

La Prensa Texas

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UVALDE
STRONG
NUESTRAS
CONDOLENCIAS

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 Guns and Derelict Legislators

By Yvette Tello

I received this email after the mass shooting in Uvalde and felt obliged to share and "talk about it."

Dear Ms. Tello,

Due to this week's mass murder of children in Uvalde, Texas, what about protecting our children from guns and derelict legislators? Talk About It! Those murdered children in Uvalde and Sandy Hook Elementary are all our children! All parents and religious leaders should hold our legislators accountable and demand gun legislation. It's time for parents to hold Abbott, Cruz, and Cornyn's feet over hot coals in order to get life saving gun legislation, at least, for the sake of our children!

Do you agree? Let's talk about it... and let's pray for Uvalde and their broken hearts. Uvalde, you are not alone. Our hearts hurt with yours. Your loss is our loss.

Frances Potter: "Agree, a solution is what we need. We need to vote and replace politicians that have a heart and conscience!"

Leon Gaytan: "On Sunday night my daughter told me she overheard a couple of her teachers saying that her school hasn't had active shooter drills in a while. Democrats blame Republicans, Republicans blame Democrats. This great nation is ready for a 3rd party that really listens to the people and stops blaming and passes laws. No change in the laws has really happened since the Columbine High School massacre. It's time for new laws. There are a lot of mama bears and papa bears who can probably think of laws. Wake up people!"

Gregory Johnson: "State Representatives voted against gun control in March. This Friday, State Representatives will be at the NRA convention

in Houston Texas. Leaders are too worried about money and staying in office."

Robert Vasquez: "Two months ago that school did an active shooting drill."

Lydia Curran: "No! And we all know why! Enough said. We're not stupid! They love their guns, don't they? Follow the money and you'll see why. Vote those people out of office who are in the pockets of the NRA."

Cynthia Eugene Bustamante: "In my opinion, regardless of laws, people that don't follow laws will still find ways to have guns."

Thomas Mc: "When we did nothing about Sandy Hook. The nation said the mass murder of children was a big deal. Now, like then will prove that absolutely nothing will change or happen. We will get the usually useless thought and prayers. GOP and gun enthusiasts are already saying "don't have a knee jerk reaction to this." People are already detracting from the issue and calling the murder trans and an illegal because that's what their base will rally to and overlook the issue of guns. Any moment now someone on this thread or somewhere else will bring out the ol "guns don't kill people people kill people" BS. And in two weeks, no one will care. And in a few months or a year, more children will be murdered and we will do this song and dance again. This country is broken beyond repair."

Gene A. Gomez: "I absolutely agree. Let's not forget, not long ago, Abbott made it easier to purchase guns in this great state of Texas. Too easy. We need strict gun laws and regulations. They work. Do any other countries have this issue? VOTE."

Ramon Chapa Jr.: "Good point!"

Alice Herrera: "OMG!!! Everyone always immediately politicizes everything! What about having armed security at every school? Just like the politicians do, at airports, our companies we work at, the banks. Why do they all have armed security but our most vulnerable do not? Schools up north in the areas with the most gun laws have armed security with metal detectors."

Todd Forbes: "My heart goes out to those kids and their families! They didn't deserve this! And that should really be our focus - pray for them first!! But gun control laws are not the solution! Schools are gun free zones. It's against the law to have a gun there. Did that stop him? Trespassing is against the law. Did that stop him? Murder is against the law. Did that stop him? What kind of idiot do you have to be to think a law banning guns would stop a lunatic from doing this? Focus on the problem and not the weapon of choice. Would we be banning trucks if he had used the truck in the school playground to mow down the kids? No, because that would be stupid and so is banning guns! People are the problem and focus on fixing them!"

Rebecca Tinajero Jones: "Yes, totally agree! You can add Ryan Guillen to that list. I made several calls to our state senator and state rep. And no one has called back. Call us and I will let you in as to why."

Richard Perez: "First off, we arm 18 year olds; that's the bulk of new recruits to our nation's military. Secondly, people don't really want an open discussion and talk about genuine solutions. They really just want to prove their side right. Politicians are just as bad or worse than most because their stances change depending on votes and public opinion."

Support Uvalde

By LPT Staff
Cover Design by Franco
Our hearts go out to families affected by this tragedy.
We would like to encourage our

readers to donate to our friends at the El Progreso Memorial Library to support long term care and future library programming for the students and families of

Uvalde. Libraries are strong community hubs where visitors can find sanctuary in books and learning. Mary Alice Cisneros and Quiana Natividad shared the flier with us.



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Commissioner's Court Memorial Day Ceremony

By Ramon Chapa. Jr.

In observance of Memorial Day on May 30, 2022, the Commissioner's Court held a ceremony to remember and honor those service members who have died while serving our country.



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Congressman Castro Applauds Long-Sought Renaming of Fort Hood for General

Richard E. Cavazos

By Geneva Kropper

Congressman Joaquín Castro (TX-20) released the following statement applauding the decision to rename Fort Hood for Richard E. Cavazos, a military hero who made history in 1982 as the first Hispanic four-star general in the U.S. Army:

“I’m grateful that The Naming Commission has recommended renaming Fort Hood to honor General Richard E. Cavazos, a history-making general who fought bravely and inspired generations of young servicemembers to follow in his footsteps,” said Congressman Castro. “Throughout our nation’s history, Hispanic and Latino servicemembers have served with valor and distinction — despite, at times, facing discrimination at home and abroad. These courageous men and women have played essential roles in our most defining battles and protected freedom across the world. I hope the new Fort Cavazos will be a welcoming community that our servicemembers and military families are proud to call their home.”

In 2020, Congressman Castro and a bipartisan coalition of members of Congress voted to establish The Naming Commission, a commission tasked with developing a plan to rename

military assets that commemorate Confederate leaders. Fort Hood is currently named for John Bell Hood, a confederate military leader and white supremacist who was relieved of his rank after disastrous defeats during the last year of the Civil War.

The Naming Commission received more than 34,000 public suggestions for new installation names that would better reflect the courage and strength of America’s Armed Forces. On April 12, 2021, Congressman Castro and members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) wrote to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and The Naming Commission to highlight the importance of Latino representation in the names of military assets. The CHC letter suggested the names of several prominent Hispanic military leaders for consideration, including General Cavazos, Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez, Staff Sergeant Macario Garcia, Private Marcelino Serna, and Technician 4th Grade Carmen Contreras-Bozak.

Richard E. Cavazos was born on January 31, 1929 in Kingsville, Texas. A star football player, he overcame racism and educational inequality to enroll in Texas Technological College (now

Texas Tech), where he committed to serve his country through the Reserve Officers’ Training Corp. In 1951, he was commissioned into the Army and later deployed to Korea, where the bilingual Cavazos was welcomed as the leader of the Borinqueneers, a regiment of mostly Spanish-speaking Puerto Rican soldiers. In Korea, his heroism earned him the Silver Star and the Distinguished Service Cross. After his service in Korea, Cavazos served in Vietnam, where was beloved as a commander who would fight side-by-side with his troops. In Korea, Cavazos earned a second Distinguished Service Cross. Beyond his service on the battlefield, Cavazos was a mentor to countless servicemembers, including future Secretary of State Colin Powell. In the final decade of his military service, Cavazos made history as the first Hispanic brigadier general and the first Hispanic four-star general in U.S. history. After retiring from the Army in 1984, Cavazos continued to be a mentor and role model for young military leaders. He died in San Antonio, Texas at the age of 88 and was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

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Reuniones del Comité Asesor de Reorganización de Distritos del 2022

MAYO 31 Municipal Plaza, B
2 p.m. Room
114 W Commerce St.
78205

JUNIO 7 City Hall Briefing
6 p.m. Room
1100 Military Plaza,
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Dé su opinión asistiendo a una reunión en persona o llamando al 311

Las fechas y ubicaciones de las reuniones están sujetas a cambios.

Obtenga más información en sabexarcountmein.org

Los Spurs se preparan a celebrar En grande 50 Aniversario en SA

By Geneva Kropper

Peter J. Holt, presidente de la mesa directiva del equipo Spurs de San Antonio y de la empresa Spurs Sports and Entertainment (SS&E), con cierta confianza en boletín oficial informativo hizo incapie, sobre la seguridad del pentacampeón club seguirá en la región de El Álamo "Por Vida".

Recientemente los Spurs que desde 2003 tienen Por sede el estadio multiusos AT&T Center, que es propiedad del Condado de Bexar cuya corte la preside El juez Nelson W. Wolff, mediante su representantes el abogado Bobby Pérez, se presentó solicitud, para obtener permiso de jugar en la temporada 2022-2023, cuatro partidos fuera de su estadio.

La solicitud fue aprobada

por mayoría de votos.

Por lo que Spurs estará celebrando en grande su 50o Aniversario jugando un partido en el majestuoso Alamodome, así como de un partido en la Ciudad de México con dos en el Moody Center de la vecina ciudad de Austin, Texas, que es la capital del estado de la Estrella Solitaria.

Con esos partidos se pretende extender la mercadotecnia de Spurs y a la vez llevarle a los aficionados un baloncesto de calidad mundial.

La excelencia trayectoria de los Spurs se debe al incansable trabajo que por 26 años ha venido realizando su entrenador en jefe Gregg Popovich quién logró establecer marca mundial en el deporte profesional clasificando a San Antonio durante 22 temporadas consecutivas en los playoffs de la NBA.

Hasta la fecha Spurs sigue comandando esa marca seguido por los Patriots de New England con 10 en la NFL.

Spurs con su capitán el delantero Tim Duncan, conquistó cinco banderines de las finales en la NBA. Por lo que los tiene exhibiéndose en su vitrina (5 trofeos Larry O'Brien), ganados en las temporadas de 1999, 2003, 2005, 2007 y 2014. Lo cual vienen a ser un "promedio" de un banderín capturado en el lapso de cincuenta años desde que la franquicia llegó del club Dallas Chaparrals en 1973, afiliada a la ABA, comprada por el magnate Red McCombs.

Spurs han tenido como sedes la Hemisfair Arena. The Alamodome y AT&T Center.

Spurs ya presentaron el logo para el 50 Aniversario en el cual incluyeron 5 estrellas una por cada trofeo ganado. En las fotos aparecen Peter J. Holt, Pop. Fans frente al AT&T

Center. Los 5 trofeos que se exhiben en el sector Plaza Level. Logo del 50 Aniversario y Chivas fans en el sector Balcony. Las fotos de Holt y Pop, son cortesía de SS&E. El resto son por Franco.



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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 date shown.

CSP# 2022-0014 PURCHASE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES

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Specifications are available by visiting Alamo College's District website:

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TACAA State Conference

By Ramon Chapa, Jr

Texas Association of Community Action Agencies held its Annual week long Conference at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio, TX. It was attended by agencies throughout the state that assist people obtain self sufficiency.



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The Texas Association of Community Action Agencies, Inc. provides a unified voice to Community Action Agencies and operates programs to increase the capacity of organizations to serve low-income Texans.

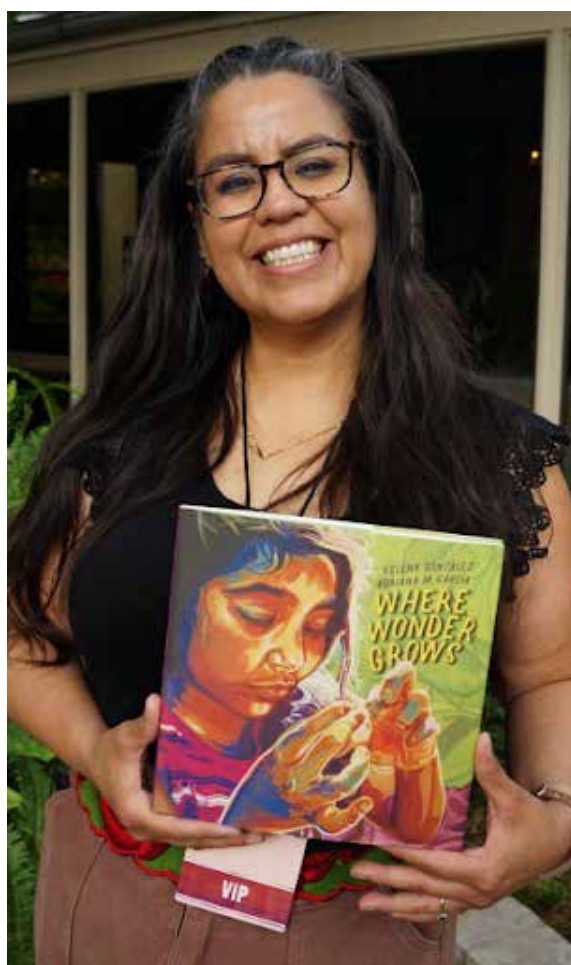
Authors and Artists Discuss Latino Topics and Celebrate Latino Culture at the 10th Annual San Antonio Book Festival



Mexican Ballet Folklorico Dancers open 10th Annual San Antonio Book Festival at the Central Library and Southwest School of Art. May 21, 2022. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



*Co-Authors Dr. Harriett Romo and Professor William A. Dupont discuss their new book, **Bridging Cultures: Reflections on the Cultural Heritage Identity of the Texas-Mexico Borderlands.** Photo by Ricardo Romo.*



1. Artist and Author Adriana Garcia with her new children's book, *Where Wonder Grows*.
2. Author Ito Romo participates in the panel "Writing as a Second Act." Photo by Ricardo Romo.
3. Author Roberto "Dr. Cintli" Rodriguez discusses his new book, *Writing Amongst the Gringos*. Photos by Ricardo Romo.

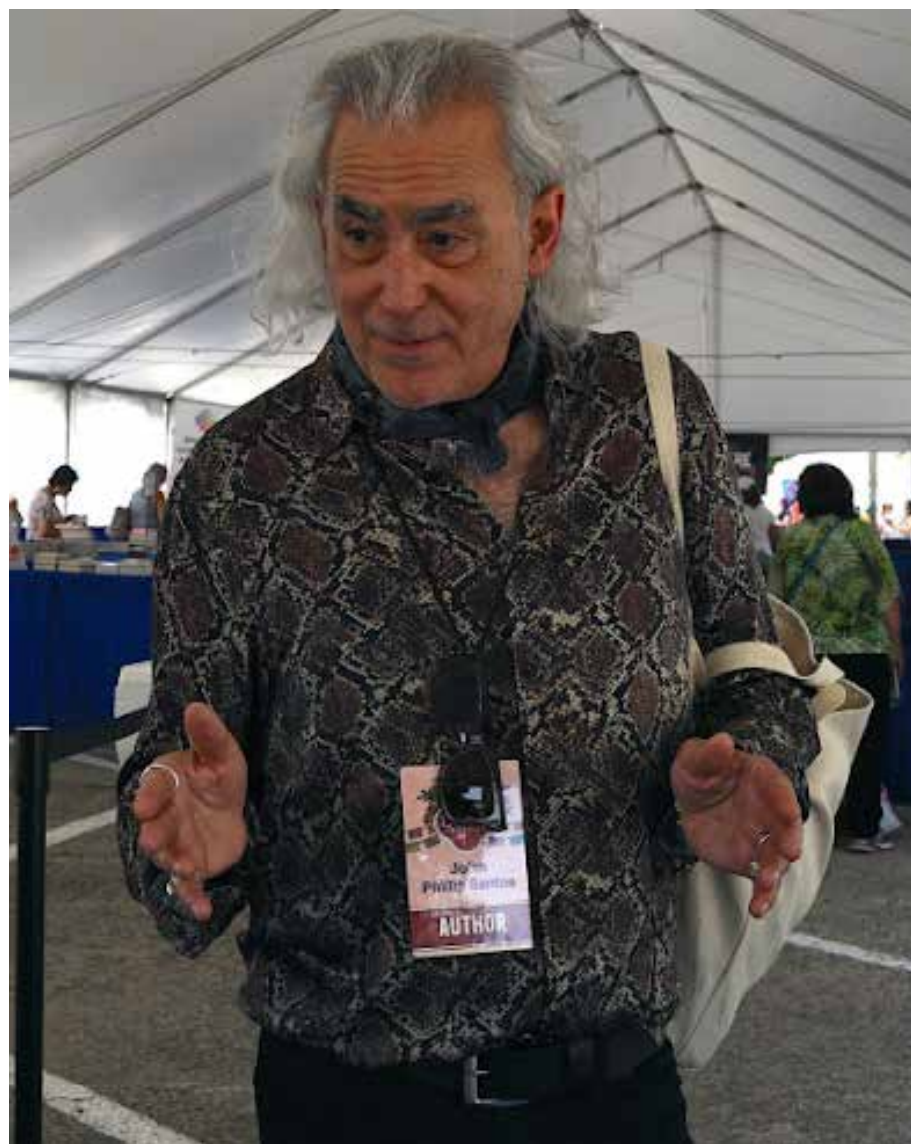


Author Sandra Cisneros moderated a panel discussion with newly published author Richard Santos. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



**Above:
Author Xavier Garza discusses his book *Llorar y Llorar* with authors Carmen Tafolla and Harriett Romo. Photo by Ricardo Romo.**

**Left:
Carmen Tafolla, State Poet Laureate of Texas in 2015, is currently the President of the Texas Institute of Letters. Tafolla also served from 2012-2014 as the first City Poet Laureate of San Antonio.**



Author John Philip Santos moderated a book discussion about Phil Hardberger Park. Photo by Ricardo Romo.

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Invitación al Torneo Poncho Maldonado

Charros Potosinos doblegó a los Rockies

Por Sendero Deportivo

Aprovechando el feriado del Memorial Day, este sábado 28 y domingo 29 de Mayo en el estadio Potranco Baseball Field se estará jugando el primer Torneo de La Amistad dedicado al legendario comentarista Alfonso "Poncho" Maldonado, quién por más de 50 años fue cronista Deportivo En la Radio de la

región carbonífera al sur del Río Bravo.

El cuadrangular internacional será en categoría Veteranos y los partidos se jugarán a 7 entradas. Todo el público está invitado.

Rol de juegos sábado a las 10am Sabinas vs. Dallas. Aquí habrá intermedio para reconocimientos al señor Poncho Maldonado y leyendas del

béisbol. 1pm combinado de Cloete-Nueva Rosita vs. San Antonio.

El domingo 29 en los mismos horarios se jugarán los partidos por el tercer lugar y campeonato respectivamente.

Resultados liga Abierta dominical Potranco.

Charros Potosinos de Catarino Obregón y Saul Puente, ganó su segundo partido consecutivo ante el duro rival Rockies. La pizarra fue de 10-6 carreras, con triunfo para el abridor Kevin García quién fue relevado por Rodrigo Salas y Alfredo Obregón quién se anotó el salvamento. La derrota fue para Mike Gutierrez con relevó de Brian Gutierrez.

Maceteros le sacó de la bolsa la victoria al ex invicto Rieleros de JP Reza quién se quedó con marca de 9-1 al cierre de la segunda vuelta.

Águilas de Veracruz de Luis Cerros noquearon 13-1 a Mets.

Liga Veteranos final del playoff. Las Chancas Voladoras de Mike Tabahan ante Rieleros de Juan Sánchez y los coaches Servando Hernández y JP Reza, se llevaron el primero de serie pactada a tres encuentros.

Juan Martínez comenzó por Chancas siendo relevado por Joey Farias quién ganó el partido. Martínez pegó jonrón solitario ante el perdedor Moisés Cervantes quién tuvo

relevó de JP Reza.

En Masters 50+ que coordina el scout Frank Torres y es apadrinada por Catarino Obregón, Tuzos noquearon a Rieleros 19-4. Astros de Pedro Espinoza consumo su decimosegunda victoria consecutiva ante Dodgers de Macario Rosas con abultada pizarra de 22-4 carreras.

El clásico fue ganado por Yankees SA ante Rangers SA de El Venado Benito Martínez.

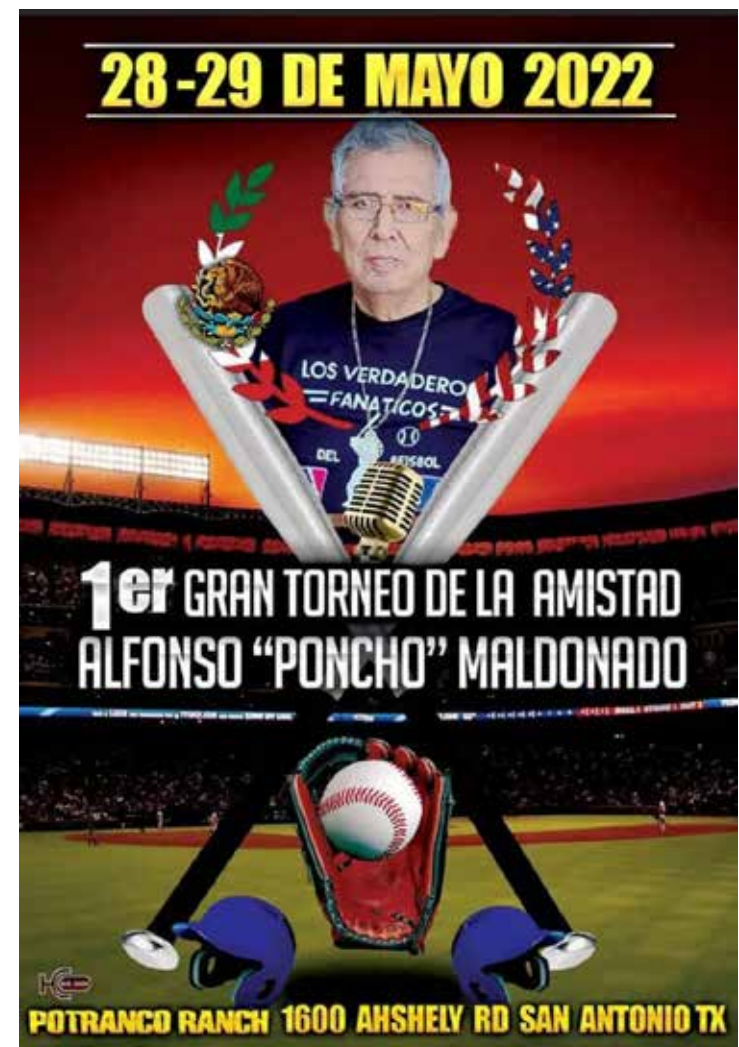
Ambos equipos empatados 2-2 en la sexta entrada, tuvieron oportunidad del desempate.

Yankees sorprendió anotando 12 carreras con lo que se decretó el inesperado nocaut con pizarra de 14-2.

En la Liga Semi-Pro con sede en el campo 3 de Potranco Baseball Field, concluyó la segunda vuelta con victoria para Broncos ante Indios de Nava con marcador de 3-2 carreras.

Indios y Broncos finalizaron empatados en primer lugar con 7-3. Piratas de Sabinas 6-4 y Tuzos 5-5.

Desperados 4-6. Mt Olympus 1-9. Cabe anotar que el Mt. Olympus ganó su único partido 26-5 carreras ante Tuzos de José Cruz y Roberto "La Yerba" Villarreal. En las fotos aparecen: Rieleros y Las Chancas Voladoras en saludos deportivos. Alfredo Obregón lanzador de Charros Potosinos. Cristian Arzola receptor y cuarto bate de Potosinos. (Fotos de Franco).



Join the Movement, Sign the Contract

A Call to Act on Voting Rights

In 2020, Black voters delivered unprecedented turnout at the polls and risked everything – including their own health at the height of the pandemic – to vote Joe Biden and Senate Democrats into office, in part on a promise to protect civil rights. But after nearly two years of Capitol Hill protests, White House demonstrations, letters, petitions, and acts of civil disobedience from voting rights activists demanding action, two key federal voting rights bills – the Freedom to Vote Act and John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act – were blocked in the Senate. And now as we enter the midterm season, dangerous Supreme Court decisions and a wave of state-level voter restrictions threaten to turn back the clock on election freedom, undermine our ability to build power, stop our gains on the issues impacting our communities.

We now call on federal candidates this election year to sign this contract that makes clear your personal commitment to protecting voters' rights.

The Contract

We know that the right to vote is at the core of any functioning democracy. As such, we firmly believe that all Americans should have free and fair access to the ballot box.

I will do everything in my power to help Congress pass comprehensive voting rights bills and measures to strengthen our democracy.

- **The Freedom to Vote: John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act** would expand voter registration, expand voting access with guidelines for mail-in voting and early voting, establish Election Day as a federal holiday, prevent racist and partisan gerrymandering, and protect against election subversion. It would also restore the Justice Department's authority to police election laws in states with a history of discrimination, a key component of the 1965 Voting Rights Act the U.S. Supreme Court stripped away in 2013.
- **The Washington, D.C. the Admission Act** would grant D.C. statehood, making it the 51st state of the United States, and allowing full representation in Congress for the nearly 700,000 residents of our Nation's Capital.
- **Filibuster reform** is another key strategy that could be implemented for eliminating barriers to voting rights, democracy or constitutional measures.

The right to vote is the cornerstone of democracy. As a steward of democracy, I am committed to fighting for voters today and always to access and preserve this right.

In solidarity,

(add your signature to mark your commitment)

**BLACK
VOTERS
MATTER**

Paid for by Black Voters Matter Fund. No affiliation with any political party or political candidate.

Not News - San Antonio Fails to Avert Baby Formula Crisis

By Noe H. Chingues

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and San Antonians needed its health department the most, Metro Health was a hot mess. Beginning March 2019, the department saw numerous leadership changes. Most of the turmoil happened during the critical periods of the pandemic. For two years COVID raged, Metro Health was rudderless; for the biggest poor city in the country facing its biggest health crisis, San Antonio leaders couldn't have failed the community more.

This is why it's no surprise city leaders are asleep at the wheel again as parents in the Alamo city are struggling the most in the U.S. to get the formula their infants need. This emergency has only been 5 months in the making for the city to get ahead, but instead San Antonio is in the national headlines for all the wrong reasons.

Only after a world-wide pandemic, snowmageddon and the longest food-bank lines in the country could city officials no longer hide the extent of San Antonio's poverty. Even City Manager Mini-Sculley admitted "We're reinvesting in our public health," in the city budget which means we've been spending money developing downtown for the last decade. He said that "people may notice more of a renewed investment in public health," which

means we're clueless because it's been nada for the thousands of mothers panicking to find baby formula. The situation begs the question, how can a city with a record \$3.1 billion budget be so unobservant, far-removed, ill-prepared and incapable of providing a smidgeon of relief to this current situation?

It's likely the city selected the wrong health director, again. For a city that purports to be a leader in the medical sector, it's a travesty San Antonio could not produce a home grown candidate. This inability speaks volumes about our city government's hiring prejudices. There are many positions within the City of San Antonio that should be headed by leaders who are born and reared in Bexar County, and a city's health director is probably among the most important. It's called community health for a reason and San Antonio's newest can't even speak Spanish if we are going to be woke about qualifications that matter for a city with more than half a million and more arriving everyday.

But this is what happens when you have the wrong leaders - mammoth-sized ice-burges fall through cracks even when they've been approaching for months at a time; not to mention you won't be finding a Mexican-American heading up Fulton County's (Atlanta) Board of Health if we are to

be mega-woke and honest about the current city agenda.

San Antonio also prefers to invest in its own inept bureaucracy than push investment into the plethora of community organizations who are actually on the front lines doing the work. It's probably easier for the city to dole out a developer enticement package than get an emergency crisis response grant to Any Baby Can for example. Perhaps one day the city will appreciate and understand the assistance these organizations provide to the #1 big poor city. Meanwhile, the City Hall b-team believes it can do it all and do it better.

We know San Antonio cannot take care of its current population. The situation is getting worse with an even bigger population and the city's answer is to build more housing. This is exactly why a \$3.1 billion city budget can't get a bone to the poorest mothers in the country during this crisis and probably the next; and that's what's most scary about the City's renewed investment in public health. What we can see already, it's going to be a mega hot mess.

Noe H. Chingues is a satire and comedy writer focusing on the lame decision-making in San Antonio that is predictable, obvious and comes with no surprises.

Reps. Castro, Espaillat Lead Push for Biden Administration to Expand Temporary Protected Status for Migrants from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua

By Candace Person

Reps. Joaquin Castro (TX-20) and Adriano Espaillat (NY-13) led a bipartisan letter to President Biden, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, and Secretary of State Antony Blinken urging the administration to expand Temporary Protected Status protections for migrants from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

Despite the ongoing humanitarian crises in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, citizens of these nations who flee to the United States without legal status face an uphill battle to remain in the country. If detained, they can face deportation back to countries beset by food insecurity, political conflict, and economic instability — challenges that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and twin hurricanes that hit the region in November 2020. An estimated 1.5 million migrants in the United States would benefit from extending TPS to Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

Today's letter is endorsed by United We Dream, Immigration Hub, Church Worldwide Services, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), Latin America Working Group (LAWG), Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), and Women's Refugee Commission (WRC).

Additional co-signers on the letter include Reps. Jim McGovern (MA-02), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14), Jimmy Gomez (CA-34), Linda Sánchez (CA-38), Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ-12), Andre Carson (IN-07), Frederica Wilson (FL-24), Juan Vargas (CA-51), Anthony Brown (MD-04), Terri Sewell (AL-07), Lou Correa (CA-46), Dwight

Evans (PA-03), Jesus "Chuy" Garcia (IL-04), Grace Meng (NY-06), Eleanor Norton (DC-AL), Pramila Jayapal (WA-7), Albio Sires (NJ-8), Barbara Lee (CA-13), Jan Schakowsky (IL-09), Troy Carter (LA-02), Mark Pocan (WI-02), Grace Napolitano (CA-32), Tony Cárdenas (CA-29), Nydia Velazquez (NY-07), Ritchie Torres (NY-15), Donald Payne Jr. (NJ-10), Mike Quigley (IL-5), Rashida Tlaib (MI-13), Carolyn Maloney (NY-12), Henry "Hank" Johnson Jr. (GA-04), Darren Soto (FL-09), Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08), Dina Titus (NV-01), Ruben Gallego (AZ-07), Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), Mark DeSaulnier (CA-11), Jimmy Panetta (CA-20), Thomas Suozzi (NY-03), Norma Torres (CA-35), Nanette Barragán (CA-44), Alan Lowenthal (CA-47), Sara Jacobs (CA-53), Judy Chu (CA-27), Veronica Escobar (TX-16), Jamie Raskin (MD-08), Cori Bush (MO-01), Lori Trahan (MA-03), Raul Ruiz (CA-36), Sylvia Garcia (TX-29), Ted Lieu (CA-33), Andy Levin (MI-09), Karen Bass (CA-37), Jason Crow (CO-06), Shelia Cherfilus-McCormick (FL-20), Salud Carbajal (CA-24), Raul Grijalva (AZ-03), Tom Malinowski (NJ-07), Debbie Dingell (MI-12), Frank Pallone Jr. (NJ-06), Gerry Connolly (VA-11), Maria Elvira Salazar (FL-27), David Scott (GA-13), Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), Gregory Meeks (NY-05), Jamaal Bowman (NY-16), Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40), Yvette Clarke (NY-09), Joe Neguse (CO-02), Adam Smith (WA-09), Marie Newman (IL-03), Steven Horsford (NV-04), Kathy Castor (FL-14), Kathleen Rice (NY-04), Sean Casten (IL-06), Al Lawson (FL-05), Donald McEachin (VA-04), Nikema Williams (GA-05), Ilhan Omar (MN-05), David Cicilline (RI-01), Jerrold "Jerry" Nadler (NY-10), Gwen Moore

(WI-04), Zoe Lofgren (CA-19), Haley Stevens (MI-11), and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (FL-23).

The full letter is here:

Dear President Biden, Secretary Mayorkas, and Secretary Blinken,

We write to urgently request your administration expand Temporary Protected Status protections for migrants from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. We have watched with concern the worsening humanitarian crisis in Central American countries in the aftermath of Hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020, continued severe drought, and the COVID-19 pandemic. We believe designating Guatemala and redesignating El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) would go a long way in assisting those communities in the United States and enable them to better support their families back home.

The pressures of the November 2020 hurricanes compounded with the long-term effects of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic have worsened food insecurity and violence in countries in Central America. Hurricanes Eta and Iota left over 9.3 million people, including 3.5 million children, affected and forced to leave their home communities. The hurricanes also left long-lasting damage by destroying key healthcare, education, and other infrastructure essential to everyday lives. Almost a year later, millions in Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador still lacked access to humanitarian assistance, housing, and basic services.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the hurricanes interrupted the crucial flow of remittances to Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, which served a crucial role in supporting the region's economic recovery. The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) estimates areas affected by the two hurricanes, as well as the Dry Corridor in Honduras and Guatemala, will remain in crisis levels of food insecurity through at least May 2022. Over 8 million people went hungry in 2021, quadrupling from 2018, and these numbers will continue to rise as we see the increased effects of climate change on agriculture outputs, security, and economic integration. As your administration has recognized climate change as a key contributor to migration, these designations would support the administration's efforts to address the root causes of migration as communities in Central America have weathered the brunt of climate change's effects including consecutive years of drought and extreme weather events.

The changing political dynamics in these countries also underscore the difficulties individuals face in returning home. For example, the crackdown on civil society, journalists, and other dissidents in Nicaragua over the last few years has worsened to the point where return for many Nicaraguans means imprisonment or other forms of punishment. Similar situations have emerged over the last year in El Salvador and Guatemala. The U.S. Government must respond to these developments by adding these TPS designations to the larger landscape of assistance for Central American countries and as part of the administration's effort to curb corruption, impunity, and

violence in the region.

We believe that conditions on the ground in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua constitute "extraordinary and temporary conditions" that prevent nationals from safely returning. These countries have been dealing with the aftermath of such events for years and as conditions continue to worsen and new challenges arise, the United States should provide temporary protection and refuge. Furthermore, these designations would provide the U.S. government with an important tool to address root causes of migration from Central American countries by helping increase the flow of remittances and supporting government efforts to address in-country conditions without the additional tax of a large influx of individuals forced to return home. The designation would likely protect nearly 1.5 million migrants currently in the United States, providing immediate relief to these individuals and their families. We ask that these TPS designations be paired with a robust and comprehensive messaging campaign that offers clear instructions regarding eligibility and application procedures, as to prevent confusion and mass migration that occurred after the May 2021 Haiti TPS designation.

It is our view that Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua meet the circumstances and standards for TPS. We look forward to continuing to support the efforts from your administration to address the root causes of migration in Central America in a holistic manner, including by taking this important step to uphold humanitarian protections and safeguard U.S. national security interests. Thank you for your consideration.

Conjunto Festival at Rosedale Park

By Abraham Aguillon Orsagh

The 40th Anniversary of the Tejano Conjunto Festival featured the very best in Conjunto music and dancing at Rosedale Park. The air was electric at Rosedale Park. Every face had a smile on it and every foot was tapping along to the beat. It was my first time attending the Tejano Conjunto Festival and what an experience it was! My heart was full to the brim. These people, this music, and this culture all made for a really magical experience. I'll be back for sure.





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Commissioner Calvert Highlights Plan

By Joshua Garcia

Tommy Calvert, the County Commissioner that represents the AT&T Center where the Spurs Play, had extremely positive talks with Spurs management over the last week. Calvert requested Derrick Howard, Executive Director of the Coliseum/AT&T Center grounds, give an update to the Bexar County Commissioners Court about the recent collaboration between the County, Spurs, and Rodeo on improvements to the Coliseum on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. Calvert believes that voter support of future improvements to the arena, which by the time the lease is up in ten years; would be about 30 years old, would need to include something for the average working person.

“Building parking garages with housing on top that 70 percent of the working people can afford would make people feel like they have a shot at receiving some benefit

from their own taxpayer dollars for arena improvements,” explained Commissioner Calvert. He continued, “The Venue

Tax Law that was written by Senator Van de Putte and Rep. McClendon and other tools at the County’s disposal gives us the freedom to deliver major benefits to the average working person while finally fulfilling the County’s role in economic development around the arena—a promise the County never fulfilled.”

As part of the Commissioner’s vision, Calvert believes offering the Spurs the first opportunity to have equity in the housing, restaurants, office space, retail, and entertainment businesses, also can help provide additional revenue to the team and make the asking price for an out of town buyer more expensive—helping to keep the Spurs in San Antonio.

Commissioner Calvert has allocated \$250,000 for consul-

tants to develop plans for restaurants, entertainment venues, housing, and other potential revenue streams the Spurs and the County can share along with the Rodeo.

Calvert has worked with Halff Engineers on a concept called “River East” that uses an 80 million dollar drainage tunnel to take property along Salado Creek near the AT&T Center out of the flood plain. This plan would also put the City’s Willow Springs Golf Course into play for development with the County, City, and the Spurs for real estate development of housing, hotels, restaurants, office space, and more; pending voter approval or state legislative action to develop the golf course. Calvert has encouraged City officials to use zoning powers to prevent displacement of existing residents along with increased affordable housing plans from the County.





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