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February 2021

Volume 8

THE NATURE OF ART

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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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ONE FRIDAY NIGHT IN MARATHON

If you are a Texas High Schooler in the Fall the prospect of Friday Night Lights Football games is a given. This is such a natural occurrence for so many, that the idea of a high school career without the possibility of watching your team throw the pigskin around home or away seems unfathomable. Yet, for the second smallest school in Texas this has been the case year after year after year. The athletics program in Marathon is alive and well, there is no lack of drive and motivation, they just can't round up enough players. The basketball team consist of 6- brave souls and they play their hearts out. Nearly 100 percent of the middle and high school student body participates in Athletics such as basketball, football, volleyball, and track and at every game and practice they play their hearts out, regardless of how outnumbered they are. The high-spiritedness of the athletics program is due in large part to the young, bright eyed coaches in Marathon. Jasmine and Jacob Garcia, the husband-and-wife duo fresh out of college who came back to teach and coach in their hometown. The Garcia's have devoted all their time and efforts into motivating and pushing their players to be the best they can be. In fact, they have done such an amazing job of bringing their players together that they noticed that after practices the students wouldn't go home but practiced more. Except the group of 12 young coed athletes did not play any of the above listed sports offered at Marathon. On the 80 plus year old football field the students started organizing a weekly

Friday night football game. With a total of 12 kids, ranging in ages from 12-17, the middle and high school students yelled out plays and tackled their night away, with no one to watch them but a few teachers leaving school late and of course their coaches, who caught onto the fun and decided to coach each team, very competitively. The husband-and-wife coaches would trash talk each other throughout the week, eagerly awaiting Friday night where they would prove who had the better team. Eventually, the entire school and community joined in the fun and the Superintendent invited the entire town of Marathon to enjoy their own small-town version of Friday Night Lights. On the eve of Halloween elders who attended the high school decades before gathered with family and friends to proudly watch the game, Garcia vs. Garcia. The principal gave NFL quality commentary over the loudspeaker and the scoreboard lights lit up the night

as the Sun went down. The teachers decided to join in as cheerleaders and during halftime the very small school had dancing and singing. There was even a concession stand selling nachos and ice-cold coca colas. The event seemed so colloquial that a passerby might think they were witnessing just another regular Friday Night Lights in Texas. Minus the uniforms and pads.

-Evalice Arguello

Fun Fact: Six Man Teams in Texas were unable to win State Championships, but the 1968, 1969 and 1970 Marathon, Tx six-man team won the Regional Championship, the highest honor attainable and in 1972, after UIL sanctioned 6-man team state championships, Marathon went to five of them from 1973-1977, winning two of them.



THIS AIN'T AMERICA ANYMORE, PART TWO

by JIM STODOLA



- I guess my last month's title was quite appropriate and predictive. I'm sure you already know of the riot and terrorist attack at our United States Capitol Wednesday, January sixth, 2021. So, let me just add some things.

- It was fomented by donald trump (lower case intentional, it's all they deserve) for months saying that the election was fraudulent, that it was stolen. He even maintained that on January 6th., still said he won by a landslide. He even said earlier and in 2016, that if he loses, the election was rigged, it would be fraudulent. And trump lost that argument in courts 62 times.

- Just prior to the terrorist attack trump was yelling, "These people are not going to take it anymore." "If you don't fight like hell, you're not going to have a country anymore." Don trump jr. was yelling, "We're coming for you." Rudy Giuliani was screaming "Let's have trial by combat." Even during the riot, trump was attempting to contact senators to convince them to overturn the vote. You heard about the pipe bombs, the Molotov cocktails, the home-made napalm. A retired colonel was on the Senate floor holding over a dozen very large nylon ties, big enough

to put over one's head, tighten and strangle.

- And when senators safely returned after the riot, eight GOP senators still voted not to count some of the electoral votes, voting to support the demands of the anarchists and insurrectionists, as did 139 GOP House members. Their voting not to accept Biden as President-Elect makes them just as guilty as the rioters.

- White house aides said that trump seemed to be enjoying the rioting. And trump initially turned down requests for the National Guard as he was watching the riot, he was silent for hours, he later said "We are the party of law and order." That was a lie all the while he was in office.

- Republican associates of mine, when I brought up my disgust of trump's riots, would only come back with Minneapolis or Portland riots. Listen boys the blacks were protesting being killed by cops (nine minutes on the neck) and others. They were not committing treasonous riots. Yes treason, trump has falsely used that word often, now it's time to apply it to him and his goons.

- And now Fox news, Florida GOP Representative Matt Gaetz and Q-Anon

claims that antifascists were causing the riots. Big Lie. First Q-Anon is nothing but a pack of psychotic a***, and that includes Ret. Genl. Michael Flynn. They espouse that most Democrats are Satan worshipers, pedophiles, and baby killers. And most of Fox and Friends are filled with lies.

- And why didn't GOPs contest their own elections of being invalid? In PA. GOP Senators refused to seat a State Democratic Senator who was already certified.

- And trump still praises his treasonous rioters, saying, "We love you; you are very special, great patriots.! Another Republican associate of mine said, "Why impeach him, he'll be gone in two weeks. No No No, he must be impeached a second time for "inciting insurrection." He must be held accountable. Otherwise, he walks away scott free.

- But doesn't the blame also lie with more than jackasses like Ted Cruz and Josh Hawley. It may lie with a lot of Republicans, who cried that if Democrats are elected, it will be the end of America as we know it This is trash that incites. But it definitely was the end of trump's America as they know it.

Mi Opinion

IT'S WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT

By Jim Stodola

WORSE, Federal prosecutors have hard evidence that many of trump's rioters were planning to kill Democratic Senators and Mike Pence. An officer even heard the mob say, "Kill him with his own gun." He figured his life was saved when he begged that he had children at home. Militias have even later stated that they want to wipe the Democratic Party from America. But WORSE, we can go way back to Newt Gingrich who called the Democratic Party the enemy and evil.

Worse, some GOP congressmen were complicit with the rioters. GOP Rep Mo Brooks from Alabama along with Trump January Sixth, yelling "Your ancestors gave their blood sweat, tears, even their lives. Are you willing to risk yours?"

Worse, tours of the Congress have been banned since March due to COVID-19. The day prior to the riots, January Fifth, Mo Brooks was one guy taking people through Congress, showing them office rooms. The next day these same rioters knew which unmarked doors to kick in. Worse 13 Capitol police officers are now suspected of having roles with the insurrectionists.

WORSE, The Washington Post warned three days earlier that violence was probable. But little enforcements from Capitol police. WORSE, Elizabeth Newman quit Homeland Security because, when she repeatedly warned at meetings that they ought to pay more attention to domestic right-wing terrorism, they ignored her. Trump and his boys knew what was happening. It

was just a coverup for their own white supremacists, cop haters, anarchists, etc. Since 9-11, there have been more killings by right-wing terrorists in the U.S. than there have been by Jihadist terrorists.

WORSE, our Texas scumbag Attorney General Ken Paxton, under indictment for years for criminal activity, but avoiding trial for years because of his good ol' boys, was at Trump's incitement on the sixth. He's sucking up to our Twice Impeached so he can get a pardon. WORSE, Paxton is the only one of 50 state AGs who will not condemn the riots.

WORSE, these rioters want pardons for themselves. They want to tell us that they are so innocent. Troy Anthony Smocks of Dallas said, "Prepare your weapons...hunt down the traitors."

WORSE, even after the riot he said, "It wasn't the building we wanted, it was you."

WORSE, there was Jennifer (Jenna) Ryan of Carrollton. She said, "This is a prelude to the war that's about to happen." Storming the building, she cried, "Life or death, it doesn't matter." She later denied twice that she even entered the building. In a TV interview days later on local FOX news, the poor little twit said she was just supporting her president, she's not sorry.

WORSE, the horned rioter QAnon, Jacob Anthony Chansley of Arizona, who earlier wrote of civil war, was inciting rioters with his bullhorn, had also described hanging lawmakers he called traitors on social media. These

are some of thousands of "innocent" sheep who have evil in their hearts, who should be facing even greater charges.

A man was just arrested in D.C. with a loaded gun, fake inaugural pass, and 500 rounds of ammunition. My guess is that he's going to tell the judge that he just wanted to pass out souvenir bullets. WORSE, real traitors like sick White House Peter Navarro who to this day says, "The Democratic Party did violence by attacking the president (trump) who won on November third." He too belongs in a strait jacket as he incites further violence.

WORSE is sick QAnon Georgia GOP Rep Marjorie T. Greene who says that on January 21st, she is going to file articles of impeachment against President Joe Biden. Sicko Greene needs to be kicked out of Congress along with Josh Hawley (MO), Ted Cruz (TX), Mo Brooks (AL) and fanatic Jim Jordan (OH)

Finally, WORSE is the hypocrisy of the Republican Party members who now call for unity. Where was your UNITY when you were denying Joe Biden's election!!



GOD'S PLAN FOR AMERICA

I believe God has a plan for the United States of America. As the federal government continues to get the Church out of Politics, the message Pope John Paul talked about during his first sermon to his Polish country men is more relevant. He talked about the new evangelization. It has become clearer to me. We can't expect the federal government or political parties to push or maintain our Christian beliefs. A full Christian party would be in danger to implode. Just look at all the Christian denominations in this country. We can't agree on how to believe or worship our Lord. This would lead to a nation more divided than what we are now. Yet freedom of Religion is what make this country great and allows us to be a member of God's Kingdom.

As members of God's Kingdom our energy of faith and worship is pointing the same direction for everyone that direction is towards God. Yet this freedom of religion also allows people freedom from religion. They are free not to join God's kingdom. Why would someone choose not to join God's Kingdom you ask, well I believe it is because they think they don't need God. They think they got to where they are at on their own. Jesus pointed this state of mind out to Pontius Pilate when he said to Jesus, "don't you know I have the power to save you from crucifixion" and Jesus answered him by saying, "you only have the power because God has given it to you". So you see this is the state of mind a lot of people in America are getting into. It is a society

that does not know or love God. This is a dangerous place to be. This is where we Christians need to be helping the Church. Christians are going to have to get busy and start working to bring people closer to God and the Church. It's a big job and a small percentage of Christians are willing to step up.

Enter the New Americans. These Immigrants from Mexico are devout Christian followers of the Catholic faith. They were won over to Christ by Our Lady of Guadalupe about 500 years ago. The Virgin Mary created a Catholic nation devoted to Jesus Christ our God.

The history and back ground of the ancestry of the new American's is told in the movie "For Greater Glory". Their Christian faith was challenged in 1926 thru 1929 during the Cristero War. The Mexican government was trying to get rid of the Catholic Church in that country. They outlawed Catholicism and began killing Priests. The Mexican people revolted and a very strong war began. The war ended when the Mexican Government created the separation of Church and State. This allowed the Church to continue. What a true test of Christian devotion. Many priest and revolutionaries died during that war.

This huge devotion is seen every Sunday in our Catholic churches by the huge attendance of Mexican immigrants and their children. Most all of those services are in Spanish but guess what all the children are growing up bi-lingual. I see an army being

prepared for a duty of evangelizing in the U.S.A.

We should all be known as the Devout Catholic whose duty is to evangelize. The World needs us God's America needs us!

Psalms 46 verse 10 says "Be still, and know that I am God". That says it all. It took me a long time to hear God calling me, I guess I was just always too busy. I wish I would have just been still long enough to have heard him sooner.

God loves us; we are his creation he wants us to come to him because we want to. If we do, God our Father will share his Glory with us. He will do that because we are his children and he wants us to be with him in his kingdom forever. We gain this privilege when we join God's army as members of his Kingdom. When you realize the truth you will want to share the knowledge and that my friends is called Evangelizing.

Your Friend in Christ,

Joe M. Govea, a devout Catholic whose duty is to evangelize



Fort Worth Honors Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta

*Truly a Community and Family Effort.
LULAC COUNCIL 4568*

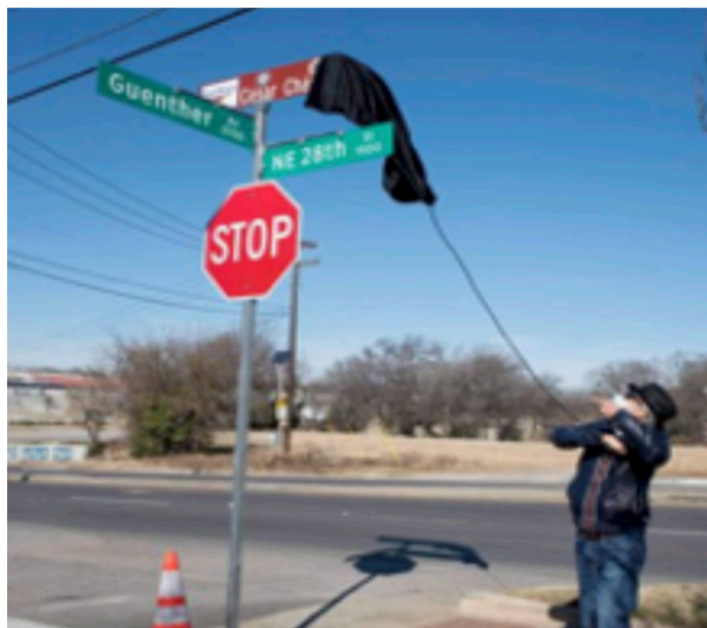


the community to experience their work in the present and far into the future, hopefully inspiring others to learn about their contributions and service. Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta streets in Fort Worth is a huge win not just for the Latino community but for everyone.” And thanks to volunteers, family, community leaders like Alberto Govea, LULAC Council 4568 members, Felix Alvarado LULAC District 21 Director and City Councilman Carlos Flores, the conversation about the importance of caring for others and doing what is right will begin right in Fort Worth.

(Side note a bust of Cesar Chavez is now in President Joe Bidens oval office)

Fort Worth, Texas has finally honored Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta with an honorary street named after both iconic civil rights activists. Alberto Govea LULAC Council 4568 president spearheaded the campaign to pay homage to Chavez and Huerta, and this was no easy task. Initially Support from community leaders for the initiative was at times hard to find, it almost seemed like some members of the Fort Worth City Council simply did not care.

Those who understood the importance of a street named after Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta never gave up. But what is so important about honoring community leaders by having a street named after them? Evalice Arguello a supporter and volunteer had an answer, “A street in their name brings their past work into the present and enables



Originally appeared on Nuestra Voz November 2013

North Fort Worth Icon Louis Ayala

In 1939, Louis Ayala was 10 years old. And at that ripe young age, both Louis and his father decided that it was time for Louis to start making his way in this world. To lend historical perspective on that era, recall that Hitler had ordered a 5-year expansion of the Nazi navy and was already making threats against the Jewish community of Germany. In church news, Cardinal Pacelli -- Pope Pius XII -- succeeded Pope Pius XI as the 260th Catholic pope. In America, John Steinbeck's novel -- *The Grapes of Wrath* -- was published. Among the movies released that year was *Stagecoach* and later in the year, *The Wizard of Oz*. In sports, Lou Gehrig -- "The Iron Horse" -- ended his playing streak at 2,130 consecutive games, a record that would stand for 56 years, until Cal Ripken Jr. broke it.

Leaping forward to today, Mr. Ayala's business card reads that he has been serving the community for more than 65 years. In my opinion and those people, he has served, Mr. Ayala's accomplishments in his chosen profession -- at the very least -- are equal to those of both Gehrig and Ripken. Back to 1939, Mr. Ayala and Dad understood that opportunities were limited for a 10-year-old boy in Fort Worth, but they both knew that personal appearance was a primary need for nearly everyone. So, together they decided he must go into business for himself, to capitalize on the human need to look at his or her best.

With a total investment of less than a dollar, the father and son built a shoebox. But this was no ordinary shoebox for just any shoeshine boy. This box held the future for young Mr. Ayala the son, and generations following him. In 1939, North Main Street was a beehive of activity, with numerous retail merchandize stores and restaurants and an overabundance of bars and saloons. Louis recalls a mixture of white-collar and blue-collar shoppers in the area.

Surely there were some "Whites only" signs, right? "I never experienced that issue, either in my work or everyday life," Mr. Ayala said. His dad told Louis: "Treat everybody with respect. Do a good job, and good things will happen."

Thus, the young Louis, with shoeshine box in hand, ambled up and down North Main. He applied his craft on street corners and near the doors to the bars/saloons. At 10, Louis was making up to 35 cents a day, after school and on weekends. The child thought himself an incredibly lucky boy to be earning 35 cents a day. But his situation was about to improve. There was a barber shop, located across Main from where El Rancho Grande Restaurant is today. The shop needed a shoeshine boy. Louis applied and was hired. He was making more money and not having to walk Main

and peer into bars for customers. Louis turned 12 during this surge in work. He was already a veteran of customer service, a hard worker, and a responsible youth.

The barber shop proprietor was Jack Mead; 65 years later, Mr. Mead's picture still hangs in Louis Ayala's own barber shop. Mr. Mead, as Louis still fondly calls him, took notice of Louis's efforts, and paid the \$100 tuition fee for Louis to attend Barber College.

At 15, Louis became a licensed barber. Unfortunately, Mr. Mead passed away, and his wife sold the business. Louis was unable to work for the new shop owner. That led Louis to Mr. Gutierrez's barber shop. While there for three years, Louis earned his Master Barber License. At 18, Louis was ready to open his own shop. He did, next to what is now the Rose Marine Theater. It was 1948, and Louis was eligible for the military draft. Louis was also old enough to sign a contract. He had learned from his business mentors that it's best to own the building housing your shop. So, fate seemed to step in; a property became available just down the street. The problem was the price, \$4,000; that was a lot of money back then, especially for a young start-up business owner.

Enter Dr. Greines, a former shoeshine customer and then current hair client of Louis.

Dr. Greines loaned Louis the money. Later, after the \$4,000 loan was paid, Dr. Greines loaned Louis \$5,000 to build a new shop, the building still housing Louis's shop. The loans were made on trust, a handshake, and no collateral, which speaks volumes for both Mr. Ayala and Dr. Greines.

Mr. Ayala described Dr. Greines as a Jewish gentleman with a beautiful heart. The historical perspective again: It was the summer of 1955. Rock & Roll was really getting hot with stars like Chuck Berry, Bill Haley and a new kid named Elvis. Gasoline was 23 cents a gallon, and the minimum wage was raised to \$1.00 an hour. Mr. Ayala started his Cal Ripken run. Fast forward to 2013, Mr. Ayala is 83 years old, 65 percent of his clients have now passed on, and many spent their last days in nursing homes. For all of them, Mr. Ayala visited to cut their hair and perhaps relive old times. He still serves clients in the nursing homes. I asked him the secret to his success. "Treat everyone with respect. If they want to read or take a nap, don't bother them. They are

there to relax, not to entertain the barber by answering questions," Mr. Ayala said.

In a world where every experience seems to be linked to mass communication media, or some kind of electronic device, some modern barber shops have ten TV's on and/or music blaring from multiple speakers. Chatterbox barbers -- or stylists, as they prefer to be called -- are common.

At Mr. Ayala's shop, though, the customer can still relax. As soon as we were done with interview, he went back to what he does best, he put a client in the chair, and it was back to work.

Thanks to Angele Henning, for help with this story, a third-generation Ayala barber/stylist on the Louis Ayala Family Tree; she is Mr. Ayala's grandniece. Ms. Henning is the owner of Prescription Hair Studio with locations in Watauga and Saginaw. The family also includes John Ayala, Louis's brother and assortment 2nd and 3rd generation Barbers/Stylists. In 1967, there was a Sonny & Cher song titled "The Beat Goes On." And so, it does for Mr. Louis Ayala and family. May he RIP and our deepest condolences to his family.

Personal: Louis Ayala was born on July 21, 1930 and passed January 14, 2021 he was 90, he was married for over 40 years to the former Delia Perez they have two grown children. Mr. Ayala was an avid golfer that played twice week and has been a member of the Pan American Golf Association (P.A.G.A.) since 1953. Among the notable former clients is long time actor Emmy and Oscar nominated Jason Robards (now deceased) one of his last roles was Steve Martins' Father in Parenthood.





THERAPY IN NATURE: THE ART OF PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ

By Miguel Aguilar

One of the up and coming artists in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex is Oak Cliff artist Patricia Rodriguez. I had a chance to ask her a few questions and see what makes her tick.

1. What made you want to become an artist? I knew from a young age that I liked drawing, creating and working with my hands. I also wanted to dabble in music so both visual art and music have gotten their turn having a spotlight in my life.

2. Is there anyone in your family that helped you in your interest in art? Both my parents fully supported and appreciated my talents and nurtured my leanings towards the arts. Either by funding my flute classes, buying me art supplies and taking me to auditions- they never dissuaded my dreams. My older sister was also an artist so she was my first role model.

3. Who are your favorite artists that have influenced your work? This changes with the years but at the moment Matthew Ritchie, Murakami, Martin Sharp, Frida Kahlo, Andrew Goldsworthy and a lot of anonymous graffiti and street artists.

4. Is there any art movement you feel associated with or kind of art? I'm really pulled to contemporary art and also the art of Nature, especially if done in a non traditional way. I'm very much inspired by graffiti and street art and use certain elements of those kinds of art in my work but in a more refined way and aesthetic.

5. Do you think being a Latina/ Mexican-American has had any effect on the way you make your art? I think it does in the sense that I am here to break stereo types of what Latina/ Mexican-American art is going to look like. After my formative art years painting towards the stereotype themes. i.e. "la virgin", Frida style self portraiture, etc. I really strive to have my own unique voice and style in the Latina platform. I very much love Mexican art and the bright vivid colors I use are a subconscious homage to that I'm sure.

6. From looking at your work it seems you are very interested in nature, both animals and flora. What has drawn you to this subject matter? I have always felt a connection to Nature and being outside in it. I feel small in a big world and that is a very

inspiring and freeing feeling. I feel like everything is so mysterious and yet we are all connected in so many ways. The colors, the shapes, the light and strange formations of things really move me to capture some of those things on canvas. I feel like Nature is very therapeutic to be out in and I want people to feel that in my work as well. Like they received some form of therapy from seeing it.

7. Where would you like to see your work progress in the future? I would like to just keep getting better, build up a body of work and hopefully do some more shows when things clear up. I was able to show my work in New York and California as well as here in Dallas and just want to keep getting my work out there in front of more people. Personally, just being able to keep getting better with each new piece is my main goal.

Patricia has been a professional artist for ten years. Currently she mostly shows her work online because of the Pandemic. You can view her work online at:

<http://www.tigerbeearts.com>

FEAR HOLDS US BACK

by Alfredo Sanchez



The confederate statue on the Denton Square has now been gone for several months with little to no opposition either on the square, in the Denton Record Chronicle, or with the County Commissioners.

For over a decade, Willie Hudspeth protested the removal of the confederate statue with no success. Others joined him also with no success. A committee was set up to study the issue of removing the Confederate Statue. The County Commissioners decide to keep the statue in place but to provide literature around the statue to explain the history of the confederate statue and why it was relevant. After the George Floyd incident, the Denton County Commissioners, with little fanfare, removed the confederate statue and without much notice, if any, to the public.

I have been to the square a few times since the removal of the confederate statue. As I walked around the square, not consciously thinking of the Confederate Statue, I noticed a breath of fresh air around the square and within me. I believe that things that have a dark history also possess dark energy that attracts more dark energy. This we saw in the groups that would show up on weekends defending the confederate statue. Most groups that defended the confederate statue were recognized as white supremacist or just hate groups.

The United States is going through a very dark period in our History. This darkness is tied to the fact that we continue to deny and refuse to accept the truth in our American History. The removal of the confederate statues throughout this country must be undertaken if this country is to purge itself of the hate these stone statues emit. The dark energy and hate that is embodied by what these stone gods represent turn Americans against Americans. It becomes us against them. The history we celebrate, both good and bad, in these United States of America belongs to all of us. We cannot cherry pick our history as many would have us believe and still believe we are doing the right thing. As a nation, we must confront those periods of our dark history by incorporating that history in our education. So that all Americans, colonist and recent immigrants, understand that along the way the United States has made a lot of mistakes, but our mistakes do not dictate what we can become for all Americans. One Nation with Liberty and Justice for All.



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El plan de Dios para América

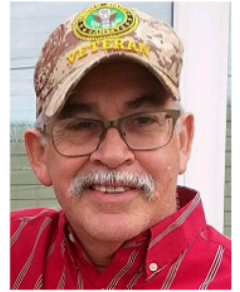


Creo que Dios tiene un plan para los Estados Unidos de América. A medida que el gobierno federal sigue sacando a la Iglesia de la política, el mensaje del que habló el Papa Juan Pablo durante su primer sermón a sus compatriotas polacos es más relevante. Habló de la nueva evangelización. Me ha quedado más claro. No podemos esperar que el gobierno federal o los partidos políticos impulsen o mantengan nuestras creencias cristianas. Un partido cristiano completo estaría en peligro de implosionar. Basta con mirar todas las denominaciones cristianas de este país. No podemos ponernos de acuerdo sobre cómo creer o adorar a nuestro Señor. Esto conduciría a una nación más dividida de lo que estamos ahora. Sin embargo, la libertad de religión es lo que hace grande a este país y nos permite ser miembros del Reino de Dios. Como miembros del Reino de Dios, nuestra energía de fe y adoración apunta en la misma dirección para todos, esa dirección es hacia Dios. Sin embargo, esta libertad de religión también permite a las personas estar libres de religión. Son libres de no unirse al reino de Dios. ¿Por qué alguien elegiría no unirse al Reino de Dios?, preguntas, bueno, creo que es porque piensan que no necesitan a Dios. Creen que llegaron a donde están por su cuenta. Jesús le señaló este estado de ánimo a Poncio Pilato cuando le dijo a Jesús: “¿No sabes que tengo el poder para

salvarte de la crucifixión?” Y Jesús le respondió diciendo: “Tú solo tienes el poder porque Dios se lo ha dado. para ti”. Como puede ver, este es el estado mental en el que se está metiendo mucha gente en Estados Unidos. Es una sociedad que no conoce ni ama a Dios. Este es un lugar peligroso para estar. Aquí es donde los cristianos debemos ayudar a la Iglesia. Los cristianos tendrán que estar ocupados y comenzar a trabajar para acercar a las personas a Dios y a la Iglesia. Es un gran trabajo y un pequeño porcentaje de cristianos está dispuesto a dar un paso al frente. Entran los nuevos estadounidenses. Estos inmigrantes de México son devotos seguidores cristianos de la fe católica. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe los ganó para Cristo hace unos 500 años. La Virgen María creó una nación católica dedicada a Jesucristo nuestro Dios. La historia y el trasfondo de la ascendencia de los nuevos estadounidenses se cuentan en la película “For Greater Glory”. Su fe cristiana fue desafiada en 1926 hasta 1929 durante la Guerra Cristera. El gobierno mexicano estaba tratando de deshacerse de la Iglesia católica en ese país. Prohibieron el catolicismo y comenzaron a matar sacerdotes. El pueblo mexicano se rebeló y comenzó una guerra muy fuerte. La guerra terminó cuando el gobierno mexicano creó la separación de Iglesia y Estado. Esto permitió que la Iglesia continuara. Qué verdadera

prueba de la devoción cristiana. Muchos sacerdotes y revolucionarios murieron durante esa guerra. Esta enorme devoción se ve todos los domingos en nuestras iglesias católicas por la gran asistencia de inmigrantes mexicanos y sus hijos. La mayoría de esos servicios están en español, pero adivinen qué están creciendo todos los niños bilingües. Veo que se está preparando un ejército para el deber de evangelizar en los EE. UU. Todos deberíamos ser conocidos como los devotos católicos cuyo deber es evangelizar. El mundo nos necesita ¡Dios nos necesita! El versículo 10 del Salmo 46 dice: “Estad quietos, y sabed que yo soy Dios”. Eso lo dice todo. Me tomó mucho tiempo escuchar a Dios llamándome, supongo que siempre estaba demasiado ocupado. Ojalá hubiera estado lo suficientemente quieto para haberlo escuchado antes. Dios nos ama; somos su creación, quiere que vayamos a él porque queremos. Si lo hacemos, Dios nuestro Padre compartirá su gloria con nosotros. Lo hará porque somos sus hijos y quiere que estemos con él en su reino para siempre. Obtenemos este privilegio cuando nos unimos al ejército de Dios como miembros de su Reino. Cuando te des cuenta de la verdad, querrás compartir el conocimiento y que mis amigos se llaman Evangelizar. Tu amigo en Cristo, Joe M. Govea, un católico devoto cuyo deber es evangelizar

EL MIEDO NOS RETIENE DE ALFREDO SANCHEZ



La estatua confederada en Denton Square ha desaparecido durante varios meses con poca o ninguna oposición en la plaza, en Denton Record Chronicle o con los comisionados del condado. Durante más de una década, Willie Hudspeth protestó por la remoción de la estatua confederada sin éxito. Otros se unieron a él también sin éxito. Se creó un comité para estudiar la cuestión de la eliminación de la estatua confederada. Los comisionados del condado deciden mantener la estatua en su lugar pero proporcionar literatura alrededor de la estatua para explicar la historia de la estatua confederada y por qué era relevante. Después del incidente de George Floyd, los comisionados del condado de Denton, con poca fanfarria, retiraron la estatua confederada y sin mucho aviso, si es que hubo alguno, al público. He estado en la plaza varias veces desde que quitaron la estatua confederada. Mientras caminaba por la plaza, sin pensar conscientemente en la Estatua Confederada, noté un soplo de aire fresco alrededor de la plaza y dentro de mí. Creo que las cosas que tienen una historia oscura también poseen energía oscura que atrae más energía oscura. Esto lo vimos en los grupos que se presentaban los fines de semana defendiendo la estatua confederada. La mayoría de los grupos que defendían



la estatua confederada fueron reconocidos como supremacistas blancos o simplemente grupos de odio. Estados Unidos atraviesa un período muy oscuro en nuestra Historia. Esta oscuridad está ligada al hecho de que continuamos negando y negándonos a aceptar la verdad en nuestra historia estadounidense. La remoción de las estatuas confederadas en todo este país debe llevarse a cabo si este país va a purgarse del odio que estas estatuas de piedra emiten. La energía oscura y el odio que encarna lo que representan estos dioses de piedra vuelven a los estadounidenses contra los estadounidenses. Se vuelve nosotros contra ellos. La

historia que celebramos, tanto buena como mala, en estos Estados Unidos de América nos pertenece a todos. No podemos seleccionar nuestra historia como muchos quieren hacernos creer y aún creer que estamos haciendo lo correcto. Como nación, debemos enfrentar esos períodos de nuestra oscura historia incorporando esa historia en nuestra educación. Para que todos los estadounidenses, colonos e inmigrantes recientes, comprendan que en el camino Estados Unidos ha cometido muchos errores, pero nuestros errores no dictan lo que podemos llegar a ser para todos los estadounidenses. Una nación, con libertad y justicia para todos.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES WHY WAS REIES TIJERINA HUNTED IN 1967

By Franco

The biggest manhunt in New Mexican history took place in 1967. The National Guard, state, and local police forces, cattle inspectors, almost every lawman available in New Mexico, was sent to hunt down Chicano leader Reies Tijerina. Who was Reies Tijerina, and why was he persecuted? At a time in American history when racism was not only a normal situation, but also brutal, Tijerina did what no Mexican American was supposed to do: challenge the legality of the unjust land-grabs perpetrated against the original Mexican landowners. Tijerina had violated a sacred cow in America: Manifest-Destiny. He was hounded and persecuted, forcing him into desperate situations, culminating in a historical massive manhunt against Tijerina that resembled the search for Osama Bin Laden. Tijerina was just a youth when he received strict training from a Pentecostal Church, this gave him the confidence and fearlessness to speak truth to power. He was the Chicano who pointed and said "The Emperor wears no clothes. Return the ill-begotten land to its rightful owners." Tijerina was born on September 21, 1923, in Falls City, Texas, and he died in January 19, 2015 in El Paso, Texas. Tijerina spent his life fighting for Chicano rights such as the right to speak Spanish, first-class citizenship, economic opportunity, and the preservation of Chicano culture. Tijerina fathered the concept of forming Chicano run schools to insure that children were getting a quality education, were safe, and free of distractions caused by discrimination. His life led him to many adventures and hardships,

meeting historical persons, such as General Lazaro Cardenas, who had stood up to the imperial powers of Britain and the US and taken back the oil fields for Mexico. Tijerina shared a jail cell with Joe Valachi, the subject of a mafia film starring Charles Bronson. The Mafia under orders were supposed to poison Tijerina, who survived by eating scraps of food saved by the Mexican prisoners. Tijerina was also placed in a cell with the rabid Walter Payton a member of the anti-immigrant white militia the minutemen. Walter was placed there to murder Tijerina. But Tijerina was a charismatic speaker who disarmed Walter, who spent four hours speaking kindly to Tijerina. After the guards saw that Walter was not going to murder Tijerina they removed him from the cell. Soviet style operations were used against Tijerina, psychiatry was employed to destabilize him which failed. Tijerina would spend many years in and out of jail suffering the rigors of persecution coupled with old age. He spent the last years of his life writing his memoirs and taking care of his wife. He was disappointed with the Mexican government whom he discovered was extremely corrupt and was sold out to foreign powers. His only recourse was to fight on his own for Chicano rights in the US. Eventually most Mexican Americans stopped calling themselves Chicanos and adopted the all-inclusive name for Hondurans, Cubans, Dominicans, and Haitians, "Hispanic." But Tijerina continued to stand for Chicano justice until the end of his days.

America On The Horizon 1882

This is the Industrial Age. American industry is expanding, and transportation is driving the expansion. The horse and buggy and wagon train have died a natural death. Railroads are the transportation of the future. Coal is needed to fuel the hungry train locomotive. Coal is needed by the trains that travel west to El Paso north to Chicago and east to New Orleans. In 1882, a coal mine opened in Bridgeport. It was the first coal mine of North Texas. There would be more. There was an immediate need for experienced miners. The nearest place to find miners was Mexico.

This is the small town of Monte Blanco. A Gringo has posted signs all over the small town. "Busco trabajadores." "Quien le gustaria ir a America a trabajar escarbando carbon, favor de reunirse en el centro del pueblo a las 2 de la tarde." There was a lot of commotion in the center of town by the water well. Almost the whole town showed up. The gringo had everyone's attention. The Gringo is speaking in Spanish.

They, Maria and Jose, approach cautiously to see what the Gringo had to say. They listened attentively. The Gringo speaks of going to America to work. He is recruiting experienced miners. He offers them a job in Texas. Jose is an experienced coal and copper miner. The miners from Monte Blanco will be the first Mexicans to go to North Texas. They will go to a place called Bridgeport. Jose and Maria glance at each other not knowing what to think or what to say.

The only thing Jose and Maria know about Texas is what Manuel, their cousin, told them. Manuel worked on the railroad installing the tracks until he got injured. With a bad back he could not drive the spikes into the railroad ties. Manuel painted a bleak picture of Texas. Nothing there. He recalls seeing Indians. Life is not great at Monte Blanco. But it is home. Home to all the family for generations. Life is quiet and tranquil. There are few amenities in Monte Blanco. The most excitement is at the canteen on the weekend when the men go get drunk. Still, on Sunday everyone has to attend church. One person you do not want to get mad at you is the padre.

This is a political period called the "Porfiriato". Porfirio Diaz was the president of Mexico. He was also the dictator. Jose and Maria think of Nestor. Nestor criticized Diaz and, in the morning, he



was found on the outskirts of town beaten to death. The beating was not to teach Nestor a lesson, he was dead. The town people got the hidden message that denigrating the government was not a good idea.

The Gringo explains, the mine operators take safety very seriously, pay is much better. Those that volunteer to go will be allowed to bring their children. Every family will have a home. They will have medical care. The children will be able to attend school. Language will not be a barrier because miners will be assigned work groups according to language spoken.

The Gringo explains that he will return next week. Those that want to go need to pack their personal belongings. They are to travel light. Take warm blankets for the children, take enough water and food for the trip. The trip will take over a day. The company store will extend credit so they can get the immediate necessities.

Jose and Maria are faced with a decision. Looking at each other they can only ask themselves a question; "Que hacemos?"

This is a decision many Mexicans had to make. The first Mexican families to come to North Texas came to Bridgeport to work on the coal mines. They were not in search of the American Dream, they just wanted something better than what they had in Mexico. They could not speak English and could barely read and write. They did not even know what the American Dream was. For most this was a one-way trip. The children would be American citizens. There would be no looking back. Eventually, their children will have access to the American Dream.

Felix Alvarado+

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Red Velvet for Your Valentine



On the sweetest day of the year, a day full of flowers, love and sweets, Valentine's Day is the ultimate opportunity to try a different dessert meant for two.

It's hard to resist a perfectly blended, rose-red, luscious Red Velvet Mug Cake.

It's the perfect size, with just a handful of instructions, and it's easily cooked before your eyes in the microwave. That's right, the microwave.

This mug cake is a simple way to make something delicious and keep the portions small. Whether you have a small party, just you and your loved one or just simply want something easy and small, this quick treat is designed just for you.

Start by mixing all the dry ingredients into a large mug, including flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt.

Then add milk, melted butter, vanilla and red food coloring. Use a spoon and stir the ingredients together until blended.

Mix powdered sugar and cream cheese then drop the mixture into the cake batter and mix once more. Microwave the mug for up to 3 minutes until your cake is baked.

Valentine's Day means sharing with someone how much you care, and it's difficult to find a better way than to share something sweet. This dessert has Valentine's Day written all over it, however, it can be enjoyed anytime throughout the year and is perfect for a late-night snack if you're craving something sugary-sweet.

Find more recipes and dessert ideas for every celebration at Culinary.net.

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