar Gonzalez, Raul Rene Gonzalez, Christopher Montoya, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Eva Marengo Sanchez, and Jesus Treviño.

Cassie Gnehm is an artist and educator whose work focuses on the representa-

tion of women in historical paintings and pop culture. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Columbus College of Art and Design and her Master of Fine Arts from West Virginia University. Gnehm was awarded residences at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts as well as the Vermont Studio Center.

Gnehm's work examines the representation of the female body throughout art history and contemporary culture. By repainting and collaging over these historical figures Gnehm takes back control of the female form and draws comparisons between bodies past and present.

The subject on the cover, Madam Candelaria, became a household name for her many accomplishments. An excellent cook, socialite, philanthropist, and caregiver, she raised twenty-two orphan children. Candelaria often told numerous stories of nursing an ailing Jim Bowie during the siege on the Alamo. We may

never know for sure about her presence at the battle. However, she was granted a pension and honored with a full military funeral.

Dia de Muertos is a time to celebrate the lives of our relatives, ancestors, and members of the community. The indigenous peoples of Mexico did not grieve the dead. They celebrated their spirit and honored their memory. The outdoor exhibit Alive in Memory and Spirit is a visual interpretation of some of the critical contributors to San Antonio, the Missions, and the surrounding area. We celebrate the significant impact on our shared history of these individuals and their families.

"Learning about these histories was equally fulfilling as working with each of the artists. Each artwork is as unique and rich as the subjects they portray," Luna said. "The opportunity to work directly with descendant families made it all the more special because these stories are not only essential to the mission communities,

but also to the fabric of San Antonio's history."

The curator would like to offer special thanks to: Susan Snow, Archeologist, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park
James Oliver, Landscape Architect, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park
Mike Maspero, Arthur Maspero and the Maspero Family
Peter Rodriguez and the Sandoval/Flores Family
Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word Archives
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the University of the Incarnate Word.

Mary L. Jinks, Director of Technical Services at the University of the Incarnate Word.
Brenda Pacheco, Ruben Richard Bravo and Patricia Ann Ramirez, Descendants of Alvin Chapapa Pacheco
Hope Trevino and Johnny Hernandez, Children of Alvin Hernandez
Ramon Juan Vasquez, Execu-

tive Director, American Indians In Texas At The Spanish Colonial Missions

Rebecca Simmons, Executive Director, El Camino de San Antonio Missions

Claudia R. Guerra, Cultural Historian, City of San Antonio, Office of Historical Preservation

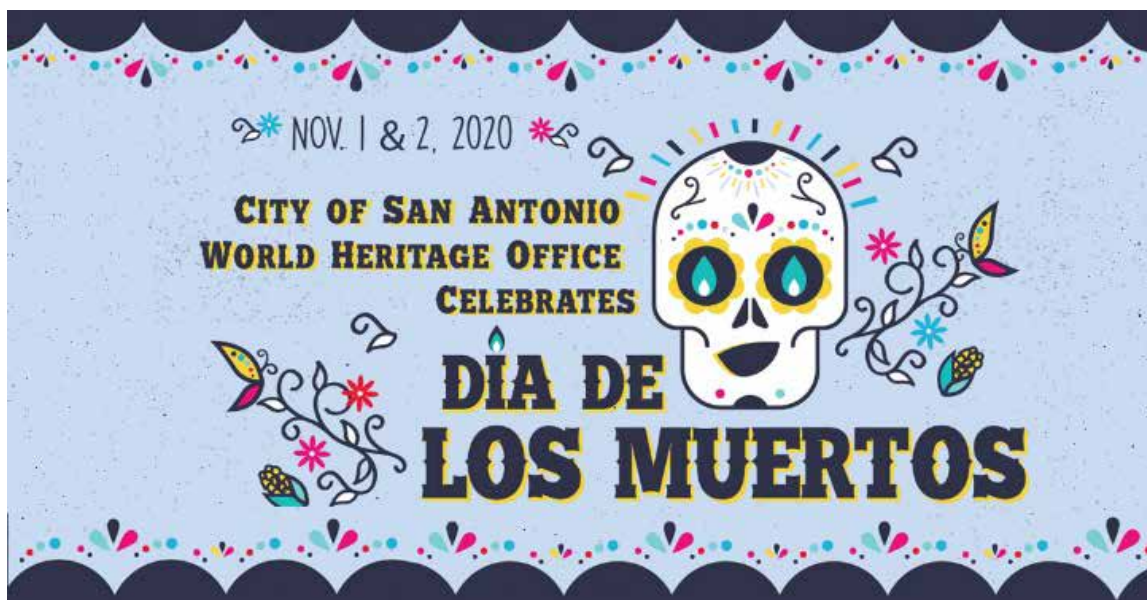
Terry A. Ybanez, President of Mission San Jose Neighborhood Association

Benjamin Wolinsky, Intern, National Park Service

The outdoor exhibit will remain on display at Mission Marquee Plaza, 3100 Roosevelt Ave., beginning November 1 through the end of December. Guests can view the exhibit from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, and are encouraged to practice social distancing and wear face coverings when visiting. More information on the exhibit is available at www.missionmarquee.com.

More information on the artist is available at cassiegnehm.com

(Photo of the artist courtesy of The Episcopal School of Texas)



Marina Zepeda, celebró en grande su cumpleaños con familia y amistades

Por Franco

La gentil y apreciada señora Marina Zepeda, con motivo de su cumpleaños, en diferentes eventos especiales, recibió felicitaciones y buenos deseos. Tanto de su estimada familia, su afortunado esposo el beisbolista Freddy Rodríguez, sus hijos Junior Rodríguez, también beisbolista, y los menores Danny y Peter, y de excelentes amistades.

Marina Zepeda “La Bombón”, como le llama su amiga Gysel Sánchez, con anticipación, fue notificada por

los esposos Griselda “La Águila Mayor” Pérez y Héctor “Chino” Ibarra (dueños de la franquicia de béisbol Águilas de Nava SA), para que concurriera a cena en su honor que le fue ofrecida el sábado 10 de octubre (en casa de los anfitriones).

Entre los invitados se contó con la asistencia de amistades y paisanos de Nava, Coahuila. La familia Castro, familia Cantú, y su compadre Zapata, los esposos Claudia y Johnny López (él es jugador del equipo campeón Piratas

de Sabinas SA y club Potros de Potranco).

La cena consistió de mini tacos de carne asada, que fueron acompañados por deliciosas salsas, cilantro, cebolla asada y frijoles, cocinados especialmente por la señora Nena Martínez, quien junto con su esposo Benito Martínez, la felicitaron muy en especial (manager, coach y jugador de equipos de beisbol categoría Veteranos).

De acuerdo a la feliz cumpleaños, la receta de frijoles guisados es exclusiva de sus

compadres Nena y Benito, por lo que la cena fue del gusto de todos los asistentes, que en varias ocasiones brindaron por la felicidad de Marina y su querida familia.

En lugar de pastel, Marina, poso con delicioso pastelillo, sin faltar la tradicional embarada en los momentos de darle la primera mordida. “Feliz porque me han acompañado mis familiares, invitados y los anfitriones esposos Griselda y Héctor. Agradezco a Dios por las bendiciones recibidas para celebrar mi cumpleaños”,

dijo emocionada la dichosa cumpleañosera, quien es gran aficionada del béisbol independiente local, ya que así puede estar admirando las acciones de los partidos en los que siempre se destacan su esposo Freddy Sr., y Junior. En las fotos aparecen: Marina Zepeda, feliz rodeada por amistades y la estimada anfitriona Griselda Pérez (cuarta de derecha a izquierda). Freddy Rodríguez, felicitando a su esposa Marina Zepeda. (Fotos por Franco)



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LULAC District 15 Early Vote Car Caravan

Photos by Ramon Chapa Jr.

Led by City Councilman Roberto Trevino, Members of Lulac District 15, Neighborhood Presidents and La Prensa Texas, an Early Vote Car Caravan was held Saturday to remind people to Go Vote!



Su Voto Es Su Voz



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La Vida de los Muertos Guadalupe's Virtual 2020 Experience

By Anaí Ramirez

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center presents La Vida de los Muertos on Sunday, November 1, at 6:00pm featuring the Guadalupe Dance Company, Guadalupe Dance Academy, and Mariachi Guadalupe. For one night only, the Aztec Lord of the Underworld, Mictlantecuhltli, and his wife, Mictecacihuatl, will connect LIVE with our audience to celebrate Día de los Muertos.

This special, bilingual performance will air on the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center's YouTube channel

and Facebook Page, and audience members will have the opportunity to interact and ask questions at the end of the live stream.

"Each year, the Dance Company members create a new theme and script that highlights the students of the Guadalupe Dance Academy and gives a little bit of insight to the cultural meaning and importance of Día de los Muertos. This year is no exception, with an added twist of some 2020 curiosities woven into the show," says Jeannette Chavez, Dance Director at the Guadalupe.

In this unprecedented

and tumultuous time in history, it is important to look for the positives. For the Guadalupe, that is the opportunity to continue sharing our art and culture with our students through online learning and our audiences through virtual programming. The Guadalupe is thrilled to provide access to our annual Día de los Muertos production to a broader audience through this virtual world we are living in.

With your support, The Guadalupe will continue to offer culturally enriching programming through online platforms. Please consider making a donation today by going to www.guadalupeculturalarts.org.



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City of San Antonio's Renters' Commission Survey

Deadline Extended to October 31

By Carlos Valenzuela

The Neighborhood and Housing Services Department (NHSD) has extended its Renters' Commission survey to October 31 to gather more input from San Antonians. The survey is available in English and Spanish at www.saspeak-up.com.

NHSD is charged with implementing the Housing Policy Framework (HPF) that serves as a guide to addressing San Antonio's local housing needs. The HPF shows that for those households renting or owning, approximately one out of every two renter households is cost-burdened (48%) compared to one out of every five owner households (21%). In June 2019, Councilmember Treviño, District 1, issued a Council Consideration Request for the creation of a Renters' Commission.

A proposed goal of this commission is to increase renter representation on City Boards & Commissions and elevate renter's issues in citywide discussions. Staff is currently analyzing local and national strategies to achieve the goal of increased renter representation and planning an engagement effort to involve people impacted by renters' issues into the process.

"Renters represent many diverse families, including ones who fall within the digital divide," stated Councilman Treviño. "This two-week extension will

give more residents the opportunity to make their voices heard."

Renters occupy 46 percent of the housing units in San Antonio. Median rent in San Antonio increased by 18 percent since 2010, while incomes have not kept pace. The median household income for renters is \$33,690, and nearly half of renters are housing cost-burdened, meaning that their ability to pay rent can be easily jeopardized. Renter protection issues have risen to the forefront in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Evictions filings have more than tripled in Bexar County since 2010, and Texas has no protections for renters based on sexual identity or use of vouchers; meaning that people can be evicted or denied based on those statuses.

Seven out of 10 African-Americans in San Antonio rent, while 56 percent of renters are Hispanic or Latino/a/x. Recent data from the Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) showed about nine out of 10 recipients of the Emergency Housing Assistance Program were renters. The average EHAP recipient made less than 30 percent of the area median income (AMI), while the majority of approved applicants were single females. The City is also hosting focus groups to receive additional input on the proposed Renters' Commission.

ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT
Purchasing & Contract Administration
Office: (210) 485-0100 Fax: (210) 486-9022

ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT BID/PROPOSAL INVITATION

The Alamo Colleges District is receiving sealed bids/proposals prior to 2:00 PM (CST), unless otherwise indicated, on the dates shown.

CSP# 21C-001 Purchase of Construction Services for Renovations to the Eastside Education & Training Center (EETC) for Alamo Colleges District
Deadline: November 19, 2020

Pre-Proposal meeting and site visit scheduled on November 5, 2020 at 9:00am at 4551 Dietrich Rd, SA, TX 78219.

Specifications are available by visiting Alamo College's District website: www.alamo.edu/district/purchasing/bids. For more information, contact Purchasing and Contract Administration (210) 485-0100.

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STUDENT OUTREACH

Espectacular apertura de Liga Invernal Potranco Veteranos 2020 Águilas de Veracruz ganó clásico dominical a Broncos en Colt 45

Por Sendero Deportivo

Con éxito se realizó la apertura de la Liga Invernal Potranco Veteranos 2020, que estará siendo coordinada por el presidente, compilador y comentarista, señor Simón Sánchez y el gerente general Eloy Rocha.

Los partidos se jugaron en el campo 1 del estadio Potranco Baseball Field, donde en el primer encuentro los Cachorros de Nava de Alejandro (Rábano) Becerra, en sorpresivo cierre derrotaron a Sultanes de Gabriel (La Puntada) Ruiz, con pizarra de 8 a 7 carreras.

Sultanes, en la última entrada estuvo arriba por score de 7-6. Nava, vino al ataque y con dos outs para finalizar el cerrado encuentro, con bases llenas, Oscar Rentería, pegó imparables trayéndose a la registradora a sus compañeros, Jesús González Cruz (La Coyo), y Víctor (El Caminante) Mercedes que anotaron la séptima y octava carreras con lo que dejaron en el terreno a Sultanes.

Por Cachorros, se anotó la victoria el lanzador derecho Manuel (Júnior) Arias, la derrota fue para el relevista JP Reza. Por la gente de Ruiz, comenzó en el montículo Hugo Méndez, le siguió Jorge Morales y Reza.

“El partido fue bueno, y cardíaco en la última entrada, se batalló para hacer el último out. Una buena experiencia en el comienzo de temporada”, apuntó Toño (El Pimpollo) García, coach y jugador de Sultanes. “El primer partido estuvo bien, el equipo seguirá acoplándose. Sé logró responder con el bateo, con el imparables de Oscar Rentería, nos puso por buen camino”, indicó Becerra.

Red Sox de Pedro Espinoza y el coach Catarino Obregón, entraron con el pie derecho, derrotando 9-5 a Missions SA, dirigidos por el jugador Mike Tobhan. La victoria se la anotó Alfredo Obregón, con salvamento para Raúl Alfaro, quien logró dominar en varias ocasiones la artillería de los misioneros.

El presidente Sánchez, agradeció respaldo de los ampáyeres Lalo Torres, El Pato Gutiérrez, y José Mendoza, quienes se estarán repartiendo en partes iguales, las cuotas que se cobran a los equipos

por sus respectivos servicios sobre el terreno de juego. Resultados del cuadrangular Masters que coordina Sánchez. Tecos de Laredo (actual campeón), derrotó a los Atléticos. Rangers de Benito Martínez y Rábano Becerra, derrotaron a los Astros de Frank Torres con pizarra de 10-8.

Liga Independiente San Antonio del presidente Adalberto Campos, registro los resultados Harper 10-9 ante Astros. Charros Potosinos derrotó 9-3 a Rieleros. Potros de Eloy Rocha, dirigidos por Manuel (El Rojo) Rábago, se impuso 26-14 ante Rangers. Este domingo 25 de octubre en el clásico lo jugarán, Harper del presidente Campos, que es el líder y Potros como sublíder de la temporada en el horario de las 12 p.m. en el campo 1 del estadio Potranco.

En el histórico Colt 45 Baseball Field, que administra Jaime Guerrero, estos fueron los resultados de liga Abierta dominical. Indios de

Nava blanqueo 7-0 a los Bravos en lo que fue partido estelar sabatino, mismo que celebraron sus directivos Juan (Pachín) Martínez y Rudy Barrientez. Pickman de Elías Contreras derrotó 6-5 al duro Highsox del Marine, Eddy Rodríguez, con victoria monticular de Jared Flores y salvamento para Travis Torres. Piratas de Sabinas derrotó 6-2 al tricampeón Bobcats de John Guzmán. Victoria celebrada en grande por el timonel Sergio De Luna, sus coaches Iván Rubinsky, Mauricio Esparza y el capitán Brayan Guerrero. Águilas de Veracruz, campeón del pasado playoff, bajo la dirección del manager Luis Cerros y el coach Manuel (La Liebre) Limón, con cerrada pizarra de 4-3 ganaron el clásico dominical al trabuco de Broncos de Reynosa SA de los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza. El partido fue un duelo entre los lanzadores de Broncos Jorge González (dejó el partido ganado

2-0), el relevista Jason Manzueta. Juan Serrano de Veracruz, que dejó la lomita con pizarra a favor de 4-3 carreras, y el valioso relevista Víctor Mateo, quien cerró el noveno capítulo, con labor de dos ponches y un elevado al jardín central, retirando en el orden a los tres rivales que tuvieron la presión para cuando menos embazarse y posteriormente emparejar el scores. En las fotos aparecen Manzueta. Mateo. Sultanes y Cachorros. Red Sox y Missions SA. (Fotos por Franco).



CPS Energy mantiene el compromiso de tener energía accesible, fiable y ambiental



BY DR. WILLIS MACKEY

Me interesa servir a nuestra comunidad, como vicepresidente de la Junta de Fiduciarios de CPS Energy, va mucho más allá del deseo de aprovechar mi liderazgo organizacional y mis habilidades de supervisión financiera. También está incentivado por mi profundo compromiso con los mejores intereses de nuestra comunidad y basado en mis primeras experiencias profesionales en la apasionante industria energética.

Pocas personas saben que antes de comenzar mi carrera de servicio de 30 años en educación, trabajé en varios sectores de la industria energética. Como conductor comercial con licencia, operaba camiones grúa que brindaban servicio eléctrico a la ciudad de Luling. En la antigua Thigpen Electric Company en Luling, Texas, aseguré el flujo continuo de electricidad a las bombas de los yacimientos petrolíferos. Luego, mientras trabajaba en Phillips Petroleum Gas Company en Fentress, Texas, trabajé en las instalaciones de transmisión de la subestación. Cada experiencia en el campo de la energía fue un desafío único y emocionante. Como fiduciario, ahora estoy liderando, contribuyendo y obteniendo un conocimiento profundo desde una perspectiva diferente.

En CPS Energy, tenemos la suerte de contar con el firme liderazgo de la Presidenta y Directora Ejecutiva, Paula Gold-Williams, la dedicación de más de 3,100 profesionales con experiencia en nuestra fuerza laboral y un grupo diverso de fiduciarios con experiencia y orientación estratégica. Juntos, esta gran combinación nos dirige hacia un futuro energético prometedor y responsable. No solo estoy orgulloso de los éxitos de CPS Energy hasta la fecha, sino también de nuestro intenso enfoque en la **responsabilidad ambiental**.

A nivel nacional, CPS Energy es líder con 1,000 megavatios de energía eólica y cerca de 600 megavatios de energía solar, lo que equivale a más del 20% de nuestra capacidad actual de generación de energía. La empresa

de servicios públicos de su comunidad es el productor número uno de energía solar en Texas y ocupa el puesto número 5 en la nación. Además, nuestro creativo **Flexible Path** materializa el compromiso de nuestro equipo de reemplazar las unidades de combustibles fósiles con más fuentes de energía renovables y tecnologías energéticas nuevas y efectivas.

Como fiduciario, tengo la visión de acelerar nuestros esfuerzos ambientales y, al mismo tiempo, mantener nuestros sistemas eléctricos y de gas natural **accesibles, seguros y resilientes** para todos nuestros clientes: cada detalle importa.

Nuestro programa de ahorro y eficiencia energética, el **plan de ahorro de energía para el futuro**, o **STEP**, ha tenido un gran éxito y ha sido premiado. A pesar de la presión impulsada por el continuo crecimiento de la población de San Antonio, **STEP** evitó con éxito la necesidad de construir una nueva central eléctrica de combustibles fósiles en 2012.

Nuestra Directora Ejecutiva y su equipo también crearon otro camino fundamental para la energía limpia y la innovación a través del **FlexPOWER Bundle**, diseñado conceptualmente para ayudar a agregar casi 900 megavatios de energía solar, almacenamiento de baterías y “capacidad reafirmando”. La capacidad reafirmando del **FlexPOWER Bundle** es fundamental porque estabilizará los niveles de energía cuando el sol no brilla o cuando no sopla el viento. El otro aspecto emocionante de fortalecer la capacidad reafirmando es que proporciona otra tecnología nueva en nuestra búsqueda continua de “pensar globalmente y actuar localmente”, aportando aún más valor a nuestra comunidad.

Como punto independiente de validación, las Agencias Internacionales de Calificación Crediticia otorgan continuamente a CPS Energy calificaciones comerciales

sólidas por mantener tarifas accesibles para los clientes, estrategias de administración prudentes, costos operativos bajos, responsabilidad financiera sólida y fiduciarios financieros conservadores que respaldan a los retirados que dedicaron sus carreras a proporcionar excelencia energética para San Antonio.

Tanto la Junta de Fiduciarios de CPS Energy como el equipo administrativo agradecen los comentarios y sugerencias de nuestra comunidad. Si bien estamos decididos a adoptar nuevas soluciones energéticas, nos damos cuenta de que debemos tener cuidado de no apresurarnos a adoptar enfoques que puedan poner en peligro nuestros compromisos con nuestros clientes y nuestra comunidad. Cerca de casa, vemos ejemplos donde los compromisos arbitrarios con plazos acelerados para convertirse en 100% renovables, ahora están causando serios desafíos económicos y de confiabilidad a los clientes y las comunidades. Por lo tanto, nuestro compromiso, ante todo, sigue siendo mantener prudentemente la **accesibilidad para el cliente, el trabajo seguro, la resiliencia y la estabilidad financiera**.

Mi compromiso personal como Fiduciario, consecuentemente, es asegurar que escuchemos voces diversas, que nuestro equipo de liderazgo siga siendo responsable ante todos nuestros clientes y que la administración se mantenga enfocada en tomar decisiones equilibradas que nos lleven cuidadosamente hacia un futuro energético cada vez más limpio.

El Dr. Willis Mackey es el vicepresidente de la Junta de Fiduciarios de CPS Energy y representa al cuadrante sureste. Obtuvo su doctorado en la Universidad Texas A&M. Es un administrador/superintendente de escuelas públicas retirado que ahora dirige un negocio de consultoría que sirve a los distritos escolares de todo el estado de Texas.



Caminos Reales/Kings Highways

by Rudi R. Rodriguez, 10.20.20

In the late 1680's, New Spain had become alarmed because of French incursions into its northern most undeveloped territory. As such, it organized its forces and sent them to explore and determine to what extent the French had made inroads. In June of 1690, after several attempts to locate the French, Gen. Alonzo de Leon, the younger, discovered the ruins of Fort La Salle in the Matagorda Bay area. As a result, New Spain issued orders to begin the exploration, colonization and Christianization of the Native Americans in their new undeveloped area to become known as the Province of Texas.

All of the initial and continued expeditions began at the Presidio del Norte and the San Juan Baptista Mission which was fifteen miles below present-day Eagle Pass Texas on the banks of the Rio Grande River. Nearby, there was a natural ford known as "Paso de La Francia", French Pass. The ford had a solid rock bottom and only about six inches of water running over it. This shallow river condition allowed both men and horses to cross without problems. All of the New Spain forces would begin their treks here and proceed northeast to the Sabine River and other points north.

The commanders of these first expeditions would recruit their troops from the nearby presidios and receive the bulk of their supplies from Monclova and Saltillo Coahuila. All of their men, horses, and quartermaster supplies would arrive at the presidio to begin their departure. The Franciscan Padres would also come for the journey to the new Province of Tejas. Later, the crossing was referred to as the "gateway" to the new province. Years later, Laredo would replace it as the most well-known crossing.

Although initial journeys discovered Indian and animal trails traversing the current counties of Maverick, Zavalla, Frio,

Atascosa, and Medina, the first expeditionary forces numbered around seventy-five mounted cavalymen, a remuda of 500 hundred head of cattle and hogs and the remaining quartermaster supplies and other personnel. This resulted in a long military caravan challenged to move in concert through the wilderness to reach its final destination in the east.

Other historians have reported that there were existing animal and Native American trails in the woods that would have made travel easier for the military mission. I submit that these trails would not have accommodated the large and almost unwieldy expeditions that required sufficient space for transportation of the soldiers, animals, and supplies. At best, the native trails would have signaled a way to water and back to the many wilderness areas the natives occupied. Yet, the military would still need to develop strategic maps of travel to its destinations and back along with tactical means to ford rivers, protect against hostile actions and develop roads to provide transportation for its military missions.

The first leg of the expeditions generally crossed the Nueces and Frio Rivers and arrived at the Medina or the San Antonio Riverbanks as a half-way point to presidios and missions in the east. These rivers had good running water and were teeming with fish. The military developed "Parajes", stopping points to rest, reconnoiter and reassemble its expeditions. Often, flooding of these rivers caused traffic to move further north or south to enable the fording of the rivers. Also, hostile Native American actions contributed to the roads to move further south to avoid combat.

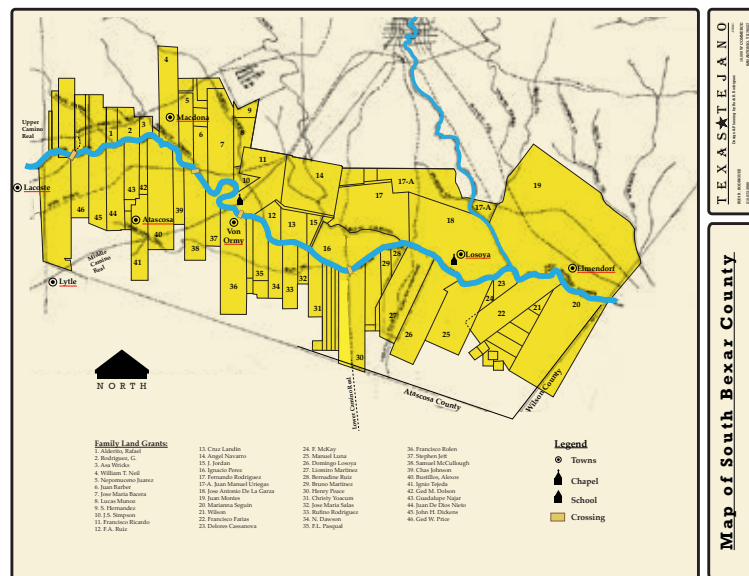
From the Medina "Paraje" the forces would continue northeast and establish "Parajes" at the Guadalupe, Colorado, Brazos, Trinity, Neches, Angelina, and

the Sabine Rivers. The original march was to the new Capital of "Los Adaes" in present-day Robine, Louisiana. From these military efforts, some of the trails would be incorporated and improved for travel and other sections of roads would be constructed for suitable transportation. Major stopping points moving east were San Marcos, Austin, Bastrop, and Nacogdoches. Continued military and civilian use improved the Camino Real emanating from the south to the east.

Adding to the increased development of the Camino Reales network, the roads emanating out of the Villa de Bexar, San Antonio, were the roads to Goliad, San Saba, Laredo, and beyond. These roads initially served the presidios and missions in the north and south to the Gulf of Mexico. All of these roads served to provide transportation for troops and supplies to their final destinations.

Ultimately, San Antonio became the hub to supply the far-off presidios and missions. The city still has many remnants of the "Old Camino Reale", for example, Laredo street still goes to Laredo, Texas, Nacogdoches Street goes to Nacogdoches, Texas. Goliad and San Saba Streets still lead to the old presidios and missions in Goliad and San Saba, Texas.

The Caminos Reales, King's Highway, was indeed an important part of the original military mission to explore and protect its borders and ultimately served as a transportation network for colonization of the entire province. The first soldier settlers of the Texas frontier who became known as Tejanos were responsible for the construction, maintenance, and use of the Camino Reales. This contribution to the early development of Texas is an important legacy and heritage of the story of the native Tejanos! Also, this road system contributed to the transportation network of the American Southwest. Viva Tejanos!



- (1) Map Of New Spain and Texas
- (2) El Camino Reales through Texas
- (3) Map Of South Bexar County

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Movies By Latinos Are Good, But So Few

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

During Hispanic Heritage Month, [September 15-October 12] Latinos celebrated their culture and acknowledged their rich history. Many of us have in the past attended events with music and dance, and all of us are accustomed to hearing speeches, poetry, and songs inspired by our dynamic history and culture.

This year, however, most of us stayed home, not only because of the pandemic, but also because of a weak economy which has produced record job losses and an unprecedented number of work reductions and furloughs. Celebration is sadly not at the top of our “to do” list. But, while we are sheltered in place, we can watch some Latino movies.

The more movies we watch, however, the more we realize that Hollywood either doesn’t know Latinos exist, or thinks that movies made in Mexico or South America are sufficient for our film artistic tastes and appetites. The New York Times Sunday edition on October 4 cleared up a few things and nicely explained why we have a serious shortage of Latino movies that we can watch via Netflix or Amazon Prime, now the preferred sources for many movie fans.

Film critic Carlos Aguilar, a native of Madrid, Spain, lives in Los Angeles and is one of the nation’s most prolific writers on Latino films. His film reviews appear regularly in the Los Angeles Times and New York Times. When Jennifer Lopez, [J-Lo], did not receive an Oscar nomination for her role in “Hustlers,” Aguilar wrote in the New York Times: “J.Lo Was Robbed. Latinas Were Robbed.” Aguilar added: “A kind reminder that the Spanish-born Antonio Banderas, who earned a deserved nomination for best actor for “Pain and Glory,” is not Latinx.”

Aguilar raises a good point about Latino or Latinx identity. He excluded Banderas because Banderas is a Spaniard. Will everyone from Spain or Latin American countries who emigrated to the United States eventually qualify as a Latino/a? We do not have any information regarding Banderas’ citizenship. I would consider Salma Hayek, who was born in Mexico, a Latina because she has been a U.S. citizen for several years. Hayek was nominated for best actress for her lead role in Frida, a 2002 film which was not mentioned by Aguilar, but one that I recommend.

Aguilar excludes movies about Mexico or South America in his New York Times review and emphasizes U.S. Latinos in his title “American Latinos, Onscreen and Up Close.” His review is a “spotlight on 20 essential films of the past two decades.” I am a big movie fan, but honestly, I had not seen more than half of the movies he recommended. It is an excellent list, and I plan to keep the list with an intent to see all of his selections.

On Aguilar’s list is the wonderful film, “Tortilla Soup,” a 2001 movie I recently saw and which reminded me of “Like Water for Chocolate,” a 1992 Mexican film where many of the scenes are in the kitchen. The film “Tortilla Soup,” with veteran actor Hector Elizondo in the role of a gifted chef and father of three young women living at home, engages its audience because it doesn’t suffocate viewers with stereotypes.

“Tortilla Soup” was a hit for me. I especially liked Elizabeth Pena in her role as the older sister [she was 42 years of age in 2001]. I am sad that she passed away in 2014. In his review, Aguilar quotes Elizondo who states that he made the movie “because it was an empowering movie about love. And who’s going to

argue with a movie about food, romance, and family?”

I look forward to seeing three movies mentioned by Aguilar: “Dolores” [2017], directed by Peter Bratt, features the organizing struggles undertaken by labor leader Dolores Huerta. I met Dolores Huerta, the great labor leader numerous times when she was the United Farm Workers’ vice president working with Cesar Chavez. Of special interest to me is “Walkout,” [2006] produced by Moctezuma Esparza. I taught in the Los Angeles schools when Latinos walked out of the Eastside schools in 1968. I also attended the University of California Los Angeles [UCLA] with Esparza. In 1970 when I met Esparza, there were fewer than 200 Latino students enrolled at UCLA and everyone knew one another.

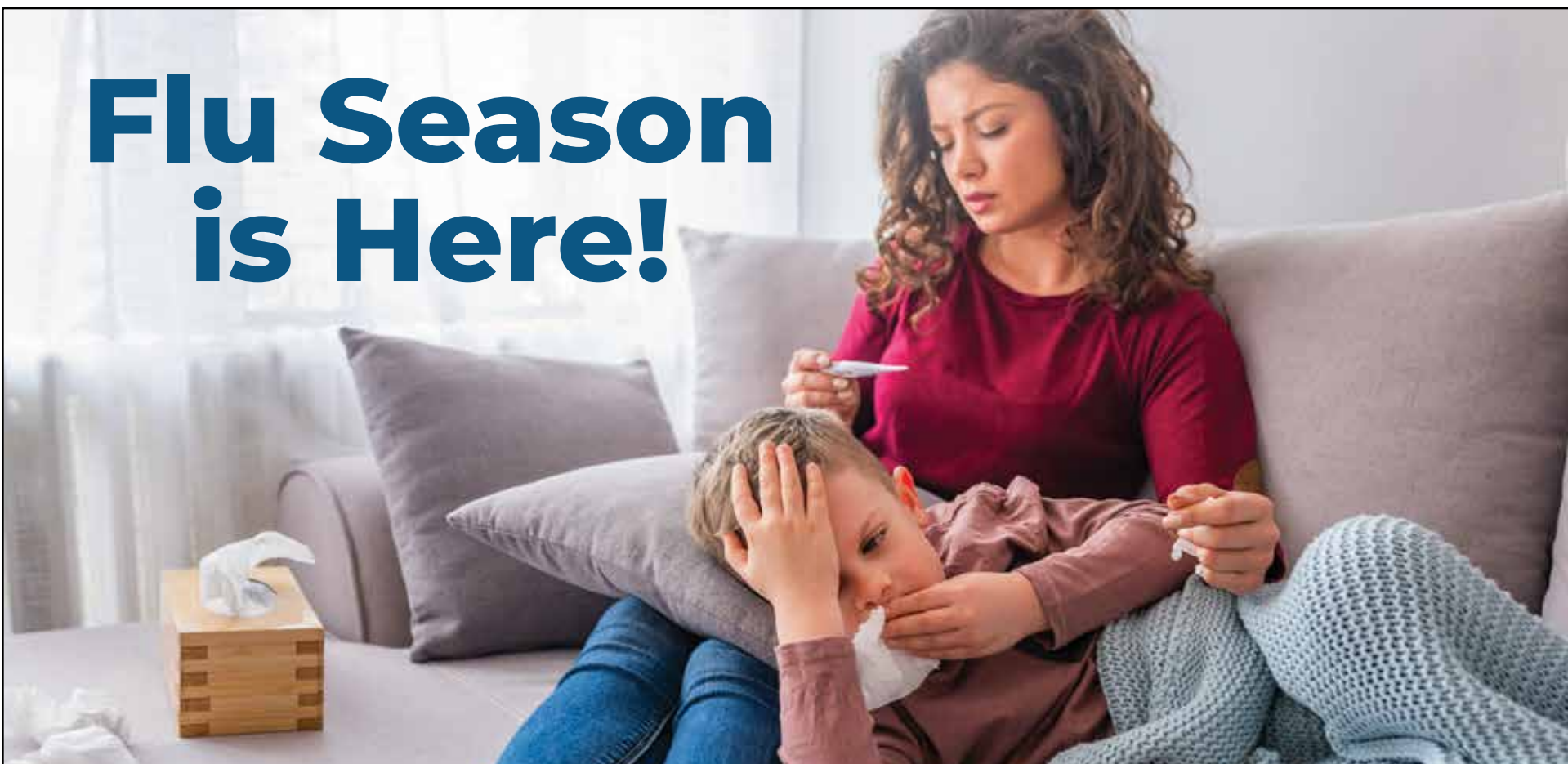
There is also “Southwest of Salem: The Story of the San Antonio Four,” a movie directed by native Texan Deborah S. Esquenazi. In the late 1990s four Latina lesbian women were wrongfully convicted for allegedly gang-raping two young girls in San Antonio, Texas. The film took seven years to make and legal scholars credit Esquenazi’s journalistic diligence with eventually leading to the women’s exoneration in

2016. The accusers recanted their story, and the four were released after spending nearly 15 years in prison. Esquenazi’s film was cited in the first paragraph of the court opinion.

I have seen “Spy Kids” by director Robert Rodriguez, and became a fan of his when he produced “El Machete,” a 1993 Sundance film festival winner. Aguilar does not mention any other Rodriguez movies. There are more than a dozen, but sometimes we have to do our own research to add to what the critics recommend. Another recent favorite of mine is “East Side Sushi” [2014] that presents a Latina’s struggle in Oakland, California for recognition of her culinary talents.

The pandemic may be with us for several more months, and there are health options that we should follow: wearing a mask, observing safe social distance, and washing hands often. Many of us will not be going to movie theaters, [many are closing] bars, or indoor events where there are large audiences. So, I recommend a fair share of microwave popcorn and watching a good Latino movie.

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COMPRÁ AHORA

River City Ghosts Launches Four New Ways To Enjoy Halloween in San Antonio

By Josef Kruger

Covid-19 adaptations introduce four new initiatives including haunted dolls, Alexa app, streaming ghost tours at home, and self-guided mobile app

1. Ghostflix

This Halloween season, sit back, eat some snacks, and enjoy both live streaming and pre-recorded guided ghost tours at home. River City Ghosts has made their popular ghost tour of Downtown San Antonio available across the country, launching GhostFlix, an on-demand streaming platform for haunted experiences across the country. Since launching in July, hundreds of viewers have tuned in to walk with local guides through over fifteen cities across the US to visit their most haunted locations and hear their most terrifying stories. Viewers no longer have to travel across the country to experience River City Ghosts tour, or explore other haunted destinations across the nation. Guests can type questions and hear answers from passionate local guides who lead the in-person tours or experience past ghost tours in the city of their choice on demand. Shows start at \$13 for on-demand tours, or \$15 for live streamed tours. To watch a tour, viewers may visit www.rivercityghosts.com/ghostflix.

2. Lily: Host a ghost

This October, set the mood by welcoming a new friend into your house. Her name is Lily, and she's a haunted doll and effigy, following a Viking tradition to ward off evil spirits. She is modeled after the Countess Elizabeth Báthory, commonly referred to as the female Dracula. She is surprisingly effective at both warding off ghosts and scaring your friends.

A terrified person contacted the team with reports of a doll that she found outside her apartment and brought inside. It would move on its own and turn lights off and on. She couldn't stand it anymore and sent it to the River City Ghosts team. After videos captured it moving on its own, and people saw it, demand grew for people to host Lily at their own home. Thus was born a Halloween season tradition used to scare friends and family, and to ward off other ghosts. This year, everyone can use Lily in their home: on a porch, by a nightlight, or put her on a shelf. Lily is the "Elf on the Shelf" for Halloween season and can be found at www.rivercityghosts.com/lily

3. Turn Your Phone into a Ghost Tour Guide with iOS and Android App.

The ultimate social distanced tour

River City Ghosts was forced to shut down in-person led tours for months due to COVID-19. In response, the company launched an iOS and Android app that turns your phone into a tour guide. The app combines actor narrated voice, images, video, text, GPS triggers, voice navigation, and a map and route. Guests can now enjoy self-guided tours on location, using the app to walk them through the streets to each haunted location, whenever, and with whomever they want.

The app will take users to the Riverwalk, where dozens of ghosts lurk under the picturesque river scene or to La Villita, where a crazy doctor boiled heads in his front yard to study the skulls, and the smell lingers to this day. In addition to San Antonio, the app also lets users take ghost tours in cities across the country. An engrossing audio narrative and spooky images bring the fun, informative and creepy atmosphere of the tour to wherever you happen to take the tour.

4. Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant Voice Apps

Just in time for Halloween season, River City Ghosts has launched the first voice app to tell ghost stories on Amazon Alexa and Google Home. The voice app lets people to listen to ghost stories from any device equipped with Amazon Alexa or Google Assistant, delivering over 100 voice actor narrated ghost stories from over 20 cities. To use the app, simply say the invocation words:

River City Ghosts offers guided walking ghost tours year-round. Founded in 2018, River City Ghosts delivers entertaining ghost tours with stories largely rooted in history and real world hauntings and events, a foundation for authenticity rooted in well-researched ghost stories and interviews with people who have experienced hauntings. Tours are popular with visitors and locals alike and offer fun for all ages. Tickets start at \$12. For more information, visit www.rivercityghosts.com/





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