

LA PRENSA TEXAS

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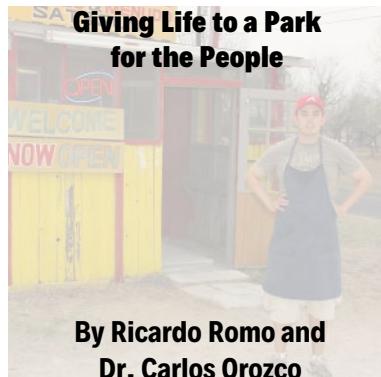


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Giving Life to a Park for the People



Por Franco

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temporada en el Oeste



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About the Cover Artist:
Eva Marengo Sanchez



Courtesy of 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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Let's Talk About It

How did President Trump do during his Presidency?

By Yvette Tello

President Donald Trump's administration is ending. Trump himself keeps to the Oval Office, still fighting the Election Day results and offering scant acknowledgement of the death and suffering Americans are bearing in the darkest hours of the COVID-19 pandemic. What do you think? How did he do as a President? Let's talk about it...

Sally Venner Rhodes: "Absolutely horrible! He's going out the way he came in, without dignity and integrity!"

Monica Michelle Ramos: "In my opinion, I think that he might have done some good things but overall, and especially with the handling of the virus, he divided the country with his name calling and narcissistic behavior. I believe no president will be perfect to everyone but Trump's behavior seems a bit childish to me. He lacks compassion and humility and kindness! We need more of that in this world!!!"

Kim Petree Eplee: "One of the best Presidents we've ever had. Maybe not next year, but eventually, history will reflect all the things he did for all Americans."

Mario Rodriguez Sr.: "Best ever because he did all he promised."

Biela RobnEliz : "On January 6th, 2021 a Contingent Election and dueling electors will change what seems to be a done deal for Biden. Quit depending on the liberal media and downloading cute gifs and remember your education in civics and government. Please do a little research and understand that January 6th is still pending the final decision."

Jen JT Guerrero: "The best president in my lifetime. He may be rough around the edges, but candor don't make a president, ACTIONS do."

Jerry Kitchen: "Best president we've had since Ronald Reagan. The fact he's gotten the world to look at our corrupt system will forever change the world."

Juan Carrillo: "Did more for America in his 4 years in office than buffon Biden has done in 47."

Jeffrey Molina Jr.: "By far the most unfit and mentally challenged President in history. He was a literal walking conspiracy theorist."

Jacob Martinez: "Failed. The working class did not benefit, he did. I got laid off cuz of the jerk off."

Fernando Mojica: "Bad, he is one of our worst presidents ever. Nothing but lies after lies. No Bueno! Glad we got rid of this clown."

Jill Laskowski: "Awesome, was the only president that kept all of his promises, and protected America. We are doomed for the next 4 years."

Mike Miller-Sims: "I suppose it's how you measure success. If the metrics examined include lying to the American public daily, protecting Russia, making his cronies wealthier, acting like a 4 year old, killing over 300,000 people because of his inability to manage a pandemic, and pardoning those who should clearly be in prison, then yeah... he's clearly exceeded expectation. I cannot wait to see what the Southern District of New York has waiting for him on January 21!"

Joey Judith Rodriguez: "I love president Trump. He gave his heart for our country, he was challenged to get our country on track, plus getting the vaccine to help save our lives. Trump just made Biden's life easier and he will never be credited."

Amanda Cena: "I am saddened to my core to see how so many believe in him. We have never seen an administration behave in this manner. Firings, quitting left and right. And yet his supporters still believe in sending him money, I am sure it surpassed 200 million. Our country is not perfect by any means but I never thought I would witness all I have. It's sad and shocking, because of his hate and evil he continues and so many are on board with it."

Beverley McClure: "The most divisive, narcissistic, and destructive President who never earned

my respect."

Pam Canellis: "Great. He worked for the American people for free and donated his money to charities. He lowered unemployment and stopped Americans from being penalized and forced to pay fees for choosing not to have health coverage."

Walter Papi Pabon: "Remember he loves people that are not educated...this was said during one of his illiterate speeches. His behavior is what brought out those dummies who felt that he is a real president. Those are the same people who would marry a family member."

Robbie Esterline Jr.: "He is the best president we've ever had. He worked for us the people, but now we are gonna have to pay all of our hard earned paycheck to the government and to Joe Biden so he can become richer off of the people."

Augusta Collins: "He can't even answer the questions asked of him or deliver a speech in a Presidential manner."

Barbara Porter: "He's the best president we will ever have because the democrats have found a way to steal the votes now and forever!!!"

Maria Martinez Crump: "WORST PRESIDENT IN MODERN HISTORY. HE DID NOTHING FOR THE PEOPLE JUST FOR HIMSELF! ASHAMED OF HIM!"

Mark Jay Diekman: "He's going to look like an Angel when Biden is done with us."

Raquel Martina Martinez: "He put America first and never took pay for it. He was a little rough around the edges but what you saw is what you got. Since he wasn't a politician, he didn't learn to play the shmooze game and he outed the press and the career politicians and they hated him for it."

Christian Jett: "Worst, most corrupt president ever. He belongs in prison. All of the republicans in congress that have enabled him should be tried for treason." (Photo Courtesy of carlosbetancourt.com)



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.



Carlos Betancourt

In 1995 Carlos Betancourt was named one of People Magazine's "50 Most Beautiful People in the World," and Hispanic Magazine's "Under 30 and Successful." A model-turned-artist, he has been painting for 15 years. His work, which sells for as much as \$10,000, has been exhibited in art galleries and museums throughout the U.S and Latin America and featured in Cosmopolitan and Elle magazines. Both author Sandra Cisneros and actor Sylvester Stallone own Betancourt originals. Having once been a struggling artist, he knows how difficult it is to succeed. "But then again, " he says, "When everything else fails, you still have your art. It's a positive stimulation for the mind, soul and spirit." (Photo Courtesy of carlosbetancourt.com)

About the Cover Artist: Eva Marengo Sanchez

Courtesy of Rigoberto Luna

Eva Marengo Sanchez was born in 1990 on the south east side of San Antonio, TX where she has now returned and works as a painter. In 2006 she joined the teen program Bee Nation at Southwest School of Art where she first fell in love with classic oil painting. After earning her BA in Human Development and Social Relations from Earlham College in Richmond, in 2013, Sanchez traveled to Mexico City where she spent eight-months studying Spanish, Mesoamerican art and architecture, and art conservation. It was there that she began her obsession with food and in 2015 Sanchez returned to San Antonio and enrolled in drawing classes at San Antonio College to develop her skills as a draftswoman. In 2017 Sanchez first showed work using the idea of the still life and food as a way of talk about cultural identity and since then has continued to explore those ideas and develop her technique. She has now exhibit her work at galleries throughout San Antonio including S.M.A.R.T. gallery, Choice Goods, Flight gallery, Presa House gallery, as well as Casa de la Cultural in Del Rio, TX. and has recently completed murals at the San Antonio International Airport, North St. Mary's Strip (2332 N St. Mary's) and Blue Star Arts Complex.



The cover art featured this week is part of a special ongoing outdoor exhibit featuring the works of 11 San Antonio artists and 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. The painting on the cover

by Eva Marengo Sanchez explores the life of Sister Pauline Fierro (Panel 2B at the exhibit).

Sister Pauline Fierro, CCVI was one of three Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in 1915 who opened the Espada School, living there for 27 years. She was devoted to her students, who came from the Mission area families. In 1943, she brought the Von Trapp family singers to Espada School, and loved sharing the history of the Missions.

The outdoor exhibit celebrates the significant impact

on our shared history of these individuals and their families. At the core of the exhibition are 11 large scale reproductions of original artworks commissioned by the City of San Antonio's World Heritage Office. Each artist focuses on traditional and non-traditional portraits, revealing the qualities that made them an essential part of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Artists for this exhibit include: Fernando Andrade, Richard Arredondo, David Blancas, Adriana M. Garcia, Cassie Gnehm, Omar Gonzalez, Raul Rene Gonzalez, Chris-

topher Montoya, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Eva Marengo Sanchez, and Jesus Treviño.

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. (Artist Photo Courtesy of evamarengosanchez.com)

Concierto “Cuhntry and Birria” gran Éxito

Por Franco

Una excelente aceptación tuvo el primer concierto musical del género Country, denominado “Cuhntry and Birria”.

El evento qué fue filmando pará vídeo de medios digitales domésticos, contó con el respaldo de los esposos

Betty y Arnulfo Martínez y su hijo Abel Mota Jr., dueños y gerente general respectivamente del puesto de comida ambulante El Cevichero (ubicado en el 1023 Cupples Road y Kirk Place).

El concierto fue amenizado por Nate De León (cantautor y guitarrista), Vinny Tovar,

cantante y guitarrista, quién regularmente ameniza sobre el moderno escenario.

Ambos complacieron a los asistentes, interpretando temas de su extenso repertorio.

Los esposos Martínez, presentaron el delicioso platillo tacos de birria de res y consomé. Con ello estarán reforzando su menú especializado en ceviche de camarón y otros platillos de pescado.

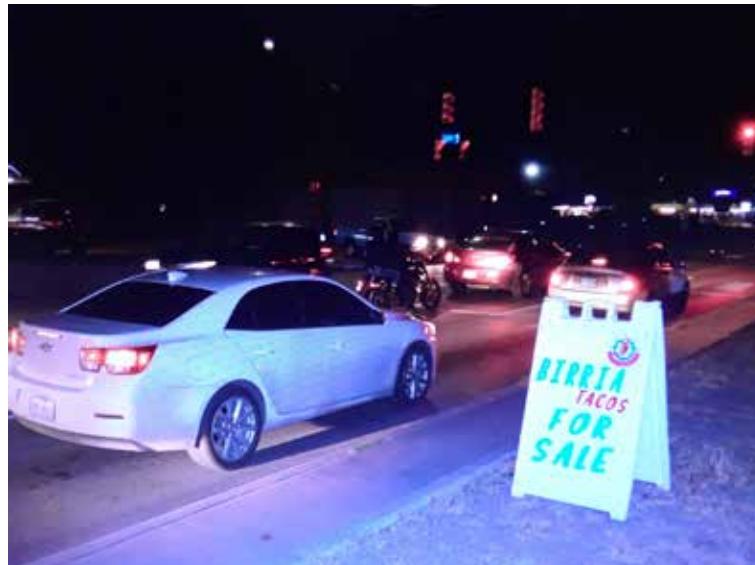
Pará mejor confort de los clientes ahora con las ondas gélidas, los esposos Martínez y el gerente general Mota Jr., decidieron instalar moderna carpeta Blanca con sistema de calefacción individual. Así como de fogatas pará mantener un clima adecuado y qué a la vez atraigan la atención de quienes transitan por el mencionado sector.

Durante el concierto, adultos y pequeños disfrutaron de las fogatas pará cocinar bombones qué los señores Martínez estuvieron regalando.

Otro excelente pasatiempo fueron las animadas competencias del juego “Corn Hole”. La carpeta luce emotiva decoración navideña y un alumbrado relativo a la temporada invernal.

Cabe anotar qué el público asistente, con el permiso y coordinación de Vinny Tovar, puede solicitar subir al escenario pará cantar estilo karaoke. Como lo hizo Armando Aguilar, amigo de los propietarios, quién cantó par de aplaudidos temas del

género norteño. En las fotos aparecen: Clientes en línea ordenando tacos de Birria y ceviche. Letrero anunciando Birria Tacos for sale. Nate De León y Vinny Tovar. Clientes captados cocinando bombones en una de las fogatas. (Fotos por Franco).



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San Antonio Se Reúne Para Apoyar A Los Residentes De La Autoridad De Vivienda De San Antonio Con Operation Save Christmas

Por Beth Veters

Cuando se supo que los juguetes recolectados para la distribución anual de juguetes de la Autoridad de Vivienda de San Antonio (SAHA) programada para el sábado pasado fueron robados el viernes por la noche, la comunidad de San Antonio se unieron rápidamente para ayudar a salvar la Navidad para los niños en los Tribunales Alazan-Apache. SAHA se movilizó rápidamente con Operation Save Christmas y encontró el lado positivo.

Gracias a la generosidad y vacaciones espíritu de toda la comunidad de San

Antonio, SAHA recogieron y se podrá comprar más de 2,000 juguetes para el accionamiento de este año, muy por encima de la distribución original de 200 juguetes - un aumento del 1000% en gran parte debido a la generosidad de nuestra ciudad, lo que permite que SAHA proporcione juguetes a todas las propiedades de vivienda pública en toda la ciudad. A través de las generosas donaciones de la comunidad, HEB también igualó los \$ 4,000 recibidos para proporcionar aún más obsequios para las familias de SAHA.

El evento de autoservicio estuvo abierto solo para los residentes de SAHA la semana pasada que se registraron y recibieron un correo electrónico de confirmación para su hora de recogida. El alcalde Ron Nirenberg estuvo en el lugar con los líderes de la ciudad para ayudar al personal de SAHA y Santa Claus a distribuir juguetes a las familias.



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Si COVID-19 impactó su trabajo, no se pierda la oportunidad de volver a trabajar. La ciudad de San Antonio y sus socios comerciales se han asociado para brindarle capacitación inmediata para trabajos en demanda y servicios de apoyo, como cuidado infantil. ¡Puede ganar mientras aprende!



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Final Week For Rooftop Cinema Club's Drive-In At Fiesta Texas



By Eric Herrera

The drive-in theater at Fiesta Texas is going on a seasonal break after Dec. 30 until the summer and will offer one last chance to capture movie-goers taking in the holiday programming this week. Holiday movie-goers can soak up the rest of the month's holiday fun, including iconic movies, festive décor, cozy concessions, and a daily food drive benefiting the San Antonio Food Bank. A \$5 Community Screening will take place this Wednesday on the final showing offered this year. Purchase tickets at rooftopcinemaclub.com/fiesta.



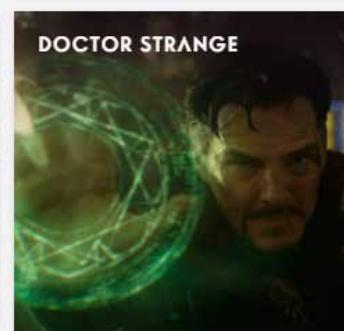
28 DEC 10:30PM AT THE DRIVE-IN AT FIESTA TEXAS



30 DEC 7:30PM AT THE DRIVE-IN AT FIESTA TEXAS



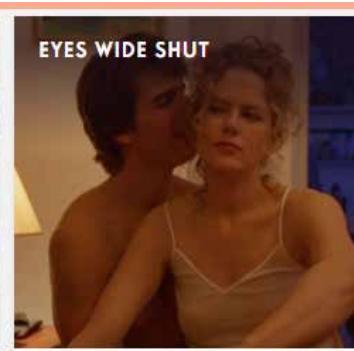
29 DEC 7:30PM AT THE DRIVE-IN AT FIESTA TEXAS



29 DEC 10:30PM AT THE DRIVE-IN AT FIESTA TEXAS



27 DEC 6:15PM AT THE DRIVE-IN AT FIESTA TEXAS



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Los Spurs por una Mejoremporada en el Oeste

Por Sendero Deportivo

El pentacampeón Spurs de San Antonio tras su exitoso campo de entrenamiento y los tres partidos de pretemporada que le disputaron en su estadio AT&T Center al visitante rival Thunder de Oklahoma City el cuál perdió con pizarra de 121-108 puntos.

Y dos encuentros en el Toyota Center contra el local Rockets de Houston, en los que se quedaron cortos en los marcadores, perdiendo 112-98 y 128-106, de acuerdo al entrenador en jefe Gregg Popovich, Spurs estuvo a la altura en su alineación, dándole minutos de acción tanto a jugadores estelares como, prospectos y novatos.

“Lo importante de los partidos de pretemporada, fue qué nuestro plan de juego, estuvo al tanto de lo qué se esperaba. Novatos y titulares sé comenzaron acoplar y ello es importante, para cuándo arranque la temporada. Claro qué los marcadores adversos molestan. Sin embargo nos ayudará para continuar en superar la defensiva y ofensiva”, indicó Pop.

La temporada NBA 2020-21 de los Spurs será presentada por la cadena de supermercados HEB.

Popovich, de 71 año de edad comenzará su temporada número 24 comandando a los Spurs franquicia de la cual fungió como presidente. Pop, tiene marca personal

de más de 1,400 triunfos con Spurs en la NBA dónde ha celebrado la conquista de los campeonatos en las temporadas de 1999, 2003, 2005, 2007 y 2014.

Spurs militan en la división del sureste en la Conferencia del Oeste, dónde estarán disputándose el escaño qué les garantice clasificar para la posttemporada, ahí tendrá de rivales s los clubes; Mavericks, Grizzlies, Pelicans, y Rockets.

Pop, por 22 temporadas consecutivas los llevó al playoff del oeste, quedando fuera en la pasada temporada 2019-20, qué lamentablemente tuvo qué ser suspendida por la epidemia Covid-19. Al resumir la acción Spurs no logró sobresalir entré los menores ocho equipos qué clasificaron a la posttemporada. Sin embargo lo qué si se logró fue quedar como el club con más años consecutivos clasificados en el planeta para estar presentes en partidos de posttemporada, todo bajó el timón del mismo estratega (Gregg Popovich).

Spurs en su rotación ya dio juego al novato Devin Vassell, guardia qué fue obtenido en el NBA Draft 2020, quién jugó para el equipo Florida State University (Seminoles), encontrándose ubicado en la primera ronda, escaño número 11.

Vassell, marcó su debut contra Rockets y tuvo éxito encestando y repartiendo el balón. Los novatos y prospectos estarán compartiendo responsabilidades al lado de titulares y suplentes entré ellos, el delantero LaMarcus Aldridge, el escolta DeMar DeRozan, el guardia y capitán Dejounte Murray, los suplentes Rudy Gay, delantero y el guardia australiano Patty Mills, y el escolta prospecto Lonnie Walker.

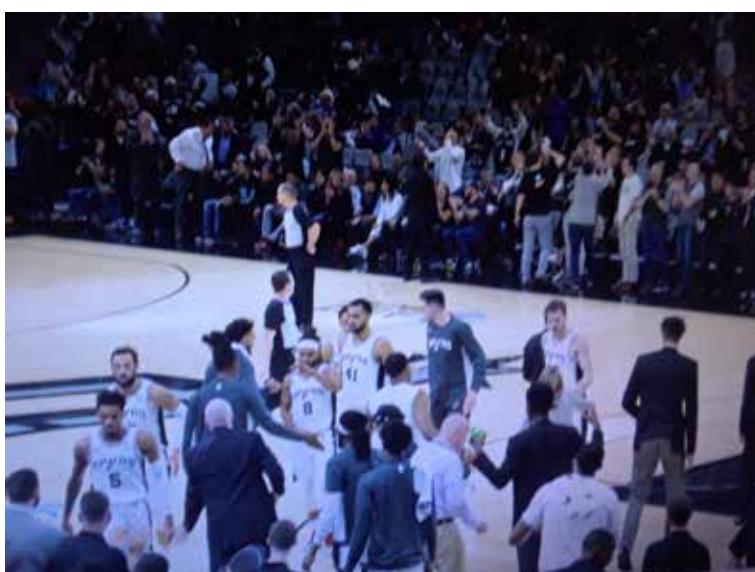
Los 35 partidos de Spurs en la primera mitad de la

temporada, van a ser transmitidos por la televisión en el canal FOX Sports Southwest (FSSW) jugada por jugada con los comentaristas Bill Land y Sean Elliott, ex jugador de Spurs con anillo de campeón de 1999. Y dos partidos por el canal local KENS 5. FSSW también pasará los partidos vía FOX Sports GoApp y FOXSports.com.

En los 35 partidos se transmitirán segmentos de 30 minutos antes y después con la participación del ex Spur, Matt Bonner y Dan Weiss.

Las radiodifusoras WOAI-AM 1200 en la voz de Bill Schoening, KXTN-AM 1350 con el comentarista Paul Castro, estarán

transmitiendo cada partido respectivamente. Fotos de pretemporada son cortesía de Spurs. Fotos de la temporada 2019-20 fueron captadas por Franco.



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Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!**

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Deadline: February 4, 2021

For questions related to this CSP, contact Sabina Swank at sswank5@alamo.edu with a copy to dst-purchasing@alamo.edu.

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

“Respira Puro, San Antonio” Clean Conciencia Aire Iniciativa Ayuda Centro de San Antonio Empresas a Mantener Puertas Abiertas Durante las Fiestas

Por Sylvester Palacios, Jr.

Más de 25 restaurantes del centro de San Antonio y las empresas - con Mi Tierra, The Buckhorn Saloon & Museum, Pinch Hervir Casa , La Panadería, el Teatro Magik y muchos otros, están participando en “Breathe Puro, San Antonio”, una campaña de base para crear conciencia sobre las mejores prácticas de aire limpio y la prevención de COVID-19 mientras ayudan a estos negocios a permanecer abiertos de manera segura durante las vacaciones.

Encabezada por la startup de tecnología local WellAware y los expertos en filtración global Purafil, “Breathe Puro, San Antonio” obtuvo el apoyo de la Cámara de Comercio de San Antonio, el Centro San Antonio y la San Antonio River Walk Association, ya que tiene como objetivo ayudar a sus electores recuperar el valioso tráfico peatonal perdido durante la pandemia. La iniciativa aprovecha una tecnología de depuración de aire probada, PureAware, que combate la amenaza de contaminantes dañinos en el aire, reduce la presencia de SARS-CoV-2 en el aire, elimina hasta el 99,99% de los aerosoles que contienen virus y brinda tranquilidad a los clientes a través de un código QR único de garantía del cliente y una experiencia de aplicación móvil. Las empresas que se han unido a la campaña reciben una unidad de depuración de aire de PureAware y obtienen acceso gratuito a los servicios de PureAware hasta finales de enero de 2021.

Pinch Boil House, un restaurante del centro fundado por los empresarios Andrew Ho y Sean Wen y que sirve mariscos, bocadillos y cerveza inspirados en el sudeste asiático, se inscribió para participar cuando se enteraron de cómo PureAware podría ayudar a promover espacios más saludables en su comedor y cocina. “A medida que comenzamos a ver la luz al final del túnel con respecto a este virus”, dijo Ho, “es importante para nosotros ser tan diligentes como siempre, si no más. Es por eso que estamos encantados y agradecidos de poder asociarnos con PureAware para promover la salud pública y asegurarnos de que podamos continuar sirviendo con seguridad nuestra comida a esta increíble comunidad”.

Uniendo a esta iniciativa de la comunidad teatral está el Teatro Magik, el teatro familiar profesional más importante de San Antonio ubicado en el centro de Hemisfair.

Magik Theatre continúa encontrando formas creativas de permanecer abierto durante la pandemia de COVID-19 mientras ayuda a mantener seguros a los visitantes del teatro, y los purificadores de aire PureAware han brindado tranquilidad adicional a su personal, actores y clientes, especialmente a los miembros más jóvenes, los niños. que asisten a estas actuaciones en persona y campamentos educativos. “Estamos orgullosos de ser parte de esta iniciativa de toda la ciudad que promueve estas prácticas de aire limpio, ofreciendo otra medida de seguridad para ayudar a prevenir la propagación de COVID-19 en el teatro”, dijo Anthony Runfola, director artístico del Magik Theatre. “Durante estos tiempos desafiantes, ayudar a mantener seguros a nuestros clientes y nuestro personal es nuestra principal prioridad para que podamos continuar trayendo alegría y recuerdos a través de actuaciones familiares de teatro en vivo”.

Otro elemento básico del centro de San Antonio, La Panadería Bakery & Cafe, se unió a la iniciativa “Breathe Puro, San Antonio” como una forma de hacer que su restaurante se sienta más seguro y más atractivo para los turistas del centro y el tráfico local. “La tranquilidad es una de nuestras más altas prioridades en La Panadería”, dijo el propietario José Cáceres. “Es por eso que asociarse con PureAware es clave para proporcionar la calidad de aire más segura tanto para nuestros huéspedes como para los miembros de la familia”.

El Buckhorn Saloon & Museum, ubicado en River Walk, aprovechó la oportunidad de promover la seguridad de los visitantes y alentar a los turistas a ver el salón más antiguo de Texas con la protección adicional del sistema PureAware. “En el Buckhorn decidimos participar en el programa ‘Breathe Puro, San Antonio’ porque es una manera fantástica de otorgar un beneficio adicional a nuestros huéspedes”, comentó la Gerente General Yvonne Pedigo. “Hemos trabajado incansablemente desde que reabrimos en mayo para brindar un ambiente limpio, seguro y familiar para nuestros visitantes y miembros del equipo. ¡Esperamos que estos purificadores de aire demuestren nuestro compromiso con la seguridad de los huéspedes mientras utilizan la última tecnología en el salón más antiguo de Texas!”

con sede en San Antonio WellAware,, líder en monitoreo remoto

industrial, se asoció con PuraShield, una solución de depuración de aire probada de Purafil que elimina el 99,99% de los aerosoles que transportan virus a través de un proceso de filtración patentado de 4 pasos, para crear PureAware, el único probado en el mercado, solución de aire para eliminar virus que proporciona supervisión y control remotos de las operaciones. “WellAware existe para conectar a las personas con las cosas que importan. PureAware ofrece la mejor tecnología en filtración de aire y la capacidad adicional de demostrar el estado de la filtración de aire al público con un simple código QR, proporcionando esa conexión entre las máquinas, las empresas, los clientes y la salud de la comunidad”, dice Matt Harrison, CEO de WellAware. “Asociarnos con la comunidad del centro de San Antonio a través de ‘Breathe Puro, San Antonio’ es nuestra manera de ayudar a la comunidad de San Antonio a luchar contra el COVID-19 y mantener los negocios abiertos de la manera más segura posible”.

Según el presidente de Purafil, Tony Querciagrossa, “Estamos emocionados de unirnos a esta campaña para apoyar a estos negocios de San Antonio. Para estos propietarios, empleados y sus clientes, la seguridad es la prioridad número uno y no hay otra tecnología en el mercado como PuraShield que tenga esta tecnología molecular patentada que ha sido probada y comprobada por expertos en aire. Los residentes de San Antonio pueden estar seguros de que la tecnología PuraShield maximiza el rendimiento de la limpieza del aire incluso en los entornos más críticos. Las personas pasan alrededor del 90% de su tiempo en interiores. Ahora más que nunca, es imperativo que eliminemos activamente los contaminantes del aire para garantizar un entorno seguro para los empleados y clientes en San Antonio y en todo el mundo”.

Dado que se espera que los restaurantes en los Estados Unidos pierdan \$ 240 mil millones en ingresos para fines de 2020, esta campaña garantizará que los restaurantes y otras empresas hoteleras puedan operar de manera segura sin dejar de estar abiertos al público. Especialmente en San Antonio, donde el turismo genera más de \$ 15 mil millones en ingresos anuales, la iniciativa brinda seguridad no solo a los clientes, sino también a los dueños de negocios,

quienes están luchando con el impacto financiero causado por la pandemia actual.

La Cámara de Comercio de San Antonio, cuya misión es abogar por sus miembros y la comunidad empresarial en la construcción y el mantenimiento de una economía diversa y próspera, cuenta con 1.850 empresas locales como miembros y sabe muy bien cómo el COVID-19 las ha afectado. La Cámara se unió para ayudar a difundir la iniciativa y conectar a las empresas con la tecnología de purificación. “Mientras la Cámara de San Antonio se prepara para el 2021 y pone en marcha nuestra iniciativa One City para ayudar a reconstruir nuestra comunidad empresarial en el centro de la ciudad, estamos ansiosos por compartir recursos que puedan ayudar a los dueños de negocios”, dijo el presidente y director ejecutivo de la Cámara, Richard Perez. “El programa ‘Breathe Puro, San Antonio’ es un gran recurso para que nuestras empresas del centro lo prueben durante la temporada navideña, y esperamos que el sistema PureAware ayude a estos restaurantes, hoteles, lugares emblemáticos y pequeñas empresas a recuperar clientes de manera segura. emoción y oportunidades para recuperarse”.

En asociación con la Cámara y las empresas participantes están el Centro San Antonio, una organización sin fines de lucro que busca crear un centro más hermoso, divertido, acogedor y próspero al proporcionar recursos y comunidad para las empresas del centro, y The San Antonio River Walk Association, que apoya a las empresas de River Walk a través de eventos y promociones. “Estamos muy contentos de conectar a las pequeñas empresas del centro de la ciudad con esta solución innovadora de PureAware, una startup de San Antonio que busca retribuir esta temporada navideña”, dijo Matt Brown, director ejecutivo de Centro “. Maggie Thompson, Directora Ejecutiva de River Walk Association también se complació en escuchar acerca de la iniciativa para apoyar un turismo más seguro en River Walk. “Hemos trabajado duro para garantizar que los negocios de River Walk sean seguros”, dijo, “y nos complace promover productos que brinden una experiencia más segura para los visitantes”.



Esta es la lista completa de empresas y organizaciones participantes:

- Be Frida Fine Mexican Handcraft
- Best Quality Daughter
- Bier Garten Riverwalk
- Biga on the Banks
- Museo de arte contemporáneo
- Blue Star Provisions Blue Star
- The Buckhorn Saloon & Museum
- The CE Group
- CommonWealth Cofeehouse & Bakery
- The County Line BBQ
- Estate Coffee Company
- Iron Cactus Mexican Restaurant and Margarita Bar
- La Frite Belgian Bistro
- La Panadería Bakery & Cafe
- Mad Dogs British Pub
- Maddy McMurphy's Irish Sports Bar
- Magik Theatre
- The Magpie
- La Margarita Mexican Restaurant and Oyster Bar
- Mi Tierra Café y Panadería
- On the Bend Oyster Bar and Salón de puros
- Pico De Gallo
- Pinch Boil House
- South Alamode Panini & Gelato Company
- Sukeban Sushi & Champagne Bar
- Truth Pizzeria



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NON-PROFIT HIGHLIGHT

Community First Health Plans and San Antonio Street Art Initiative Partner to Launch the Southside Mural Project

By Cynthia de la Pena

In celebration of Community First Health Plans 25th Anniversary, Community First has partnered with the San Antonio Street Art Initiative (SASAI) to paint a one-of-a-kind mural on the exterior wall of the EZ Wash Laundromat at 1519 W Southcross San Antonio, TX 78215 in the Southside of San Antonio. Titled We Love Our Southside, it is the first mural of the South Side Mural Project to place unique and culturally relevant murals in high traffic, urban areas and the SASAI mission to create The Largest Outdoor Gallery in Texas™.

“Because of Community First’s generous support, the Southside will now have its own mural representation of southside culture not currently represented in our part of town.” says Shek Vega, Founder & President of San Antonio Street Art Initiative, “All participating artists live or are from the Southside and we hope to incentivize more artists to participate in mural installations in the future. We love our Southside, and we get to celebrate the community one colorful mural at a time.”

SASAI and Community First solicited the help of 40 community leaders, busi-



ness owners, influencers, and longtime residents, via Zoom, to share why the Southside is so special to them and the imagery that best represented their experiences. Through the community feedback, SASAI’s President Shek Vega designed the mural, then invited four Southside artists to execute the initial mural design, each bringing in their own unique aesthetic. Eva Sanchez, Joe De La Cruz, Shek Vega and Nik Soup of Los Otros, joined forces to paint We Love Our Southside.

“Artists have the talent to inspire others to follow their dreams while sharing a vision that is amazingly colorful and full of life. It is a true gift and talent that only a few possess,” says, Theresa Scepanski, President and Chief Executive Officer Community First Health Plans, “This project is special, not only for the artists, but for the community as a whole. Growing

up on the southside, I’m excited to see the continued development of the neighborhood, and I’m proud that Community First Health Plans can contribute to the success of this project.”

SASAI and Community First will host a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the We Love our Southside mural on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 10 AM. Members of the media are invited to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony virtually or in-person (all in-person attendees must adhere to social distancing guidelines as outlined by the CDC). The We Love our Southside mural was completed on December 7, 2020.

SASAI hopes to have more murals designed and executed by early 2021. Artists who want to be considered to be a part of this incentive program should apply at sanantoniostreetart.org.



SASAI is a non-profit charity that supports artist development through educational and career development programming and economic development through community beautification projects. They manage a vibrant schedule of producing exciting mural art that represents unparalleled quality and memorable experiences. Its highly acclaimed projects have beautified neighborhoods, contributed to economic development, advocates for fair-pay jobs to local telnet, and continues to be some of the most celebrated contributions to the public art scene in recent years. In the past two years SASAI has completed over 40 murals and has advocated for the careers of over 30 artists and is known for its signature mission, to create “The Largest Outdoor Gallery in Texas™”.

Learn more at sanantoniostreetart.org

1906 S. Flores

Texas Disposal Systems Is Recycling Unflocked Christmas Trees and Organic Decorations Free of Charge Through January



By Cody Shown

As families spent more time at home this year due to the pandemic, demand for real Christmas trees increased and was on average a week earlier than last year. Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) is accepting unflocked Christmas trees, holly, pumpkins, and other living decorations for recycling free of charge this holiday season at the collection sites noted below. These living decorations will then be repurposed and made into nutrient-rich mulch and compost through the Texas Disposal Systems composting division. The finished composts and mulches will be available for purchase at Garden-Ville stores throughout Central Texas.

Trees and decorations must be free of flocking, lights, ornaments, metal and other non-living contaminants. A \$45 contamination fee will be assessed for trees and decorations that have not been cleaned. When



bringing loads for drop off, please ensure materials are tied and secured, per Texas law.

Christmas Tree Collection Sites: Below is a list of the San Antonio area sites that are accepting trees. All sites will be open December 26-January 31, with the exception of January 1 when they will be closed. Evans Rd. will also be closed and SARA will have limited hours on December 31.

Garden-Ville Evans Rd.

San Antonio Mon-Fri 7am-5pm / Sat 7am-3pm / Sun Closed

7561 E. Evans Rd. San Antonio, TX 78266 Ph: 210.651.6115

Garden-Ville SARA San Antonio Mon-Fri 8am-4pm / Sat Closed / Sun Closed

1280 FM 1516 #2, Converse, TX 78109 Ph: 210.483.1951

For more information, visit TexasDisposal.com/Christmas-tree-recycling.

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DO IT FOR SA

Giving Life to a Park for the People



A VIEW OF THE JESSE TREVINO "SPIRIT" MURAL FROM MILAM PARK.

By Ricardo Romo and Dr. Carlos Orozco

Milam Park is a small, historically beautiful gem of the city of San Antonio. The park is located between the old multiethnic farmer's market and the San Rosa Hospital now known as Children's Hospital of San Antonio (CHOSA).

A large Mexican style gazebo or kiosk, patterned after one in

Guadalajara, was assembled in Guadalajara and reassembled in the center of the park in the early 1990s. East of the kiosk is a delightful children's playground ("El Jardin de los Ninos"), a small plaza for activities, and beautifully designed memorial fountain with plaques commemorating those buried in the old Campo Santo [cemetery] beginning in 1808 and who were exhumed and moved in 1860 to San Fernando Cemetery #1.

The renovated Milam Park near Market Square, San Antonio.

Milam Park was transformed beginning three decades ago with the efforts of

the Friends of Milam Park from a little used and unattractive park to a gracefully landscaped leisure spot. It includes donated park benches, picnic tables around the park, and game tables west of the kiosk to the Ben Milam statue. A quarter mile walking trail with exercise stations and a palisade borders the park.

The Friends of Milam Park grew out of a medical mission trip to Mexico City in 1989 when Drs. Hugo Castaneda and Carlos Orozco and the CEO of the Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, Mr. Mike White, were enjoying a beautiful "Parque de San Jacinto," Their mission of creating a similar park in San Antonio with a kiosk in the center for music and art enjoyed by the people grew out of that experience.

The team embarked upon this dream after realizing the potential of the historical but unused Milam Park as a fulfillment of that dream. The effort took flight with the support of Mi Tierra Restaurant owner Jorge Cortez and the Cortez family, and



DR. CARLOS OROZCO, A PULMONARY SPECIALIST, LED THE FRIENDS OF MILAM PARK TEAM.

"park protector" Ms. Adelita Navarro, a descendent of the famed 19th century Texas patriot, Jose Angel Navarro.

Friends of Milam Park gained the support of former editor-in-chief of the San Antonio Express News, Mr. Charles Kilpatrick and his enthusiastic wife, Margie. Also, Mr. Bobby Corbo, CEO of Carbo Electric and a long-time friend of Orozco, joined the group supporting construction and electrical power needed. Maria Rosales from Mi Tierra served as secretary and organizer. Alicia Orozco agreed to manage the financial issues (a tough job with a determined group who did not worry about costs but trusted the funds would come). The effort received a grant from the state parks and organizers also obtained funds from individual and corporate donations.

A large amount of work was done through individual and corporate volunteers with 280,000 bricks laid under the supervision of mason Adrian Perez. Funds from named bricks at the four entrances to the kiosk were used to help with the construction of the park. Dr.



MILAM PARK IS TO THE LEFT AND IN FRONT OF THE FAMED CHAPA DRUG STORE.

Castaneda, through the Mexican Consul, obtained the Kiosk which was graciously gifted by the Mexican State of Jalisco.

Two architects should be recognized for their pro-bono work. The kiosk was designed by Arquitecto Salvador de Alba who had looked at the park from the top floor of the old Frost building remarking "it is a beautiful piece of land but no people." Architect Jose A. Jimenez assured that the park would be architecturally appreciated. His design of the park follows a "Golden Rectangle." It is best appreciated looking down on the park from the 10th floor of the Children's hospital. Also, he designed the Memorial Fountain on the far east end with old plaques of those previously buried (1808-1860) in the park. The park committee also placed a separate plaque honoring Jimenez himself.

Several important events are commemorated in the park, such as a statue of Francisco Madero whom many believe declared the Mexican Independence from the park. "The Diez y Seis de Septiembre" has been celebrated

with the ringing of the "Campana." La Posada has been celebrated annually from San Fernando Cathedral to The Crucifixion re-enacted on the Westend of the park. Incredibly significant was the discovery of Ben Milam's gravesite and his reinterment at the foot of his

statue in 1993. The annual Christmas Tree and park lighting with events for children began in 1995.

There is a need for hope, especially this 2020 year. The Christmas event in Milam Park has helped in this need. Initially it was a big event with H.E.B. and Rosemary Kowalski leading the way. The energetic Ms. Bellinda Benavidez has done a great job for the past several years.

This year a rejuvenated Friends of Milam Park continued the Christmas tree lighting through sponsorships. The mission of a people's park with events, renovation of the park, and the enhancement of the multicultural history of Milam Park remains. Helping the homeless in the park will be an added mission next year.



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