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Letter From The Editor It's not over.



On the 20th of January Trump ceded power to Joe Biden. Trump may be gone physically but his shadow

still looms big in Washington. Keep in mind that according to Trump he has never lost at anything. What makes this significant is the fact that he has never conceded the election to Biden. In other words, Trump did not lose the election. Moderate Republicans fear that they will have to face a candidate chosen by Trump in the primary. This will allow Trump sycophants to be elected. Having failed to take power by force Trump is going the way of Putin and Hugo Chavez, choosing sycophant politicians first, and appointing judges second. The constitution can then be changed to allow lifetime appointment or in other words, a dictator. This can be done legitimately. It works.

Trump and his followers continue emphasizing that Trump got 74 million votes. That Biden got 81 million and was elected president means nothing to all of the Trump circle. It is time to cleanse Washington, Texas, Tarrant County and Fort Worth of Trumpists. It is not good enough to drain the swamp in Washington. All of Texas needs to be drained. It is not just Trump that is a clear and present danger. The three

greatest dangers in America are the virus, economy, Trump and Trump followers.

We have local elections soon. One of the elections is going to be for mayor. There are also school board elections. There are several candidates. I hope that everyone realizes that voting is now a national, state, and local emergency. Why? Because Trump followers are for real. They exist in Texas.

The pandemic is with us. It will be around for a while. We all must do our part. Starting with social distancing and wearing a mask.

In a time of crisis, we must band together as Americans. There is a group of people that are not part of the American landscape. They call themselves Americans even though they are from another world. If you need proof listen to Fox News. Fox News is the dividing line between Americans of this world and Americans of the other world. We cannot ignore Fox as a leader in the division of America.

The words: To defend, preserve and protect the constitution of America, to not mean the same to everybody. That is the oath that every Republican politician took when they got elected. Our own Ted Cruz is one of them. It is time to have accountability amongst our own politicians.

It can start with your vote.

Felix Alvarado

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TEXAS ICE AGE

By. G. Jimenez

With temperatures steadily rising now, it is almost unbelievable to think just a week ago, the State of Texas was put on ice. What began as an exciting late snowfall not seen in a very long time, became a living nightmare for millions of Texans. Many woke up the next day to find their electricity was out, and city by city the power outages began to spread all over Texas. Some expressed their concerns on Facebook, but many families trusted their power would come back on within hours. Sadly, they were wrong. As temperatures plunged some Texas residents continued to be without power for days. The situation became increasingly worse as boil water notices were placed in multiple cities due to lack of water pressure, leaving Fort Worth residents without clean water.

And, while cities opened warming centers for those without power, friends and family began opening their doors and turning their own homes into shelters as well. Some Texas residents quickly searched for a warm shelter; others chose to tough it out at home.

One Houston, Texas resident was taken by surprise when the power outage hit her neighborhood. To add to the confusion, her mother who lives in Lubbock, TX where temperatures dropped well below zero still had all of her power. But surviving the harsh temperatures was not difficult for the Houston resident. She described her husband's encouragement, "...I need to get a little uncomfortable once and a while. He kept telling me I need to be hard". They used layers of blanket, sleeping bags, cooked on cast iron skillets, and utilized makeup removing wipes to stay as clean as possible. But the couple kept a positive attitude despite not having electricity for

4 days and even continued their daily workout regimens. But some residents were not as prepared as in Fort Worth. Daisy Rodriguez experienced the loss of water and electricity. And when it was time to find a warm place for her and her family, all of the gas stations had run out of gasoline and other stations had unbearably long lines. Even the warm food at the surrounding convenient stores was running low. Luckily, she was only without power for two days. But the deadly winter blast would not end without taking the young life of 11-year-old Cristian Pineda. February 16, Pineda was sharing a bed with his 3-year-old brother tucked under a pile of blankets to keep warm. But the next morning, when his stepfather went to wake him, he was unresponsive. The young boy passed away in his sleep from suspected hyperthermia.

Now the snow has melted, many are wanting answers. How could such a horrible disaster happen? Some republicans immediately placed blame on "Green Energy" which sparked outrage as those statements were a clear ruse to place blame on Democrats. To find the true and correct answers about this massive failure, we must do as our fathers and follow the money. Texas often relishes in its Free-Market Economy and has been a haven from economic struggles often suffered by the rest of the country. We also tend to enjoy a lower cost of living in general. Especially compared to other states like California, where the housing costs alone is an extreme difference. But despite the name, a "Free Market" can be at a devastating cost. Cutting corners to increase revenue left energy facilities under-invested and ill-prepared for severe winter weather. Almost every power source in Texas was not nearly

funded enough to power through freezing temperatures, wind turbines were not moving, and power plants were suffering. But not every Texas city felt the impact of deregulated power grids.

El Paso didn't experience power outages at the same magnitude. El Paso Electric spokesperson Eddie Gutierrez explained to El Paso TV station KTSM that "only 875 customers were impacted by an outage of less than five minutes". The reason is, El Paso chose not to join the rest of the state by handing over its power to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which covers 90% of the state. El Paso originally had a local power grid but a major increase in population in the 60's forced them to look for a more sustainable power source. So, El Paso joined the western power grid.

Many Texans are now questioning the integrity of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and place the blame on Governor Gregg Abbot for allowing an imperative service like electricity function with no rules or regulations. And now the family of 11-year-old Cristian Pineda hit Texas power providers Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) and Entergy Corporation with a \$100 million lawsuit accusing them of gross negligence. Texas lawmakers like State Representative District 90 Ramon Romero who was without power himself for over two days went to social media to demand an investigation into the electricity crisis.

Did greed lead Texans into a dark winter? Or was it just simple arrogance to the severity of weather to come? While we wait for answers, we can take comfort knowing we can surely count on our friends and neighbors to take care of each other when times get tough.

Mi Opinion

REPUBLICAN HEROES AND REPUBLICAN TRAITORS

by JIM STODOLA

I know most of you had to work or for some other reason could not or did not want to watch the impeachment trial of Donald J. Trump. I am not going to detail it for you as you probably caught the truth and summary on the major TV networks unless you watch Fox News. The heroes and traitors are who they actually are, not who GOP says they are. The heroes are the ones who had the honesty, courage, and commitment to their oath to be impartial to stand up for the truth. Former Secretary of Defense William Cohen, a Republican, stated that those senators who refused to convict Trump in his second impeachment, were either complicit or in fear. That is, they were either involved in the crime or they were cowards, probably peeing in their pants out of fear of Trump. Of course, I want to compliment all the Democrats in the House of Representatives for impeaching Trump. But I want to give special attention to the ten GOP House members who had the courage to impeach Trump: Liz Cheney (Wyo.), Anthony Gonzalez (Ohio), Jaime Herrera Beutler (Wash.), John Katko (N.Y.), Adam Kinzinger (IL.), Peter Meijer (Mich.), Dan Newhouse (Wash.), Tom Rice (S.C.), Fred Upton (Mich.), David Valadeo (CA). Donald Trump is going to run his own who knows, white

supremacists, against these honorable Reps in primary elections. I urge you Republicans to send THE TEN money, they are already taking heat in their states. I would like to condemn those GOP House members who refused to condemn Trump for the riots, but there are too many to mention by name. In the Senate, I would like to praise all the Democrats who voted to convict Trump of "incitement of insurrection," and again a special praise to those seven Republicans who stood up to Trump and voted to convict: Richard Burr (North Carolina), Bill Cassidy (Louisiana), Susan Collins (Maine), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), Mitt Romney (Utah), Ben Sasse (Nebraska), and Pat Toomey (Pennsylvania). These are the real GOP heroes in the Senate, again catching hell in their own states, again will fight who knows QAnons? in their primaries. Again Republicans, THESE SEVEN need your support. There were 43 dishonorable GOP senators, who violated their oath to be impartial, and refused to convict Trump despite overwhelming evidence. These include the Texas two, Ted Cruz and John Cornyn. Even Canada, Cruz's home and Germany stated that if we did not convict, Democracy would be over in America. Cruz and Cornyn shamed Texas and



America. The GOP cited that Democrats used the word "fight" repeatedly. But it was never used in front of an angry mob told it will be wild, never injuring or killing anyone, never promoting a BIG LIE, never praising a guy like Giuliani who said, "Let's have trial by combat," and definitely not to commit treason by preventing certification of a duly elected president. Most GOP senators claimed that it was un-Constitutional to try a president out of office. That is a lie, also it was McConnell who held up the trial until Trump was out of office. Even though McConnell voted to acquit, he earlier and immediately after said that Trump was responsible for the riot, and added Trump was responsible for everything he did while in office and he has not gotten away with anything yet, yet. GOP Senator Rob Portman of Ohio, who voted to acquit, also blasted Trump afterwards. Finally, I hear that there are already about a dozen court suits filed against Trump. Keep 'em coming.

NEW ARLINGTON POLICE CHIEF

By Luis C. Castillo

Col. Al Jones, a 25-year veteran of the Baltimore County Police Department, has been appointed City of Arlington's police chief. Jones, who served as the chief of Baltimore County Police Department's Community Relations Bureau, was selected from a field of seventy-four law enforcement applicants from across the nation. City Manager Trey Yelverton said Jones was selected to lead the nearly 900-member police force, *"because of his years of experience in implementing strong, community-based policing principles, his understanding of the future of policing, and his capability to lead our officers and community of nearly 400,000 residents in that direction"*.

Jones began his law enforcement career in 1995 as a Baltimore County Police Department police officer. He steadily rose through the ranks of the 18th largest law enforcement agency in the nation. From 2018 onward, Jones oversaw management of the Community Relations Bureau and focused on building trust within communities throughout the county while diversifying the agency to better mirror the communities it served. Baltimore County covers a geographically diverse area of 612 square miles outside of the City of Baltimore, and includes urban, suburban, and rural areas. Baltimore County has long been recognized as a progressive agency in the development of community-based policing.

Fast forward to Arlington, twenty-eight days into his job as Arlington's Police Chief, Jones was the featured speaker at Arlington's NAACP virtual meeting earlier this month. I was one of fifty

plus attendees that listened and posed questions to Chief Jones during the almost two-hour long meeting. In all honesty, I cannot refrain from offering a critical assessment on Chief Jones performance at the virtual meeting.

Chief Jones' demeanor was evasive and unresponsive when confronted by pointed questions from meeting participants. A recurring response from Chief Jones throughout the meeting's duration was, *"I've only been in the job 28 days"*. At one point a young lady participant acknowledged Chief Jones short job duration and waived a concrete response from him but asked Chief Jones to philosophically share his feelings on a particular issue. Chief Jones could not even respond to her question from a philosophical standpoint.

When the police association's issue of "Meet and Confer" was brought up, Chief Jones asserted "Meet and Confer" provides for more minority diversity in the police department. However, he failed to explain how. I responded to Chief Jones assertion by briefly explaining to him my prior association with "Meet and Confer" and told him *"I beg to differ"*. Chief Jones responded, *"Let's agree to disagree"*: The latter is just a clever way of implicitly saying *"let's drop it"*.

Another point of observation was Chief Jones comment regarding the Citizens Police Review Board issue. He was asked if he would be supportive of a Citizens Police Review Board. Chief Jones responded he would support an audit approach of the department's Internal Affairs investigations and that he would follow the Mayor/City

Council's direction. When pressed what his

recommendation would be on the Citizens Police Review Board issue, Chief Jones again mentioned he would follow the Mayor/City Council's direction. The Mayor/City Council direction is one thing, but his recommendation is another point. Again, Chief Jones was evasive and unresponsive to the question asked.

During the Citizens Police Review Board discussion Chief Jones placed a high level of confidence on the department's Internal Affairs ability to conduct fair and objective investigations. I wonder how he came to that conclusion unless Chief Jones conducted a comprehensive operational assessment of Internal Affairs in his short 28-day job tenure.

The Citizens Police Review Board, Meet and Confer, Arbitration, Accountability and the like are all community issues that concern the Arlington Police Officers Association. Suffice to say that overall Chief Jones came across as being a spokesperson for the Arlington Police Officers Association. There was no expectation that Chief Jones would come out swinging a hard bat in favor of community concerns. But the expectation at a minimum was for Chief Jones to take a sensitive, neutral, and objective position on community issues and concerns.

I am inclined to believe Chief Jones honeymoon period may well be over.





U.S. Bishop Ruling Will Divide Us More.



Sadly, I am hearing that the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops had a meeting in which they will soon declare President Biden as unfit to receive Communion because of his stance on abortion.

Biden has, like many other politicians, recognized the law of the land which gives women the right of privacy when it comes to their bodies during pregnancy. The law gives them the right to choose whether to carry the baby in their womb to full term. This right was given to women by the Supreme Court in the ruling of a case known as “Roe vs Wade”. In that ruling they added a statement saying, “tell us when a fetus becomes a person, and we will look at this ruling again”. Thus the 14th amendment comes into play.

The 14th amendment protects all American citizens. **“The Fourteenth Amendment says that no state may deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”** Roe declared that an unborn child is not a “person” protected under

the Fourteenth Amendment. Thus, a fetus’s personhood in the mother’s womb has not yet been established by any of our country’s laws. Congress had a chance to do just that in January of 2017 with a simple majority vote on a Bill in the Senate.

The “life begins at conception Bill” had already been approved by the House and all that was needed was for the Senate to do the same, but they did not.

The Republican Senate sent it to committee to die. Amongst those senators were 24 Catholics. They were all silent about the Bill being killed. So were the Bishops that are now condemning Biden.

Although the Bishops are very much against what Trump and his party have been advocating which mostly breaks Jesus’s commandment of “Love thy Neighbor”. They do not hold the Catholic Republican congressmen accountable for supporting their party’s stances. Truly social justice should be up there with the right to life.

So, you see what I am trying to say is that the Bishops want to declare Biden

as unfit to receive communion while those Catholic Senators who support their party’s social injustice and who would not vote on the Bill that would have ended abortion are not also being considered as unfit to receive.

The Bishops are not seeking to work with Biden in his goal of advancing the common good for our country and the whole world. They should be helping to give advice on how to advance the goal. They seem only set on condemning him for supporting a woman’s right that is currently law of the land.

If the Bishops are to condemn Biden, then they need to also condemn the 24 Catholic Senators who allowed “the life begins at conception bill” to die in the Senate with not even one vote on it. They are the reason abortion is still legal and is being used a political tool to get votes in both political parties. This need for political gain by politicians is dividing our country. It is sad that the bishops are just throwing more fuel on the fire.

Peace be with you all,

Joe M. Govea, a devout Catholic who’s duty is to evangelize.



COVID E La Raza

POR: JENNY MANRIQUE, EMS

Some 55% of COVID-19 fatalities in California are Latino while African Americans in New York have the highest rates of hospitalization for coronavirus. Yet neither state is reporting racial data about who receives vaccines.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) vaccine monitor, only 23 states in the country share vaccination data by race and ethnicity, and the persistent pattern is that Black and Hispanic people have been vaccinated at exceptionally low rates in proportion to infections and deaths from the virus. "This needs to be immediately corrected," said Dr. Daniel Turner-Lloveras, founding member of the Latino Coalition against COVID-19 at an Ethnic Media Services press briefing on Feb. 12. "If we are unable to measure and quantify the disparity, it is very difficult to find a solution (to the pandemic)." According to Turner-Lloveras, the first step to achieving an equitable distribution is to ensure that all states report racial data on who receives the vaccine.

Data analyzed by KFF shows that the largest gaps between states reporting numbers by race are in Delaware where only 6% of those vaccinated are Black, although they account for 24% of the infections. In Louisiana, African Americans have received 13% of vaccinations but suffered from 34% of the infections and in Mississippi 17% of Blacks have been vaccinated but their infection rates reach 38%.

Colorado has vaccinated only 6% of Latinos while Latino infection rates reach 37%; in Oregon only 6% have been vaccinated while 35% have been infected, while in Texas only 16% of have received the vaccine despite representing 43% of cases. The KFF data shows the same vaccination gaps for Native Americans and Asian Americans.

"We need a gigantic digital patient engagement project...with virtual town halls in every neighborhood providing information in the languages people speak," said the doctor, adding that this is the only way to achieve herd immunity and return to normalcy.

LONG-STANDING DISPARITIES

Disparities in access to healthcare are not new, but COVID-19 has exacerbated them. The health system was unprepared for a pandemic in which ethnic minorities had to resort to underfunded community health centers which are short of beds and acute medical devices.

This is the case at Martin Luther King Hospital

From left to right: Dr. Daniel Turner-Lloveras, Latino Coalition Against COVID-19; Virginia Hedrick, Executive Director of the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health; Dr. David M. Carlisle, President and CEO of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science; Adam Carbullido, Director of Policy and Advocacy at the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations

People from ethnic communities are dying disproportionately from coronavirus but are not the ones getting vaccinated.

in Los Angeles, which needed to call for reinforcements to transfer its most critical COVID patients to other hospitals for oxygenation. All too often, surrounding hospitals refused to receive MLK patients due to lack of insurance.

"MLK staff work 24 hours in the trenches fighting COVID and when they ask for help, they are told no repeatedly," said Dr. David M. Carlisle, president and CEO of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science.

"This is the hidden face of healthcare. These are the disparities and why people are so concerned about health care ... it is unethical and inhumane." Carlisle said he is concerned that vaccines are being distributed to commercial pharmacies located in "areas that do not reflect the ethnic diversity" in California such as Huntington Beach, Irvin, and Newport Beach while large vaccination centers like the Dodger Stadium run out of doses and must close. "It is a failure of our public health policy."

For Virginia Hedrick, executive director of the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health and a member of the Yurok tribe, these disparities show that "we are not all in this together, we are not experiencing it in the same way." The data back her up: American Indians and Alaska Natives have contracted COVID at rates three and a half times higher than their white non-Hispanic counterparts. In each week, they have been hospitalized between 4 and 5 times more than whites non-Hispanic. And the death rate overall is 1.8 times higher.

Hedrick said that for Native Americans the pandemic has reflected the "outcomes of historical trauma" to which they have been subjected with the "steal of land, children, language, and culture." This has resulted in a community suffering from the highest rates of diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, substance abuse and even suicide among the youngest community members. While the Indian Health Services have a separate vaccine stockpile for both urban Indians and those living on tribal facilities, the doses available in California are not enough for all community

members.

Thanks to tribal sovereignty, their tier system has prioritized vulnerable populations with pre-existing conditions regardless of age. If there are young members of the family taking the older ones to get vaccinated, they can receive a vaccine by being recognized as caregivers. But if someone gets sick, there are no Indian Health Service-funded hospitals in California: tribal members rely on a public or private system and insurance.

"We are seeing tribal leaders die, our elders die, and in Indian countries losing an elder is losing knowledge and language that can never be recovered," Hedrick added.

RESOURCES FOR THE CBOS

Language barriers are also a worry for the indigenous communities of Mexico that make up a large part of the farmworker labor force, and for Asian-Americans who speak up to 50 different languages.

According to Adam Carbullido, director of policy and advocacy at the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), Congress should approve more resources for community-based organizations (CBOs) that have been "in the frontline providing care and services when government and private institutions have fallen short".

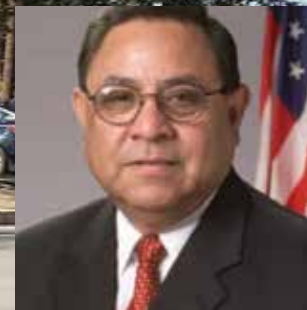
"These clinics need more interpreters and materials translated into different languages," he observed. "It is important to have providers on hand who can speak the language of (the patient's) choice not just in a public crisis," he said.

Carbullido recalled that Asian Americans have the highest risk of hospitalization among any ethnic group and have been subjected to an increase in incidents of hate and xenophobia, "because of the false association of the pandemic with Asians and others who are perceived as foreigners."

"Patients report fear of seeking health and the care they need... it is a true emotional trauma in Asian American communities and the mental health consequences will have long-standing complications for health," he concluded.

Mi Opinion

Rhetoric of conservatism



I was driving past this medical clinic on Lackland Road, here in Fort Worth, when I noticed a young lady on her knees praying. She and other adults were there in protest. Obviously, this is a pro-life group. There was also a line of cars blocking the entrance to the building. I have driven by this clinic in the past and seen placards with pictures of fetuses. As near as I can guess the people protesting believe that this is an abortion clinic as opposed to a medical clinic. Any way you look at it, it is a medical clinic. It is not far-fetched to say that the pro-life group is there because they want to spread the message widely that the pro-abortion group is aborting fully developed babies. All these fringe right groups believe that they are fighting for freedom and for the rights of the unborn child. They are easily duped. In no way do these outlier people have any legal or moral right to interfere with a person receiving urgent medical care. Police need to stop providing aid and comfort to all these thugs.

I attended a political convention in El Paso sometime in the past. What was memorable about the convention was the first time I attended. Throughout the floor of the arena were people with placards filled with pictures of fetuses. It was sickening. So, I asked myself this question, "What gives these people the right to barge into the convention to soil what would else be a gathering of people with similar interests?"

This is where we pause momentarily for a rudimentary legal review. The Supreme Court has ruled that peaceful protests are permissible. The Supreme Court has also ruled that abortion is legal. Within constraints. The question now is "Which group is infringing on the other's legal rights?" It matters not what this clinic specializes in, anyone that seeks its medical help should have unabated entry to the clinic. Many local politicians are Trump loyalists. You cannot trust them to enforce laws that would make voters turn against them. In other words, under conservatism some people have more rights than others.

Anyone in need of medical treatment should not be harassed or bullied as then enter any medical clinic. This is not conservatism. This is not religion. This is a small group of people forcefully trying to impose their will on others. This is exactly what Trump and the Republican Party tried to do and are trying to do. These folks will vote for any idiot politician that stands up and declares himself or herself, a pro-life conservative. This has nothing to do with being pro-life and all about attaining and keeping power. Republicans use this rhetoric very successfully.

We do not have to accept this baloney. We really do not. But to control this obnoxious behavior requires that we vote those responsible for this complicity out of office.

You must be a fool to believe this pro-life rhetoric. As the saying goes, there is a fool born every minute, indeed there is. They are called Republican conservatives.

Felix Alvarado



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Devine Spark. Kana Harada

A NEW EXHIBITION AT THE CROW MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART

By Miguel Aguilar



For much of this time during the Pandemic most people have been shut up in the houses and wonder what to make of their time. For Japanese American artist Kana Harada, it has been an opportunity to reflect and contemplate the stillness of nature and solitude.

In her artist statement Kana emphasizes, “My work is the

embodiment of my wish for peace and love for humanity, mother earth, the universe, in short, all of us.”

Much of her art is inspired by nature, such as the Japanese art of flower arrangement ikebana, and the art of growing artificially dwarfed trees and shrubs, bonsai. She has observed nature in the forest of her native Japanese site Mt. Fugi and across the U.S. But even shapes the clouds of the sky give inspiration to her art. What does Kana see in these elements in nature? She states she is attracted to: “their peaceful, serene embrace, their extreme playfulness, as if there are no rules, and the awe I have felt in their presence.”

Kana works in both 2D paintings, drawings, and 3D sculptures. She often uses foam sheets hand cut with paper which she considers she is more able to create organic forms. In the exhibit Kana is showing both some of her white mobiles, and, for the first time, some of her

black mobiles. Commenting on the nature of her white, moonlight lantern series Kana states:

“The white series enables me to add hints of warm color, and the soft, marshmallow like texture creates an even lighter, almost transparent appearance when light hits it.”

These pieces are in stark contrast with her black work as Harada states:

“With the series of black 3D suspended pieces, the pliable softness and lightness of the material creates an unexpected contrast to the hard, iron-like appearance.”

Kana, in her artist statement, also commented on the nature of her 2D work as well:

“My watercolor and cut paper series are my interpretation of what inspires me and what I want to convey with my art as well. “Also, within the exhibit Harada has incorporated stools and benches because she considers the act of sitting an impetus to stop and contemplate and take in the work more fully.

What is next for the artist? Kana says she wants to work more in color and more 2D work.



GOD HELP TEXAS



by Alfredo Sanchez

I kept getting calls from family, from out of state, asking if we were fine. They had seen on television that Texas was struggling with providing enough electricity for many of its customers. I asked how they were doing, knowing they were experiencing the same cold weather. Their answer was that they were fine, no blackouts or heat problems. Asked how the roads were. Roads had been plowed and salted.

I have some apartments in Pilot Point. On Monday, February 15, 2021, I had to go to address some issues. The roads were packed with snow and ice, neighborhood roads, major city streets, 380 east and 377. Roads had not been plowed. Traffic was slow but we made it to Pilot Point and back. I commented to my wife that it was rather strange that city or county equipment was not out plowing and salting the road. I guess they were off for President's Day. I grew up in New Mexico. City and County equipment was out plowing and salting roads as soon as roads were dangerous. On Wednesday, I joined a friend who needed to pick up some groceries. On the way to the store, we saw a salt truck dropping salt on heavily snowed roads that had not been

plowed. What a waste of salt. It was funny and ridiculous.

My question is: how does Texas, who likes to talk tough (do not mess with Texas), find itself in an emergency when other states navigated through this storm without declaring an emergency, requesting federal assistance, and putting its citizens in danger? State officials first tried to blame wind turbines and the New Green Deal. It was soon revealed in the media that it was not renewable energy to blame for the lack of electric power. Much of the Turbine power goes out of state. The culprit for our emergency crisis was lack of preplanning by state officials. State officials were aware of the unusual weather but did nothing. Citizens were not advised that the state was not prepared and asked its citizens to conserve energy, so everyone continued life as usual until blackout started to happen. Then we started to hear about conserving energy.

What have we learned from this emergency? We learned that Texas has its own electrical grid and is poorly managed. We learned that the Texas Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) is made up of some members that do not even reside in Texas. Some of these members may have little to no experience in the utility arena and that they appoint themselves. All this makes for a disaster.



The Texas Public Utility Commissioners are appointed by the Governor. These appointees may have little to no experience in utilities policy. That deregulation is not always good when it comes to our utility service. We should have learned that our governor appointed friends to this commission who have little to no experience in the matter. Second, we should have learned that the next time we VOTE we consider politicians who take seriously who they name into these commissions. It is time to vote these politicians out for not taking these appointments seriously and for putting our families in danger. Your vote is your voice in getting rid of incompetent public officials that fail us and put our families in danger. It is not about voting for party but voting for competence. Our next concern is: will we get a large utility bill because of having incompetent leadership in Austin? Our vote does and can make a difference in removing incompetency and replacing it with competence. Vote.

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COVID E La Raza

POR: JENNY MANRIQUE, EMS

De izquierda a derecha: Dr. Daniel Turner-Lloveras, Coalición Latina Contra COVID-19; Virginia Hendrick, directora ejecutiva del Consorcio de California para la salud indígena urbana; El Dr. David M. Carlisle, presidente y director ejecutivo de la Universidad de Medicina y Ciencia Charles R. Drew; Adam Carbullido, Director de Políticas y Defensa de la Asociación de Organizaciones Comunitarias de Salud de Asia Pacífico. Las personas de las comunidades étnicas están muriendo de manera desproporcionada por el coronavirus, pero no son las que se vacunan.

POR: JENNY MANRIQUE, EMS

Alrededor del 55% de las muertes por COVID-19 en California son latinos, mientras que los afroamericanos en Nueva York tienen las tasas más altas de hospitalización por coronavirus. Sin embargo, ninguno de los estados informa datos raciales sobre quién recibe las vacunas. Según el monitor de vacunas de la Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), solo 23 estados del país comparten datos de vacunación por raza y etnia, y el patrón persistente es que las personas negras e hispanas han sido vacunadas a tasas excepcionalmente bajas en proporción a las infecciones y muertes por el virus. “Esto debe corregirse de inmediato”, dijo el Dr. Daniel Turner-Lloveras, miembro fundador de la Coalición Latina contra COVID-19 en una conferencia de prensa de Ethnic Media Services el 12 de febrero. “Si no podemos medir y cuantificar la disparidad, es muy difícil encontrar una solución (a la pandemia)”. Según Turner-Lloveras, el primer paso para lograr una distribución equitativa es asegurar que todos los estados reporten datos raciales sobre quién recibe la vacuna. Los datos analizados por KFF muestran que las brechas más grandes entre los estados que informan números por raza se encuentran en Delaware, donde solo el 6% de los vacunados son negros,

aunque representan el 24% de las infecciones. En Luisiana, los afroamericanos han recibido el 13% de las vacunas pero sufrieron el 34% de las infecciones y en Mississippi se ha vacunado al 17% de los negros, pero sus tasas de infección alcanzan el 38%. Colorado ha vacunado solo al 6% de los latinos, mientras que las tasas de infección latina alcanzan el 37%; en Oregon solo el 6% ha sido vacunado mientras que el 35% ha sido infectado, mientras que en Texas solo el 16% ha recibido la vacuna a pesar de representar el 43% de los casos. Los datos de KFF muestran las mismas brechas de vacunación para los nativos americanos y los asiáticoamericanos. “Necesitamos un gigantesco proyecto digital de participación del paciente... con ayuntamientos virtuales en cada vecindario que brinden información en los idiomas que habla la gente”, dijo el médico, y agregó que esta es la única forma de lograr la inmunidad colectiva y volver a la normalidad.

DISPARIDADES DURADERAS

Las disparidades en el acceso a la atención médica no son nuevas, pero COVID-19 las ha exacerbado. El sistema de salud no estaba preparado para una pandemia en la que las minorías étnicas tuvieron que recurrir a centros de salud comunitarios con fondos insuficientes y escasos de camas y dispositivos médicos para casos agudos. Este es el caso del Hospital Martin Luther King de Los Ángeles, que necesitaba pedir refuerzos para trasladar a sus pacientes COVID más críticos a otros hospitales para su oxigenación. Con demasiada frecuencia, los hospitales circundantes se negaron a recibir pacientes de MLK debido a la falta de seguro. “El personal de MLK trabaja las 24 horas en las trincheras luchando contra COVID y cuando piden ayuda, se les dice que no repetidamente”, dijo el Dr. David M. Carlisle, presidente y director ejecutivo de la Universidad de Medicina y Ciencia

Charles R. Drew. “Esta es la cara oculta de la atención médica. Estas son las disparidades y la razón por la que la gente está tan preocupada por la atención médica ... es poco ético e inhumano”. Carlisle dijo que le preocupa que las vacunas se distribuyan a farmacias comerciales ubicadas en “áreas que no reflejan la diversidad étnica” en California, como Huntington Beach, Irvin y Newport Beach, mientras que los grandes centros de vacunación como el Dodger Stadium se quedan sin dosis y debe cerrar. “Es un fracaso de nuestra política de salud pública”. Para Virginia Hedrick, directora ejecutiva del Consorcio de California para la Salud Urbana de los Indígenas y miembro de la tribu Yurok, estas disparidades muestran que “no estamos todos juntos en esto, no lo estamos experimentando de la misma manera”. Los datos la respaldan: los indios americanos y los nativos de Alaska han contraído COVID a tasas tres veces y media más altas que sus contrapartes blancas no hispanas. En cada semana, han sido hospitalizados entre 4 y 5 veces más que los blancos no hispanos. Y la tasa de mortalidad en general es 1.8 veces mayor.

Hedrick dijo que para los nativos americanos la pandemia ha reflejado los “resultados del trauma histórico” al que han sido sometidos con el “robo de la tierra, los niños, el idioma y la cultura”. Esto ha resultado en una comunidad que sufre las tasas más altas de diabetes, enfermedades cardíacas, presión arterial alta, abuso de sustancias e incluso suicidio entre los miembros más jóvenes de la comunidad. Si bien los Servicios de Salud para Indígenas tienen una reserva de vacunas separada tanto para los indios urbanos como para los que viven en instalaciones tribales, las dosis disponibles

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El fallo del obispo de Estados Unidos nos dividirá más.



Lamentablemente, escuché que la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos tuvo una reunión en la que pronto declararán al presidente Biden como no apto para recibir la Comunión debido a su postura sobre el aborto. Biden, como muchos otros políticos, ha reconocido la ley del país que otorga a las mujeres el derecho a la privacidad cuando se trata de sus cuerpos durante el embarazo. La ley les otorga el derecho a elegir si llevar al bebé en el útero hasta el término completo. Este derecho fue otorgado a las mujeres por la Corte Suprema en el fallo de un caso conocido como "Roe vs Wade". En esa sentencia agregaron un comunicado que decía: "díganos cuando un feto se convierte en persona y volveremos a revisar esta sentencia". Por tanto, entra en juego la 14^a enmienda. La 14^a enmienda protege a todos los ciudadanos estadounidenses. "La Decimocuarta Enmienda dice que ningún estado puede "privar a ninguna persona de la vida, la libertad o la propiedad sin el debido proceso legal; ni negar a ninguna persona dentro de su jurisdicción la igual protección de las leyes". Roe declaró que un feto no es una "persona" protegida por la Decimocuarta Enmienda. Por lo tanto, ninguna de las leyes de nuestro país aún ha establecido la personalidad de un feto en el útero de la madre. El Congreso tuvo la oportunidad de hacer precisamente eso en enero de 2017 con una mayoría simple de votos sobre un proyecto de ley en el Senado. El proyecto de ley "la vida comienza en la concepción" ya había sido aprobado por la Cámara y todo lo que se necesitaba era que el Senado hiciera lo mismo, pero no fue así. El Senado republicano lo envió al comité para que muriera. Entre esos senadores había 24 católicos. Todos guardaron silencio sobre la muerte de Bill. También lo fueron los obispos que

ahora están condenando a Biden. Aunque los obispos están muy en contra de lo que Trump y su partido han estado defendiendo, que en su mayoría rompe el mandamiento de Jesús de "Ama a tu prójimo". No responsabilizan a los congresistas católicos republicanos por apoyar las posturas de su partido. Verdaderamente, la justicia social debería estar a la altura del derecho a la vida. Entonces, ven lo que estoy tratando de decir es que los obispos quieren declarar a Biden como no apto para recibir la comunión, mientras que los senadores católicos que apoyan la injusticia social de su partido y que no votarían sobre el proyecto de ley que habría terminado con el aborto tampoco lo están. considerado no apto para recibir. Los obispos no buscan trabajar con Biden en su objetivo de promover el bien común para nuestro país y el mundo entero. Deberían ayudar a dar consejos sobre cómo avanzar en la meta. Parece que solo están decididos a condenarlo por apoyar el derecho de una mujer que es actualmente la ley del país. Si los obispos van a condenar a Biden, entonces también deben condenar a los 24 senadores católicos que permitieron que "la vida comienza en el proyecto de ley de concepción" muera en el Senado sin ni siquiera un voto al respecto. Son la razón por la que el aborto sigue siendo legal y se está utilizando como una herramienta política para obtener votos en ambos partidos políticos. Esta necesidad de ganancia política de los políticos está dividiendo a nuestro país. Es triste que los obispos estén echando más leña al fuego.

La paz sea con todos ustedes,

Joe M. Govea, un católico devoto cuyo deber es evangelizar.

From Our Archives-Juanita Salinas and the Golden Age of Mexican Music in Fort Worth

By Francisco Hernández

Juanita Salinas, 77 years young, sighs deeply with a sentiment of melancholy as she reminisces about all the wonderful people, she's had the pleasure of knowing throughout her colorful life. It all started with the patriarch of her family in Fort Worth, Texas, her father Juan Ascension Salinas. He was educated in Mexico, an engineer. He found engineering work in Texas, building a railroad line that went from San Antonio to Denton for the Katy railroad company (Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad). He fell in love with a Fort Worth girl and settled here in the 1930s, in a neighborhood called "La Fundicion," today it is known as the Worth Heights neighborhood. Her father bought farmland and operated a dairy farm. He sold milk, cheese, and eggs.

Juanita recalls the names of individuals and founding families of the Worth Heights Neighborhood, many of which her father brought from the Mexican state of San Luis Potosi to work for Texas Steel: "Leo Castillo, Henry Mendez, Ray Garcia, Margaret Velasquez, Josey Gallegos, Blasa Hernandez, Dickey Pacheco, Dominquez, Martinez, Mendez, Rosales, Vasquez, Salinas, Ortega, Pacheco, Hernandez, Garcia, Munoz, Gomez, Torres, Gonzalez, Castillo, Cortez, Morales, Reyes, Jasso, Ortega, Valdez."

From the late fifties until late sixties her brothers ran the Lake Worth Casino Ballroom, she remembers the now legends of Mexican music that performed there when she was a teenager: Jose Alfredo Jimenez, Lola Beltran, Felipe Arriaga, Antonio Aguilar, Amalia Mendoza, and the immortal Javier Solis. She especially remembers Lola Beltran who had a red carpet rolled out when Juanita visited Lola in Guadalajara. Juanita was most awed by Javier Solis

who sang the bolero-ranchero like no other.

Guys and Dolls ballroom was started by Gabriel Salinas in 1969, he modeled it after Las Vegas nightclubs. Juanita Salinas was a part of that golden age of Music in Fort Worth. She remembers a young and playful Vicente Fernandez selling t-shirts after one of his performances at Guys and Dolls. Fernandez asked Juanita to take off her blouse and put on a t-shirt in exchange for a hug. "Lucha Villa, she was young, very nice, drank tequila to get her voice ready for singing," said Juanita. A young Juan Gabriel invited her to the Noa-Noa club in Juarez when he was still performing at that club. Cornelia Reyna an unrepentant womanizer always requested a beautiful lady to accompany him during his nights while in Fort Worth.

Little Joe, his act opened the Guys and Dolls club in 1969. Selena and los Dinos came from Corpus Christi. Selena hit it big in Chicago. she would kid with Juanita "todavía existes Juani." Freddy Fender, nobody knew him when he came to Guys and Dolls. Very respectful, joked a lot, drank mineral water:

Ella Fitzgerald performed at Guys and Dolls. Juanita witnessed Fitzgerald using the power of her voice to knock over a glass placed on a table. BB King, another regular at Guys and Dolls had the custom of exclaiming when he saw Juanita, "little hot tamale!" then pick his guitar to emphasize his excitement. Singer Loretta Lynn invited Juanita to her ranch in Tennessee, and before sending Juanita back to Texas, Lynn gave her a cowboy hat.

Julio Iglesias, only 300 people attended his concert at Guys and Dolls. Iglesias was relatively unknown at the time.



Iglesias loved the taquitos from a taco stand owned by Juanita's brother Dick Salinas. Julio always visited the taco stand on his visits to Fort Worth. Another star who loved to eat, renowned for his love of food, was Lorenzo de Monteclaro.

Rocio Durcal was another regular at Guys and Dolls ballroom. Juanita fondly remembers Durcal complaining about Juanita's enthusiastic embraces when she welcomed her, "no me abrases tanto, porque me vas a quebrar los huesitos." Joan Sebastian was also a relatively unknown during those bygone days. On one of his visits to Fort Worth, Sebastian bought a thousand-dollar ring at the Mansfield flea market in Forest Hill. Juanita called him "El Flaco." Juanita fondly remembers Sebastian as one of the friendliest people you could meet.

Juanita sighs once more as she expresses, "Those were great people, those were great times, and I'll never forget them."

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POR: JENNY MANRIQUE, EMS

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en California no son suficientes para todos los miembros de la comunidad. Gracias a la soberanía tribal, su sistema de niveles ha priorizado a las poblaciones vulnerables con condiciones preexistentes independientemente de su edad. Si hay miembros jóvenes de la familia que llevan a los mayores a vacunarse, pueden recibir una vacuna al ser reconocidos como cuidadores. Pero si alguien se enferma, no hay hospitales financiados por el Servicio de Salud Indígena en California: los miembros de la tribu dependen de un sistema y seguro público o privado. “Estamos viendo morir a los líderes tribales, nuestros ancianos morir, y en los países indios perder a un anciano es perder un conocimiento y un lenguaje que nunca podrá recuperarse”, agregó Hedrick.

RECURSOS PARA EL CBOS

Las barreras del idioma también son una preocupación para las comunidades indígenas

de México, que constituyen una gran parte de la fuerza laboral de los trabajadores agrícolas, y para los estadounidenses de origen asiático que hablan hasta 50 idiomas diferentes. Según Adam Carbullido, director de políticas y defensa de la Asociación de Organizaciones Comunitarias de Salud de Asia Pacífico (AAPCHO), el Congreso debería aprobar más recursos para las organizaciones comunitarias (CBO) que han estado “en primera línea proporcionando atención y servicios cuando el gobierno y las instituciones privadas se han quedado cortas”. “Estas clínicas necesitan más intérpretes y materiales traducidos a diferentes idiomas”, observó. “Es importante contar con proveedores que puedan hablar el idioma que elija (el paciente), no solo en una crisis pública”, dijo. Carbullido recordó que los estadounidenses de origen asiático tienen el mayor riesgo de hospitalización entre cualquier grupo étnico y han sido objeto de un aumento de

los incidentes de odio y xenofobia, “por la falsa asociación de la pandemia con asiáticos y otros que son percibidos como extranjeros”. “Los pacientes informan que tienen miedo de buscar atención médica y la atención que necesitan ... es un verdadero trauma emocional en las comunidades asiático-americanas y las consecuencias para la salud mental tendrán complicaciones duraderas para la salud”, concluyó.



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A Hoppo Easter Cake

Warmer days at the start of spring mean Easter is almost here, and the big bunny himself will be hopping around in no time delivering goodies.

This Easter, celebrate with your loved ones with a delicious and colorful Easter Bunny Butt Cake. It can bring smiles and laughter while putting everyone in a light, joyful mood.

This cake is fun and bright with a fluffy, moist interior. Complete with chocolate candy eggs, shredded coconut and chocolate chips for little bunny toes, this recipe goes all out to paint a picture of the Easter bunny.

Start by combining whole eggs, egg whites, cream of coconut, crushed pineapple, coconut extract and vanilla extract.

In a food processor, pulse flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Then add butter gradually, 6 tablespoons at a time, for a total of 12 tablespoons.

Add dry mixture to a mixing bowl then add egg mixture half at a time. Beat until cake batter is formed.

Fill muffin tins 2/3 full and bake 18-20 minutes. The remaining batter goes into an oven-safe bowl to bake for 1 hour, 40 minutes.

The buttercream frosting is made with powdered sugar, butter, milk, vanilla extract and coconut extract.

Assemble the cake using pretzel sticks to blend it together to make the bunny butt shape. Frost the cake and spread shredded coconut over it to create a textured appearance. Stick chocolate chips on the bunny's feet to create toes. Place your favorite Easter or bunny candies around the cake for extra garnish.

This cake is worth every step. It's delicious and as cute as can be, plus it's perfect for dessert after a big Easter dinner.

Find more creative and scrumptious holiday recipes at Culinary.net.



How vaccines will change the world

By Madison Reeves

Translated by Francisco Fregoso

This year, at this moment in time, less than 15% of the United States population has received the Covid-19 vaccine. It will be a while until the entire public receives the vaccine, but when everyone does receive it, how will the world change?

The world has been going through the coronavirus pandemic for over a year. We, in the USA, have all become so accustomed to staying at home, so much so that life will likely change greatly upon the full rollout of this vaccine.

First, hospitals will return to their normal capacities and they will not be overpopulated with coronavirus patients. Second, the economy

will bounce back as more people shop again. Next, as businesses everywhere reopen, people will return to the streets and places like malls and schools. Schooling will be more concrete, and students will value it more than before the pandemic started.

Nothing, however, will return to be the exact same as it was before. People will continue to use masks, stay socially distanced, and generally be more careful in regard to public health.

The prospect of what modern medicine can do is exciting! Through this vaccine, the world can return to normal as closely as possible.

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