

# La Prensa Texas

VOL. 4 • NUM 20

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16 de Mayo de 2021



## De Tal Mata, Tal Flor

# 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 Second Covid Vaccine Shot

**By Yvette Tello**

*I got my second vaccine- Moderna. I'm miserable. Fever, chills, body aches. I haven't been sick in so long. Maybe it's because I got wet in the rain. I hope with sleep and Tylenol this will be gone by morning like everyone says.. What did you go through with your second vaccine? Let's talk about it..*

**Sandra Luna Perez:** "That same reaction happened to me. I didn't get a fever but I got a bad headache for two days and I would get cold then hot plus I felt nausea. Remember, this too shall pass. Just get lots of rest."

**Anita Repya:** "I got sick for about 4 days, chills, body aches but no fever. I guess that's normal I've been told that's how you know it's doing what it's supposed to do."

**John Paul Ortiz:** "Nope your body is working the vaccine. I was sick for 2 whole days. I got the shot on a Thursday - I was good Friday, Saturday and Sunday but Monday and Tuesday, I was sick like I had the flu."

**Candy Yvonne:** "Yeah. That's not normal. They say it's expected but it's your body trying to fight the poison injection. Eventually your immune system will be that only of the injection."

**Ernest Sanchez:** I was listening to the radio a few days back and they mentioned that if you get a little sick because of the vaccine, that means that it's a good sign; the vaccine is working!"

**Rick Carter:** "Reduce sugar, no alcohol, Zinc, Magnesium, Vitamin B 12, C, D, & E .... No side effects & I'm immune to the plague."

**Cindy Salinas:** "Same, Moderna...2 days."

**Alex H. Coy III:** "It'll pass. Get comfortable and rest."

**Lonnie Bradley:** "My symptoms were not as bad but they lasted about 48 hours after the shot."

**Jason M-b Wells:** "I had the same reaction, but luckily it was only for 24 hrs. It is certainly better than the alternative!"

**Tanya Flores:** "This happened to a lot of my friends and family with the second shot. Hopefully, it will only last one day."

**Janie Espinoza:** "Hope you feel better soon. I had the same as you for two days."

**Gary Zeinert:** "Same thing happened with me. After 24 hours I felt much better. Rest if you can."



**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.*



### Julio Iglesias

Regarded as one of the world's most popular singers, Julio Iglesias sang his first song, "La Vida Sigue Igual" at the National Singing Competition in Spain at age 25. By the '70s, Iglesias' popularity soared throughout Europe and Latin America for his albums "Julio Iglesias," "El Amor" and "Emociones." In 1980, he set out to conquer the U.S. and, within three years, Iglesias was performing before sold-out audiences at Radio City Music Hall and the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. In 1983, with more than 100 million albums sold, Iglesias received the "Guinness Book of World Records" first Diamond Disc Award as the best-selling singer in the world. Ironically, Iglesias was never chosen to sing for his school choir.



# About the Cover Art: Sacred Corn



**Courtesy of  
Dr. Ricardo Romo**

Liliana Wilson, an immigrant from Chile who has been living and working in Austin, makes her statements with her art. As a first generation Latina immigrant, she ad-

resses her concerns for the plight of humanity by looking at global issues: migration, climate change, and social justice. She reminds us, for example, that immigration is not just an American issue, it is a worldwide

phenomena and the media provides daily evidence of tragic events affecting migrants. Every continent and most countries of the world are affected. Liliana Wilson is unique in the world of Latino art. As a native of Chile, she

represents a small minority among a rising and dynamic Latino population. Liliana developed artistically while living in Chile during a time of growing political repression and social turmoil.

**St. Philip's College School of Nursing Wants to Welcome New Students**



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**Royal Prestige Brinda A Los  
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Por Blue PR  
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## St. Philip's College School of Nursing Wants to Welcome New Students



**Interview by**  
**Natasha Gonzales**  
**Article by Jackie Velez**

St. Philip's College, a 123-year-old, historically Black and Hispanic serving institution, proudly welcomes prospective students, who are interested in health-care, to their nursing program, located at St. Phillips Center for Health Professions on the Eastside of San Antonio.

The nursing faculty and staff are excited for new students to sign up for the affordable program that implements high-quality individual instruction.

"We are here to help you succeed," said Assistant Professor Dianna Garza.

Students will use basic and simulation labs in the classroom to practice all the skills they will need to care for their patients.

St. Phillips also has a Vocational Nursing Program, an extension of the main nurs-

ing program, located in New Braunfels. The City of New Braunfels partnered with the Alamo Colleges District to bring the Central Texas Technology Center to the city and the surrounding area and has been tremendously successful.

"Our New Braunfels location has had a pass rate, with the Board of Nursing, of 100% for the last 33 years," said Coordinator of St. Philip's College Vocational Nursing Program in New Braunfels, Annette Bailey.

Students can earn their Licensed Vocational Nursing Certification in one year.

To be accepted into the program prospect students need a 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) and to score a 59.7 on the required Central Academic Skills Test (TEAS). St. Philip's Nursing Program admits anywhere from 60 to 80 students into the program and the New

Braunfels location can admit up to 25 students who meet the criteria.

"We like to admit as many as we can that are qualified because we know the community needs nursing," said Bailey.

Other criteria needed depending on the nursing path are a reference letter, immunizations, and CPR certification. An admissions committee will decide who will be accepted into the program.

"We want to educate nurses, we're very passionate about nursing," said Bailey.

St. Phillips is available for Open House for their LVN and LVN to RN Mobility program.

If you are interested in the nursing program, please visit. <https://www.alamo.edu/spc/academics/programs/health-and-biosciences/lvn-adn-mobility-program/>

## Petition for Declaring Children Free From Parental Custody And Control

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- **Crew Lead:** A Crew Lead is responsible for ensuring that the landscape space of all assigned properties are properly serviced and cared for. This responsibility is often achieved by ensuring that the following duties are performed during each visit to all accounts. Duties include, before and after photos, mowing, line trimming, blowing and leaf removal when necessary. A Crew Lead will almost always operate the zero-turn mower and occasionally assist in pruning greenery (shrubs/bushes); remove weeds and dead material; to include nourishing plants by mulching, aerating, fertilizing, and watering.

- **Crew Lead Assistant:** A Crew Lead Assistant is responsible for receiving assignments and instructions from the Crew Lead during daily routes and assigned accounts. Assignments and responsibilities often include, line trimming, blowing, collecting leaves and or trash on turf areas. Duties also include notifying Crew Lead of low inventory levels for all materials, i.e., trim-line, fuel mix, trash bags etc.

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# Fiesta en honor de Madres qué Apoyan al 'Rey de los Deportes'

## Por Franco

Con anticipación los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza, propietarios del club Broncos de Reynosa SA, contando con el respaldo de su estimado compadre, el artista Eloy Rocha, director y vocalista principal del grupo musical norteño "Eloy Rocha y su grupo Potranco".

Ofrecieron inolvidable festejó en honor de las Madres qué respaldan el béisbol, llamado internacionalmente como "Rey de los Deportes", por ser el único en el ámbito deportivo en el que un jugador (el bateador en turno enfrenta a nueve rivales dentro del terreno de juego).

Esto se realizó al aire libre en el complejo Deportivo y de entrenamiento Potranco, donde se aprovechó la jornada dominical del 9 de mayo en el nuevo circuito Liga Semi-Pro Independiente Potranco 2021. Los asistentes disfrutaron de la jornada beisbolera entre los equipos Diablos y Piratas de Sabinas. Indios de Nava y Broncos, así cómo de los Desperados qué se unieron al festejo con su manager Elías Contreras, quién siempre responde al llamado en este tipo de eventos en la

comunidad deportiva de San Antonio.

El festejó en honor de las madres ahí presentes fue amenizado por el grupo musical norteño de Rigo y sus Luceros, qué dedicó primeramente las tradicionales "Mañanitas", y posteriormente estuvo complaciendo a los ahí presentes qué aplaudieron la sorprendente actuación del señor Rocha, quién con el gusto y bravío tema "Dos Vicios", sé llevó su buena dotación de aplausos.

Ya entrada la fiesta y con los invitados bien comidos y alegres, los esposos Patricia García y su esposo Nacho García dueños del equipo Cardenales, abrieron el baile seguidos por el coach y valioso jugador de Broncos Sergio Torres y su esposa Raquel Torres.

Luego otras parejas e invitados les siguieron las siguientes tandas.

"Todo bien, esto es lo que esperábamos hacer este Día de las Madres, ya que año pasado no sé pudo hacer

nada para festejarlo, porque tuvimos que cumplir con la cuarentena qué nos impusieron las autoridades durante la pandemia del COVID-19. Hoy con los buenos resultados y apertura del estado. Se optó porqué así estaremos cumpliendo con una gran tradición de honrar a las madres qué por años han apoyado el deporte del béisbol en todos los niveles", así se expresaron los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza.

En las fotografías aparecen: Dulce García, sus

padres Patricia y Nacho García dueños de Cardenales. Chuy Ramírez Jr., del equipo Tuneros, su hermana Vanessa, sus padres Adriana y Jesús (Chuy) Ramírez Sr., de Broncos.

Las felices damas Raquel Torres, Rosario Hinostroza, Juanita Martínez. Linda Garza y su comadre doña María Muñoz. Eloy Rocha, cantando "Dos Vicios", acompañado por Rigo y sus Luceros.

(Fotos por Franco).



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## Xoom Expande los Servicios de Retiro en Efectivo a Todas las Ubicaciones de Fiesta Mart Locales en Todo Texas

**Por Joyce Kim**

Xoom, el servicio internacional de transferencia de dinero de PayPal, y Ria Money Transfer, líder mundial en la industria de transferencia de dinero transfronteriza y subsidiaria de Euronet Worldwide, Inc. (NASDAQ: EFTT), anuncia que los clientes en los EE. UU. Ahora pueden enviar dinero a familiares y seres queridos para que lo recojan en efectivo rápidamente en cualquiera de las 59 tiendas de Fiesta Mart en Texas (se aplican tarifas y limitaciones).

A medida que Texas reabre al 100 por ciento de su capacidad, el camino hacia la recuperación total para muchas comunidades hispanas y latinas locales es desproporcionadamente más largo en comparación con otras comunidades vecinas. Las familias hispanas y latinas

representan el 23 por ciento de la pérdida inicial de empleo debido a la pandemia y aún tienen que compensar el ingreso familiar promedio: el ingreso semanal neto se redujo en 2.1 puntos porcentuales. Con los niveles de empleo de los hispanos todavía un 7.2 por ciento por debajo de su marca pre pandémica, muchos dependen del apoyo de sus seres queridos y de la comunidad para ayudar a pagar sus necesidades básicas como la comida y el alquiler.

“Durante estos tiempos de incertidumbre, seguimos comprometidos a brindar apoyo confiable a nuestras comunidades al ofrecer formas convenientes y fáciles para que los clientes tengan acceso rápido a su dinero”, dijo Julian King, vicepresidente y gerente general de Xoom. “Estamos orgullosos de continuar expandiendo

nuestros servicios domésticos para clientes en los EE. UU., Para brindar aún más flexibilidad y opciones al enviar dinero a familiares y seres queridos”.

Este nuevo servicio llega en un momento en el que enviar apoyo financiero es fundamental. Los clientes pueden enviar dinero en línea oa través de la aplicación Xoom o PayPal para un retiro en efectivo rápido y conveniente en las ubicaciones de Fiesta Mart locales equipadas con los servicios de transferencia de dinero de Ria en las tiendas en todo Texas. Los fondos se pueden enviar simplemente ingresando el nombre y la información del destinatario, y el destinatario puede recuperar efectivo sin problemas presentando una identificación válida \*, sin necesidad de registrarse para obtener una cuenta o completar

ningún formulario.

“Ahora más que nunca, el tiempo y la conveniencia son monedas vitales para nuestros clientes, por lo que estamos encantados de extender aún más nuestra asociación con Xoom y Fiesta Mart para brindarles a los clientes una mayor accesibilidad y la mejor relación calidad-precio”, compartió Juan. Bianchi, director general del segmento de transferencia de dinero de Euronet. “Nuestras ventanillas únicas no solo ofrecen a los clientes una amplia gama de servicios financieros, sino que también les facilita mucho la recolección de sus fondos en un solo lugar”.

Pionero en remesas digitales, Xoom es una forma rápida y segura de enviar dinero, pagar facturas y recargar teléfonos para sus seres queridos en más

de 160 países de todo el mundo. Estas remesas sirven como un salvavidas para muchas personas de todo el mundo y están acostumbrados a pagar cosas como facturas de servicios públicos, atención médica, costos de educación y emergencias. El sistema, en gran parte basado en efectivo, para enviar dinero a través de las fronteras está lleno de papeleo, tarifas, hacer cola y una incertidumbre siempre presente de cuándo, y si, el dinero llegará cuando sea necesario. Al proporcionar opciones de pago rápidas y seguras para que los clientes envíen dinero sin problemas fronteras al conectarse en línea o usar un dispositivo móvil, PayPal y Xoom están ayudando a expandirse y mejorar la salud financiera de millones de personas en todo el mundo.



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# Fight for Hunger

**Courtesy of Ramon Chapa Jr**  
La Prensa Texas was honored to be a part of the Incredible Time at Fight for Hunger at Last Chance Ministries. Our very own Community Liaison, Ramon Chapa, Jr. served as a VIP Celebrity Judge and what a turn out! All proceeds go to feed those with need. Great Job to Last Chance Ministries!



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# Red Sox de cierre derrotó a los Mineros Highsox vs. Diablos el clásico Semi-Pro

## Por Sendero Deportivo

En tremendo duelo se enfrentaron los equipos Mineros de Juan Sánchez y Ramiro Morales en liga Veteranos Potranco 2021, contra Red Sox dirigidos por Pedro Espinoza y Catarino Obregón (ambos jugadores).

Por Mineros abrió el estelar lanzador derecho Juan Pedro Reza, por los calcetines rojos Alfredo Obregón, se mantuvo en el montículo hasta el quinto episodio dejando la pizarra 10-4 carreras en contra.

Ismael Hernández entró

al relevo por Red Sox, siendo reemplazado por el utility José Espinoza, quien se agenció la victoria con marcador de 17-14.

Por derrotados, Morales, en relevo a JP Reza, lanzó tres entradas sin permitir carreras tirando “a medio brazo”.

Le siguieron Chalo Carrañan y Faustino Cortina, quien logró espectacular ponche.

El súper campeón Cachorros de Nava del trío Alejandro Becerra “el Rábano”, Benito Martínez y Rubén Galindo

“el Alacrán”, con pitcheo de Héctor “Papó” Garza, héroe de mil batallas ganó por nocaut a Missions SA de Mike Tabhan (16-3).

Papó Garza, en la última entrada de juego aceptó jonrón de Joey Farías quien pegó su vuela cerca por el jardín izquierdo. Garza, deportivamente lo felicitó.

Por Nava, batearon bien: El Caminante Mercedes con 5-3 y cuatro carreras impulsadas, Freddy Rodríguez pegó de 5-4, con 4 RBI's y Johnny López con efectivo 5-3 produciendo 4 carreras.

Este sábado 15 de mayo será el cierre de la segunda vuelta en este circuito que presenta el artista Eloy Rocha, y preside Simón Sánchez, comentarista y compilador oficial.

Rol de juegos: Campo 1 del estadio Potranco Baseball Field. 11 am Cachorros vs. Mineros. 2 pm Sultanes qué es el líder ante Red Sox. Descansa los Missions SA.

En Liga Semi-Pro Independent Potranco 2021, celebraron Día de las Madres con espectaculares acciones entre los equipos: Diablos qué venció a Piratas de Sabinas con pizarra de 13-11. Por Sabinas dirigido por Iván Rubinsky, vio pegar jonrón en el primer capítulo a Ricardo “El Gallo” Villa.

Indios de Nava de Juan Martínez “Pachin”, doblegó 8-4 a Broncos de Reynosa SA de los esposos Linda y Roberto Garza, quienes tienen de coaches dirigiendo a Sergio Torres y el capitán Erick Montes.

Rol de juegos campo 3 domingo 16 de Mayo: 10 am Desperados de Elias Contreras vs. Indios. 1 pm Piratas de Sabinas vs. Bobcats de John Guzmán Sr. 4 pm el clásico dominical Highsox del Marine Eddy

Rodríguez vs. Diablos. Broncos descansa.

En las fotografías aparecen Calixto Moreno quien bateando y lanzando dio triunfo a Rangers contra los Dodgers en categoría Liga Masters mayores de 50 años.

Cachorros celebrando con sus jugadores estelares; Junior Arias, Johnny López, Alacrán Galindo. El Caminante, Benito Martínez, Papó Garza, Freddy Rodríguez y su hijo Peter. Rábano Becerra y el pitcher campeón René Rodríguez.

Jaime Luna, campo corto de Indios de Nava, cruzó el plato anotando la octava carrera, el catcher Jesús Ramírez Sr., de Broncos en espera de la pelota.

(Fotos por Franco).





# Latinos Await Meal



*Wages for most Central American workers are among the lowest in Latin America. Flower vendors in Guatemala. Photo: Ricardo Romo*



*In many of the Central American villages men worked in the fields or migrated to the United States. Photo: Ricardo Romo. Romo.*

## Photos & Article By Dr. Ricardo Romo

It has often been said that U.S. immigration policy is broken. It seems so, but we are nearing fifty years of trying to fix policies that determine who is admitted into the U.S. and who stays. Every few years these policies are altered. Since the horrific events of 9-11 in 2001, deciding who and how many individuals can stay in the United States permanently has become more contentious and controversial. It is certainly one of the more difficult questions facing the new Biden administration.

In the last decade more immigrants arrived from Mexico and

Central America than from any other region of the world. While the arrival of immigrants on our southern borders has been the subject of many media reports, the migration story has been only superficially covered and much misinformation exists. This essay may shed some light on current immigration from Central America.

Migration is governed by push and pull forces. My visits to the Central American countries of Guatemala, Belize and Honduras convinced me that in those countries the push factors related to poverty, drug trade, political repression, violence, government corruption, severe weather events,



*Young boys in Honduras sent to the nearby wells for water. Paraiso District. None could afford shoes. Photo Ricardo Romo.*

prolonged droughts, and sexual assaults were more important than the pull forces of good jobs and the American dream.

Some years ago I had the opportunity to travel to Honduras with a team of engineers with expertise in drilling water wells. We visited the Paraiso District which had recorded an infant mortality rate that was among the highest in the world. Health problems persisted because the community drank whatever water was available, and sometimes that water was contaminated. There were no jobs in their isolated communities, and thus residents could not afford to buy fresh water from the trucks that came to their neighborhood once a week.

The Paraiso District of Honduras is in the southernmost region of the nation where hundreds of

small communities dot the mountainous region. Most of these communities are isolated and poverty stricken. Only a few have access to fresh water, and none have electricity or gas lines.

The drive up the dirt road leading to these small mountainous communities is hazardous and impossible to reach without four-wheel vehicles. The community that I visited had no automobiles, radios, or televisions and the residents were almost completely cut off from the rest of the world.

Families in this area lived on what they could grow and harvest, a pattern known as subsistence farming. With climate change, these agricultural areas are experiencing longer dry seasons which hamper crop

production. There have also been five devastating hurricanes

in the past year.

Ten years ago these villagers were not leaving their homes, even in difficult times. But in the last ten years much has changed with the region's climate. A recent drought has continued for more than five years, devastating most farming communities. In rural Honduras there is not enough to eat, and malnutrition has become a serious health concern.

The villagers cooked their meals with wood gathered in the forest at the bottom of the mountain. Wherever we drove in the countryside we saw men and boys walking up and down the mountains with wood bundles on their backs. Wood made it possible to cook lunch and dinner. Today, there is less wood and also fewer crops to harvest for food.

Although I was surprised by



# ningful Immigration



*Villagers in isolated communities of Honduras built their own homes with adobe clay. Photo: Ricardo Romo.*

the prevalence of poverty, rural poverty is especially hard on Honduran families. A recent NBC news team found that almost two-thirds of the Honduran population lived in poverty, making this Central American nation one of the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. The Honduran government offers little or no assistance to these isolated rural communities.

The \$1.1 billion dollars of U.S. foreign aid allocated to Honduras in 2017 was directed principally to the development of manufacturing and infrastructure construction and failed to address coping with the prolonged droughts brought

about by climate change. Poverty persists in Honduras despite the aid because government corruption has not been rooted out. People are pushed out of their homes by hunger and by an overall absence of security and political reform.

Most U.S. migration experts agree on two major proposals: expansion of foreign aid, but not to the national governments which in the past have been wasteful or corrupt. In a thoughtful article, Jen Kirby, a reporter for Vox, suggested that the best way for the U.S. to assist countries like Honduras "is to support the civil society organizations and local groups on the

ground that are already working to improve their societies."

While assistance from wealthy nations is essential, the United States should carefully consider where that aid goes and take the lead now. One of the root causes of migration from Central America is poverty. A solution to Honduran poverty is continued United States foreign aid. But the U.S. should direct the funding to NGOs, non government entities such as university small business centers, Catholic Charities, and other established non-profits that directly invest in people.

In addition to funding, the U.S.

should establish asylum offices in countries like Costa Rica where refugee seekers from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador can begin the asylum application and thus avoid the dangerous travel to the U.S. border through Mexico.

Writing about "How the U.S. Created the Central American Immigration Crisis," investigative journalist

Rebecca Gordon concluded that "even if there were no corrupt regimes, no government repression, and no drug wars, people would still be fleeing Central America because climate change has made

their way of life impossible." Americans can and should do something to reduce dependence on fossil fuels that has helped accelerate climate change and the warming of the earth. The subsistence crops Central Americans depend on are ruined by droughts that are the consequences of America's excessive energy consumption habits.

The U.S. can and should reduce the causes of climate change. Additionally, a reassessment of how U.S. foreign aid to Central America is delivered and implemented should begin immediately.



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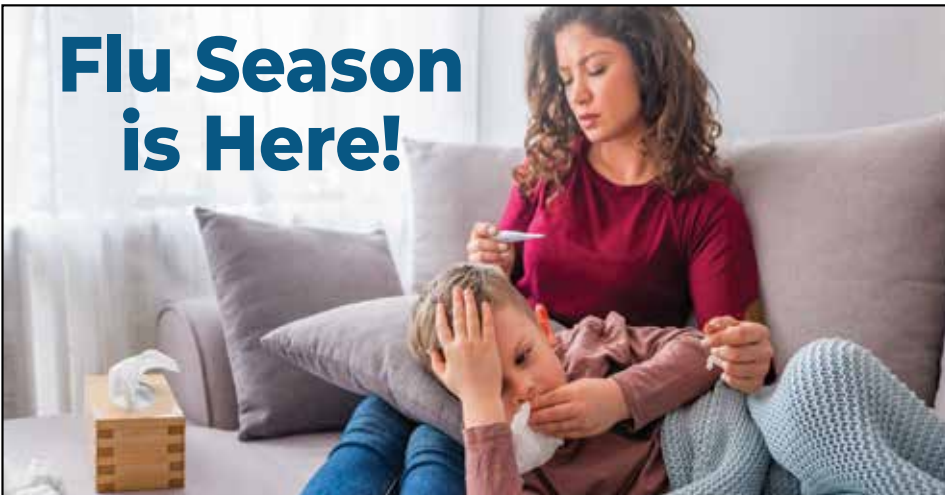
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## Republic Art Studio Hosts San Antonio's First NFT Art Show

By Alex Ramirez

Last Saturday evening, Republic Art Studio held San Antonio's first NFT art show entitled, "The Revolution Will Be Digitized." The show featured some of San Antonio's most-acclaimed local artists: painter Kaldric Dow, spoken word artist/actor Amalia Ortiz, and poet Anthony Flores, among others—all of whom were there showcasing a striking array of digital art.

The NFT showcase is the brainchild of the Republic Arts Collaborative, a team of multidisciplinary artists based out of the Westside studio. Opening its doors to the general public, the affair was a dazzling look into a platform that is currently revolutionizing the digital art market of today.

It is ironic that the show's title would allude to Gil Scott-Heron's famous 1971 spoken word song, "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," considering just how much the NFT phenomenon has exploded. Muralist David Blancas, one of Republic Art's founding members as well as one of the artists exhibited during the show, was adamant to explore the possibilities of NFTs.

"All I know is that we wanted to be a part of it," said Blancas. "Ron Garcia [the show's curator] approached me and said, 'Maybe we can use this space to integrate all the artforms. Actual physical artwork—poetry, painting, murals—and apply it to this NFT marketplace.'"



An NFT, or Non-Fungible Token, is a form of ownership of a digital property. An NFT acts the same as an artist's signature on a painting—a means of certifying the artwork's authenticity, only in this case, the medium is digital and transactions are made through Ethereum, a cryptocurrency.

To give some context as to the growing NFT trend, "Nyan Cat," the internet meme depicting a Poptart-infused feline floating through space that went viral on social media nearly a decade ago, sold as an NFT for close to \$600,000 in real world money. In March, Canadian singer Grimes sold her own digital artwork for a whopping \$5.8 million dollars on the crypto-art market site, Nifty Gateway.

While many believe there is money to be had through this emerging crypto-platform, environmental concerns centered around greenhouse gas emissions and the massive

amounts of power needed to facilitate NFTs are raising eyebrows. Through a complex process of creating NFTs on a blockchain, or an open digital ledger used to track an artwork's ownership history, computer systems emit colossal carbon footprints.

However, Nain Leon, another Republic Art founding member and showcased artist, praised the platform's ability to give power back to the artist by authenticating their work to a specific owner even if a digital artwork has been widely downloaded.

"Digital art was easy for people to think, 'I can download the piece and it's going to be mine,'" said Leon. "Now we can show to the world that this piece is only [the artist's] even though so many people are gonna download it."

For more information on "The Revolution Will Be Digitized" and the artists on display, visit [nftartsa.com](http://nftartsa.com).



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# West Side Acme Park Haven for Community Athletes

**By: Liliana Teran**

For years the basketball courts at Acme Park have been serving as a place where kids and young adults can engage in recreational activities and get fresh air.

Ben Ynostrosa, 16, has been coming to Acme Park to play basketball for over five years. "To me this is a safe place where you can come and show your skill set," he said.

The 2.8-acre park features a picnic area, a playground, a small pavilion, and a .17 mile walking trail, however the big attraction at the park are the two open-air basketball courts, including a covered court named in honor of

regional African American educator Thelma Jackson.

Mikayla Reyes, 18, is one of the few women who plays basketball at Acme Park. "I used to live around this area but I moved a while back. I now drive 40 minutes to come play here because the people make you feel welcome," she said.

This confirms the impact the basketball courts have on the community.

Acme Park is located on the Westside of San Antonio, across the street from E.T Wrenn Junior High and two low-income based apartments. According to the sanantonio.gov website, the 78237 zip code has a

higher than average crime rate.

This is why the basketball courts at Acme Park are an important part of the neighborhood. They offer children and young adults a safe place to gather outdoors. To engage in healthy recreational activities instead of choosing a negative alternative.

Sara Stewart, 18, is another woman who plays basketball at Acme Park. "I've been coming here for a while now. I like it because as a girl it's hard to find places where guys welcome you to play," she said. "And here they just let you play. It's about the game."

After 5 p.m., one can drive past the park and see the courts filled with people. From active basketball participants, to spectators on the bleachers cheering them on. The ambiance of the games are contagious and makes you want to take a seat in a shaded area to enjoy the game. Even past dark the courts are well lit and people can be seen playing until the park's closing time.

"I've lived here my whole life and see kids using these courts everyday. It's good, so they can stay out of trouble," local resident, Carlos Rodriguez said. "It's like a gateway to make friends and we need more areas like

this."

The basketball games played at Acme Park represent more than physical activity. They stand for community and the need for continued progress in areas like the West Side. It's important to consider the space children and young adults have accessible to them as many are influenced by their environment.

For now, the park continues to be a place where all players, male or female, beginner or expert, are welcome to join a basketball match. Acme Park is located on 534 S Acme Rd. For more information you can call (210) 207-7275.



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# Temporary Teacher Terminations Under San Antonio Independent School District Rachel Tucker's Petition to the Board

**Read-in by  
Julian Villarreal**

*On Monday, May 10, the SAISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to terminate kindergarten teacher Rachell Tucker and two other teachers on temporary contracts, despite the calls of nearly two dozen community members, parents, and the teachers' union supporting Tucker and the other teachers. La Prensa Texas has chosen to publish Tucker's statement to the board of trustees, which she delivered in public comments to the board at the May 10 meeting. We welcome a reply from the SAISD board of trustees so that the community can have an open dialogue regarding the termination of teachers by the board and the continued deteriorating relations between the board, district administration and teachers, the union, parents, students, and community members. The petition reads as follows:*

My name is Rachell Tucker. I am the dual language Kinder teacher at Highland Park Elementary, a veteran of the US Army and hold a Masters in Bilingual Bicultural Studies. I have been deeply honored to teach in my community.

I come before the board today not because I have failed as an educator. This has nothing to do with my performance. - which really no teacher, unless they have done something completely heinous, should be fired or

forced to resign for performance during this pandemic. My name, my career and my livelihood are all being defamed by my administration. The request for termination is the culmination of a campaign of harassment that started only after I advocated for the safety of my students, fellow teachers and my community.

I love my community, that is why once the pandemic hit I saw what was possible, what is now our reality. San Antonio has over 3 thousand dead and over 200K who have been infected. Victims include family members of my students, coworkers who have had gotten sick themselves and passed it onto their families. This pandemic has ravaged our community and continues to do so. Since last May I have advocated for the health and safety of my community with the San Antonio Coalition on School Reopening. I voiced concerns about health and safety publicly, to my coworkers, and to administration. My

administration does not live in the Highland Park community. I question whether they feel what I feel when I saw letter after identical letter of positive cases at my school. Documenting cases and contact tracing were just another box to check.

The district made promises to staff, students, parents and the community to get students to come in person. It is now clear there was no intent to adhere to those promises. One

example includes the safety measure to close schools if outbreak was rampant. They defined this as a 10% test positivity rate. When that number was reached, schools did not close. When it went as high as 26 percent positivity, schools did not close. Instead, you changed your safety plan and pursued the narrative that the 'community,' not schools, were the source of outbreak. What are schools to you, if not part of our community? Spread happens at our schools - not acknowledging that simple fact illustrates your deception and culpability.

The district's work vaccinating teachers could have been a celebrated accomplishment if it was followed by an equally strong effort to vaccinate the community. Instead, teachers and parents were pressured to bring kids into the classroom even more than before - opening up to 80 percent, with some classes in my school having no more kids online. Our students, and many of their caretakers, are still not vaccinated, yet teachers felt pressured to call students back for testing purposes. Safety

standards continue to relax, which speaks to how much the communities they service are valued.

Why is it so wrong to ask questions of the institutions that we all trust to teach and keep the next generation safe? Why am I being terminated, defamed and disrespected for standing up for myself and my

community? Why did people try to convince me to resign instead of stand before you today? Why do you say we have had a choice all along - when that choice is to leave our profession - our livelihood and passion - if we do not feel safe? This is no choice at all. Why am I being held accountable for the failings of this district?

I was an all around proficient teacher last year, still with a lot to learn and willing to do so. This year, according to my administration, I am the worst teacher and the only teacher on the campus that needed a growth plan during a pandemic year for classroom management. This added so much more stress on me that I have lost 15 pounds and I have had to file for a readjustment to my VA disability for anxiety. Everytime I hear keys on my door I get scared because I knew it was going to be a negative walkthrough. I was the only teacher that has found hybrid education challenging according to them. I say all this because there is a double standard, there is no empathy or understanding and certainly no mercy. My working environment was hostile from all of my leadership.

I was actively targeted by the administration for my advocacy for the safety of our communities. I have documented an entire year of attack, dishonesty and degrada-

tion for speaking up against unsafe practices in the midst of the devastating pandemic. This kind of political targeting shouldn't be at the core of our educational practices.

In closing, Here are my demands: First of all, I ask that the board vote to retain my position at Highland Park Elementary without prejudice or retaliation.

In order to support me in being the best educator for my students, I ask for the Professional Growth Plan that was placed on me for performance during a pandemic year in the midst of hybrid learning as a punitive move for my advocacy for teachers, students and families be removed. My record should be wiped clean of any and all punitive measures, including negative evaluations. Furthermore, I request that for all future meetings I am granted union representation upon request and that the San Antonio Alliance for Teachers and Support Staff be granted access to the campus.

Finally, I request that the Principal and Vice Principal of Highland Park elementary school themselves be placed on a professional growth plan for the duration of one year that supports them in creating a working environment that encourages teacher retention and builds the kind of community relationships that best supports our students and our families.



# Towne Twin Village Breaks Ground on 205 Housing Units for the Homeless and Elderly

By Ramon Chapa Jr.

History is being made at the Towne Twin Village this month with Commissioner Tommy Calvert leading the way to uplift society. Four million dollars were made available for the production of over 200 housing units assigned to vulnerable San Antonio populations including the elderly and those with insecure housing.



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# UTSA Congo Basin Mural Adds New Perspective to San Antonio

Interview by  
Natasha Gonzales

Article by Jackie Velez

The San Antonio Zoo unveiled phase two of its Africa Live! mural this month with a lush tropical forest and assemblages of large charismatic animals in what UTSA students dubbed, The Congo Basin. The new mural section adds to the phase one project, entitled The Marketplace, and was wholly researched, designed, and produced by students from the UTSA Department of Art and Art History.

The Congo Basin mural was a two-semester project completed under the guidance of UTSA instructor Andrei Renteria. The new addition adds cultures, colors, and patterns of the regions where the animals are found to the façade of the zoo's Africa Live! realm. The mural depicts many of the animals that live in the basin to include the endangered forest elephant, two species of gorilla, keeled mud turtles, and wolf monkeys.

"For years, Africa Live has been the nerve center of the zoo and an incredibly popular realm for all our guests," said President & CEO San Antonio

Zoo Tim Morrow. "We are excited to showcase this beautiful art to our patrons and proud to continue our collaborative efforts with UTSA. We are confident their work will educate and inspire our visitors for generations to come."

Dr. Gregory Elliott, Art & Art History Department Chair at UTSA said, "It is a wonderful thing to see the culmination of a three-year effort that has involved so many of our students under the leadership of Andrei Renteria. Five years ago, Andrei came to the department with a vision of adding muralism in a real way to the breadth of our program. With perfect timing, the

partnership with the San Antonio Zoo developed the next year, and generous support from the donors was committed, bringing the project into reality. The mural project required students to use their research, planning, and presentation skills to pitch the idea to zoo officials and the project donors, Martin Salinas, UTSA class of 1994, and Rebecca J Salinas, UTSA class of 2000 and 2011. This mural is the result of a multi-phase project to

enrich the entire Africa Live! building. The UTSA Department of Art and Art History is honored to have had the opportunity to bring this project for all to enjoy, and lucky to have Andrei to lead the way."

The mural project required students to use their research, planning, and presentation skills to pitch the idea to zoo officials and the project donors, Martin Salinas, UTSA class of 1994, and Rebecca J Salinas, UTSA class of 2000 and 2011. This mural is the second in a four-phase project to adorn the entire Africa Live! building. A joint statement from the Salinas' extends their pride in the artwork and their UTSA family.

"We are honored to have been a part of this project. This mural provided an opportunity for UTSA to showcase the incredible talents of its students in an informative and creative way, and what a better place than at the San Antonio Zoo. The final product truly exemplifies the students' hard work, dedication, and commitment, and as UTSA alumni, we couldn't be prouder of them."



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

CSP #21C-007 Purchase of Construction Services for an Amphitheatre at Palo Alto College

Deadline: June 3, 2021 at 2:00pm.

Pre-Proposal meeting & site tour scheduled on May 19, 2021 at 9:00am at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd, Ozuna Bldg., Legacy Room, SA, TX 78224

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



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# Royal Prestige Brinda A Los Hispanos Las Herramientas Para Qué Sean Exitosos

**Por Blue PR**

Madison WI-. Las situaciones de incertidumbre laboral, económica y de salud como la que vivimos actualmente nos enfrentan a sentimientos de duda e inseguridad, pero también a la búsqueda de nuevas oportunidades personales y profesionales para alcanzar los sueños y el éxito que tanto anhelamos. Royal Prestige, la marca registrada líder en utensilios de cocina de venta directa a nivel mundial ofrece a millennials, mujeres y hombres hispanos la oportunidad de abrirse camino hacia un nuevo futuro próspero, de la mano y con el respaldo de una marca seria y de renombre con 50 años en el mercado. Royal Prestige ofrece una oportunidad única, tangible y real.

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De acuerdo con el reporte “Resumen de la Situación del Empleo- marzo 2021” (The Employment Situation Summary- March 2021”) realizado por la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales de Estados Unidos (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS, por su nombre y siglas en inglés), el desempleo entre hispanos en Estados Unidos sigue por encima de la media nacional, con una tasa de desempleo de 7.9%, en comparación con el 6% de la tasa de desempleo general.

Con el objetivo de empoderar a más hispanos y ayudarlos a forjarse un nuevo futuro profesional, Royal Prestige les ofrece los recursos, herramientas y capacitación necesarios para empezar a crear

su propia realidad laboral, ser exitosos y lograr el éxito personal, profesional y económico que desean, sin tener que depender de un modelo de empleo tradicional.

“Sabemos que el último año no ha sido fácil para un gran número de hispanos que han perdido su empleo o su negocio o qué han visto bajas en sus ingresos. En Royal Prestige estamos convencidos de que el 2021 es un año de oportunidades profesionales para quienes elijan confiar en sí mismos y hacer uso de sus mejores aptitudes y capacidades, su dominio de los idiomas inglés y español, su anhelo por crecer de manera exitosa “, comentó Erik Johnson, CEO y Chairman de Hy Cite Enterprises.

“Nuestro modelo de negocio



Ángela Vargas Royal Network Leader. (Foto cortesía).

les permitirá alcanzar su potencial como personas trabajadoras y capaces de generar ingresos para crecer con nosotros, que estaremos a su lado en todo su camino y trayectoria con las herramien-

tas, recursos y capacitación que requieren para que logren alcanzar su máximo potencial”.

Royal Prestige ofrece información en [www.oportunidadroyal.com](http://www.oportunidadroyal.com).



Pastor Carlos and Darlene are the Pastors for LCM's Spanish ministry. They have both served the Lord in different areas from a young age. Together, they Pastored a Hispanic church in New Jersey for several years. Led by the Holy Spirit, they relocated to San Antonio in 2018. Darlene has a passion for worshipping the Lord with music, while Pastor Carlos has a heart for teaching the Word of God and providing Pastoral counseling. They are also parents of a precious boy.



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